

AGENCY LOWERS INTEREST RATES TO FIVE PERCENT

New Interest Rate Is Not To Effect Loans Made In Full Already

J. E. Hull, secretary and treasurer of the Washington Production Credit association has just received word from Governor W. I. Myers of the Farm Credit administration in Washington, D. C., that the interest rate on new loans from production credit associations has been reduced from 5 1-2 to 5 percent.

According to Mr. Hull the new 5 percent interest rate becomes effective immediately on all new loans and advances made by the association and will be applicable until further notice.

"The new interest rate of 5 percent will not affect loans already advanced in full," Mr. Hull said. "These will continue to bear the rate of interest prevailing at the time the loan was closed. The interest charges on loans from the association are collected when the loans mature. The Washington association is now making loans on acceptable crop and chattel security to farmers in Beaufort, Hyde, Martin, Tyrrell and Washington counties.

"The reduction of the interest to 5 percent on new loans," Mr. Hull continued, "is made possible by a recent sale of Federal intermediate credit bank debentures to investors at an unusually low rate of interest. The association gets money to lend farmers from the Federal intermediate credit bank of Columbia, S. C.

"The lowering of the interest rate on new loans to 5 percent is the second reduction in two months, the rate having been reduced from 6 to 5 1-2 percent on March 16.

"According to Governor Myers," said Mr. Hull, the Federal intermediate credit bank is passing on immediately to farmer-borrowers from production credit associations the saving made possible by lower cost of getting money. The confidence of investors in the security of the intermediate credit banks has been such that the banks are able to get money to lend at the lowest discount rate in their history. Governor Myers says that the resulting low rate of interest on production credit association loans is enabling farmer-borrowers to save thousands of dollars on the cost of their farming operations this year. If the associations make sound loans, and loans that are collectible, an adequate supply of low cost money will continue to be available."

GYPSUM IS NOT ALWAYS NEEDED ON PEANUT CROP

Land Plaster Is Needed in Some Cases; in Others Total Waste

The almost universal practice of applying calcium sulphate or the so-called gypsum or land plaster to peanut foliage is not always justified.

This is the opinion of Dr. H. B. Mann, fertility agronomist at the North Carolina Experiment Station, who says, "On soils that are low in calcium, the use of gypsum on the foliage at blooming time, or of lime before planting, is necessary before a satisfactory crop of peanuts can be produced.

"However, on soils that have been heavily limed, high yields of good quality peanuts can be secured without the use of either lime or gypsum." Dr. Mann supports his opinion with the results of an experiment conducted on two sandy loam soils of the same series. In one test, the soil had never been limed and was acid. The other soil had been heavily limed and was nearly neutral. On the first, or acid, soil, without any treatment, the field of peanuts was 640 pounds to the acre with a shelling percentage of 41 per cent. Most of the nuts were either "pops" or had shriveled kernels. The second soil, which was neutral, without any further lime or gypsum treatment, produced 1,504 pounds of peanuts per acre with a shelling percentage of 75 per cent. There were few "pops" or shriveled kernels in the lot.

When 400 pounds of gypsum per acre was applied to the peanut foliage on the first, or acid, soil, the yield went up to 800 pounds of peanuts per acre, with a shelling percentage of 65 per cent. The same amount of gypsum applied to the second, or neutral, soil did not increase either the yield or the shelling percentage.

ROADSIDE MARTS URGED BY KNAPP

Is Potential Source of Considerable Profit for Many Farmers

The roadside market is a potential source of considerable profit to farmers who are situated so they can take advantage of it, points out Dr. Joseph G. Knapp, associate agricultural economist at State College.

North Carolina farmers, he said, would do well to follow in the footsteps of growers in Massachusetts and New Jersey, where roadside marketing has been developed to a high degree and associations formed to insure the public of quality produce and full weights and measures.

Next in importance to high grade produce and honest measures are attractive markets and courteous and intelligent service. The public likes to stop at inviting places, but passes by those which look shoddy and unbusinesslike.

Take a tip from the experience of filling stations, Dr. Knapp advises. Observe how the modern, high-class places get the business, while the "joints" gradually go into bankruptcy.

The location of a roadside market is also important. It should be convenient for the motorists, and visible for some distance in both directions. Motorists traveling fast are not inclined to jam on their brakes and stop at a place that flashes suddenly into view.

The top of a hill or the outside of a mild curve have the advantage of getting the driver's attention while he has slowed down. The best location, however, is undoubtedly a straight road. The right side of the road going into town is also best, for more produce is purchased by people returning to the city than by those leaving it.

Plenty of good parking space is also essential. Some attractive flowers or natural foliage will enhance the appearance of a market place. An inexpensive but attractive stand can be built for a few dollars. Sometimes a few display racks under a shade trade will suffice.

Signs several hundred feet or more down the road on each side of the market will help draw attention. A few words are best, such as "fresh fruits and vegetables for sale," or "Sunshine Road Market just ahead."

LANDLORDS NOT TO BLAME FOR TENANT PLIGHT

Share Tenants Economic Situation Is Farm from Being Satisfactory

The attempt to fix the blame on the landlords for share croppers and share tenants having to receive federal and state aid is rather far-fetched in the opinion of Dr. G. W. Forster, head of the department of Agricultural Economics at State College.

Dr. Forster has studied the situation in rather full detail and while he admits that the share tenant's economic situation is far from satisfactory and probably always has been, still his income fluctuated with the changes in income from agriculture. "When agriculture was in a fairly prosperous condition, the share cropper and share tenant participated with the landlords in these prosperous conditions," Dr. Forster said. "Perhaps tenants did not share to the full extent that they should have, but they participated. In 1928, we studied 230 share tenants in eastern Carolina and that year, the cropper's share of the cash receipts was \$1,030. After deducting his share of the farm expenses including the high interest rates for capital advanced, his net return averaged \$766. The value of the labor of his family was estimated to be worth \$271 which left him a wage of \$495."

Dr. Forster points out also that the tenant secured some \$170 worth of food, fuel and the like from the owner's farm. In that year, cotton and tobacco sold for an average of about 18 cents a pound. Then came the slump and the income of both landlords and tenants shrunk due to the rapidly lowering prices of all farm products. The large part of the difficulty was the failure of industry to pay adequate prices for farm products. This was seen in the case of tobacco. While the price of tobacco was declining 71 percent, the net income of the three big tobacco manufacturing companies advanced from over 49 million dollars to about 106 million dollars, Forster said.

Salvages Timber From Damaged Woodlands

A Forsyth farmer has salvaged 25,000 feet of timber and over 50 cords of fire wood from his woodland damaged by the late sleet storm last winter.

Soil Fertility Increases After Korean Lespedeza

Wheat grown on the same land with Korean lespedeza since 1928 continues to make excellent growth for P. M. Krimminger of Cabarrus County. The soil apparently has increased in fertility.

CLEAN BROODER HOUSE TO INSURE HEALTHY CHICKS

State College Specialist Points Out Advantages To Growers

The greatest chick losses occur during the brooding period, which makes it necessary to clean the house thoroughly before the chicks are placed in it.

"To go about having a sanitary brooder house, the poultryman should first scrape all the old manure and dirt from the lower side walls and floor of the house and clean the water containers, mash hoppers, and other equipment used in the house," declares H. C. Gauger, associate professor in the poultry department at State College. After this thorough mechanical cleaning has been done, the lower side walls, floor, water containers, feeding equipment, brooder stove and canopy should be scrubbed with a lye solution made by dissolving one pound of lye in 10 gallons of hot water. A stiff bristle broom may be used to apply the solution. This lye mixture will not only further cleanse the house, but it also has germ-killing power. Where the poultryman has a fire gun, he may use this instead of the lye solution.

After the brooder house has been thoroughly cleaned, it must be cleaned again at intervals during the brooding period. If the house has a dirt floor, remove the top few inches and replace it with clean dry soil, sand or gravel.

Mr. Gauger also advises the use of wire frames on which to place the feeders and water containers. The house needs to be free from drafts and if it is movable, it is well to take it to a new location after cleansing.

OVER 3000 KNOWN PLANT DISEASES OCCUR IN STATE

Fortunately All Do Not Come At Same Place Or At Same Time

College Station, Raleigh. — More than 3,000 known plant diseases occur in North Carolina, says R. F. Poole, plant pathologist at State College. Fortunately, he said, the diseases do not come at the same time or the same place, else all vegetation would

AN APPRECIATION

I wish to express my thanks to the people of Martin County for the vote given me in the primary of Saturday, June 2, and to announce that I will enter the race in the second primary to be held on June 30. If nominated and elected to the office of clerk of court, I shall do my best to serve the people of the county honestly, efficiently and faithfully. Very Respectfully, L. BRUCE WYNNE.

probably be wiped out. Half of the diseases, under favorable conditions to the disease, will do serious damage.

Fungi and bacteria, mice, rabbits, red spider, nematode, hail, drought, deficiency of nutrients, and toxic chemicals are predominant causes of the diseases. Soils which are deficient in important elements should be treated with chemicals to supply the needed ingredients.

Light chlorotic or red leaves indicate magnesium deficiency, yellow leaves indicate sulphur and nitrogen deficiency, light chlorotic yellowing on upper leaves indicates manganese deficiency, brown dead margins on leaves indicate potassium deficiency, the breaking down of buds and leaf tips indicates calcium deficiency.

In fighting disease, it is well to fertilize with all the elements necessary for plant food and use only certified seed or seed known to be disease free. When a soil is known to have disease organisms affecting certain plants, grow only those crops not affected by that disease.

Economical measures for destroy-

ing soil organisms in large fields have not been perfected, but small amounts of soil for plant beds, greenhouses, or pots can be sterilized practically and efficiently with steam. Burning brush over the beds will also kill out organisms and weed seeds.

Tomato, pepper, cabbage, and onion beds especially need sterilization.

NOTICE OF APPRECIATION

I wish to take this method of publicly thanking my many friends throughout the county for their voluntary and loyal support given me at the polls in the recent primary, and to express my heart-felt thanks and sincere appreciation for the way in which they rallied to my assistance.

I wish to say now that I feel more keenly the value of my friends in Martin County and desire to express my appreciation in advance for any support accorded me in the second primary to be held on Saturday, June 30, 1934.

JOHN D. LILLEY.



The Second Bill

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