

Feed Crisis Confronts The State And Nation

State Official Points Out The Need Of Saving

North Carolina Producing Much More In Livestock And Poultry This Year.

By D. S. Coltrane
Assistant to Commissioner of Agriculture

This State and the entire Nation are confronted with a feed crisis.

The production of feed has not kept pace with the ever-increasing numbers of livestock and poultry. Many farmers and city dwellers have gone into the poultry business, in many cases on an extensive scale, without any thought as to the source and the supply of feed. The result is that we have as a minimum of 15 per cent more feeding units than we had a year ago with 15 to 20 per cent less feed. The relationship of feed to livestock must become more in balance; otherwise, the feed barrel will be scraped dry by next March and there will be wholesale liquidation of livestock.

Livestock and Poultry Expansion
There has been an expansion in the livestock and poultry industry to the point where peak numbers have been reached in all parts of the country, both state and nation.

Increases over the 1939 level are: hogs, more than 50 per cent; poultry, 33 1/2 per cent; beef cattle, 25 per cent and dairy cattle, 10 per cent.

Animal feeding units have increased from 135,000,000 in 1941 to 159,000,000 in 1943, or 18 per cent in two years.

Hogs
The greatest increase has been in hogs. The pig crop in 1943 is 127,000,000 compared with 105,000,000 in 1942, and contrasted with the 10-year average of 73,000,000. Hogs six months and older have increased 26 per cent over 1942. Sows to farrow this fall have increased 25 per cent over 1942. In addition to the great increase in the number of hogs, they are being marketed heavier, at 250 pounds rather than 220 pounds which calls for more feed.

Poultry
The number of young chickens raised on farms in 1943 is estimated at 925,000,000, the all-time peak—16 per cent larger than the previous high of last year and 36 per cent above the 10-year average. Increases in North Carolina range

Pictures Of Men In Service Sought For Display In Show Window Of The Herald

The Herald is interested in the 1,200 Jackson county men in service, and has completed arrangements for putting on display, in the show window of the office, the pictures of all Jackson men in service.

Any size picture or photograph will do, as long as they are in frames or folders and placed in the window.

Believing the public would like to see the pictures of the men from this county, The Herald is offering their front show window for this purpose, and of course, no charges will be made for placing a picture in the window.

The office staff of The Herald will gladly type the man's name on a small card and attach it to the picture, so the public can see who every man is.

The Herald, however, cannot assume responsibility for any picture fading that is placed in the window. Some pictures fade easily when exposed to light, while others hold their color fine.

Every precaution will be taken to protect the photographs, and they can be had at any time.

Let us repeat, this is a service to the public, and in recognition to the men in service, and no charges or obligations are made to parents or friends.

from 65 to 100 per cent and the expansion is continuing in spite of the acute feed situation.

Eggs
There is an 18 per cent increase in eggs laid in June over 1942 and a 41 per cent increase over the 10-year (1932-41) average.

Cattle
While the number of dairy cattle has not increased to such a great extent, the feeding rate has increased 28 per cent over the 10-year average and eight per cent over 1942.

The great increase in animals is in those which eat large amounts of grains and not in the ones that make high use of roughage and pasture.

Feed Outlook
There is nothing in the present crop reports or present conditions to indicate that we will have available any more high grade protein ingredients for feed than we had this past year. During 1943 we have been 20 per cent short of our needed supply. Needed for 1943, 11,704,000 tons; available, 9,782,000 tons; thus we are short 1,922,000 tons.
This year we have thinly spread protein concentrates over the enormous supplies of concentrates.

Crop Yields Decline
Five leading grains: corn, wheat, oats, barley and rye—5,998,000,000 in 1942; and 5,128,000,000 in 1943—a decrease of 870,000,000 bushels or 17 per cent.

Corn has decreased 468,602,000 bushels from 1942; the amount of which is 250,803,000 less than 1942; and the decrease in oats is 116,505,000 bushels.

Hay Production
Estimates show a 100,000,000-ton hay production as against 106,000,000 in 1942, or a decrease of 6,000,000 tons.

The next crop report will indicate less production because of drought in North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware and floods in other sections. Alfalfa hay production has been set at 32,000,000 tons in 1943 compared with 36,000,000 tons in 1942—a decrease of 4,000,000 tons.

Crisis Developing In Feeds
We are entering the new feeding season with 500,000,000 bushels less of corn and 375,000,000 bushels less wheat, oats, barley and rye than last year, a total of 875,000,000 bushels less, with less hay and no more protein concentrates. Corn is almost unobtainable at this time. It is so tight that the State War

Board cannot supply 50 per cent of the demand and it is denying requests for bread purposes and splitting cars between such points as Charlotte and Gastonia.

A recent survey of the feed mills in this State revealed that they have on hand less than two week's supply of ingredients. Poultry scratch contains very little, if any, corn being made mostly from barley and oats. Corn is being fed to the hogs in the Middle West because of the ceiling price of \$1.07—the farmer can realize \$1.50 per bushel for corn fed to hogs. Hence, there is no corn for the more important dairy and poultry feeds.

Shortages of corn, shortages of seed meals, shortages of meat scraps, of fish meal, of alfalfa meal. In fact one can hardly name anything in the whole list today that is not actually short everywhere in the country. There is a crisis now and it will become more acute.

More Home Grown Feeds Needed
If we are to maintain our livestock and poultry population in this State, we must, for the duration at least, become more self-sufficient by growing more of the feed on the farms and by growing ingredients to supply ever-increasing feed industries located within the State, which, by the way, processed over 50 per cent of our 778,000 tons of feed consumed last year.

What can we do to pull through the next feeding season? We can sow more winter grazing crops; seed more small grains; feed protein concentrates to meet essential production and feed beef cattle hay only.

The army doesn't need to arm the WACs, the boys will see to that.

Many of those key men in Washington can find no locks to fit into.

Buy War Bonds and Stamps.

War Ration Book 4 In Offing; Details Not Yet Worked Out

WASHINGTON.— War Ration Book 4 is in the offing, but the Office of Price Administration said no date for its appearance has been set and the agency hasn't decided how or when civilians will register to get it.

Edward F. Stegen, a regional rationing executive, said in Chicago August 18 a national registration for Book 4 would be held between October 20 and November 1.

"It may be issued around the first of the year," said an OPA official, "or it may be used around the first of December. We can't tell because the details have not been worked out."

The agency hasn't decided whether the registration—when it is made—will be handled by schools as with Books 1 and 2, or by direct mail like Book 3.

Book 3 was put out as a safeguard for consumers to use when stamps in their No. 2 books become exhausted. It contains brown stamps instead of red for meats, butter and the like. Book 4, when it appears, will contain red and blue point stamps similar to those in Book 2, and will be used for the same purpose.

Save Home-Grown Pork Without Loss

By following a few simple rules, growers can easily save a good supply of home-grown pork without loss," says Dr. D. E. Brady, in charge of meat research for the Agricultural Experiment Station at State College.

He suggests that since it will soon be time to butcher and cure pork, growers should write to the Agricultural Editor at State College, Raleigh, for a free copy of

Extension Circular No. 262, entitled "The Farm Pork Supply."

This publication lists the equipment needed; describes the best methods of butchering and cutting;

and gives two plans of curing—dry curing and brine curing. Information on smoking and a recipe for making sausage is also included.

The secret of pork curing, according to Dr. Brady, is to use good sound meat, the correct curing ingredients, and clean containers. Of course, it is necessary that there be cool weather for curing.

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