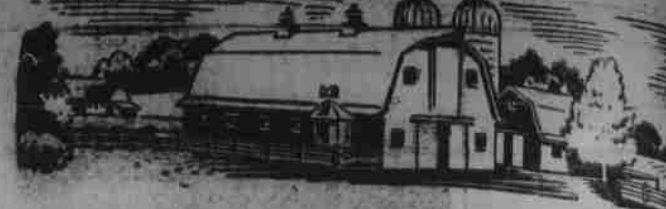


PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY

The Mountaineer's

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# Farm and Home Page



## Farm Report Shows Dry Weather Has Hurt Crops

The semi-monthly Farm Report issued by the Crops Reporting Service of Raleigh, states that weather and soil conditions during September were typical of dry conditions which have prevailed over most of the State during the entire crop season.

Dry conditions are retarding the preparation of land and the planting of fall seeded crops. Pastures continue to suffer from the dry weather and are offering much less grazing than is normal for this time of the year.

Based on reports from throughout the State, the prediction for the corn crop still stands at 70,917,000 bushels. This year's yield is currently estimated at 33.0

bushels per acre which is 4.0 less than the record reached in 1950. The ten-year average yield for the State is 25.6 bushels.

Harvest time finds the corn crop good in northern Mountain and central and northern Coastal Plain counties. About 15 percent of the crop has been harvested as of October 1. Total U. S. production is currently estimated at 3.1 billion bushels.

The continued dry weather in most of the mountain sections during September reduced commercial apple production prospects which are now estimated at 825,000 bushels. This represents a decline of 75,000 bushels from the September 1 estimate. Harvesting of the crop is progressing well in all areas.

Milk production underwent a seasonal decline during September. Total production was estimated at 143 million pounds, a seven percent drop from the preceding month. Production per cow, 374 pounds, is below the August average of 403.

Farm wage rates in North Carolina on October 1 were higher than at the same time last year. Without room or board, the average daily rate increased from \$3.60 to \$4.75. This is still lower than the national average which was \$5.00

## 'Nickels' Plan Favored By Leaders

"Nickels for Know-How," a plan to expand agricultural research and education in North Carolina through a farmer contribution of five cents per ton on feed and fertilizer, has been endorsed by some of the State's outstanding agricultural, business, and civic leaders.

Farmers will vote on the plan in a special referendum on November 3. M. G. Mann says the nickel-per-ton contribution, if approved in the referendum, "will prove within the next quarter of a century to be the greatest investment ever made by farm people."

President Gordon Gray of the Consolidated University of North Carolina endorses the plan "enthusiastically". He expresses the hope that farmers "will vote overwhelmingly for the program".

Clarence Poe, veteran editor of The Progressive Farmer, calls upon farmers to vote unanimously in favor of the "Nickels for Know-How". He says research has given the State disease-resistant tobacco, higher corn yields, and many other advantages.

The president of the North Carolina Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, Mrs. H. M. Johnson of Route 5, Kinston, says the program will mean "better homes, higher standards of living, and better rural living in its entirety."

Archie K. Davis, chairman of the marketing committee of Forsyth County's Long-Range Farm Program, says research is needed to help North Carolina "realize the great potential that lies ahead for agriculture."

Endorsements also have come from Edwin Pate and R. D. McLaurin, both of Laurinburg, as well as from many other business and agricultural leaders.

Polling places for the referendum will be the same as those used in PMA elections. Voting hours will be 8:30 a. m. to 6:30 p. m. All persons who use feed or fertilizer, including husbands, wives, and 4-F, FFA, and NFA members with crop or livestock projects, are eligible to vote.

Fifty years ago farm women had 77 per cent more children than urban women; now they have only about 51 per cent more.

with room and board.

As of October 1, the burley tobacco yield was estimated at 1,650 pounds per acre. If this figure is maintained the total yield would be 19,140,000 pounds which compares to 17,850,000 pounds produced last year.

## Check Heating Equipment Says County Agent

With cold weather approaching, it's a good idea for farm families to check their heating equipment and make sure it's in good condition for safe winter service, says Wayne Corpening, Haywood County farm agent for the State College Extension Service.

Farm property fires always increase in both numbers and severity as the winter season approaches. A little attention to the problem now may save costly and tragic fires later in the season, says the county agent.

Winter also usually brings a toll of casualties from carbon monoxide. This deadly gas is colorless and odorless and gives no warning.

Defective chimneys rank high as a cause of farm fires during the heating season. All joints should be tight and a spark arrester installed when combustible roofs are nearby. All stove and furnace pipes should be put in good condition and located a safe distance from combustible walls, ceilings, curtains, and papers.

The National Safety Council makes these additional suggestions: Repair cracks or other defects and replace rusted and burned-out stove and furnace pipes.

Make sure that combustible materials are protected. Use a metal or asbestos floor covering under wood- or coal-burning stoves. Use double metal-ventilated thimbles where stove pipes pass through walls.

Never use petroleum products to start or hasten a fire.

See that tank heaters, feed heaters, and other type of heating equipment around the farmstead are installed safely and kept in good repair.

Make sure that dampers in stoves and furnaces are never closed enough to force carbonmonoxide or other gases out into the room.

## Fruit Trees Can Be Protected

Control of the peach tree borer in home fruit gardens should not be neglected at this time of year. The borer attacks peach trees and plum trees, especially Japanese plums. It feeds on the inner layer of bark, the cambium layer, and the sawwood at the base of the tree and if it is not controlled will seriously weaken the tree and may kill it.

The first sign of borers is usually a formation of a gum or jelly-like substance around the base of the tree at the surface of the ground. Perhaps you have seen this gum around your peach trees and did not know what it was. When I was a boy the only way we had of con-

## 'Perfect Farmer' Chosen As Member Of The Month By West Pigeon Community

His neighbors say that if anybody far or near needs help of any kind they can depend on "Toot" Sisk. J. A. Sisk, West Pigeon's Member of the Month, has been farming since he was a lad. He is "handy hand" with machinery of all kinds, tools and what-have-you about the farm.

Mr. Sisk owns a farm of about 40 acres. He raises white-face cattle and he grows tobacco which has been pronounced some of the best quality and highest priced in Haywood County.

The son of the late S. R. and Adeline Sisk, he is married to the former Miss Hester Burrell. The couple have five children, Mrs. Tullon West, Mrs. Maude Peek, Mrs. Clara L. DeBord, Mrs. Hazel Sweatman and James Sisk, Jr. There are five grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Mr. Sisk attends the Bethel Baptist Church, and is active in the



J. A. SISK

trolling the borer was to dig it out with a sharp knife. Sometimes we did more damage to the tree than the borer did. In one instance I removed 21 borers from a single large tree. Needless to say, the tree did not recover.

These materials should be used during October or early November for satisfactory control. Follow the manufacturer's directions for dilutions of the emulsions and ask your county agent to show you how to apply them.

Community Development Program. He was an active member of the Junior Order Lodge at Bethel during the many years of its existence.

In selecting him as Member of the Month, his friends in West Pigeon have paid tribute to him as a neighbor and as a farmer. "Practice makes perfect," they say, "and Jimmy-Toot" does perfect farming on a small scale."

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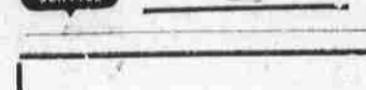
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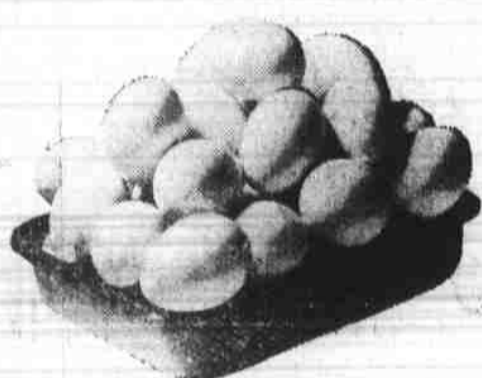
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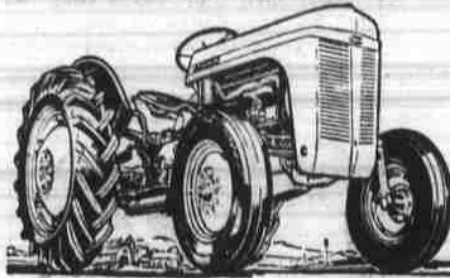
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