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The Mountaineer's

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# Farm Review and Forecast



## Animals Rank Third As Cause Of Farm Accidents

Animals rank third among the causes of accidental injuries to farm people, according to H. M. Ellis, head of extension agricultural engineering. Falls and machinery top the list.

Increased reliance on artificial breeding of dairy stock has freed many farmers from the hazards of handling bulls on their farms. But when a bull is kept, regardless of how gentle it may appear, substantial fencing is absolutely necessary for safety.

A safekeeper bull pen of the type developed by Agricultural Research Service is recommended for bulls kept for dairy or beef stock breeding. The pen includes a shed with stanchion and manger, and it is so constructed that the attendant can handle and feed the animal without coming in contact with it.

Beef bulls that run with the herd have infrequent contact with the owner. If a bull on the range or in a pasture must be approached, do so while on horseback or in a vehicle, if possible. If you must approach a bull in a pasture on foot, be sure there is a vehicle nearby to afford a barrier in case the bull should charge.

Bulls aren't the only dangerous animals. Moors also come in this category. Tusks should be removed from boars. Even an ordinarily gentle animal may strike without warning. Deaths have occurred from such accidents. A hand hurdle will keep off a boar if he should attempt to strike.

Sows may be a source of danger, particularly before and after farrowing. A hand hurdle should be carried when entering the pen at such times. Leave the pen door unlatched to permit a quick escape.

## N. C. Potato Production Up 14 Per Cent

As of July 1, North Carolina potato production is set at 6,720,000 bushels—a 14 per cent increase over the 1954 production, according to the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service.

If this production is realized, it will give an average yield of 168 bushels per acre from the state's 40,000 acres. The state yield in 1954 was 151 bushels per acre; thus the increase production is attributed to higher yields per acre and a slightly higher acreage, as only 39,000 acres were harvested in 1954.

The higher yields reflect favorable weather during the maturing season and during the peak harvest season.

## High Production Of Corn Seen For This Year

Reported condition from growers as of July 1, indicates a production of 65,696,000 bushels. If realized, this will be the highest production of corn for the state since 1951 when 67,611,000 bushels were produced. The 1955 forecast of 65,696,000 bushels would be about 29 per cent more production than the 50,784,000 bushels produced in the drought-stricken year 1954.

The prospective yield per acre for the 1955 crop is indicated at 32 bushels by the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service. If realized, the yield will be the second highest of record and the highest since 1950. The record yield of 33 bushels was set in 1950. The 1954 yield was 24.0 bushels per acre. The increased acreage planted with hybrid seed and generally favorable weather conditions are contributing factors for the near record yield. About 60 per cent of this year's acreage was planted with hybrid seed, compared with 46.5 per cent in 1954.

The corn acreage for harvest in 1955 is estimated to be 2,053,000 acres, which is 3 per cent below the acreage harvested in 1954.

The state's corn crop is mostly in excellent condition and is in or near the tasseling and silking stage of maturity. To July 1, there has been sufficient moisture for a good growth and the color is extremely good in all districts excepting a few areas in the northern and central Piedmont districts. Stands are mostly good and, with another general rain, most of the



BARN SPRAYING with a mixture of used motor oil and red brick dust was demonstrated in West Pigeon community Thursday afternoon by M. C. Nix, vocational agriculture instructor at Bethel High School, and several members of the

Bethel Future Farmers of America chapter. Spraying of barns, poultry houses, garages and similar buildings has been adopted by the West Pigeon CDP for the beautification and preservation of wooden structures. (Mountaineer photo).

## Union County Farmers Declare War On Insects

Union County Farm Agent P. E. Bazemore says that farmers in the Union Springs community have "declared war."

Bazemore explains that this battle is to do the best possible job of farming they can do and the only casualties will be boll weevils, thrips, and other insects that dare to enter their fields.

One of the farmers said he saw one boll weevil and a little damage caused by thrips. Asked if the acreage should come through with a much higher than average yield.

Average prices paid by North Carolina farmers for most furniture items on March 15, 1955, were above those paid on the same date a year earlier. Refrigerators and dining room suites dropped slightly, however.

planned to dust soon, he replied, "I'm putting the second application on tomorrow." Perhaps his action might be called a little "hasty" but it certainly shows that the farmers are "on the ball."

Bazemore says that to suggest a "cease fire" would get you nowhere with these enthusiastic farmers.

The county agent says that most of the farmers had their soil tested and are following recommendations they received from the Soil Testing Laboratory as well as other recommended practices.

## Ammonium Nitrate Now Available To All Farmers

Purchase orders on ammonium nitrate are now available from the ASC, according to A. W. Ferguson, ASC county manager. Farmers will again be able to receive ammonium nitrate fertilizer on eligible crops at a discount of approximately 12 percent over the regular f.o.b. plant price. Eligible crops and rates of application for late summer and fall application are as follows:

Crops	Rate Per Acre
Small grains and/or annual grasses and legumes planted for fall and winter grazing and seeding of grass legume mixtures in which the legume has disappeared.	100-150 lb.
On straight seedings of fescue or grazing.	100-200 lb.
On sudan grass or sorghum for grazing and/or grain.	200 lb.

Farmers do not need to be participating in the county program in order to receive the ammonium nitrate.

## Freeze Slashed Carolina Apple Yield 98 Pct.

The first forecast of the season for commercial apple production in North Carolina is for a crop of only 40,000 bushels—approximately two percent as large as the 1,900,000 bushels harvested in 1954.

For all practical purposes this year's crop was completely destroyed by the severe freeze of late March, according to the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service. Reports from commercial producing areas indicate that later blooming varieties set a very light crop in some of the better protected orchards. In most of the orchards, however, trees were in full bloom, or buds were swollen at the time of the freeze. Losses in such cases were complete.

For the United States as a whole, production of commercial apples is forecast at 105,560,000 bushels—only 4 per cent below production of 109,512,000 produced in 1954.

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Haywood County Board of Commissioners

F. C. Green, Chairman

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**Haywood County CHECKERBOARD NEWS**

By Joe Cline and Dick Bradley

**CLINE-BRADLEY COMPANY**

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### WATCH PASTURE CONDITION FOR KEY TO PROFITS

What is a pasture? It's a place where grass is so good that a cow can fill her stomach in two hours or less, then lie down in the shade and rest. While she's resting, she's working for the farmer.

If she goes to spend all day getting enough food, the cow is working for herself, not for you.

A permanent pasture should be convenient to the barn, should have a supply of clean water, and should be fertilized regularly. The better the soil, the better the pasture. Allow at least one acre per cow, if possible.

Divide pasture into several paddocks and graze in rotation. Electric fencing makes this easy. Avoid overgrazing at all times.

It may help to put straw or hay over the poultry house roof, if uninsulated. If birds hold wings out from body and pant, water the roof with sprinklers or garden hose as quickly as you can.

Provide shade and freedom from flies for cows. Dairy cows do best when temperature is 40 to 60 degrees. And, of course, be sure there's plenty of water.

There's no profit in feeding worms. We recommend Purina Check-R-Ton Granules because most pullets are grown on ground used every year for chickens. They almost all have some worms. It's good practice to worm your flock, and right now is the time to do it.

Take away the usual Growing Mash or Checker-Etts and feed Check-R-Ton for two days.

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### EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as executor of the estate of Jean M. West, deceased, late of Haywood County, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Waynesville, North Carolina, on or before the 15th day of July, 1956 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 15th day of July, 1955.  
JOHN W. WEST, JR.  
Executor of the Estate of Jean M. West, deceased,  
2548—J 18-25 A 1-8-15-22

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