

County Agent's News - Views

FREEZER LOCKER PROSPECTS GOOD

Mark Davis, manager of the Farmers Exchange freezer locker plant in Durham, will talk to the Lions club in Hillsboro at its regular luncheon meeting Thursday about the many different services offered by freezer locker plant. A meeting has also been arranged at the New Hope hut Friday, August 9 at 8 o'clock.

According to reports, many farmers are making plans to rent

lockers in the new plants and several have already paid their \$15 deposit. The Farmers Exchange has agreed to construct a plant in Hillsboro and one in Chapel Hill, provided 200 farmers and 100 non-farmers sign up for a year's rental in each plant.

TWO MILLION DOLLAR TOBACCO CROP

If the prices being paid on border markets continue, Orange county farmers should receive about the same amount of money for their tobacco crops this year as they did in 1945. The AAA reports that about one-half of the tobacco acreage has been measured and indications are that about 5,000 acres are planted, which will be approximately 500 acres more than last year. The poundage this year, however, will be considerably lighter than last year due to excessive rain in the early part of the season. With this reduced poundage, it is expected that the crop will bring two million dollars.

IS IT WILT, OR BLACK SHANK?

Two tobacco diseases causing thousands of dollars worth of damage this year are affecting tobacco in a very similar manner. It is extremely important to be able to identify the disease because wilt resistant Oxford No. 26 tobacco is not at all resistant to the Black Shank disease and vice-versa; therefore, everyone having any amount of tobacco diseases this year should be sure to know which one of the diseases is present so that the right kind of tobacco seed can be bought for next year.

Oxford No. 26 is the wilt resistant variety and Oxford Nos. 1, 2, and 3 are the Black Shank resistant varieties. The county agent will be glad to identify the disease for you. Notify him.

LARGE ACREAGE OF ALFALFA TO BE SEED

Farmers of Orange county plan to seed between 200 and 500 acres of alfalfa this August. Here are a few rules to follow: (1) Have a thoroughly pulverized seed bed, similar to a turnip patch. (2) Be sure the land has plenty of lime. Apply a little extra for good measure. Two tons per acre should be enough. (3) Inoculate seed and sow at rate of 30 lbs. per acre. (4) Use 600 to 1,000 lbs. 2-12-12 fertilizer with borax mixed. (5) Some successful growers use from 500 to 1,000 lbs. superphosphate per acre. (6) Be sure to seed during the last part of this month.

DAIRYMEN SHOULD HAVE WINTER GRAZING CROPS

Seed a mixture of two bushels of oats, one bushel barley, 20 lbs. Italian rye grass and 10 lbs. of crimson clover per acre if you want to really save hay this winter. This mixture should be seeded the latter part of this month and cross

Soil Conservation News

R. E. Hughes of the Cedar Grove community has recently completed the building of a fish pond. The pond is located in a pasture and will serve as a watering place for the livestock, as a bathing pool, at least for the children. The pond will be a source of both pleasure and profit as a place to fish any month in the year.

Personnel of the Neuse River Soil Conservation Service staked the dam for Mr. Hughes and will assist him in securing fish for stocking the pond.

"Lexie" Whitefield of the White Cross community has also had a farm fish pond site staked and plans to build it in time for stocking this fall.

Some of our World War II veterans are back on the farm and have plans for doing a good job.

The Riser brothers of the Caldwell community, who were mentioned in last week's news, have planned a farm program that will remove five acres of steep, eroded land from row crops and will follow a two-year rotation of small grain and lespedeza instead. Their tobacco land will be seeded to small grain for a cover crop. Two acres will be seeded to alfalfa which will give a greater acreage of lespedeza to be turned as a soil improver. The remainder of the crop-land will have a three-year rotation of corn, small grain, and lespedeza.

Pastures, by no means the least important, will come in for an improvement program also. Old pasture sods will receive lime, fertilizer and a reseeding application and new pasture acreage will be limed, fertilized, and seeded with an approved pasture mixture, the Riser brothers plan to seed unproductive shaded borders to sericea and bicolor lespedeza for wildlife purposes and for erosion control. All cultivated land will be terraced where needed.

H. C. Johnson of the Schley community, another veteran, is back on his own farm now and, along with other things, he plans to seed two acres of badly eroded land to sericea lespedeza. All the cultivated land will be terraced, where needed, and three acres of land too eroded for profitable use in field crops will be set to loblolly pines. The tobacco land will be seeded to a cover crop, wild-life borders of sericea and bicolor lespedeza will be established, and new pasture acreage will be limed, fertilized and seeded according to recommended practices.

drilled with abundant amount of fertilizer so that it will make a thick enough mat to enable cows to graze it during wet weather.

STATE GRANGE MASTER

TO BE AT NEW HOPE FRIDAY

According to G. O. Reitzel, the Orange County Grange deputy, Mrs. Harry B. Caldwell, master of the State Grange, will be present at an open Grange meeting to be held at the New Hope hut Friday night, August 9, 8 o'clock.

County Agent Don S. Matheson will talk about the freezer locker plants to be constructed in Hillsboro and Chapel Hill.

The public is invited.

Farm Financial Strength In N. C. Still On Increase

North Carolina agriculture is currently in a stonger financial position than it was at the close of World War I, according to S. A. Johnson, vice president of Durham Bank and Trust Company, Hillsboro, who has been designated by the North Carolina Bankers Association as Orange county key banker.

Reporting on the results of a national survey of bank lending in 1945 made by the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association, Mr. Johnson said that in North Carolina it shows that farmers used only a tenth of the bank credit available to them. The 208 banks in the state which serve agriculture made 93,185 loans to 63,398 farmers last year for a total amount of \$37,465,000. On January 1, 1946, these banks had farm loans outstanding of \$18,872,000. On the same date these banks had \$217,121,000 additional for agricultural loans had the farmers needed it.

That the credit extended by the banks to their farm customers is a useful tool of agriculture is shown by a breakdown of these over-all figures, he added. Last year 55,222 farmers procured farm production loans in an aggregate amount of \$25,697,000. Farm real estate loans were made to 7,669 farmers for a total of \$11,324,000. On January 1, 1946, there were outstanding in the banks \$5,821,000 in production loans and \$11,186,000 in long term farm real estate loans. Loans on crops in storage insured by the Commodity Credit Corporation were made by the banks to only 507 farmers for a total of only \$444,000, a considerable reduction from the amounts loaned in previous years when price-

support levels were higher in relation to market values. A total of \$1,865,000 in C.C.C. loans remained outstanding at the beginning of this year.

"The fact that North Carolina farmers have found it necessary to use only a small part of the bank

credit available to them indicates that they are in a far stronger financial position today than they have been for many years," Mr. Johnson said. "During the war years farm incomes have been high and farmers have wisely used their earnings to pay down debt and accumulate savings in War Bonds and bank accounts.

"The high level of bank assets and the high degree of liquidity of the banks assure North Carolina farmers of ample bank credit in

the future to meet all of their needs. At the end of last year, North Carolina country banks had an average of cash and United States Government bonds equal to 82 per cent of their deposits. By contrast, in 1929 country banks in this state had cash and government securities equal to less than 31 per cent of deposits. The high ratio of liquidity is one of the most promising indications for the continued financial well-being of our farm community."

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Did This Ever Happen To You?

But, Mr. Merchant, I paid this bill in cash the first of the month following purchase. You gave me a receipt, but I have no idea where it is.

Sorry, Mr. Doe, but our records show it has not been paid.

Had You Paid By Check, The Conversation Would Be:

But, Mr. Merchant, I gave you a check for this bill the first of the month following purchase. I don't know whether I can find the cancelled check or not.

That's fine, Mr. Doe, I'm glad you paid by check because even if you have lost the cancelled check the bank will have a picture of it. We'll just step in there and ask them to run their film.

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