

500-Million Pound Flue-Cured Tobacco Crop Is Seen In State

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A flue-cured tobacco crop of 506,430,000 pounds is going to market in North Carolina this season, according to the latest estimates of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture. If the crop fully materializes, it will be 53,605,000 pounds larger than the 1941 crop of 452,825,000 pounds.

The increase in production is accounted for by the fact that Tar Heel farmers planted 540,000 acres of flue-cured tobacco last spring, as compared with 488,000 acres harvested in 1941. The average yield per acre this year is estimated to be 938 pounds, as against an average yield of 1,038 pounds per acre last year.

The 1942 flue-cured crop compares very favorably in total production with the crops of the 10-year period from 1930 through 1939, when North Carolina farmers sold an average of 523,094,000 pounds of tobacco each year. However, during the 1930-39 period the average acreage planted to flue-cured tobacco each season was 639,830 acres, and the average yield per acre was only 817 pounds. Therefore, it is evident that improved methods of production, better seed, and better-adapted fertilizers have enabled Tar Heel growers to produce more tobacco on less acreage.

Generally speaking, the tobacco-growing sections of North Carolina have been favored with almost ideal weather conditions this summer. In scattered communities farmers have complained of too much rain; in other communities the weather has been too dry. Hailstorms have severely damaged the crop in a few small areas.

Reports from county farm agents of the Extension Service in most sections of the State quote veteran growers as saying: "The tobacco crop is the best I ever grew . . . the crop is curing out with an excellent texture and good color . . . the lugs which I produced are the best I ever had."

For the flue-cured belt as a whole, the USDA Crop Reporting Board said in its latest report: "Production is indicated at 739,740,000 pounds, which would be 14 percent greater than the relatively small 1941 crop. The 10-year (1930-39) average production over the entire flue-cured belt, including all states, is 751,348,000 pounds annually. This year's acreage for harvest is estimated to be 11 percent above 1941, but 14 per-

cent under the 10-year (1930-39) average."

A summary of flue-cured tobacco prospects in all belts and states, as contained in the USDA report, is as follows:

North Carolina Border Belt—Production of 59,160,000 pounds from 58,000 acres, an average of 1,020 pounds per acre, is indicated. Production last year totaled 50,880,000 pounds from 53,000 acres, an average of 960 pounds per acre.

South Carolina Border Belt—Production of 90,000,000 pounds from 90,000 acres, an average of 1,000 pounds per acre, is indicated. Production last year totaled 69,890,000 pounds from 81,000 acres, an average of 860 pounds per acre.

Eastern North Carolina (New Bright) Belt—Production of 259,350,000 pounds from 266,000 acres, an average of 975 pounds per acre, is indicated. Production last year totaled 240,790,000 pounds from 242,000 acres, an average of 995 pounds per acre.

North Carolina Old and Middle Belts—Production of 187,920,000 pounds from 216,000 acres, an average of 870 pounds per acre, is indicated. Production last year totaled 161,155,000 pounds from 193,000 acres, an average of 835 pounds per acre.

Virginia—Production of 71,750,000 pounds from 82,000 acres, an average of 875 pounds per acre, is indicated. Production last year totaled 64,240,000 pounds from 73,000 acres.

Georgia—Production of 59,500,000 pounds from 70,000 acres, an average of 850 pounds per acre, is indicated. Production last year totaled 54,400,000 pounds from 64,000 acres, an average of 850 pounds per acre.

Florida—Production of 11,900,000 pounds from 14,000 acres, an average of 850 pounds per acre, is indicated. Production last year totaled 8,192,000 pounds from 11,300 acres, an average of 725 pounds per acre.

Alabama—Production of 160,000 pounds from 200 acres, an average of 800 pounds per acre, is indicated. Production last year totaled 225,000 pounds from 300 acres, an average of 750 pounds per acre.

At each meal, the United States consumes, for the meat portion, 14,684,000 pounds of beef, veal, pork, and lamb. More meat is eaten in October than in any other month, with January and May ranking second and third. However, consumption is almost even throughout the year.

Spirit of the Press

THE OLD SUGAR BOWL

Tom Flowers.
How dear to my heart is that bowl full of sugar, as fond recollection presents it to view; the spoon used to serve it plunged deep in the center—if one wouldn't sweeten we could freely take two. Indeed a sad picture, that sweet old container, as 'tis mournfully viewed in these sugarless times—once filled to the rim with its grandular goodness, now lacking because of man's horrible crimes. The dear old container, like one's purse or a strainer, remaining quite empty more'n half of the time.

Though coffee is lacking in goodness without it, and it's something I'm missing no little, indeed, I am willing to drink it black and unweetened, to help stem the onslaught of Hitlerized greed. 'Twas a bowl that was cheering, even bulging with gladness, and scant not a bit in its effort to please; but now 'tis occupied, vacant its in'ards, considered as naught by a very "dry" tease. The old sugar-holder, the seldom-used holder is being displaced by the drafting of bees.

WARNING

Dr. H. H. Bennett, chief of the Soil Conservation Service, warns against being lured by the hope of war profits into plowing up more good pasture to make poor or indifferent cultivated fields.

In the large sum it calls for the next tax bill will break all records, and also break all the taxpayers.

Cotton Sweater



This smart, short-sleeved Cardigan is made of a very soft roving cotton yarn, with matching gros-grain ribbon and painted wooden buttons. The ribbed waistline is designed for a snug fit and the heavy ribbing at the bottom is used throughout the pattern. According to the National Cotton Council, early demands among retail buyers for this type sweater indicate that it will be a favorite among the younger college set this fall.

Soup Mixture Solves Home Canning Problem

For people who are fortunate enough to own, or have access to, a pressure cooker, the canning of corn, butterbeans, okra and other non-acid vegetables from their Victory Garden is no problem at all. But thousands of North Carolina farm homes do not have the advantage of a pressure canner.

Mrs. Cornelia C. Morris, Extension canning specialist of N. C. State College, offers a solution to the canning problem of such rural homes. It is: "Put up a soup mixture, containing enough tomatoes to supply the acid necessary for canning in a hot water canner."

Wash boiler, lard tin, or any vessel that has a tight cover, and is large enough to hold the required number of jars, may be used as a hot water canner. It should be fitted with a wooden rack or a piece of wire mesh to prevent the jars from touching the bottom of the vessel. This keeps the jars from breaking.

Mrs. Morris explained that non-acid vegetables such as tomatoes do safely without a pressure cooker, but acid vegetable such as tomatoes do not require steam under pressure for safe food conservation.

The soup mixture recommended by the Extension specialist is: Five quarts of tomatoes, two quarts of okra or lima beans (or one quart of "SLAP THE JAPS WITH SCRAP"

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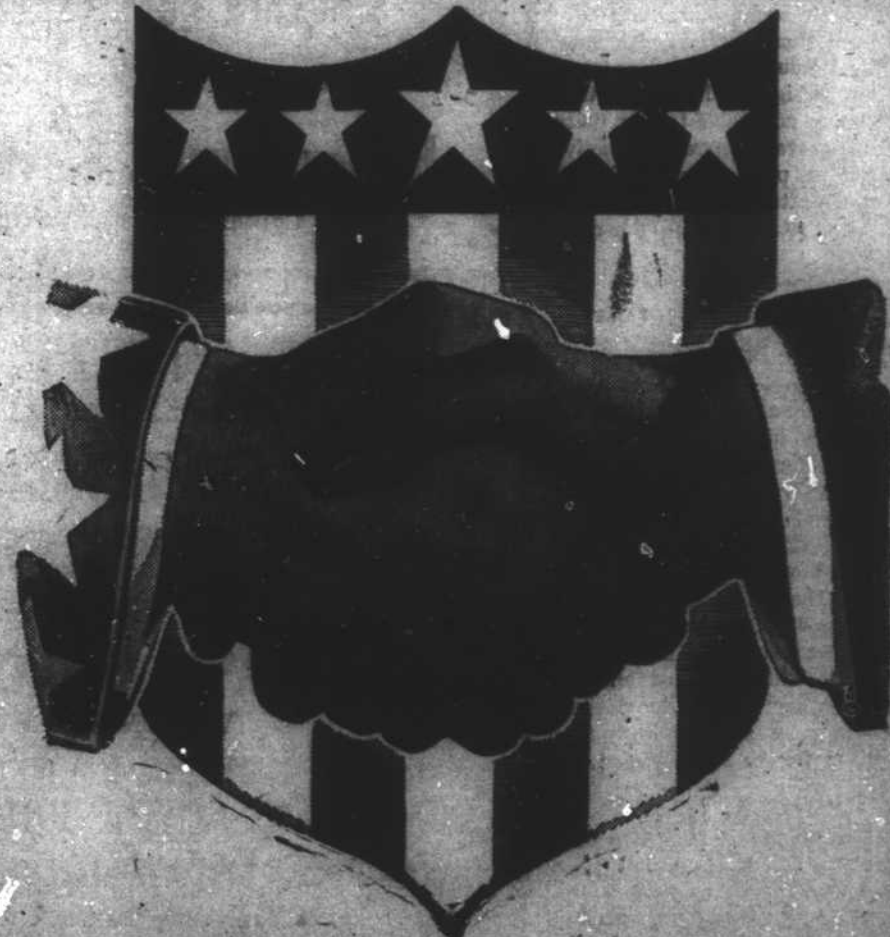
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