

## State Cotton Crop 1943 Is Four Per Cent Less '42

Raleigh, Aug. 19. — North Carolina's 1943 cotton crop is expected to produce 695,000 bales, according to the crop-reporting summary issued by the State Department of Agriculture. This is four per cent less than the 727,000 bales produced from the 1942 crop but 15 per cent more than the ten-year (1942-41) average production. The first yield estimate of this year's crop, which was placed at 890 pounds per acre, is exceeded only by the record yield of 427 pounds per acre in 1940 and last year's excellent yield of 412 pounds per acre. The crop will be harvested from 856,000 acres, or 19,000 acres more than harvest of a year ago.

"Although cotton continues to be a few days later than last year's unusually early crop, stands are uniformly good throughout the State. Record high temperatures and ample soil moisture throughout June was favorable for cotton, and the crop made excellent growth, overcoming most of its late start. However, almost daily rains from late June until around mid-July caused plants to put on excessive growth, prohibited proper field cultivation in some areas, and greatly aided weevil infestation. While late July weather was fairly favorable for maintaining rapid growth of plants and fruiting, recent dry, hot weather has caused considerable shedding. Boll weevil infestation was comparatively high around the first of August, but recent weather has been favorable for some control of the pest," said Reporter J. J. Morgan.

A United States cotton crop of 12,558,000 bales was forecast. This indication is 266,000 bales, or two percent, less than the 1942 crop, but seven-tenths of one per cent more than the ten-year (1931-41) average. The average yield is placed at 279.4 pounds per acre which is 6.9 pounds more than the 1942 yield and 62.4 pounds more than the ten-year average of 217 pounds per acre.

### Large Premiums For Good Cotton

Care in picking and ginning cotton can put many extra dollars in grower's pockets, says J. A. Shanklin, Extension cotton specialist at N. C. State College.

On the basis of loan values, he points out that middling cotton is worth \$18.75 a bale more than low middling in the whites and extra whites for a staple length of one and one-sixteenth inches.

For the long cotton of 1 1/4 inches, the premium is much larger. It amounts to a difference of 16.85 cents per pound or \$54.25 on a bale of 500 pounds.

Shanklin suggests that growers be particularly careful early in season when the cotton is more or less green. It should be carefully dried and allowed to cure before it is ginned or there will be damage to the staple.

Another point which the cotton specialist emphasizes is that cotton should be thoroughly dry when it is brought to the gin. The ginner, regardless of how good his equipment is, cannot do a satisfactory job of ginning when the cotton is green or damp.

Shanklin points out that the supply of good cotton, best suited for war uses, is seriously short at this time and that the cotton manufacturers must depend on how carefully growers pick and gin their cotton this year for the cotton needed in vital war manufacturing.

He urges that growers make every effort to keep the crop dry, clean of trash, and in the best possible condition for excellent ginning. Be sure to pick before the crop suffers weather damage.

### COTTON LOANS

The 1943 cotton loan program of the CCC has been announced by the War Food Administration. The average loan rate of 7/8 inch Middling cotton, gross weight, will be 18.14 cents per pound. The loan rates will vary because of location.

There's little good in telling a man that honesty pays if he is getting rich by being dishonest.

### Cut Hay Early For Best Quality

The best time to cut hay is just as the plants approach full bloom because good hay should be leafy and green in color, say Extension agronomists at N. C. State College.

They point out that as the plants mature, they lose more and more of their protein, vitamins, and minerals. The leaves begin to shed off of the plants, the stems become hard, and the hay becomes inedible. Much of the so-called hay in North Carolina is nothing but a mixture of stem seeds and straw.

The agronomists suggest that the hay be cured so as to preserve the leaves, which contain most of the nutrients, and also the green color of the hay. Damage from dew and rain and also from mold should be avoided in so far as possible.

They also suggest that hay should not be left on the ground very long after cutting but raked into small windrows as the leaves begin to wilt. The leaves are the first part of the plant to dry out after cutting. They may become so brittle as to shatter off in ordinary handling, while the stems are still green. As long as the leaves are kept alive, they help to cure the stems by drawing the moisture out of them and this is the reason for putting the hay in windrows.

The agronomists say that the hay should be put into windrows after three or four hours of bright sunshine under ordinary conditions. Where there are heavy crops, the windrows should be turned over again in the afternoon. The six delivery rake and hay tedder are excellent implements for curing heavy hay crops.

It doesn't help to draw upon your imagination unless you have something deposited with it.

### WALSTONBURG NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Smith and Miss Fannie Mae Smith left Monday for a few days visit with relatives in New Port, N. C.

Rev. Roy Taylor is spending this week in Asheville, N. C.

Jack Bunn, who has been spending the summer with his sister, Mrs. Albert Bundy, has returned to his home in Snow Hill.

Miss Dot Gardner has returned to Snow Hill after a few days visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Gardner.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Craft and Malcolm Gay were in Farmville, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl T. Hicks and children, Ann, Tommy, Bobby and Betty Sue, left Saturday for Rockingham for a few days visit with Mr. Hicks' mother and then they will motor through the mountains for the remainder of the week.

The Women's Missionary Society of the Christian Church met with Mrs. Jason Shirley of Wednesday with Mrs. Walker Speight as leader. Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Shelton and children, Eleanor, Carrie Lee, Mary Esther and Helen were Wilson shoppers Tuesday.

W. G. Gay and Miss Elizabeth Shirley left last Thursday for Washington, D. C., where they will visit relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lang, Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe Newton and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Mercer have returned from Myrtle Beach, S. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hinson and Mrs. Wayne Speight are visiting relatives in Portsmouth and Norfolk, Va.

Mrs. J. C. Gardner, Mrs. Traphenia McKel and Hazel McKel and Mrs. Willie Mann attended the funeral of Mr. Zeb Lane in Wilson, Tuesday afternoon.

Wayne Speight, J. C. Gardner, W. E. Dildy, Arthur Jones and Jake Fields motored to Portsmouth, Norfolk and Beaches in Virginia, Sunday and returned Monday night.

Mrs. G. H. Winstead, Jr. and little daughter, Becky, of Elm City, are visiting relatives here this week.

Mrs. L. E. Gola is visiting relatives in Buckingham, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Jason Shirley spent Sunday with Mrs. Shirley's mother, Mrs. Ada Bass in Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Craft had as their guests Saturday night, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Thomas of Snow Hill, Johnnie Parker Thomas of Fort Bragg, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Warren of New River. On Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Craft gave a barbecue dinner with other guests present. Those enjoying the dinner besides the week end guests were: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bundy, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bunn, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Craft, Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Joyner and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gay and Malcolm.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Craft were Farmville visitors Tuesday afternoon.

Ed Taylor, Jr., of an Officers' Training School in Georgia, is home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Taylor, Sr., on a sick leave furlough.

Mrs. W. B. Davis, of Rocky Mount, is spending this week with her son B. L. Davis, here.

Mr. Albert Bundy was a Wilson shopper Thursday morning.

Mrs. G. W. Bailey and Mrs. Arthur Gay made a business trip to Farmville, Friday morning.

Mrs. W. V. Rollick was a patient in a Wilson Hospital last week, having a tonsil operation. Friends are glad to learn that she is getting along nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Davis and son, Bobby, were the dinner guests Sunday night of Mr. and Mrs. Alderman in Snow Hill.

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## NOTICE

### TO TIMBER OWNERS

If you have timber to sell in feet or stumpage write to

WOOD and LAND DEPARTMENT

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