

Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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Poultrymen Look For Ways To Adjust To Narrowing Margins Of Profit

North Carolina poultry producers this summer are placing renewed emphasis on efficient production practices - one of their most effective weapons in fighting back at declining profit losses.

Ever mindful of the need for efficiency, the poultryman is now searching for those small, obscure items which, when corrected and added up, can make a significant change in the difference in cost of production and income.

"With the narrowing of margins of profits, everyone must give more than passing notice to those factors which might influence more efficient production," observes C. F. (Chick) Parrish, in charge of extension poultry at North Carolina State.

Parrish offers some suggestions that poultrymen might find helpful in their operation.

1. Are birds, especially in cases of severe debeaking, acutely get-

ting enough mash to maintain body weight and to produce eggs at a high rate? "It has been my observation," said Parrish, "that this is one thing that should be considered where wellbred birds in healthy condition are not producing at a high rate-around 70 per cent or more. Possibly an additional feeding of crumbles or pellets would be justified."

2. Additional watering space should be provided during summer months. Birds consume more water during hot weather as they attempt to stay cool. Waterers should be washed twice daily.

3. Birds normally consume more feed during the cool morning hours. Lights may be in order.

4. If new poultry houses are being planned, insulation should be given careful consideration. In present houses where insulation is difficult, poultry netting may be placed over the tie beams and about 18 inches of grain straw placed between it and the roof.

5. Some operators could afford to operate sprinklers on the roof or, when the humidity is low, foggers and fans can be operated on the inside of the houses.

6. The planting of green crops around the house, especially where the sun is reflected into the poultry houses, can be beneficial in maintaining a comfortable summertime temperature for the birds.

EVERYONE READS DUPLIN TIMES CLASSIFIED ADS.

Agriculture In Action

A farmer is a pretty vulnerable man as he piles his trade. In a sense, he is threatened by loss at every turn. Violent weather can wipe out his crop in a matter of minutes. Market drops can greatly reduce his profit.

But there's one loss he needn't sustain. It cost North Carolina farmers well over six million dollars in 1961. This is the failure to file for a gasoline tax refund.

There is a Federal tax of four cents and a State tax of seven cents on every gallon of gasoline sold to the public in North Carolina. The funds derived in this manner are being used on Federal and State roads. But much of the gasoline is used by farmers goes for non-highway purposes. Simply by keeping records, and by filing an application, farmers can get most of this money back.

They are entitled to a full refund of four-cents Federal tax on gasoline used for non-highway purposes. And they can regain six of the seven cents paid to the State. Since one cent of the State gas tax is charged to pay the highway bond debt, it is not refundable.

From July 1 through September 30, farmers can file for a refund covering the fiscal year ended June 30, 1963. Farmers who have filed previously for a refund will receive a new application in the mail. Most have probably been received by this time. Those who have not filed before may obtain an application through the N. C. Department of Revenue, or through the County Farm Bureau. County Farm Bureaus are also offering assistance to farmers in filling out forms properly.

Farmers who neglect to file for the refunds are losing money they needn't lose. In 1961, farmers in

Scotland County got an average refund of \$23. In most counties, the refund averaged well over 100. It can add up quickly, for it is not uncommon for a farmer to use more than 1,500 gallons of gas on his farm during a year's time. Since he is eligible for a total refund of ten cents per gallon, a refund of 1,500 gallons would amount to \$150. If you fail to file, chalk up a

Summer Vegetables And Tuna Top Plentiful Food List In August

Summer vegetables and canned tuna will top the list of plentiful foods during August.

Miss Gaynelle Hogan, consumer marketing specialist for the Agricultural Extension Service at N. C. State, says that you will find many summer vegetables available. Among these will be tomatoes,

needless loss to cost of operations. But remember, it's a lot of money for a little effort. And it's yours for the asking.

sweet corn, snap beans, lima beans, beets, cabbage, and lettuce.

Other plentiful foods includes watermelons, peanut butter, and cooking and salad oils.

Watermelon production will be well above the 1957-61 average. 3 Thousand more acres have been planted. Good harvests are now bringing large supplies of top-quality melons to market.

To tie in with August Sandwich Month promotion, peanut butter

has been added to the Agricultural Marketing Service's list. Production of 1962 crop peanuts was approximately 150,000 tons greater than apparent requirements. And the '63 crop is expected to again substantially exceed current needs.

Cooking and salad oils tie in nicely with outdoor cookery - for basting at barbecues and in summer salads. Stocks of edible oils are now about 700 million pounds higher than normal.

The six Common Market countries to be visited import about \$160 million worth of tobacco, cotton, poultry and feed grains from the Carolinas annually.

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