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Farm News

Extension Office

Distributes

Strawberry Plants

The Yancey County Extension Office has distributed approximately 30,000 Tennessee Beauty strawberry plants to growers. Several hundred thousand extra plants have been purchased individually, also.

This is one phase of how Yancey County farmers are starting to increase their income. This is also a part of the "successful '65 Program" sponsored by the Extension Service.

Two thousand plants were given out to 4-H Club members to start a Strawberry Chain. The club members receiving 200 plants will each return three gallons of strawberries to the chain in 1966. These will be sold at auction to buy plants for other members.

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YANCEY RECORD

1964 Wool Incentive Payment Set at 16.5 Percent

Shorn wool payments for the 1964 marketing year will amount to 16.5 percent of the dollar returns each producer received from the sale of shorn wool during the period from January through December. J. T. Randolph, Office Manager of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, has announced. The rate of payment was determined recently by the Department of Agriculture as the percentage necessary to bring the national average wool price of 53.2 cents per pound received by growers during 1964 up to the previously announced incentive level of 62 cents per pound under the national wool program.

Producers thus will receive an incentive payment of \$16.50 for every \$100 received from the sale of shorn wool during the tenth year of the program. This compares with a payment of \$27.80 per \$100 of marketings for the 1963 marketing year when the average wool sales was 48.5 per pound.

The payment rate on 1964 sales of unshorn live lambs to compensate for the wool on them will be 35 cents per hundredweight. This payment on sales of live lambs that have never been shorn is based on the shorn wool payment and is designed to discourage unusual shearing of lambs before marketing. The payment rate compares with 54 cents per hundredweight for the 1963 marketing year.

The wool incentive program was originally authorized by the National Wool Act of 1954, which has been extended twice as a means of encouraging the domestic production of wool. The program currently is authorized to cover marketing through the 1965 marketing year. The President has recommended another extension of the Act.

According to Randolph, ASCS county office will begin making 1964 program payments within a few days.

Garden Time

BY M. E. GARDNER
N. C. STATE

"Please tell me how I can kill wild cherry trees. They are growing among other trees in the woods adjoining my pasture which is used by the cattle for shade and rest."

Wild cherry trees, sweet gum, poison ivy, blackberry and many other woody plants may be eradicated by using the ester form of 2, 4, 5-T. The material may be applied as a basal spray or to the foliage depending upon the season of the year. Instructions for use will be printed on the containers and should be followed very carefully for best results. Be especially careful about spray drift to other plants that you do not wish to injure.

Soon after receiving the call I met one of my forestry friends in the hall and told him about it. He was surprised that anyone would want to kill wild cherry trees because the lumber is bringing in \$30 per thousand board feet in the mountains on the stump and scattered among other trees.

It seemed to me that I remembered something about wild cherry foliage and cattle so I called one of my friends in Animal Science. He refreshed my memory and told me that wild cherry foliage could poison cattle, especially if they eat the wilted leaves on trees which have been blown down by storms or were clinging to broken branches.

My curiosity not having been completely satisfied I went to my file and got Dr. Jim Hardin's "Poisonous Plants of North Carolina" which I consider to be the last word on poisonous plants of all kinds.

I imagine that most everyone is familiar with the wild cherry as it grows in all sections of the state. Dr. Hardin states that the poisonous principle is hydrocyanic (prussic) acid. Numerous factors contribute to the formation of the acid but it is most commonly found when the leaves are in a wilted condition. It is also found in the twigs and bark.

Dr. Hardin describes the symptoms as difficult breathing, vertigo, spasms, coma and sickness of short duration. An animal may die within an hour after eating unless a veterinarian is available for quick attention. Eating very small amounts, even of fresh leaves, is considered to have been the cause of some sickness and abortion in cattle.

IF YOU ARE A

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Horseman
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