

Trenton News

Fair Rent For Tobacco Allotment Could Vary from \$125-525 Per Acre

By Mrs. J. H. Haddock, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Turnage of Kinston were dinner guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Jarman, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sylvanus D. Mallard and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Marlin Herring and family in White Oak, Sunday.

Ann Davenport, a teacher at West Havelock, was at home with her grandmother, Mrs. Laura Davenport, over the weekend.

Mrs. Jason Arthur and boys Johnny and Tommy, attended the races in Kinston Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Jarman visited Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Jarman in New Bern Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Lawrence and son Tony, of Jacksonville, visited Mr. and Mrs. Bromo Spivey and family over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. George Long and children, Kristie and Karen, from Winston-Salem, visited Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Smith recently.

Billy Hammond of Chicago, Illinois, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hammond, during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Rogers Pollock and family spend the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Millis Wright and family in Lewiston.

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Mallard and son Timmy, of Raleigh, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Johnson and Rodney.

Mr. and Mrs. William Creech and son, Bill, Jr., of Portsmouth, Virginia, visited Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Jarman, and Gary, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Parker and son, Brian, were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. John Parker in New Bern.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Avery and children, Wanda and Johnny, visited Mr. and Mrs. William H. Cannon, in Morehead City, Sunday.

Rev. and Mrs. R. N. Hinnant of Bailey were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Banks.

Miss Avis Vick, of Raleigh, spent the weekend with Miss Margaret Carol Banks.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Avery and children, Johnny and Wanda, and Mrs. Jake Croom visited Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Avery, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Avery, Miss Maylon Letchworth in Snow Hill, recently.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Adams and boys spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Adams and boys spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Adams in Rocky Mount.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Spann, of Greenville, spent the weekend with Mrs. Earl Spann.

Mrs. Foy Vause and children of Kinston visited her mother, Mrs. Earl Spann, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Williams and daughter, Cindy, from Jackson, Mississippi, visited Mrs. Mary Eubanks and son, Virgil, over the holidays. Mrs. Williams is the former Ada Eubanks.

Pat Huffman, a student at East Carolina College, was at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Huffman, over the weekend.

Mrs. Douglas Spence and children, of Kinston, visited her mother, Mrs. Earl Spann, Sunday.

Mr. Willie Banks, Mrs. Tom Mallard, Mrs. Earl Scott, and Mrs. Wayne Mallard visited Mrs. Robert Killingsworth Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hargett, from Monroe, visited Mr. and Mrs. Paul Huffman Thursday.

For the second consecutive year, tobacco farmers have the opportunity to lease and temporarily transfer flue-cured tobacco allotments within counties.

And these farmers are faced with the question, "What is a fair cash rent price to pay for leased acreage?" The answer, of course, depends on such things as expected price, expected yield, production costs and value of labor and management.

One person who has studied this question is Jim Allgood, extension farm management specialist at State College. And generally speaking, here are some of the conclusions that Allgood has reached:

If the tobacco averages 1,400 pounds per acre, a fair cash rent price is somewhere between \$125 and \$210 per acre. If the tobacco averages 1,800 pounds per acre, a fair cash rent price is between \$260 and \$365 per acre. And if the tobacco averages 2,200 pounds, then a fair price is between \$395 and \$525.

Generally, Allgood expects more variation in tobacco rental prices across the state in 1963 than there

was in 1962.

"Prices this year will be determined to some extent by the experience farmers had with tobacco last year," he explained. "Where crops were good rental prices are expected to go up. Where crops were hit by unfavorable weather prices are expected to go down. Then, too other factors may make farmers a little more cautious in 1963. Prices for the 1962 crop were off. The future of MH-30, which tends to increase yields, is undecided. And two of the higher yielding varieties have been placed on the discount list.

There are several reasons why Allgood does not try to pin down a specific "fair price" figure. In each case, the larger figure is the maximum rent that a farmer could afford to pay. It does not take into consideration the risks and uncertainties of growing tobacco, caused by such things as insects, disease, weather, yields and prices. Nor does it take into consideration other uses that a farmer may have for his labor.

Farm management specialists at State College estimate that the av-

erage cost of producing 1,800 pounds of flue-cured tobacco per acre in North Carolina is about \$300.

Labor accounts for about half of the expenses. Other variable costs — seeds, fertilizers, warehouse charges, etc. — amount to about \$265. Fixed costs, such as insurance, taxes, interest and depreciation, account for the remaining \$135 per acre.

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