

# North Carolina Farmers Should Raise Their Own Horses And Mules

## TOP-DRESS GRAIN

There is greater than usual need to top dress all small grain with nitrate of soda this season, find extension specialists of State able plant food.

College who say that from 100 to 125 pounds of the soda or its equivalent should be used immediately. Continuous heavy rains over most of the State have caused much leaching of avail-

## COST IS LESS EXPERT WRITES

Over Six Million Dollars Sent From N. C. Yearly For Animals

By PROF. EARL H. HOSTETLER Professor of Animal Husbandry, N. C. State College.

There is no adequate explanation as to why North Carolina farmers will send some six and a half million dollars out of the State each year for the purchase of farm work stock when these horses and mules can be produced on the farms where they are needed for less cash outlay than when purchased in distant states.

The home-raised animal should not only represent a smaller money investment but during the time that he is developing to the proper age for work he will provide a home market for grain, hay and pasture. The fact that North Carolina produced 824,000 tons of hay in 1937, or nearly twice the amount harvested in 1936, is evidence that more feed is available for the production of work animals as well as other kinds of livestock.

### Blight Increase.

Available statistics show that the horse and mule population has increased slightly during the past few years and the average value per head has increased materially. For example, in 1930 the average mule was valued at \$120.00, as compared with \$180.00 in 1937.

### Better Than Machinery.

Many of the 288,400 farms in North Carolina are of relatively small size and of such topography that horses and mules can be used for the farm work to better advantage than machinery. While mules are preferred to horses on many of these farms, yet it is imperative to have mares if mules are to be produced. The average farm mare should produce a colt each year and still do almost as much work as any of the other horses or mules. This is particularly true if the breeding season is arranged so that the foal will be dropped either just before or just after the heavy spring work period because the normal mare needs only about two weeks rest at foaling time. In fact both the mare and colt will keep in better health if the mare is given regu-

lar work.

### Often Mistreated.

Too frequently, the work stock on the farm are taken somewhat for granted. Yet when we realize that the combined value of horses and mules in North Carolina in 1937 was nearly \$63,000,000 or more than twice the value of all other livestock, it does seem that these animals should be given the feed, care and attention that their value warrants. In other words, the price of one pair of mules often represents a greater cash outlay than the annual net income the crop which these mules produced.

### Pastures Best

Pasture is the cheapest and best of all rations for horses and mules, whether young or old, working or idle. Good pasture should furnish nearly all of the feed for young animals during the pasture season and this can be materially extended by growing temporary pastures such as winter wheat, rye and barley for use during the late fall and winter months. Work animals should be allowed to graze on a good pasture at night and on Sundays, holidays and rainy days, but should, of course, be allowed hay and grain in addition when they are working. Pursuance of this policy greatly reduces the maintenance cost of work horses and mules, and prolongs their lives and usefulness.

It is also well to remember that daily grooming and proper fitting harness will save feed and increase the work animals' efficiency. Heat prostration can be entirely eliminated if salt is supplied in ample quantities and water is provided at two or three-hour intervals.

## "Test Pilot" Has Star Triumverate In Stirring Roles

Acclaimed by aviation experts the most authentic aviation story ever filmed, "Test Pilot," starring Clark Gable, Myrna Loy, and Spencer Tracy comes to the Palace theatre today for one showing only.

Based on an original story by Lieutenant - Commander Frank Wead, the story is steeped in colorful tradition of the men who are building the future of avia-


tion, test pilots who try new ships before they are approved.

Thrilling flying sequences, filmed with nine ground cameras and nine aerial cameras, provided the background for a new type triangle. Clark Gable, in the title

role, is divided between his love for Myrna Loy and his love of flying. The conflict between his wife and his job is basis of a plot which incorporates scenes from national air races, testing of new

planes, riotous night club sequences and touching romantic scenes between Gable and Miss Loy.

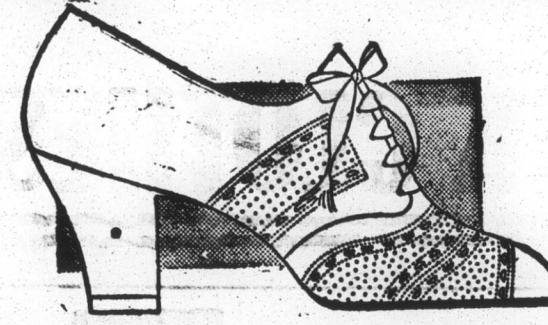
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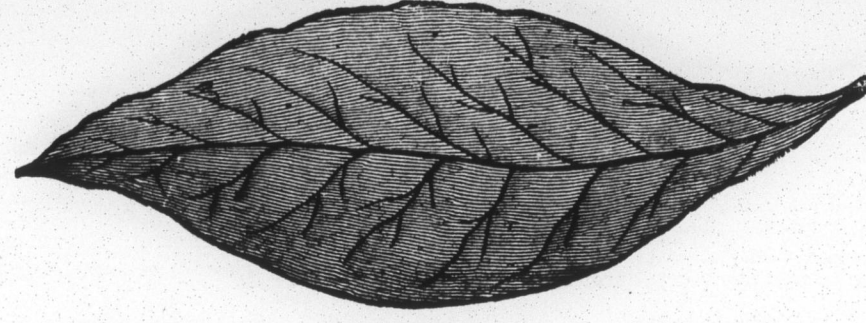
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