

**Seed Necessary For Profitable Crop**

Had the best sweet potato seed you can get now and next fall after you will get better prices for your crop.

"Good seed not only produces greater yields per acre, it also helps produce good quality potatoes that command top prices," said L. P. Watson, extension horticulturist at State College.

This year growers should give more attention to quality than to quantity, he added, as a big crop is in prospect and only the best potatoes will bring good prices.

A buyer recently told Watson he paid 25 cents more a basket for good grade potatoes than for the run-out, low quality potatoes most farmers were offering him from the 1936 crop.

The average yield per acre last year was 90 bushels. At 25 cents more on the basket, good grade potatoes would bring \$22.50 more per acre, Watson pointed out.

But this is not all, he continued. Good seed would produce a greater yield and the grower would get much more than \$22.50 per acre over the returns for inferior potatoes.

A Chowan County grower who planted the No. 1 strain of Porto Rico last year got 248.9 bushels of No. 1 grade potatoes from each acre, Watson pointed out.

A Pamlico farmer planted Porto Rico strain No. 1 and got 375 bushels to the acre; a New Hanover grower harvested 487 bushels from an acre.

No. 1 potatoes are now worth \$1 a bushel, Watson added. "You can figure for yourself whether it paid them to plant good seed."

**Program Will Aid Tenants Of State**

With 47 per cent of all the farms in North Carolina operated by tenants, this state is watching with close interest the concerted attack on farm tenancy and the movement of the president and leaders in Congress to aid the farmers at the "bottom of the agricultural ladder," says Vance E. Swift, state director of rural rehabilitation for the Resettlement Administration, said today.

According to the latest agricultural census figures there are approximately 142,000 tenant farmers in North Carolina, he pointed out.

"An important beginning in the movement to reduce the prevalence of tenancy and to provide a basis for increased farm ownership already has been made through the Rural Rehabilitation program," Mr. Swift stated. "More than 8,000 farmers in this state, a majority of whom are tenants, have been assisted, supervised, and helped in the adjustment of their debt adjustment. These services are helping thousands of tenants to farm ownership."

"Under the system of the past, the lack of opportunities for ownership of land and the evils resulting from instability of land tenure have brought about a rapidly increasing depletion of the soil and growing rural poverty in many sections."

"Dried out cake will become as fresh as when baked, if it is wrapped in a damp cloth and set in a moderately warm oven until the cloth is dry."



**Timely Questions On Farm Answered**

**Question:** What is the best distance to leave between hills and rows in transplanting tobacco?

**Answer:** A distance of 24 inches between hills with the rows four feet wide has proven most satisfactory under average conditions. On the more fertile soils, however, closer spacing on the row will be more profitable. Select plants of uniform size for transplanting. A better stand and quicker growth will be secured if the ridge method of planting is followed. This ridge is generally made by running two big furrows with a turning plow and then scattering the middles with a sweep. The fertilizer should be thoroughly mixed with the soil before the row is ridged.

**Question:** How can I cure or control White Diarrhea in my chicks?

**Answer:** First make sure that the trouble is White Diarrhea. This term implies that the disease is germ borne, when in reality, a large per cent of cases in which diarrhea appears is not germ borne. Over-crowding, over-heating, chilling, inferior grades of feed stuffs, and poor ventilation usually produce a diarrheal discharge in young chicks. Carefully check all phases of management and correct the trouble if found. If not found, send typical chick to the Poultry Disease Laboratory at State College and maintain rigid sanitation until report is received.

**Question:** In planning my garden how much land should I allow for each person?

**Answer:** A tenth of an acre will produce an abundance of vegetables for one person with a small surplus for canning. If such crops as cantaloupes, Irish and sweet potatoes, or watermelons are grown in the garden, a slightly larger plot will be needed. Family tastes will determine just how much of each vegetable to grow. A table listing the various crops together with the feet of row to plant for a family of five is given in Extension Circular No. 122 and copy of this may be obtained free upon application to the Agricultural Editor at State College.

The railroads of the United States have passenger trains on 644 different runs where an average speed of 60 miles an hour or more is maintained from terminal to terminal.

**Mystery Lost Colony Subject Among State High School Students**

High school students in this county are due for some headscratching if most of them enter an interesting contest which was announced this week-end to all public high school principals in North Carolina.

For solutions of the mystery of what became of the Lost Colony, the Roanoke Island Historical Association, Inc., sponsors with the Federal Government of this summer's mammoth 350th anniversary celebration of the English settlement of America on Roanoke Island, N. C., is offering a \$50 first prize and 107 other prizes valued at \$200.

The solutions will be written by the students in papers which must not number more than 1,200 words, and must be completed and handed to the high school principal not later than April 15.

Attractive illustrated folders explaining the contest will be available from high school principals this week.

Clyde A. Erwin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, is chairman of the committee of judges.

**Soil Conservation Is Last Line Of Defense**

"Conservation of the soil is the last line of defense against national suicide. That defense must go on."

With these words from Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, E. Y. Floyd, of State College, emphasizes the fundamental objectives of the soil-conservation program.

Destruction of the soil not only imperils farmers, but it is a grave threat to the welfare of all people in the nation, Floyd stated.

But the goal of the soil-conservation program is not confined to conserving and building up the soil, he continued.

A better-balanced system of farming, which will be more profitable for the farmer and safer for the Nation, is the aim of the conservation program offered growers this year.

Soil conservation and balanced farming are closely linked in the development of a country's agriculture, Floyd pointed out, and the growth of agriculture is reflected in the prosperity of all business.

The payments offered North Carolina farmers for limiting their acreages of soil-depleting cash crops and for carrying out soil-building practices will encourage the adoption of better farm management, he continued.

Farmers are urged to grow more food and feed crops to make themselves less dependent upon cash income, credit, and "bought food and feed supplies."

Increased feed production will stimulate interest in livestock, and North Carolina farmers, with few exceptions, need much more livestock than they now have, Floyd said.

**More About 1937 Farmers' Program**

By L. W. ANDERSON  
County Agent

Practically every farm in Perquimans County has either a Cotton Base or a Peanut Base or both. All of the farms in the county have a General Soil Depleting Base.

All farms with a Cotton Base are eligible for a benefit payment, provided the farmer plants less than his Cotton Base. The payment for reducing the average in cotton planted will be five cents per pound on the base yield assigned to the farm, multiplied by the number of acres reduced from the base. Any farm may collect payment for cotton reduction not to exceed 35 per cent of the Cotton Base. Farms with a Cotton Base of 5.7 acres, or less, may reduce their cotton crop as much as two acres and receive payment for the amount reduced. If for any reason beyond control, a farm has no Cotton on it in 1937, the producer may collect payment on at least 35 per cent of his Cotton Base.

Example: A farm has a Cotton Base of 10 acres and a base yield of 216 pounds per acre. The farmer may plant 6 1-2 acres and receive payment on 3 1-2 acres. His payment will be 216 pounds at five cents per pound, or \$10.80 per acre. If he reduces his cotton crop 3 1-2 acres, his payment will be \$10.80 multiplied by 3 1-2 acres, or a total cotton payment of \$37.80. The farmer is not required to reduce the full 35 per cent, but will only receive payment on that part of the crop that is reduced below the Cotton Base. In the above mentioned case, if the farmer should reduce his cotton crop only one half of an acre, he would be eligible to collect only one half of the \$10.80 per acre, or \$5.40.

The payment for peanut acreage reduction will be 1 1-4 cents per pound of the base yield per acre, multiplied by the number of acres reduced from the base, not to exceed 15 per cent of the Peanut Base.

Example: A farm has a Peanut Base of 10 acres and a base yield of 1000 pounds per acre. The farmer may reduce his peanut crop by 15 per cent, or 1.5 acres and plant 13.5 acres. His payment will be 1000 pounds at 1 1-4 cents or \$12.50 per acre. If he reduces his peanut crop 2 1/2 acres, his payment would be

\$12.50 multiplied by 2.4 or \$30.00. The farmer is not required to reduce the total amount of the Peanut Base, but will be eligible for payment on any amount that he does reduce, up to 15 per cent of his Peanut Base.

Every farm in the county has a General Soil Depleting Base. This base includes all Soil Depleting crops other than cotton and peanuts, such as corn, potatoes, sorghum, gardens and truck crops. Payment for the reduction of the General Soil Depleting Base will only be made in those cases where the farm has been producing a surplus of these crops and selling all or a part of this surplus, either directly or indirectly. Farms may reduce the General Soil Depleting crops and be eligible for payment at the rate of about \$8.00 per acre on the number or acres reduced from the General Soil Depleting Base of the farm, not to exceed 15 per cent of this base, provided the acres reduced were normally produced above home needs and sold in

past years. Next week there will be an article in this paper about the Soil Conservation Base and penalties for over-planting the Soil Depleting Bases. Look for it.

**Top Dressing Fine Tonic For Pasture**

Top-dressing makes a good spring tonic for old pastures, says John A. Arey, extension dairy specialist at State College.

Give the old grass a dose of "plant food" and it will soon be growing thickly enough to supply good grazing while new pastures are still too young and tender, he pointed out.

For sandy soil, Arey said 300 pounds of 4-8-4 fertilizer may be applied to the acre; clay soils should receive the same amount of a 4-12-4 mixture.

But a spring tonic by itself may not be enough to reclaim the sod in time if the grass has got too thin, Arey added, and in this event the

thin spots should be reseeded when the fertilizer is applied.

If the soil is reasonably loose, the seed and fertilizer may be drilled in satisfactorily with a disk drill, he continued.

Soil that has become hard packed should be scarified first with a disk harrow, and then the seed and fertilizer can be drilled in without difficulty.

After pointing out that pasture is the best and cheapest feed that can be supplied cattle and workstock, Arey stated that the animals, especially young cattle, should be inspected for lice.

A calf heavily infested with lice cannot make a good growth, even when plenty of rich, succulent pasture is available, he pointed out.

In cold weather, infested animals may be dusted with a mixture of equal parts of Flowers of sulphur and ground sabadilla seed or sodium fluoride. On warm days they may be sprayed or sponged with lime-sulphur, cold tar, or nicotine dips.

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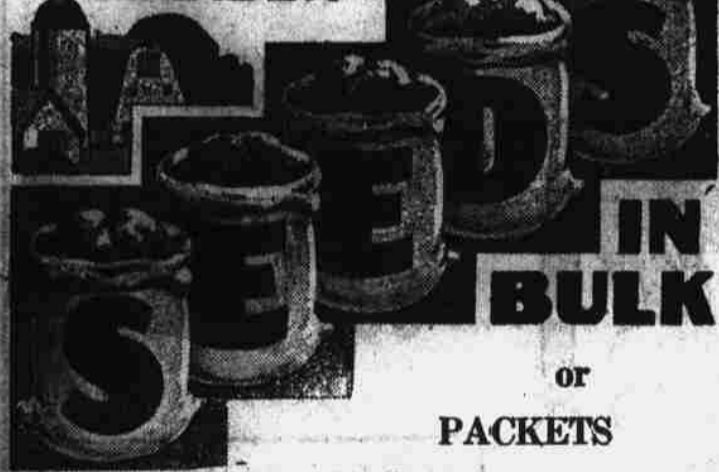
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