

### New Center Lines Aid Safe Driving

State Highway Commission center-lining crews are nearing the half-way point in laying the new two-color white and yellow center-lines on major highways in North Carolina. Chairman Henry W. Jordan has announced. For the first time the department is using reflectorized or "night-shining" materials exclusively in its center-lining operations.

The new system of marking, adopted by the Commission last October, uses dashed white lines to denote limits of a travel lane and yellow "barrier" lines to warn motorists that passing is unwise. The presence of a yellow line on the driver's side indicates that sight distance is less than 600 feet.

"The new yellow line restriction when complied with provides for safe passing at a speed of 37 miles per hour with a 10-mile differential in the speed of the overtaking or passing vehicle," the Commission's Traffic Engineer, Robert A. Burch, said. He warned, however, that the absence of a yellow line does not mean that a passing maneuver is recommended at all times. "Reasonable precautions must still be taken to determine distance of oncoming vehicles," he said.

The new center-line markings will appear on all major highways carrying 800 or more vehicles per day. The Commission formerly used the yellow line technique only on three and four-lane highways.

The newly-adopted design is a standard recommended by the National Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and is used by the majority of state highway departments.

Burch also appealed to the motoring public for cooperation in keeping off the newly painted lines until they are dry. "Because we are now using paint materials with high viscosity, the drying time has been increased from 10 to 30 minutes," he said.

The Commission spends half a million dollars each year on center-lining and if vehicles drive over the newly-laid paint before it dries, state money is wasted and the appearance, life and usefulness of the center-line are destroyed.

Work on the new center-lining project will be completed in the fall.

### Tar Heels Trying New Turkey Breed

A new turkey breed—the Jersey Buff—has made its appearance in North Carolina, according to L. W. Herrick, Jr., extension turkey specialist at State College.

Herrick says a few Jersey Buffs were grown last year in Union County. On a recent trip he saw about 5,000 pounds of this breed being grown in Anson and Union counties.

The breed was developed at Rutgers University several years ago. The feather color is buff with a very light buff undercolor. The birds weigh about a pound more than the small Beltsville Whites and are designed to fill the weight gap between the Beltsville breed and the large Bronze breed.

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