

# Agriculture

## Commodity Credit Corporation offers corn for sale

By THOMAS L. RIDDICK  
County Executive Director

Farmers and other interested persons will be eligible to purchase corn from the Commodity Credit Corporation starting July 27.

Preston Nixon, Chairperson of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, said that CCC will offer corn for sale for unrestricted use at

market prices, but not less than the formula price which is 115 percent of the county loan rate for corn where stored plus 54 cents per bushel carrying charges.

"The minimum quantity that will be considered for acceptance is 1,000 bushels," Nixon said. Offers will be received and sales will be made on a first come, first serve basis.

Interested persons should contact the county ASCS office as soon as possible for further details. The office is located at 512 South Church St., Hertford, Telephone 426-5802.

Farmers should keep in mind that ASCS does have a disaster program through the 1981 crop year which can compensate for some loss incurred due to drought, hail, flood and other conditions

which are beyond his control. Producers should contact the ASCS office before destroying any corn acreage that has no production potential or so little that carrying through to harvest is not justified.

Upon your contacting us, field visits will be made to determine what the production potential might be if any and assess the loss. If the producer is going to

carry the corn through harvest, keep your sales identified by farm number, date and producer name when marketed. If the grain is stored on the farm, let us know by farm as it is put in the bin and the production will be determined by a bin measurement for each farm.

Producers interested in a loan on grain stored on the farm should contact us. Loans can be made on 90 percent of what

the producer certifies is in storage or on 100 percent of the measured quantity as determined by an ASCS representative; on any loan, an inspection of the grain will be made before loan disbursement.

Interest rate on these loans at the present are 14.5 percent. Loan rates on the 81 grain crops are as follows: Wheat \$3.13 Bu., Corn \$2.60 Bu., Barley \$1.94 Bu., Oats \$1.37 Bu., Soybeans \$5.02 Bu.

## Congressional committees approve budget cuts

Senate and House conferees, following a four-day session, reached agreement on budget savings in agricultural programs, energy and food stamps that meet requirements of the president's Economic Recovery Program.

Savings for fiscal year 1982 in agricultural and farm-related programs totaled almost \$1.4 billion.

Food stamp program reforms agreed

upon resulted in savings for fiscal 1982 of \$1.6 billion.

In an earlier conference, savings of \$1.5 billion were reached on child nutrition program reforms for fiscal year 1982.

In total, the savings in the three areas for fiscal year 1982 were about \$4.5 billion. This amount is within the budget requirements set forth in a Senate

resolution adopted this spring.

At the close of the conference, Senator Jesse Helms, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, said, "We've had some hard nuts to crack (in meeting the budget requirements). The House had had to give more than it wanted to, and so has the Senate. But the practical necessities of arithmetic are obvious."

He went on to say that he thought

Congressman E. (Kika) de la Garza, Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, chaired the agriculture portion of the conference "with great dignity and poise."

Savings were made by such actions as:

- Tightening up on interest rates and overall loan levels in Farmers Home Administration programs.
- Making provisions for collection of fees for cotton classing, tobacco inspection

and grading, grain inspection, and naval stores' inspection.

- Cut back in spending for certain Forest Service activities.
- Reduction in funding for alcohol fuel programs.
- Reductions in USDA personnel.

Milk price supports were set at 75 percent of parity, with an understanding that this is an interim measure. The Senate Farm Bill proposes 70 percent of

parity, which Senator Helms indicated would be sought during floor consideration.

He said such action on the dairy program would be necessary for "fairness to all — the consumer, the producers and the taxpayer."

Action on the complete budget reconciliation package from all Committees is expected by both Houses of Congress next week.

## Market Summary

Egg prices were lower on large and medium and higher on small compared to those of the previous week, according to the Market News Service of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

Supplies were light to moderate on the larger sizes and moderate on the balance. Demand was good. The North Carolina weighted average price quoted on July 23 for small lot sales of cartoned grade A eggs delivered to stores was 75.75 cents per dozen for large, medium 64.55, small 50.18.

Corn prices were 16 to 26 cents lower and soybeans 6 to 20 cents lower thru Thursday, July 23, compared to the same period of the previous week. No. 2 yellow shelled corn ranged mostly \$3.22 to \$3.39 in the Eastern part of the state and \$3.53 to \$3.63 in the Piedmont.

No. 1 yellow soybeans ranged mostly \$7.15 to \$7.64 in the East and \$6.95 to \$7.25 in the Piedmont; No. 2 red winter wheat \$3.24 to \$3.46; No. 2 red oats \$1.60 to \$2; and barley \$2 to \$2.20. 44 percent soybean meal FOB N.C. processing plant

ranged 225.70 to 239 per ton. New crop prices quoted for harvest delivery corn \$3.01 to \$3.13, soybeans \$7.06 to \$7.23.

The volume on vegetables continued to decline in eastern North Carolina with pepper the main item being offered. The Market News office in Faison issued the last report of the season. Watermelon prices declined this week with the demand light at week's end.

Prices paid to growers on Thursday for 18 to 24 pound Charleston Gray and Crimson Sweet 2 1/2 to 3 cents per pound, Jubilee 30 to 40 pounds 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 cents. Peaches were slightly higher with 3/4 bushel cartons of 2 1/4 inch up at \$7. Shipments of vegetables from western North Carolina increased with prices on beans up sharply on Thursday at \$9 to \$10., cabbage \$3 to \$3.50 per crate.

Record prices for tobacco on opening day were established on all belts this week. Quality was good and demand high with the Stabilization Corporation receiving very little tobacco.

For the period July 20-23, gross tobacco sales on South Carolina and Border Carolina Belt totaled 22.6 million pounds and averaged \$153.60 per hundred, up \$30.32 compared to opening week last year; Eastern Belt 15.6 million pounds and average \$160.93, up \$43.06; Old and Middle Belt 1.7 million pounds were sold for an average of \$157.97 per hundred, up \$34.49.

For this period, the Stabilization Corporation received .6 percent on the Border Belt, 1.2 percent on the Eastern Belt and 1 percent on the Old and Middle Belt.

A total of 10,218 feeder pigs were sold

on 13 state graded sales during the week of July 20. Prices were mostly \$2.25 to \$5.50 higher on 40-70 pound pigs. US 1-2 pigs weighing 40-50 pounds averaged \$74.81 per hundred pounds with No. 3s \$64.88; 50-60 pound 1-2s averaged \$69.56, No. 3s \$56.59; 60-70 pound 1-2s \$60.53, No. 3s \$53.66; 70-80 pound 1-2s \$56.34 per hundred pounds with No. 3s \$55.11.

At weekly livestock auctions held within the state the week of July 20, prices for Slaughter steers and heifers \$6 to \$6.25 lower with feeder calves and slaughter cows irregular. Utility and Commercial cows brought \$38 to \$48.50; Good slaughter steers above 800 pounds \$49 to \$54; A few Good slaughter heifers

above 700 pounds brought \$46 to \$48.75 at one sale.

Good slaughter calves 350-550 pounds \$47 to \$54. Medium frame No. 1 muscle steers 400-500 pounds sold \$44 to \$52.50. Feeder cows, average flesh sold from \$38.50 to \$44.50. Baby calves under 3 weeks of age brought \$30 to \$85 per head. Market Hogs brought mostly \$48.40 to \$53.10 per hundred weight and 300-600 pound sows \$37.25 to \$49.

Market hogs at daily cash buying stations about the state sold 50 cents to 1.00 lower this week and ranged mostly \$50 to \$51.50 per hundred pounds. Sows 500 pounds and up \$40 to \$47.

The broiler-fryer market is 3 cents

higher for next week's trading. Supplies are light to moderate with weights trending light due to reduced gains from hot weather. Demand is good.

The North Carolina dock weighted average price is 49.90 cents per pound for less than truckloads picked up at processing plants during the week of July 27. This week 8.6 million birds were processed in North Carolina with an average live bird weight of 3.97 pounds per bird on July 22.

Heavy type hens were steady this past week. Supplies were fully adequate and demand good. Heavy type hen prices 13 cents per pound at the farm with buyers loading.

## Bird menace can be difficult to stop

Problems with birds stealing berries, grapes and other fruit can be distressing to the gardener, but there are limits to what you can do about them.

There are three alternatives, and none is very satisfactory. North Carolina State University extension specialists suggest that you can, 1. limit the attractiveness of your garden to birds; 2. limit the birds' access to your garden; or 3. eliminate the birds.

Most birds feed close to a protective cover that offers them refuge when threatened. Woody fencerows, wind-break plantings, woods and brush increase the attractiveness of an area to birds. It might help limit bird damage to your fruit by removing these "safe" areas.

When establishing new fruit plantings, select sites away from such cover.

Devices that make loud explosion-like sounds or duplicate the distress cries of birds can discourage the feathery thieves. However, they may also be irritating to you and your neighbors.

Scarecrows, hawk replicas, shiny aluminum strips and pie plates have some effect in small areas, but their effectiveness soon wears off.

Perhaps the most effective anti-bird practice in small plantings is to cover the plants with some type of netting until harvest is finished.

Eliminating the birds may not be a good alternative. Many of the songbirds, which are the main culprits in fruit stealing, are protected by law. You should be aware of these laws and any local ordinances against discharging firearms before making moves in this direction.

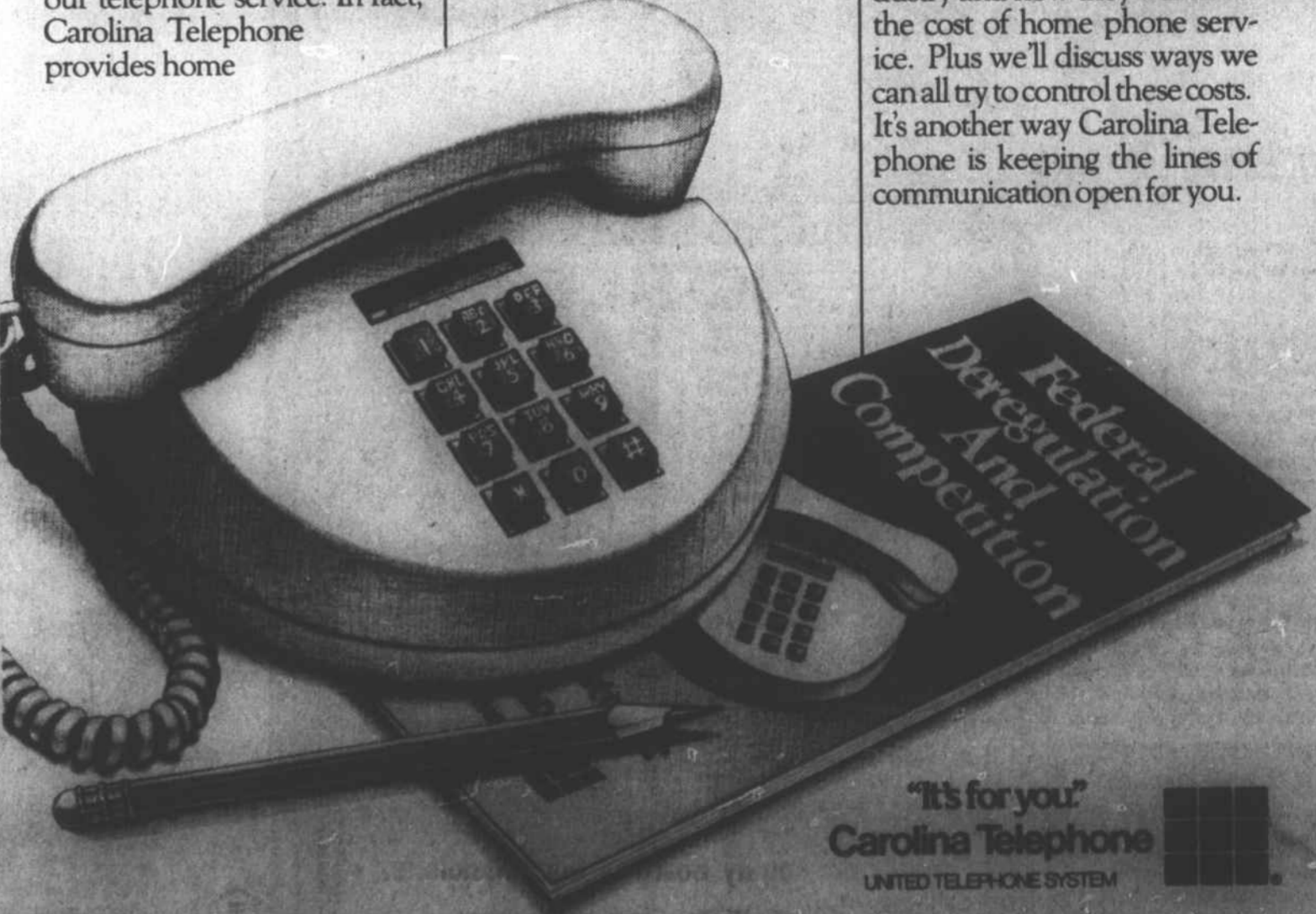
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