

Farmers Can Increase Cotton Lint Yield By Fertilizing, Sidedressing

Fertilizing and side dressing cotton properly will help North Carolina farmers increase their per-acre yields of lint, says J. A. Shanklin, extension cotton specialist at State College.

Shanklin says the amount and kind of fertilizer applied at planting should be determined by the crop rotation and soil conditions. If a soil test has not been made, the following may be used as a guide:

In rotation with non-legume crops, cotton should receive 500-700 pounds of 5-10-5 or 4-10-6 in the Coastal Plain and 600-800 pounds of 4-12-4 in the Piedmont. In rotation with legumes for hay, peanuts, or on potash-deficient soils, the recommended rate is 500-700 pounds of 5-10-10 in the Coastal Plain and 600-800 pounds of 4-12-8 or 5-10-10 in the Piedmont. In rotation with legumes for seed or turned, or on soils of high organic matter, 500-700 pounds of 3-9-9 will be needed in the Coastal Plain and 600-800 pounds of 3-12-6 in the Piedmont.

Fertilizer should be applied by the side-placement method. If

equipment is not available, the fertilizer should be mixed with the soil about 10 days before planting.

The fertilizer at planting plus side dressing should supply about 60 pounds of actual nitrogen for average soils. The most economical combination of materials should be selected. For example, 300 pounds of 4-10-6 gives 24 pounds of nitrogen, leaving a balance of 36 pounds of nitrogen to be supplied. This may be obtained from 85 pounds urammon, 110 pounds ammonium nitrate, 180 pounds Cal-Nitro or ANL, or 225 pounds nitrate of soda.

Sidedressing should be increased on very sandy soils and reduced or omitted on dark soils or soils where the crop follows legumes. Where additional potash is needed, 50 to 100 pounds muriate of potash should be mixed with the nitrogen sidedressing.

This year's national sugar beet crop will total about 887,000 acres — down 12 percent from last year.

FORTUNE TELLER

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2 3 4 5 6 7

YOU can have fun figuring out your message from the Orient by use of this pleasant little letter puzzle. If the number of letters in your first name is 5 or less, subtract from 7. If more than 5 letters in your first name, subtract from 13. Now take this result and find your key letter in the word ORIENT at the top of this puzzle. Then, starting at the upper left corner, check each one of your large key letters as it appears from left to right. Below the key letters is a code message for you.

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Hunting Season Hearings Set

Clyde P. Patton, Executive Director of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, announced today a series of public hearings to be held in each of the nine wild life districts to give sportsmen a chance to express their views on setting the 1951-52 hunting regulations.

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"The Wildlife Commission has established a policy of giving sportsmen an opportunity to express their views on the way dates and bag limits should be set up for the hunting seasons," Patton said, "and this policy has become popular with the people who hunt and fish. This is the third year such hearings will have been conducted."

Following are date and places of the hearings, to be held in the courthouses of the towns listed: District 9, May 29, Sylva; District 8, May 30, Hickory; District 7, May 31, Dobson; District 6, June 1, Albemarle; District 5, June 4, Graham; District 4, June 5, Elizabethtown; District 3, June 6, Rocky Mount; District 2, June 7, New Bern; District 1, June 8, Edenton.

Prior to holding the public hearings, the Commission will call in key members of its field staff for consultations on setting tentative regulations, and on May 7 will meet to establish tentative regulations. These tentative rules will be presented at each of the nine hearings for discussion with sportsmen.

Defoliating chemicals were applied last year to more than one and a half million acres of cotton — about 8 percent of the crop.

Garden Time

By Robert Schmidt

The crop that you produce will be no better than the seed that you plant. Use only the best you can get.

Failure of seed to germinate when planted is not always due to low viability. Often when seeds — especially beans and corn — are planted in wet and cold soil they will rot in the ground even if they have passed a good germination test. Also, germinating seeds may be killed when they come into direct contact with strong chemical fertilizers. Be very careful in applying concentrated fertilizer. Do not allow them to come into contact with the seeds.

It is now safe to plant all warm season crops in eastern and central North Carolina — such crops as beans, cucumbers, muskmelons, watermelons, okra, tomatoes, peppers and eggplants. Collard seed may be sown for an early crop, but the best collards are produced when seed are sown in July and August. Have you tried the "Hanover" collard? I'll be glad to send a few seed on request.

Some gardeners believe that cucumbers and muskmelons will cross if planted near each other and that the melons will taste like cucumbers. This is a mistaken idea. Cucumbers and muskmelons will not cross in the field.

If the melon is tasteless, it is due to too much rain at ripening time or to soil conditions. Different varieties of muskmelons will cross with each other but will not affect this year's crop — only next year's crop if you save your own seed.

If you plant yellow and white sweet corn varieties near each other the resulting cross will show up in the present season, and you will have a mixture of white and yellow kernels on the same ear.

CORN

Plant corn when the dogwoods begin to bloom. This is an old saying. Anyway, corn planting time is just around the corner. Many of our gardeners are still planting Truckers Favorite or some other "roasting ear" variety of field corn. Why not try some real sweet corn this year? The ears are smaller, you say, and there are more worms in it. Yes, that is true, but there is no comparison in quality — even the worms recognize quality. There are a number of excellent varieties of sweet corn — Golden Cross, Iona, Aristogold Bantam, Lochief, Seneca Chief, Carmel, cross, and many others. It is best to plant two or three rows at one time to insure good pollination.

LIMA BEAN

The large-seeded lima bean is another crop that has been neglected except in the mountains, where it sets good crops. In the Piedmont and Coastal Plain most of the large-seeded limas will not set a good crop due to climatic factors. Therefore, most gardeners in these areas plant the small-seeded types, such as Henderson Bush or Carolina Sleva Pole. These are commonly called butterbeans and are of good quality. For those in the eastern part of the State who desire a large-seeded lima, the Peerless variety is recommended. It is a very nice bean. Do not plant lima beans until the soil has warmed up. Also it is recommended that you treat lima bean seed with Spergon dust before planting. A much better stand of beans will be obtained.

Forestry specialists at State College report that large areas of pine forests in southeastern North Carolina are being attacked by southern pine beetles. The attack has reached epidemic proportions and the damage may become severe this summer.

Mt. Mitchell Camp Opening on May 15

RALEIGH, N. C. — The 1951 camping season at Mt. Mitchell State Park near the Blue Ridge Parkway will open May 15.

The campground, which is near the summit of 6,684-foot Mitchell, highest peak in Eastern America, has individual camp sites which include table and bench, outdoor fireplace, and parking space. A central building contains shower and toilet facilities and laundry room.

The park is reached by N. C. Highway 123 leading off the Parkway. It is about 33 miles north of Asheville and 30 miles west of Marion. Camp sites may be reserved through the Park Superintendent, Hamrick, N. C.

Opening of campgrounds at the two other state parks which have such facilities will be delayed until July 1 because of construction in progress. These are Morrow Mountain State Park, seven miles east of Albemarle off N. C. 740, and Cragtree State Park, on U. S. 70 between Durham and Raleigh.

Repairs on the Blue Ridge Parkway section between Asheville and Mt. Mitchell, damaged by a rockfall, are scheduled for completion April 16, and this newest and most spectacular section of the Parkway will be open for the spring blooming season. The new section soars to an altitude of 6,000 feet, and passes through Craggy Gardens near Asheville.

Save Scrap Metal, Farmers Are Urged

Scrap metal is needed once again to keep the nation's steel mills rolling at full capacity the Cleveland County farm agent for the State College Extension Service reports.

About 67 million tons of scrap from all sources will be required to keep steel furnaces going in 1951. The all-time high of 61 million tons was reached last year. Therefore, about 6 million more tons will be needed this year than was used in 1950.

The county agent believes that spring clean-up offers farmers a good opportunity to salvage the scrap so urgently needed for military and civilian products. He points out that worn-out tractors, plows, rakes, and harrows — even such small pieces as plow points, bolts, and washers — are to be found on almost every farm. All of these are needed to make the steel required for military equipment as well as new farm machinery.

The farmer should dispose of his scrap by selling it. This means hauling it to salvage dealers in town, or selling to truckers who can call at the farm. National ceiling prices have been established on scrap metal, but these are prices to the dealer after he has sorted, processed, prepared.



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Sandhill Lakes To Open May 15

The Wildlife Resources Commission, at its April meeting in Rockingham, voted to open six lakes in the Sandhills Wildlife Management Area near Hoffman to fishing from May 15 through November 31, 1951. Executive Director Clyde P. Patton announced today.

The lakes to open on May 15 will be McKinney, Kinney, Cameron, Broadacres, Crawford, Gum, and shipped the scrap to a mill. Local prices will necessarily be less.

Swamp, and McCrainie. All other lakes in the area will be closed to fishing. Creel limits for fish species will correspond to those established under state-wide regulations. Daily fishing permits costing sixty cents will be available at the Management Area headquarters near Hoffman, and from dealers in towns surrounding the Sandhills Area. Many of the lakes have been renovated to improve fishing conditions.

A senior at Dobson High school in Surry County, has hit on a novel idea to make spending money in his spare time. The student, Charles Bingham, will cut and sell dogwood timber, which is now in good demand.

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