

News of Interest to North Carolina Farmers

Southeastern Vegetable Review Is Given By U. S.

Total Supply Of Truck Crops For Market Is Expected To Be Smaller

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In view of the importance of vegetables to Virginia, North and South Carolina farmers, particularly throughout the coastal plain counties where truck farming is featured, I am giving below a summary of the vegetable situation according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture:

Summary
Total supplies of truck crops for market during the next month is likely to be somewhat smaller than the large supplies available during the corresponding period last season. Marketings of new potatoes are likely to be increased somewhat but it is probable that a smaller supply of old stock potatoes will partially offset the increase in new stock.

Production of early potatoes this season in North Florida and the Lower Valley area of Texas is indicated to be 12 percent larger than a year earlier, and the crop in the second section of early States also is indicated to be larger than that of 1939. Marketings of these crops are getting well started and probably will increase sharply during the next few weeks.

The acreage of early and second early truck crops planted for harvest during the next month is about 9 percent less than a year earlier, and growing conditions for many of these crops during recent weeks have been unfavorable. This situation suggests that market supplies of vegetables generally will be reduced materially from those available a year earlier. The production of lima beans, snap beans, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, and green peas in certain areas probably will be sharply reduced.

Although market prices of truck crops in general declined somewhat in recent weeks from the relatively high levels maintained since late January, the averages in late April were, as a rule, somewhat higher than a year earlier. Sharp advances were recorded in recent weeks, however, for broccoli, endive, escarole, lettuce, onions, and tomatoes—commodities which temporary shortages occurred.

Truck Crops for Market
Market supplies of truck crops during June this season probably will be somewhat smaller than a year earlier because of more than usual those of some of the late areas. Progress of some crops has been delayed by unfavorable weather conditions, and this may result in some concentration of marketings for short periods during the coming weeks. The total supply that is likely to become available in the near future, however, is indicated to be somewhat smaller than a year earlier.

The acreage of early and second early truck crops planted this season for harvest during May and June totals 446,000 acres and is about 9 percent less than the acreage planted to these crops in 1939, but it about equals the recent 10-year average acreage. Increases occur in the plantings of late asparagus, early and second early snap beans, second early beets and cabbage, early cauliflower, second early snap beans, second early lettuce, and cabbage, early cauliflower, second early celery, spinach and tomatoes, and early watermelons. These increases are more than offset, however, by sharp decreases in early cantaloupes, early cucumbers, second early lettuce, and second early green peas. There are minor decreases in a few other crops. The production of some of the crops in which plantings are smaller this season is indicated to be reduced sharply from that of a year earlier. These include early lima beans, early (2) snap beans, early (1) cucumbers, early eggplant, second early lettuce, early onions, and second early green peas. Marketings of these crops during the next month probably will be considerably lighter than in the corresponding period last year.

Snap Beans: Production of snap beans in the second section of early States—California, Florida (spring), and Texas—is indicated to total 2,140,000 bushels this season compared with 2,933,000 bushels produced in this group in 1939. Marketing of this crop is getting started and shipments are increasing. The carlot movement in recent weeks, however, has been smaller than a year earlier. In the Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina—the acreage totaled to snap beans this season with 28,200 acres as compared with 25,500 acres last season. The March and early April retarded crop development in Georgia and South Carolina and caused considerable loss of acreage in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Yields in this area probably will be reduced materially, and despite the increased plantings, production probably will be somewhat smaller

than that of last year. It is likely that market supplies of snap beans, therefore, will continue smaller than a year earlier through May and early June.

Lima Beans: Unfavorable weather conditions have reduced the prospective production of early lima beans in Florida to less than one-half the 480,000 bushels produced last season.

Cabbage: Production of cabbage in the second early States—Alabama, South Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia (Eastern Shore and Norfolk), and Louisiana—is indicated to total 103,300 tons this season compared with 108,000 tons last season. Marketings from this crop usually overlap, to some extent, the clean-up of early production. Because of the lateness of the early crop in Florida this season, however, the overlapping of shipments between the two areas has resulted in heavy market supplies during recent weeks, which in turn resulted in a slight decline in prices. Recent reports indicate that a considerable portion of the second early crop is showing seed stems, which may tend to reduce the marketable volume. Also the development of the crop in the intermediate States has been retarded and marketings may begin later than usual. These factors all indicate that the supply of cabbage for marketing during the next several months probably will be somewhat smaller than a year earlier.

Cucumbers: Production of early cucumbers in Florida and Texas is expected to total 778,000 bushels this season. This represents a reduction of 20 percent from production in 1939. Florida has a good crop but the prospect in Texas is unfavorable. Shipments from Florida are increasing (April 30th) and market prices are tending to decline. In the second early States—Alabama, California, Georgia, Louisiana, and South Carolina—the acreage this season is unchanged from a year earlier but the condition of the crop as of April 1, 1940, is about 18 percent below that of a year earlier. Some acreage in these areas was destroyed by the early April freeze but will be replanted. As a result the crop probably will be 1 to 2 weeks late, and production probably will be somewhat smaller than that of last year, when 1,466,000 bushels were produced in this area. This would indicate lighter market supplies during the next 2 months than were available a year ago.

Tomatoes: A crop of only 500,000 bushels of early tomatoes is in prospect in south Florida this season, compared with 2,880,000 bushels last season. This reduction was caused largely by the late January freeze. In the other early areas of Florida the crop was planted after the freeze and is indicated to be slightly larger than in 1939. The total crop in the second section of early States is indicated to total 3,260,000 bushels, or only 12 percent less than that of last season. All of the reduction occurs in the Lower Valley of Texas, where the freeze damage was severe. As a result of these small crop market supplies have been light and prices of tomatoes have been relatively high. For a number of weeks imports from Cuba and Mexico represented the major sources of supply. Imports this season to April 20th totaled close to 3,800 carlots compared with about 3,000 carlots to April 22, 1939. Shipments from domestic areas are likely to increase during the next few weeks, however, as the later producing areas come into production.

The acreage planted to tomatoes in the second early States—Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Texas—is indicated to be increased about 5 percent over that of 1939. The early April freeze caused considerable damage to plants in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama. In some areas replanting is necessary. In general the crop is 1 to 2 weeks late.

BY JOSEPH S. HUFHAM
(Star Correspondent)
DELCO. May 26—Crops that have been suffering for moisture have received relief this week, showers in various sections of both Columbus and Brunswick counties. In one section of Brunswick, near Ash, the rainfall was so great that it slowed down field work, especially plowing.

Strawberry business was cut short on both ends of the season. Cold retarded the growth of the berries earlier expected berries. The berries that did come were among the finest ever seen; but the crop was shorter from the latter end, due chiefly to dry weather, it was believed.

DAIRY PRODUCTS PROMOTION URGED

State Should Take Whole-Hearted Interest In National Dairy Month

North Carolina is one state that should take a whole-hearted interest in National Dairy month in June, according to John A. Arey, dairyman of the State College Extension service.

With a low daily average consumption of four-tenths of a pint of milk per person and a correspondingly low consumption of butter and cheese, North Carolina could well afford to promote the use of more dairy products, Arey said.

The State college specialist explained that June has been designated as National Dairy month. During this 30-day period, dairy products will be featured by hotels, cafes, drug stores, and leading food distributing agencies of the nation.

Governor Clyde Hoey and a number of North Carolina mayors have already endorsed the campaign. Local committees, composed of dairymen and distributors, have been appointed to direct the activities of Dairy month in their respective territories.

"Milk is nature's most nearly perfect food," Arey pointed out. "Doctors, specialists in nutrition, dentists, and others interested in health and human welfare advise a liberal use of milk in the daily diet. One quart a day is recommended for children and a pint a day for adults."

While there are thousands of children in the state who owe their very existence to cow's milk, there are many other thousands with weak, underdeveloped bodies because of an inadequate supply of milk in their diet during childhood.

The young need milk, Arey pointed out, to promote growth and to build resistance to disease, while adults need it to rebuild worn-out tissue and to maintain a high resistance to disease.

During periods of depression, the State college man explained, many people are unable to buy the quantity of milk they need. As a result, undernourishment follows as well as such diseases as tuberculosis and pellagra. Colds, also, are more prevalent than during normal times.

Formerly it was thought that protein, carbohydrates, fat, and minerals constituted the important essentials of a food. However, in recent years scientists have discovered that there are other food factors called vitamins that are necessary for growth and the maintenance of good health.

Milk contains, Arey said, all of the essential vitamins in varying amounts. It is an excellent source of Vitamin A, which is essential to normal growth and vitality.

Milk is also an important carrier of minerals and is needed in the diet of boys and girls to give them strong healthy bodies and well-developed teeth. It contains practically all of the essential minerals needed in the diet and is one of the best sources of calcium and phosphorus.

In addition to its other virtues, milk is an economical food. Unlike many other foods, it requires no preparation and contains no waste.

"A larger consumption of milk and its products in this state would not only result in a healthier and better nourished people, but it would also make possible a new source of income for farmers producing the milk," Arey said.

"This is a matter of great economic concern to the business man as well as the farmer, since the recent drop in income from tobacco and cotton has greatly reduced the purchasing power of the farmer."

The 1939 farm value of dairy production in North Carolina, including those products consumed on the farm, was \$32,000,000. Thus, Arey said, if the consumption of milk in this state was increased from the present available supply of 400 pounds, in which is included all dairy products, to 800 pounds, the national average, the present income from this source to North Carolina farmers would be doubled.

Tests Conducted



Several hundred rate-per-acre tests on small grain, corn, and cotton using 100, 200, and 300 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre against a check plot are being conducted in North Carolina through the county agents and agricultural teachers to more accurately determine the local requirements of nitrogen for the various crops. This work is being sponsored by the distributors of Ar-

TOUR OF POTATO SECTIONS SLATED

Farmers and Handlers Are Invited To Participate In Eastern Trip

RALEIGH, May 26—A tour of North Carolina's major Irish potato-growing section in Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Beaufort, Pamlico and Wayne counties will be held May 28-31, and farmers and handlers are invited to participate, Dr. I. O. Schaub of N. C. State college, announced today. The tour has been arranged, and will be conducted by the State College Extension Service in cooperation with the N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station and the State Department of Agriculture.

L. P. Watson, Extension horticulturist, will be in charge of the tour, and county farm agents will make local arrangements. Also making the tour and helping to explain the improved production and marketing methods being used by progressive farmers will be A. E. Merker, chief of the potato section of the AAA, Washington, D. C., Buxton White, marketing specialist of the State Department of Agriculture; and a representative of the college plant pathology department.

The first day will be spent in inspecting potato farms and marketing facilities in Currituck, Camden and Pasquotank counties, with a stop that evening at Elizabeth City. On Wednesday, May 29, the tour will be of the Pantego area in Beaufort county, spending that night in Washington. Thursday, May 30, will be spent in the Aurora section of Beaufort and the Bayboro section of Pamlico, spending the night at Kinston. The final day, Friday, May 31, will take the tourists into the Mt. Olive section of Wayne county.

Dr. Schaub announced that seedsmen, growers and handlers of Irish potatoes from Maine to Florida, and including a large group from the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland, have been invited to take part in the tour.

It has been estimated that only about 5 percent of London's population concerns itself with church going.

golden weed piled up last year, that for some reason tobacco will bring a good price this fall.

And if corn keeps showing up as nicely as it has gotten started, the yield should be very encouraging. We have seen many fine corn patches with the young plants up about knee high and uniform in their growth. The most outstanding patches that we have a mental picture of right now belong to F. S. Strickland, of the Cherry Grove section, to Oscar Lennon, of the Bladenboro section, and to L. R. Hobbs, of Delco.

Until last week we had not heard of corn being bothered by bugs this year; but Charlie Gore, of the Ash section, of Brunswick county, told us that there were some peculiar bugs which he called "bud works" that are going into the tops of the young corn plants, nipping out the "buds", and thus rendering the plants stunting blows against further growth, and against the growth of ears.

POTASH AFFECTS WEED PRODUCTION

Amount And Kind Of Fertilizer Plays Big Part In Tobacco Yield

Here's a message to tobacco farmers of North Carolina from Lloyd T. Weeks, extension tobacco specialist of N. C. State college: "The amount and kind of potash you apply, and the time you apply it, will vitally affect the yield and quality of your crop. With reduced plantings this year, it is highly important that maximum yields and highest quality be attained."

Most farmers have planted their tobacco crop, or at least have applied the fertilizer preparatory to setting the plants from the bed. But it's not too late for any farmer to correct the potash deficiency Weeks says.

The specialist recommends that fertilizer be drilled in the row about two weeks prior to transplanting. Approved formulas of mixed fertilizers should contain six per cent potash, and Weeks says two per cent of this potash should come from each of the following sources: Muriate, sulphate of potash magnesia, and sulphate of potash.

"However, from 10 to 12 per cent potash may be used safely and profitably to give tobacco additional quality and more uniform ripening conditions," the State college man declared. "No more than 6 per cent should be applied in the mixture before planting, and the supplementary potash application should be made about 20 days after the plants are set in the field."

Sulphate For Side Dress
"Whereas the original application of potash should come from three sources for best results, the side dressing should be of sulphate of potash. This should be from 100 to 200 pounds of sulphate of potash per acre. If tobacco by-products are used as a source of potash, these must be sterilized to kill disease organisms which will be present."

As further advice to tobacco growers Weeks recommends that plants of uniform size be transplanted not less than 18 inches between hills in rows 4 feet wide. The 18-inch spacing is only for the most fertile soils, and 24 inches is the best spacing for the poorer soils.

Tobacco should be kept in a bed or ridge at all times during the growing period. This prevents plants from getting "wet feet." In order to do this, it is necessary to put it on a good ridge when planting.

The process that has proven most satisfactory in preparing and keeping tobacco on a good ridge is to lay off the row with a Stonewall, or similar type, plow, using large fronts on it, then applying the fertilizer in the furrow. After this, the same plow is used to open the row, throwing the fertilizer well up on the shoulders of the furrow. Next a turning plow with a medium or large wing, depending on the type of plow, is used to make a good ridge.

About a week to ten days after transplanting, the tobacco should have cultivation with a small cultivator. A hoe cultivation is usually necessary at this time. Following this first cultivation, tobacco should be cultivated every week or ten days until about a week prior to topping.

One-Horse Turning Plow Best
At each cultivation, the soil should be thoroughly broken and the middle scattered, care being taken not to disturb the root system when siding.

One of the best plows for cultivating tobacco is a one-horse turning plow with a sweep attached to the bolt that holds the moldboard or wing. When the tobacco is small, the soil can be thoroughly broken and the attached sweep will push the dirt around the plant. When it gets a little larger, a small moldboard can be used, and a longer sweep attached. The third time a little larger moldboard or wing with a still longer sweep is used, and for the last cultivation, the largest moldboard or wing that is used on a one-horse plow, with a sweep about 18 inches long and 2 to 2-1/2 inches wide, is recommended.

Weeks says that, with normal weather conditions, four cultivations is all necessary. However, he says that in the case of a hard, packing rain, the tobacco will need to be plowed just as soon as the soil is dry enough to cultivate, even if it had been plowed one hour prior to the rain.

"It is sufficient to scatter the middles with a sweep immediately following each siding. One furrow to the row is sufficient except for the second cultivation, which should have four furrows to the row in order to give the soil a thorough breaking," the extension specialist concluded.

MUSIC SPOILS BATH
WALSENBURG, COLO.—From now on Jack Johnson, 17, will do his own singing in the bath tub.

Letting a portable radio set do it for him, he scrubbed himself contentedly until soap got into his eyes. He reached for a towel, and knocked the radio into the tub.

It charged the water with electricity, paralyzing Johnson. A brother heard his moans and rescued him.

N. C. Farmers Receive 145,548 Tons Of Lime

RALEIGH, May 26.

North Carolina farmers participating in the 1940 AAA program have received 145,548 tons of lime under the grant-of-aid plan this year, E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of N. C. State college, revealed today.

Likewise, he announced that 2,601 tons of 20 per cent superphosphate have been ordered and delivered, as well as 2,755 tons of concentrated superphosphate. The materials also are being distributed through the grant-of-aid program.

Floyd explained that growers have taken these materials in place of conservation payments and are using them to carry out approved soil-building practices under the AAA farm program.

The state's growing livestock industry has made necessary a far greater acreage of pastureland, and much of the lime and phosphate has gone to improve and establish permanent pastures. In addition, many farmers are using the materials to secure better crops of legumes and grasses.

GRADED BERRIES GET GOOD PRICES

Limited Survey Reveals Increases Of \$1 To 35 Cents Per Crate

RALEIGH, May 26—A limited survey conducted in the strawberry belt of North Carolina this season revealed increases of 35 cents to one dollar a crate for berries properly graded and packed. H. W. Taylor, marketing specialist of the State college extension service, said today.

Aiding farmers in these better marketing practices were federal-state inspectors, who conducted demonstrations on more than 57 farms in cooperation with the extension service. These demonstrations were held in Columbus, Cumberland, Sampson, Pender, Duplin, and Wayne counties.

Educational meetings at which movies of better marketing practices were shown attracted large numbers of berry growers also, Taylor said. Three of these meetings in Duplin drew 290 growers, two in Columbus attracted 125, one in Pender, 50; one in Sampson, 38 and one in Wayne, 37.

P. D. May, agricultural counsel for the Southeastern Chain Store Council, was largely responsible for much of the success of these meetings and demonstrations.

Taylor said a short crop and high quality berries made this season one of the best in years for growers. Weather conditions delayed the Tar Heel crop advantageously in that the berries reached northern markets during a period when other states had almost finished marketing and the remainder had not begun.

Since an estimated 75 per cent of growers followed some phase of recommended marketing methods this season, Taylor said a series of grading schools for producers will be held in the belt next year. The schools will begin just prior to the first movement of berries.

GAINS CONFIDENCE
Paradichlorobenzene has gained the confidence of North Carolina farmers this year in controlling blue mold in tobacco plant beds, says Dr. Luther Shaw, of State college.

Being color blind, cats live in a world of somber grayness.

BETTER MARKETING METHODS ADOPTED

Poultry Producers Are Presenting Products In Attractive Packages

By GENE KNIGHT
Assistant Extension Editor,
N. C. State College

RALEIGH, May 26—North Carolina poultry producers are rapidly awakening to the advantages of presenting their products in more attractive packages, T. T. Brown, poultryman of the N. C. State College Extension Service, said today.

For years, the specialist explained, producers lagged far behind in developing new and up-to-date methods in marketing their poultry and eggs. However, in recent years there has been a decided shift to neat packages designed to catch the buyer's eye.

Now producers who have kept up with the times and who are growing and marketing quality poultry products attractively are finding a ready demand and a profitable market. Growers who fail to keep step are being forced to take little if any profit.

The housewife of a few years ago had her problems when buying a chicken for the family table, Brown said. Her only selection was a live bird, or a freshly-dressed or slowly frozen bird with the entrails intact. It was inconvenient and in many cases impractical to choose a live bird and have to wait for the butcher, or it might have developed a disease.

If a freshly-dressed bird was stored in the refrigerator for several days. In case a frozen bird still containing the entrails was selected, it would not have retained the fresh flavor due to a long storage period. When meat is slowly frozen, the cell structure is broken down, causing a release of the juices which give a chicken its flavor.

Today through the use of a local freezer locker service and wholesale channels for handling quick-frozen poultry, the customer may select fully-dressed and drawn poultry that retains quality and flavor. In fact, many customers select birds frozen by this method in preference to freshly-killed ones.

The progressive farmer is finding it profitable to give more attention to quality breeding stock, the feeding program, and the care and management of the hens.

For instance, he produces infertile eggs, especially in the summer. Then, too, he uses floored houses and wires the dropping boards or roosting racks so as to produce cleaner eggs. Also he gathers the eggs in a wire basket so that they will cool quickly and stores them in a cool moist place.

After the producer has taken these precautions to insure a higher quality supply of eggs, he grades and markets them attractively.

DON'T RICK HOGS
Bruised hogs reduce the farmer's income, says E. V. Vestal, swine specialist of the State college extension service, in urging swinemens not to kick or prod their hogs in the marketing process.

SAVE SEED
The State college agronomy department is continuing to urge growers to save at least a portion of their crimson clover and vetch crop for seed because of a possible shortage this fall.

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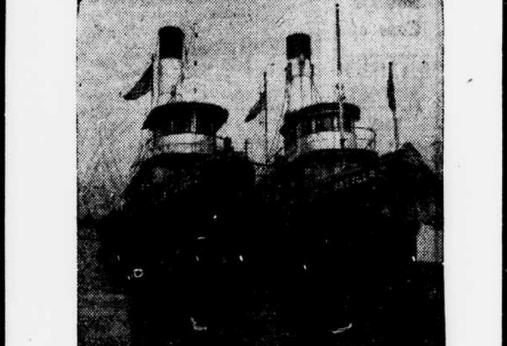
Strawberry Business Is Cut Short In Columbus County By Dry Weather

BY JOSEPH S. HUFHAM
(Star Correspondent)
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Strawberry business was cut short on both ends of the season. Cold retarded the growth of the berries earlier expected berries. The berries that did come were among the finest ever seen; but the crop was shorter from the latter end, due chiefly to dry weather, it was believed.

In many sections we have seen some excellent tobacco patches. In Henry, Bladen, Robertson, and Brunswick counties, as well as Columbus, the tobacco growers feel heartened. This being an age when almost anything is liable to happen, it is generally hoped that in spite of the little surplus of

Receivers Sale



By virtue and in pursuance of a decree of the Hon. J. Paul Frizzelle, Judge holding the Court of the Eighth Judicial District, in the suit of John W. Fredericks and Finley McMillan against W. C. Manson for the dissolution of the partnership known as the Manson Towing & Lighterage Company, the undersigned will offer for sale, at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, at 12:00 o'clock P. M., on Saturday, the 1st day of June, 1940, at the wharf of the Manson Towing & Lighterage Company at the foot of Chestnut Street in the City of Wilmington, N. C., the steam tug or boats "Battler" and "Cambria," one derrick barge, one treacher barge, one barge A. C. L. No. 8, together with all their apparel, equipment, furniture and fixtures; held by a first mortgage on the "Cambria" of about \$2400.00 subject to the Atlantic Towing Company, of Savannah, Ga., a second mortgage of about \$2600.00 on both the "Battler" and the "Cambria," and a mortgage of \$1400.00 on the tug "Battler."

The said sale is to be reported to the Court for confirmation or rejection.

A. S. BATSON,
Receiver of the Manson Towing & Lighterage Company
412 Southern Building,
Wilmington, N. C.