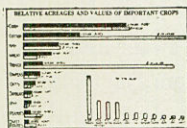


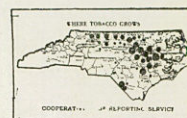
FARM FORECASTER

CROP AND LIVE STOCK REPORT FOR NORTH CAROLINA



UNITED STATES
Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Division of Crops and Livestock Estimates

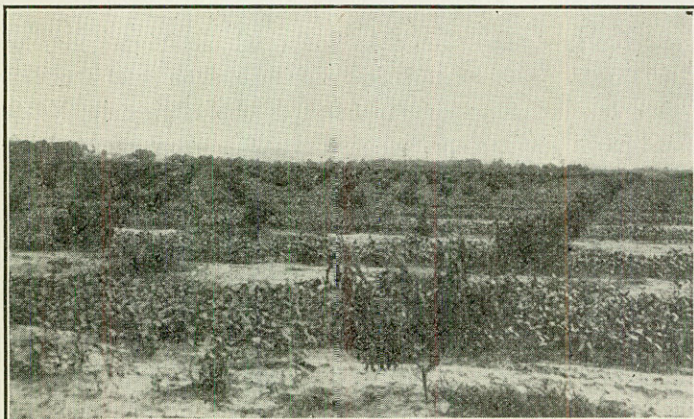
NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Agriculture
Division of Markets
Office of Agricultural Statistics



BULLETIN 23

RALEIGH

APRIL, 1924



ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL CROPS OF THE SANDHILLS



ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL CROPS OF THE MOUNTAIN SECTION

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

The March report on intentions to increase or decrease crops by a large number of farmers over the United States showed increases of 3 per cent for corn, 7 for oats, 4 for hay, 16 for sweet potatoes, and 19 for peanuts. Decreases in acreage were shown for wheat, 14 per cent; Irish potatoes, 2 per cent; and grain sorghum, 6 per cent. The tobacco acreage was reported to be the same as last year. No reports were made for cotton, however, the trade or so-called speculators have collected information indicating an increased acreage. Contrary to the opinion of many would-be authorities, the farmers have only fooled themselves when they discouraged the collection of cotton intentions data, for we well-knew that the trade would get their information as usual, and could use it to better advantage than if the Government had published an unbiased report on this subject for the benefit of all. Of course, conditions following the period of making these estimates may result in changed plans. This is especially true in view of the farmers finding it advisable after learning of the general intentions.

According to the planting intentions report, it would mean about the same acreage as was grown last year. It was conspicuous that readjustments are taking place in the Southeastern States, due to poor cotton yields, and in the Northwest, where poor wheat prices have prevailed. In the South the general turn is towards sweet potatoes, peanuts, tobacco, poultry, and feed products. The United States Department of Agriculture thinks this reflects greatly disturbed conditions.

The large last year's pig crop was really the result of cheap corn produced during the two previous years, which was described as being "cheap enough to burn." It was only the last year's corn crop that was high-priced. North Carolina is sufficiently isolated from the Western grain and livestock intensive producing areas to not be greatly affected by their prices and competition. Our greatest shortcoming is in live-

stock production. We have depended so long upon cash crops that we have overlooked the important and possible relief of our economic situation through the growing of more feed for livestock. Instead of the West burning their cheap corn, they use more of it for stock feed as well as increase their swine herds.

The present high-priced corn and low-priced pork will undoubtedly result in fewer hogs to feed next winter. With the present intentions to increase corn, this may mean cheap corn and feed in the fall, and consequently, the very season to grow more livestock, especially pigs. Of course, production this year will be hampered by high wages, insufficient farm labor and the continued disparity between prices of city and farm products. The situation justifies a very considerate viewpoint on the part of those holding farmers' paper. Those proposing new courthouses and other big public projects to be paid for from local taxes should become conservatives in the light of the present outlook.

THE SOUTH

In this section the seasons have been backward, with storms and raw weather prevalent. In the eastern states fruit and truck were hurt by frost. The cotton planting has been quite late and slow around the Gulf. Very little cotton has yet been planted in North Carolina. The Government reports indicate the use of more fertilizers and calcium arsenate for this year. Many local sections in North Carolina and states like Georgia are considerably discouraged over the cotton problem. Such areas are considering a heavy acreage in sweet potatoes. The favorable conditions in Texas last year, and other states suffering little from the boll weevil, warrant a greatly increased acreage this year in cotton.

In the South Atlantic States the corn acreage intended for this year is about the same as was grown last year. The oats

(Continued on page 3)

APRIL 1st CROP REPORT

Notwithstanding the general intentions of farmers to materially increase most all crops, and especially cash crops, in North Carolina this year, the farmers are optimistic of the outlook. This is primarily due to the favorable results of the past season. North Carolina is peculiarly favored as regards many of the crops by virtue of nearness to markets, variable climate, and soil, and is progressing rapidly in agricultural and other educational work. She is also a leader in the percentage of foods produced that are consumed on her farms. She is still lacking in a production of sufficient hay, grain and vegetable crops.

The wheat outlook is better than was expected, since the January freezes did so much damage to small grains. An average condition of 81 per cent of a full crop has been determined by the National Crop Reporting Board. This is 7 per cent below the condition of the crop a year ago, and 9 per cent below the ten-year average for this season. Last year's crop in this State was one of the best for many seasons, the average production being over 11 bushels per acre. Last month's wheat price on farms was \$1.36, as compared with \$1.43 a year ago. The national wheat prospect is for 83 per cent of the crop, which is 8 per cent better than a year ago for the winter wheat and practically the same as the ten-year average. The United States average price was 99 cents per bushel, or 7 cents less than the year previous. The acreage is considerably reduced from last year's crop.

The North Carolina oat crop is in bad shape, the average condition being 63 per cent of a normal crop and the acreage reduced considerably. The winter freezes did much more damage to the oat crop than to other small grains. Many fields were entirely killed out. It is estimated that the spring oat crop is not sufficient to cover the damage to the fall-sown crop, especially as much of the winter-planted oats were also hurt severely.

The early or truck Irish potato crop in North Carolina is increased from 15 to 25 per cent. This is particularly true around Mt. Olive, Aurora, Pantego, and territory contiguous to Elizabeth City. The outlook at the present time is for a fairly good crop, the average condition in this State being 85 per cent of a full crop. In view of the increased acreage over the United States as a whole, there is some prospects of over-production. This is especially true in the South, where the farmers are resorting to potatoes and other crops to supplant the cotton acreage.

Reports from all parts of the State concerning tobacco indicate that there will be a 1 to 2 per cent decrease in the acreage of that crop. They claim that this reduction is aided by the lateness of plants, together with that of all farm work. Farm and weather conditions after this date will be the determining factor for a further increase or decrease in the intended plantings of a month ago.

The truck crops in North Carolina are late on account of the cool and rainy March weather, but at this date are in fairly good condition. There was not the acreage of truck that might otherwise have been planted. The last month's cool weather did not materially damage, but only delayed truck. In the Farm Census of 1923, made through the tax

listers, there were reported for the State approximately 100,000 acres of field truck crops exclusive of sweet and Irish potatoes in North Carolina. The commercial acreage of truck, on which carlot shipments are reported, amounts to only a small part of this large acreage. This means that the farmers are putting into local markets a much larger quantity of truck than is generally recognized by the public. Truck crops have values of \$100 to \$1,000 per acre, but if the average for the State is put at only \$100 per acre, the field truck crops for this State would have a total minimum value of \$10,000,000. This State is increasing its acreage of truck.

One of the most popular features of farming in North Carolina at the present time is that of poultry. The Agricultural Extension workers of the State have done much to promote not only interest, but better knowledge towards profitable poultry production. Through the poultry clubs of the State not only the boys and girls, but the farmers themselves are learning how to cull hens for larger egg production. Many people do not realize that most of our hens are decidedly unprofitable and that it would cost very little more to be drawing hens that produce eggs for long periods instead of those that furnish very few, yet have to eat twelve months in the year.

The United States has just passed the peak of production in hogs. This corresponds to the low point in price. If we think of this in wave curves, we have just passed over the crest and are starting towards a decline in production. The prices are correspondingly in the trough and are starting up. To the man who thinks ahead, now is the time to grow hogs for sale next winter. As a matter of fact, the farmers do not look ahead, and consequently make their plans on present conditions. This means that the number of breeding sows compared with a year ago are reduced from 4 to 5 per cent in North Carolina. There may be a still larger reduction over the United States as a whole.

The fruit outlook is good. There is an unusual heavy setting of fruit buds. The March and April cold periods did not do material damage. In the Sand Hill peach region there is reported a 10 to 20 per cent loss, but in view of the large number of fruit buds on the trees, this may only amount to a certain degree of thinning. In this connection, it is going to be important for peach growers to thin their peaches in order to get size and quality. Spraying, of course, is necessary for color and quality, aside from the fact that it is a protection from curculio. As is well known to progressive orchardists, cultivation, fertilization, pruning, spraying, thinning, and grading are essential to fruit growing. It is distressing to a progressive fruit grower to see how the average farmer neglects his orchards. One of the greatest destructive agencies is the borer, which works just below the surface of the ground, and in two seasons may kill a large-size tree. The borers are responsible for the destruction of more fruit trees than all other agencies combined.

It is one thing to grow, but quite another to sell them to advantage. The many hazards that the farmer contends with, such as weather, insects, diseases, accidents, lack of money, grass and weed pests, fertilizer leachages, as well as

nondependable labor, make his business, to say the least, very trying. As the old saying goes, "The farmer has to work while the sun shines." During the spring he has to begin work from three to four hours before many of the town people even get breakfast. They work steadily from daylight until dark, putting in from 12 to 14 hours per day. How many of us realize our dependence on the farmers or appreciate at all the hardships and poor pay that they get for producing our most essential food and clothing products. Many town people consider it beneath them to ride in a Ford car, yet they criticize the farmers for driving Fords while passing in their own fine cars along highways where these essential producers are busy in their fields. How would we like to exchange work with our farmer folks. Many of them have the same capital invested that the business man does, yet the income from the farm is not sufficient to afford the comforts of life, much less to enlarge their business interests and to provide the pleasures and higher education for their children such as their fellow-townsmen expect. There is perhaps no class of individuals who use automobiles more practically or economically and less for sheer pleasures than do the farmers.

Farming is a true industry. They are real producers. What other industry buys at retail prices and sells at wholesale? Why shouldn't our city business clubs strive to aid their rural interests quite as much as their urban ones? Certainly there is more opportunity for improvement in the country than in town. An average plumber gets well over \$1 per hour, while our food producer or worker gets 20 to 30 cents. Is this fair?

According to the several hundred North Carolina reporters contributing to the April 1st crop report for the Department of Agriculture, the condition of wheat is reported to be 81 per cent of a normal or full crop. This is 7 per cent less than a year ago. It is slightly higher than was reported earlier, following the winter freezes. The last year's yield of over 6,000,000 bushels in North Carolina was the best wheat crop harvested for several years. The average of 11 bushels per acre may not nearly be duplicated this year. Later weather conditions will largely be the determining factor in improvement or backset.

The United States wheat crop shows an average condition of 83 per cent and a prospective production of the fall planted crop of 550,000,000 bushels. The acreage to be harvested will be considerably less than last year's crop in both the State and Nation. The average farm price last month was 99 cents, as compared with \$1.06 per bushel a year ago for the national average. The condition of the nation's crop is almost 8 per cent better than on April 1st a year ago, and about equals the ten-year average.

The rye crop averages 83 per cent in North Carolina, or 6 per cent less than a year ago, while the United States average for April 1st was 83.5 per cent, as compared with 88 per cent for the ten-year average. The production expected on a basis of the present conditions is 135,000,000 bushels for the national crop.

The oat crop averages only 63 per cent in condition and the acreage is considerably reduced. These low figures are due to the damages of the winter freezes, resulting in many fields of oats being plowed up, while many others were left with very poor stands.

The early or truck Irish potato crop showed a large increase in the acreage in North Carolina. The increase is especially large in the commercial areas about Mt. Olive, Aurora, and Elizabeth City, or where the carlot shipments are large. The condition of the crop is generally considered good.

The fruit condition over the State is generally good. Very little damage has apparently been done by the cold weather. In most of the sections of the State the present setting of fruit is unusually heavy.

The number of breeding sows on farms compared with a year ago is 95 per cent for North Carolina and 89 per cent for the United States. This leaves about 11,751,000 sows on farms, or 4 per cent less than were on farms in the United States two years ago.

Farm wages continue at approximately \$47 a month without board, and farm labor in this State shows 84 per cent as compared with the normal supply, while the demand is 95 per cent compared with the normal. The national labor supply is 83.4 per cent, and the demand 90.4 per cent, as compared with the normal.

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

(Continued from page 1)

are greatly decreased. Irish potatoes show a 9 per cent increase, sweet potatoes, 17 per cent; peanuts, 15 per cent; tobacco, 4 per cent, and tame hay intentions are for 5 per cent more acreage.

PRICE TRENDS

The month's national price trends was slightly upward in the case of all crops. Butter and eggs were the only livestock products not making advances. Hog prices usually advance in February, while this year they barely held their own. The farm prices on a basis of 1913, equalling 100 per cent, are as follows, using March 15th prices:

	Mar., 1913	Mar., 1923	Mar., 1924	Price Index
Cotton, per lb.-----cents	11.8	28.4	27.7	224%
Corn, per bu.-----cents	53.7	76.3	77.2	150%
Wheat, per bu.-----cents	79.1	106.9	98.8	123%
Hay, per ton.-----\$	10.43	12.40	13.63	127%
Potatoes, per bu.-----cents	50.3	73.6	87.7	167%
Oats, per bu.-----cents	33.1	43.9	46.2	141%
Apples, per bu.-----cents	83.7	147.1	1.29	159%
Beef cattle, per 100 lbs.-----\$	5.88	5.62	5.63	101%
Hogs, per 100 lbs.-----\$	7.62	7.52	6.63	92%
Eggs, per doz.-----cents	16.4	21.8	20.4	97%
Butter, per lb.-----cents	27.6	41.4	43.2	157%
Wool, per lb.-----cents	18.4	37.3	38.0	203%
Veal calves, per 100 lbs.-----\$	7.49	8.20	8.43	117%
Lambs, per 100 lbs.-----\$	6.56	11.01	11.22	177%

According to the Department of Labor statistics, the relation between farm products prices and wholesale prices of non-agricultural products is for February, 1924, 74 per cent, using 1913 as a basis. This means that \$1 worth of agricultural products would buy \$1 worth of non-agricultural products in 1913, while at this date \$1 worth of farm products will buy only 74 per cent worth of non-agricultural products. The low point in the purchasing power of farm products was reached about eighteen months ago, when the index reached the low point of 64 per cent. In 1921 year's average was 67 per cent. In 1918 the relation was 112 per cent, which was the high mark for February of any one year. The prices of all farm products with comparison with prices in 1913 average 141 per cent. The highest point was reached in the winter of 1919 and 1920, when the price reached 254 per cent, or 2½ times as much as the 1913 price.

COTTON

Year	Harvested Acreage	Yield per Acre (Pounds)	Production (Bales)	Price per Pound	Value, Basis Dec. 1st Price
				Cents	
1866.....	385,630	250	91,000		\$.....
1867.....	559,163	160	150,000		
1868.....	380,231	176	140,000		
1869.....	418,254	145	124,531		
1870.....	451,714	175	170,000		
1871.....	388,474	143	127,000		
1872.....	450,629	173	180,000		
1873.....	513,717	159	176,400		
1874.....	609,243	172	238,000		
1875.....	621,428	156	218,000		
1876.....	609,000	184	210,000	9.0	10,085,040
1877.....	584,640	186	242,000		
1878.....	590,500	169	221,766	8.4	8,382,738
1879.....	625,900	156	204,269		
1880.....	973,537	198	410,520	10.0	19,276,033
1881.....	1,061,155	150	380,000		
1882.....	1,050,543	194	463,000	9.5	19,361,507
1883.....	1,050,543	177	398,200	9.3	17,292,988
1884.....	1,061,048	175	404,100	9.3	17,268,556
1885.....	1,071,658	157	407,230	8.5	14,301,276
1886.....	1,071,658	157	365,762	8.3	13,964,775
1887.....	1,066,301	191	443,581	8.7	17,718,724
1888.....	1,071,633	165	364,576	8.5	15,029,653
1889.....	1,147,136				
1890.....	1,082,135	182	490,000	8.7	17,134,526
1891.....	1,017,207	178	415,000	7.4	13,398,651
1892.....	773,077	183	300,000	8.6	12,166,686
1893.....	1,180,000	174	400,000	7.2	14,783,040
1894.....	1,296,522	210	454,920	5.0	13,613,481
1895.....	1,050,183	168	397,752	8.2	14,467,321
1896.....	1,228,714	208	521,795	6.7	17,095,570
1897.....	1,302,437	184	646,726	7.0	16,775,389
1898.....	1,311,708	227	629,620	5.9	17,567,705
1899.....	1,087,000	193	421,267		
1900.....	1,143,000	199	477,269	9.4	2,431,643
1901.....	1,395,000	142	415,808	7.2	14,969,088
1902.....	1,111,000	236	549,542	8.0	21,981,672
1903.....	1,201,000	210	528,707	10.6	28,021,492
1904.....	1,439,000	233	703,760	9.2	32,372,970
1905.....	1,230,000	240	619,141	10.8	33,433,560
1906.....	1,374,000	201	579,326	9.5	27,517,700
1907.....	1,408,000	205	605,310	10.2	30,871,320
1908.....	1,458,000	211	646,958	9.0	29,113,200
1909.....	1,359,000	210	600,606	13.9	41,741,700
1910.....	1,478,000	227	706,142	14.1	49,782,870
1911.....	1,624,000	315	1,075,826	8.8	47,336,080
1912.....	1,545,000	267	865,653	12.2	52,805,260
1913.....	1,576,000	239	792,545	12.6	49,930,020
1914.....	1,527,000	290	930,631	6.9	32,107,080
1915.....	1,282,000	260	699,494	11.2	39,172,000
1916.....	1,451,000	215	654,603	19.4	63,496,491
1917.....	1,515,000	194	617,989	27.7	85,591,476
1918.....	1,600,000	268	897,761	26.4	118,504,000
1919.....	1,490,000	266	830,293	35.2	146,232,000
1920.....	1,587,000	275	824,761	14.5	67,045,000
1921.....	1,403,000	264	776,222	16.4	63,650,000
1922.....	1,625,000	250	852,000	24.5	104,326,000
1923.....	1,678,000	290	1,020,000	30.8	157,080,000

TOBACCO

Year	Acreage	Yield per Acre (Pounds)	Production (Pounds)	Average Price per Pound	Total Value (Basis Dec. 1st Price)
				Cents	
1866.....	57,722	683	39,423,900	14.3	5,637,618
1867.....	61,674	652	40,212,000	12.4	4,986,288
1868.....	62,429	657	41,016,000	12.4	5,085,984
1869.....	65,944	508	33,500,000	10.9	3,651,500
1870.....	51,194	586	30,000,000	12.7	3,810,000
1871.....	16,026	599	9,600,000	9.3	892,800
1872.....	19,819	666	13,200,000	8.9	1,174,800
1873.....	24,500	591	14,500,000	8.3	1,203,500
1874.....	25,757	330	8,500,000	14.4	1,224,000
1875.....	29,500	500	14,750,000	8.5	1,253,750
1876.....	29,500	550	16,225,000	8.2	1,330,450
1877.....					
1878.....	20,800	620	12,896,000	6.0	773,760
1879.....	21,400	556	11,898,400	7.0	832,888
1880.....	63,229	565	35,724,385	9.0	3,215,195
1881.....	56,071	443	24,827,532	13.5	3,351,717
1882.....	64,482	500	32,275,792	12.0	3,873,095
1883.....	60,000	484	29,048,213	12.5	3,631,027
1884.....	69,600	501	34,858,000	11.5	4,008,670
1885.....	77,952	480	37,417,000	10.6	3,966,198
1886.....	75,141	420	31,559,000	9.5	2,998,105
1887.....	60,113	485	29,155,000	10.0	2,915,481
1888.....	57,107	451	25,755,000	8.0	1,931,644
1889.....	97,077	375	36,375,258	11.0	4,001,278
1890.....	99,018	560	55,450,080	11.0	6,099,509
1891.....	100,008	490	49,003,920	9.6	4,704,376
1892.....	98,008	485	47,533,880	9.5	4,515,719
1893.....	88,208	509	44,897,872	8.0	3,591,830
1894.....	63,510	662	42,043,620	9.0	3,783,926
1895.....	143,156	800	114,525,000	9.2	10,536,300
1896.....	134,567	510	68,629,170	8.0	5,490,334
1897.....	104,962	550	57,729,100		
1898.....	98,664	550	54,265,200		
1899.....	203,023	628	127,503,400	6.6	8,415,224
1900.....	193,329	618	119,504,625	7.0	8,096,164
1901.....	189,020	560	105,807,677	9.0	9,714,243
1902.....	219,263	650	142,520,950	7.0	9,976,466
1903.....	214,878	627	134,728,506	6.3	8,487,896
1904.....	143,968	685	98,618,080	8.6	8,481,155
1905.....	136,770	608	83,156,160	8.8	7,317,742
1906.....	120,358	580	69,807,640	10.0	6,980,764
1907.....	161,400	625	100,875,000	11.0	11,096,000
1908.....	200,000	670	134,000,000	10.5	14,070,000
1909.....	221,900	626	138,813,000	9.5	13,187,000
1910.....	200,000	600	120,000,000	10.6	12,720,000
1911.....	140,000	710	99,400,000	11.6	11,530,000
1912.....	179,000	620	110,980,000	16.0	17,757,000
1913.....	250,000	670	167,500,000	18.5	30,988,000
1914.....	265,000	650	172,250,000	11.5	19,809,000
1915.....	320,000	620	198,400,000	11.2	22,221,000
1916.....	320,000	550	176,000,000	20.0	35,200,000
1917.....	380,000	630	239,400,000	31.5	75,411,000
1918.....	468,000	705	329,940,000	35.1	115,809,000
1919.....	528,000	616	325,248,000	53.6	174,333,000
1920.....	625,000	694	433,750,000	25.3	109,739,000
1921.....	450,000	561	252,450,000	26.0	65,637,000
1922.....	515,000	564	290,372,000	27.6	80,143,000
1923.....	552,000	700	386,400,000	21.0	81,144,000

THE RELIABILITY OF CROP ESTIMATES

That there has been much misunderstanding and erroneous opinions expressed regarding the government's crop estimates and their accuracy is generally known by those who are closely in touch with the Crop Estimates work. It is not the policy of the department of Agriculture to get into controversy over its frequently reported shortcomings, as the checks to prove the case are usually lacking.

The North Carolina Coöperative Crop Reporting Service, representing the State and Federal Crop Estimates agencies, now has final checks on its 1923 cotton and tobacco crop data for North Carolina. The remarkable accuracy of the December 1st estimates and the April 1st final checks by ginner and warehouses should convince the critics of their error.

The North Carolina cotton crop was estimated in December 1st at 1,020,000 bales, while the final ginning figures, collected by the United States Department of Commerce during March showed an equivalent 500-pound bale production of 1,017,324 bales. The unginning percentage at this date is officially recognized as one-tenth of one per cent, which would make the past season's production 1,018,400 bales. The comparison of these will show that the government over estimated the crop about *one-tenth of one per cent* for North Carolina.

The tobacco production is more difficult to determine. The December 1st estimate of the 1923 tobacco crop was given at 386,400,000 pounds, while the final warehouse sales, coöperative deliveries and net exports totaled 387,400,000 pounds. This would mean that the early crop estimates and the final

CORN

Year	Acreage	Yield per Acre (Bushels)	Production (Bushels)	Price per Bushel	Value (Basis Dec. 1st Price)
1866.....	1,804,714	12.0	21,656,566	\$ 0.78	\$ 16,892,121
1867.....	1,549,482	11.6	17,974,000	.74	13,300,760
1868.....	1,633,986	14.3	23,366,000	.58	13,552,280
1869.....	1,175,675	14.8	17,400,000	.79	13,746,000
1870.....	1,541,095	14.6	22,500,000	.70	15,753,500
1871.....	1,478,571	14.0	20,700,000	.64	13,248,000
1872.....	1,500,750	16.0	24,012,000	.55	13,206,600
1873.....	1,488,028	14.2	21,130,000	.59	12,466,700
1874.....	1,352,805	16.4	22,186,000	.65	14,420,900
1875.....	1,485,000	15.0	22,275,000	.52	11,583,000
1876.....	1,575,342	14.6	23,000,000	.49	11,270,000
1877.....	1,628,571	14.0	22,800,000	.51	11,628,000
1878.....	1,662,000	13.6	22,603,200	.45	10,171,440
1879.....	1,711,900	15.0	25,678,500	.58	14,893,530
1880.....	2,253,300	16.4	36,954,120	.52	19,216,142
1881.....	2,307,600	11.7	26,977,000	.79	21,311,830
1882.....	2,446,056	14.0	34,260,700	.53	18,158,171
1883.....	2,494,977	11.5	28,692,200	.65	18,649,930
1884.....	2,519,927	12.5	31,499,000	.60	18,899,400
1885.....	2,545,126	9.9	25,199,000	.55	13,859,450
1886.....	2,596,029	10.5	27,215,000	.57	15,512,550
1887.....	2,673,910	13.4	35,830,000	.59	21,139,700
1888.....	2,673,910	10.6	28,343,000	.58	16,438,940
1889.....	2,754,127	12.0	33,050,000	.53	17,516,248
1890.....	2,726,586	13.3	36,264,000	.55	19,944,977
1891.....	2,672,054	14.1	37,676,000	.58	21,852,057
1892.....	2,485,010	10.2	25,347,000	.54	13,687,435
1893.....	2,435,310	12.3	29,954,313	.50	14,977,157
1894.....	2,459,663	13.4	32,959,484	.47	15,490,957
1895.....	2,508,856	14.5	36,378,412	.38	13,823,797
1896.....	2,458,679	12.0	29,504,148	.37	10,916,535
1897.....	2,409,505	13.0	31,323,565	.43	13,469,133
1898.....	2,433,600	14.0	34,070,400	.43	14,650,272
1899.....	2,457,936	13.0	31,953,168	.47	15,017,989
1900.....	2,482,515	12.0	29,790,180	.57	16,980,403
1901.....	2,553,474	12.0	30,641,688	.73	22,368,432
1902.....	2,706,682	13.9	37,622,880	.60	22,573,728
1903.....	2,625,482	14.7	38,594,585	.61	23,542,697
1904.....	2,677,992	15.2	40,705,478	.62	25,237,396
1905.....	2,704,772	13.9	37,506,331	.64	24,061,652
1906.....	2,731,820	15.3	41,796,846	.68	28,421,855
1907.....	2,732,000	16.5	45,078,000	.74	33,358,000
1908.....	2,787,000	18.0	50,166,000	.79	39,631,000
1909.....	2,459,000	13.8	34,063,000	.85	28,954,000
1910.....	2,650,000	18.6	49,290,000	.76	37,460,000
1911.....	2,700,000	18.4	46,680,000	.82	40,738,000
1912.....	2,808,000	18.2	51,106,000	.83	42,418,000
1913.....	2,835,000	19.5	55,282,000	.88	48,648,000
1914.....	2,835,000	20.3	57,550,000	.86	49,493,000
1915.....	2,900,000	21.0	60,900,000	.77	46,893,000
1916.....	2,600,000	18.5	48,100,000	1.10	52,910,000
1917.....	2,920,000	20.0	58,400,000	1.70	99,280,000
1918.....	3,030,000	21.0	63,630,000	1.77	112,625,000
1919.....	2,531,000	19.0	48,089,000	1.85	88,965,000
1920.....	2,428,000	22.5	54,630,000	1.13	61,732,000
1921.....	2,552,000	19.3	49,254,000	.78	38,418,000
1922.....	2,577,000	20.0	51,540,000	.89	45,871,000
1923.....	2,603,000	22.5	58,568,000	1.02	59,739,000

WINTER WHEAT

Year	Acreage	Yield per Acre (Bushels)	Production (Bushels)	Average Price per Bushel	Total Value (Basis Dec. 1st Price)
1866.....	490,728	5.8	2,846,223	\$ 1.89	\$ 5,379,361
1867.....	494,927	6.9	3,415,000	1.51	5,156,650
1868.....	503,559	5.9	2,971,000	1.49	4,426,790
1869.....	460,714	8.4	3,870,000	1.21	4,682,700
1870.....	490,465	8.6	4,218,000	1.09	4,597,620
1871.....	421,665	6.0	2,530,000	1.28	3,238,400
1872.....	401,097	8.2	3,289,000	1.36	4,473,040
1873.....	450,806	6.2	2,795,000	1.43	3,996,850
1874.....	359,750	8.0	2,878,000	1.24	3,568,720
1875.....	406,666	7.5	3,050,000	1.08	3,294,000
1876.....	410,958	7.3	3,000,000	1.10	3,300,000
1877.....	469,879	8.3	3,900,000	1.06	4,134,000
1878.....	465,200	6.5	3,023,800	1.00	3,023,800
1879.....	460,500	7.0	3,223,500	1.28	4,126,080
1880.....	761,127	6.4	4,871,213	1.15	5,601,895
1881.....	662,200	6.9	4,579,000	1.49	6,822,710
1882.....	710,000	7.7	5,494,800	1.06	5,824,488
1883.....	717,100	5.9	4,230,800	1.17	4,950,036
1884.....	767,290	6.1	4,650,000	.89	4,138,500
1885.....	682,888	4.1	2,790,000	1.00	2,790,000
1886.....	696,546	4.6	3,209,000	1.00	3,209,000
1887.....	717,442	7.1	5,094,000	.88	4,482,720
1888.....	710,268	5.4	3,835,000	1.05	4,026,750
1889.....	724,473	6.2	4,492,000	.90	4,042,560
1890.....	717,228	4.4	3,156,000	1.00	3,155,803
1891.....	731,573	6.8	4,975,000	1.02	5,074,190
1892.....	716,942	7.1	5,090,000	.89	4,530,356
1893.....	724,111	8.2	5,937,710	.72	4,275,151
1894.....	695,147	5.0	3,475,735	.65	2,259,228
1895.....	688,196	6.9	4,748,552	.72	3,418,957
1896.....	633,140	7.3	4,621,922	.83	3,836,195
1897.....	521,210	8.0	4,169,680	.94	3,919,499
1898.....	573,331	9.2	5,274,645	.78	4,114,223
1899.....	521,731	6.7	3,495,598	.82	2,866,390
1900.....	620,917	9.6	5,960,803	.82	4,887,858
1901.....	777,255	8.7	6,762,118	.82	5,544,937
1902.....	576,558	5.3	3,055,757	.92	2,811,296
1903.....	633,060	5.1	3,228,606	.97	3,131,748
1904.....	571,228	8.6	4,912,561	1.19	5,845,948
1905.....	593,325	6.7	3,975,278	1.02	4,054,784
1906.....	582,091	9.1	5,297,028	.93	4,926,236
1907.....	560,000	9.5	5,320,000	1.07	5,692,000
1908.....	568,000	10.0	5,680,000	1.07	6,078,000
1909.....	502,000	7.6	3,827,000	1.27	4,860,000
1910.....	598,000	11.4	6,817,000	1.10	7,499,000
1911.....	626,000	10.6	6,636,000	1.02	6,769,000
1912.....	598,000	8.9	5,322,000	1.11	5,907,000
1913.....	605,000	11.7	7,078,000	1.06	7,503,000
1914.....	611,000	12.0	7,332,000	1.17	8,578,000
1915.....	900,000	10.9	9,810,000	1.20	11,772,000
1916.....	870,000	10.5	9,135,000	1.76	16,078,000
1917.....	860,000	10.0	8,600,000	2.34	20,124,000
1918.....		7.0	6,300,000	2.30	14,490,000
1919.....	705,000	7.9	5,570,000	2.33	12,978,000
1920.....	680,000	11.7	7,956,000	2.10	16,708,000
1921.....	600,000	7.5	4,500,000	1.44	6,480,000
1922.....	600,000	9.0	5,400,000	1.36	7,344,000
1923.....	544,000	11.1	6,038,000	1.28	7,729,000

checks show a difference of less than *three-tenths of one per cent.* The check figures are: warehouse sales, 311,004,843 lbs., the cooperative deliveries, 73,400,000 lbs., and the net sale of tobacco outside of the State in excess of that brought in, 3,000,000 pounds. This latter figure may be more than is allowed.

The tobacco estimates of December showed 552,000 acres for the 1923 crop and an average yield of 700 pounds per acre. This gave a production of 386,400,000 pounds. The average of tobacco warehouse sales was slightly more than 21c. per pound. This would give the State's tobacco production a total value of \$82,000,000, or an average value of \$148.60 per acre.

The cotton crop of last year had a July 1st estimate of 1,668,000 acres planted June 25th and 1,660,000 acres harvested, with an average yield of 293 lbs. This gives the pro-

duction, on a basis of 500 lbs., at 1,018,400 bales. The average price given was 32c. for the crop, making a total value of \$155,500,000. There were \$23,000,000 worth of seed. The per acre cotton crop value was \$107.50.

The available checks on the estimates of other crops, while not as complete as are those on cotton and tobacco, give us a reasonable certainty that these estimates are approximately correct. It has been very difficult in the past to obtain complete information on the truck crops grown in the State, and for that reason the statistics published by us on truck have been woefully inadequate.

The shipments in carload lots of commercial truck afford accurate data from the principal trucking areas, and this information can be obtained from the State's Bureau of Markets. It is unfortunate that so few are familiar with the safeguards used in making the government estimates reliable.

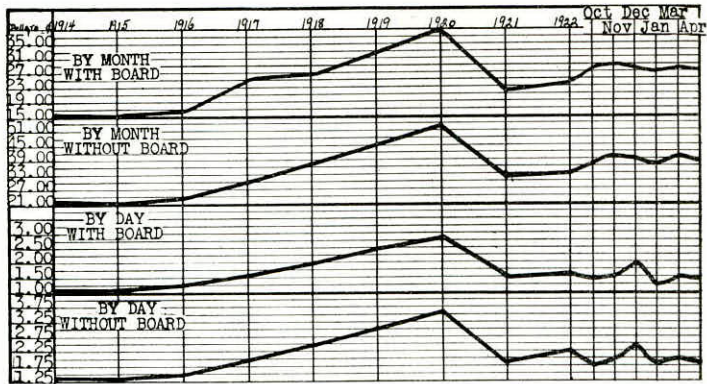
COMMERCIAL TRUCK CROPS IN NORTH CAROLINA AS REPORTED BY THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

	Average		Yield per Acre		Production		Price per Unit		Farm Value	
	1922	1923	1922	1923	1922	1923	1922	1923	1922	1923
Cantaloupes.....(crates)	3,960	2,290	110	100	436,000 crates	229,000 crates	\$ 1.03	\$ 1.02	\$ 449,000	\$ 234,000
Watermelons.....(number)	5,100	4,730	320	369	1,632,000 cars	1,886,000 cars	60.00	217.00	98,000	379,000
Lettuce.....(crates)	1,180	1,230	300	225	354,000 crates	277,000 crates	2.61	1.47	924,000	407,000
Cabbage.....(tons)	350	440	6	7.5	2,100 tons	3,300 tons	34.40	30.00	72,000	99,000
Potatoes, Irish.....(bushels)	50,000	46,000	94	86	4,700,000 bu.	3,956,000 bu.	1.01	1.20	4,747,000	4,747,000
Potatoes, sweet.....(bushels)	110,000	100,000	113	105	12,430,000 bu.	10,500,000 bu.	.80	.98	9,944,000	10,290,000
Green peas.....(crates)	2,360	4,210	82	75	194,000 crates	316,000 crates	2.00	2.48	388,000	784,000
Snap beans.....(crates)	1,910	1,910	93	159	178,000 crates	304,000 crates	1.50	1.34	267,000	407,000
Cucumbers.....(crates)	2,340	2,650	180	230	421,000 crates	610,000 crates	.88	1.60	370,000	976,000
Strawberries.....(crates)		12,000		50		600,000 crates				

NOTE.—The 1923 farm census results showed 100,000 acres of field truck other than potatoes. There are about 65,000 acres devoted to home gardens. The commercial truck, therefore, takes but a small part of the whole truck acreage.

WAGES PAID FOR HIRED FARM LABOR IN
NORTH CAROLINA

	Wages Paid for Hired Farm Labor				Farm Labor	
	By Month With Board	By Month Without Board	By Day With Board	By Day Without Board	Supply Compared Normal	Demand Compared Normal
					Per Cent	Per Cent
December, 1914.....	\$ 15.50	\$ 21.90	\$ 1.14	\$ 1.38		
December, 1915.....	15.30	21.20	1.14	1.38		
December, 1916.....	16.40	23.40	1.23	1.49		
December, 1917.....	25.00	30.00	1.60	1.95		
December, 1918.....	26.50	37.50	1.94	2.42	Apr., 1918 75	102
December, 1919.....	32.40	45.00	2.41	3.01	Apr., 1919 82	102
December, 1920.....	38.40	53.10	2.85	3.52	Apr., 1920 71	105
December, 1921.....	22.00	32.00	1.50	1.80	Apr., 1921 95	87
December, 1922.....	24.00	33.00	1.85	2.25	Apr., 1922 96	93
April, 1923.....					90	97
October, 1923.....	28.00	37.00	1.43	1.75	81	97
November, 1923.....	29.00	40.00	1.50	1.90	79	98
December, 1923.....	28.00	39.00	1.95	2.45	78	99
January, 1924.....	27.00	37.00	1.25	1.80	82	97
February, 1924.....					85	99
March, 1924.....	28.00	40.00	1.50	2.00	84	96
April, 1924.....	27.25	38.50	1.45	1.88	83	97



GRAPH SHOWS ANNUAL RISE AND FALL OF WAGES PAID
HIRED FARM LABOR

OBSERVATIONS BY THE STATISTICIAN FROM A
TRIP THROUGH THE SANDHILL
FRUIT SECTION

The good roads through the Sandhill fruit section make traveling and a study of the commercial fruit orchards an easy job. Visits in peach orchards were not prevented by the rain. To say the least, there are many peach and dewberry fields in Moore County. They are in good condition, too, including tilth and fruitfulness. From the information gained, it appears that the cold weather about April 1st did most damage. The young trees suffered most, and the greatest damage to peaches was from Aberdeen to Hamlet, with the

least around Biscoe and Candor. The Aberdeen section is reported to have a crop outlook of 65 to 75 per cent of a full or normal crop. It is almost normal in Montgomery County.

This does not mean that there will not be a large peach crop; in fact the shipments will perhaps be the largest in North Carolina's history. More than 2,000 cars are easily anticipated. As a matter of fact the cold did many growers more good than harm. This was due to the thinning action. There is usually a heavy "drop" of young peaches, and especially so when the "setting" is heavy. It is the practice in the Sandhills to pick up the curculio strong drops and to destroy them. The cold has meant that there will be fewer drops and less of the expensive hand thinning to be done.

The orchards are as a rule in well tilled condition. They have been recently cultivated and fertilized. All have been carefully pruned with open centers. Most of the slim heavily budded "switches" were pruned off to leave but a few fruit buds each. Several orchards were so perfectly pruned that had an immense mowing machine passed over them the tops would have been left no smoother or more level. It is becoming recognized that the Sandhills peach orchards are the best or most scientifically handled in the United States. They are pruned early in the year, winter or dormant sprayed twice, cultivated several times a year, fertilized, summer sprayed five to eight times with poison and lime sulphur, thinned, the drops picked up every week, wormed or "gassed" in the fall, and cover crops are grown to benefit the soil and to supply plant food for the trees. This is aside from the picking, grading and crating care necessary for first-class marketing. It is what causes that wonderful color, firm body, uniform size, and the carrying and eating qualities of the famous "Red Skins."

The dewberries are quite a big crop also. Not so pretty or extensively grown as the peaches. They pay more per acre however. Montgomery County was distinctly more behind in its farm work. Many farms showed no signs of any spring plowing. Practically no planting has been done. The rains have been just frequent enough to prevent the needed breaking of land. The farm work is quite late, but many said they do not plan to plant before May first anyway.

The wheat crop has improved immensely. Many fields look very promising. Rye is doing well, too. Oats were badly damaged in January, leaving poor stands. Cotton will take its own acreage and may fall heir to some of the oats and other crops acreages. Increased acreage of tobacco is expected in Montgomery. Hay crops are generally growing more popular.

Fertilizers are quite the thing this year. Every one is using more pounds and higher grades. The farmers are expecting to put forth a mighty effort this year. They are devoid of the usual depressed spirit. In spite of no hired labor available, they are going right ahead. Their plans distinctly tend toward "safer farming."

FRANK PARKER.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF REPORTS ISSUED BY CROP REPORTING SERVICE

It has been thought advisable to publish a KEY to the crop reports issued by the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service in order that those interested may have some means of anticipating when certain information is released for a given crop, in the publications "Crops and Markets" or in the "FARM FORECASTER." Reports are released between the eighth and tenth of each month, and reference to the table will show what feature of each crop will be reported. Alphabetical letters are used to represent the various items, *e. g.*, A, acreage; C, condition; N, number, etc. (shown below the table). Reporters may, by a glance down the columns for each month, anticipate the inquiries for that month, so that they can be better prepared to answer them. This will also be helpful in finding information in past months, or years. This is your index key. February reports will appear in future.

KEY TO CROP REPORTS

CROPS	January	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
CEREALS:											
Barley.....					a, c	c	c, s	c	y, q	w	
Buckwheat.....							a, c	c	c	2y, q	
Corn.....		ip, m, s, f, aa	a		a	a, c	cc, c	c	c	l, mh, 2y, m, e	
Oats.....		ip, s	a	c	a, c	c	c, s, aa, mh, %h, y	c	y, q	w	v, a, c
Rye.....		s	a	a, c	c	c	%h, aa, 2y, q			y	a, c
Wheat (all).....									m		
Wheat (winter).....		s, aa	a, c	a, c, ad	c	s, c	%h, aa, 2y, q			w, y	a, c
Small grains.....										a, y, p, v, q	
Grain cut green.....								a			
FORAGE:											
Alfalfa hay.....					a, c	c	c	c, a	2y	q	
Alfalfa, seed.....									y, a		
Clover hay.....			c		a, c	c	c		c, a	2y	q, y
Clover seed.....								a, c	c	y, %y, a	
Corn fodder.....								y, a, v	a, 2y, c	a, y, p, v, q	
Cowpeas.....					c	a, c	c, cc	c, a	c	2y, %y, a	
Grain sorghum.....						c	c	c	a, y, p, q, v	y, %y, a	
Hay (all).....		aa, s	a	s	c						
Hay, tame.....		ip, aa	a	c, a	a	c	c	c, a		q, y	
Hay, wild.....		aa		c, a		c	c	y		q, y	
Johnson grass.....								a			
Meadows.....											
Millet.....						c	c	c, a	y		
Mixed hay.....								a			
Pastures.....				c	c	c	c	c			
Timothy hay.....					a, c	c	c	y, a	y	q	
Timothy, seed.....								y, a			
Soybeans.....								c, a	y	y	
FRUITS:											
Apples.....				c	c	c	nt, p&s, %f, 2c, %k	c	%p	nt, p, q, f	
Berries.....				c	c	c	c				
Cantaloupes.....						c		%y, a			
Grapes.....						c	c	c		p, q	
Peaches.....				c		c		p, g	%p		
Pecans.....					%s, c, %i, nt, d	c	c	c	c	p	
Pears.....					c	c	c	c	c	p, g	
Watermelons.....					c	c	c	%y, a			
VEGETABLES:											
Beans, dry.....					c	c	c		y, a, %y		
Cabbages.....					c						
Field beans.....											
Onions.....					c						
Potatoes, Irish.....		ip, aa, s	a	c		a, c	c	c	y, %y, a	2y, q, m	
Potatoes, sweet.....		ip, aa, s	a			a, c	c	c	c	2y, q, m	s
Tomatoes.....						c	c	c	a, %y		
Truck.....				c							
LIVE STOCK:											
Horses.....	n, v			ntx, d, c							
Mules.....	n, v			ntx, d, c							
Milch cows.....	n, v		nm								
Other cattle.....	n, v										
All cattle.....	n			ntx, d, e, c							
Sheep.....	n, v			ntx, d, e, c							
Swine.....	n, v			ntx, d, c	nl, sl			n			
Goats.....				ntx							
Hens.....			n								
MISCELLANEOUS:											
Broom corn.....											
Cotton.....		aa	a	c, fu	a, c, ms	c	c	c		a, 2y, v, p, q	
Cotton (reg.).....				c, fu, v	a, c	c		c, bolls, ab, dust	c, y, %pk, ab, bolls	y, ab, a, v	
Honey.....											
Honey bees.....											
Peanuts.....		ip, aa					c, cc	c	c	c, a, y, %y, q	
Soybeans.....		aa, s	a			a, c	c, cc	c	a, c	3y, a, y, %k	
Velvet beans.....					%b, c, a, pa		c, cc	c	c		a, y
Planting.....				% done							
Plowing.....				% done							
Sorghum sirup.....						a, c	c	c	c	y	
Tobacco.....		ip, aa	a		a	a, c	c	c	c	3y, q	
Milk.....	y, ab										
Land values.....		v									
Farm rents.....		v									
Wages.....		pd							pd	pd	pd
Labor.....	ss, dd	ss, dd	ss, dd	ss, dd	ss, dd	ss, dd	ss, dd	ss, dd	ss, dd	ss, dd	ss, dd
Plow land.....			%cul, %p								
Land.....			%t								
Fertilizer.....					%u	w		p			
Wool.....											
Total acres in crops.....									%a		p, v

SCOPE OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE SEVERAL CROP REPORTS

KEY.—(a) Acreage; (aa) Prospective acreage; (%a) Acreage in per cent of last year; (%ab) Per cent acreage abandoned; (b) Number breeding sows compared with last year; (%b) Per cent acreage saved for beans; (c) Condition; (cc) Companion crops; (%cly) Per cent cultivated last year; (d) Losses from disease; (dd) Demand hired labor; (e) Losses from exposure; (F) Final estimate acreage, production, value; (f) Per cent of crop shipped out of county where grown; (%f) Per cent fertilized; (h) Number stock hogs compared a year ago; (ip) Intended plantings; (%k) Per cent of varieties; (l) Cut for silos; (m) Per cent of crop of merchantable quality; (%m) Per cent milked; (mh) Methods of harvesting; (ms) Monthly sales; (n) Number; (nl) Number of pigs born per litter; (nt) Number of trees; (p) Production; (%p) Per cent plowed; (pa) Planted alone; (pd) Monthly wage with or without board; (p & s) Pruned and sprayed; (q) Quality; (r) Acreage remaining after abandonment; (s) Supplies on farm; (ss) Supply hired labor; (sl) Number pigs saved per litter; (%t) Per cent tenanted last year; (ntx) Number taxed—assessors; (v) Values—prices of products; (%u) Per cent fertilizer used; (w) Weight per bushel—or fleece; (y) Yield per acre—colony—per cow; (%y) Per cent normal yield.

TAX LISTERS' FARM CENSUS

This page is intended primarily for the tax listers in relation to better farm census results. It should be of interest to any reader, however, for the reliability and completeness of the results affects each county of North Carolina and the comparative usefulness as information.

It is becoming recognized that this State has the advantage of other Southern States when it comes to agricultural as well as other kinds of education. Current farm facts and statistical information about North Carolina, and particularly concerning counties, was sadly lacking prior to the establishment of the Coöperative Crop Reporting Service.

The annual farm census has done more to put the work of this service on a firm basis than anything else. All states recognize this as the best source of crop acreage data. It is as reliable as the honesty of the farmers who report it and of the listers who question the farmers. Of course, some listers are more proficient or interested than others. This frequently results in many minor figures being either left out or included according to the care of the lister.

Several counties are sufficiently interested to provide for higher rates of compensation to the listers. This insures more complete lists of farms and information.

RELATIVITY

Much has been said concerning North Carolina's deficiency in the production of the foods and feeds needed to feed the State. The United States Census indicated that this State lacked about \$250,000,000 worth of food and feed products of the amount sufficient to feed the State. The following information will be of interest to those who are acquainted with the above figures.

North Carolina and Iowa are essentially agricultural states with approximately the same population. The cultivated land in the two states, however, is 8,200,000 acres in North Carolina, while Iowa has 8,600,000. Iowa is credited with having 195 per cent of self-feeding farm production, while North Carolina has only 52 per cent. On the other hand, the United States Department of Agriculture reports that North Carolina produces 79 per cent of the food supply consumed on farms, while Iowa produces but 65 per cent. The value of North Carolina's crops and livestock is given at \$530,000,000, while Iowa's is estimated at \$883,000,000. Iowa has 3½ times as much improved land as North Carolina, while the value of her farm products are but one-half more than North Carolina's.

It is quite evident that North Carolina uses more farm labor, less machinery and less livestock than Iowa. It is also quite evident that North Carolina's average, per acre, value of crops, or even that of farm products, is much higher than Iowa's. The census figures give the cost of feeding a person at \$155 per year. This is presumed to represent equivalent

values to those the farmer is credited with producing. The Crop Reporting Service has made some inquiries regarding the cost of foods and finds that the farm prices of products consumed by the average family do not run as high as this.

It will be of interest to the reader to learn that the diversification for crops in North Carolina given in percentages of the total crop acreage is as follows:

Per Cent		Per Cent	
Corn	33	Soybeans	3.4
Cotton	21	Peanuts	2.5
Tame Hay	10	Wild Hay	2.2
Tobacco	7	Sweet Potatoes	1.2
Wheat	7	Rye	1.2
Oats	4.2	Irish Potatoes	1
Field Peas	4	All others	2.3

The diversification in Iowa is:

Per Cent		Per Cent	
Corn	50	Wheat	3.7
Oats	26.6	Wild Hay	2.0
Hay	15.8	All others	1.9

We leave it to the reader to decide which state comes nearer producing a balanced ration and whether North Carolina deserves the deficit reputation given her. The "relativity" of the 95 per cent of Iowa's surplus self feeding ability and of North Carolina's 48 per cent shortage is as difficult for us to understand, in the light of the above facts, as many readers are of Einstein's theory.

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