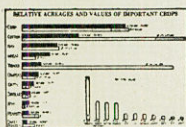


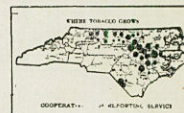
FARM FORECASTER

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 31

RALEIGH

MARCH, 1925

FARMERS' INTENTIONS REPORT

Those best informed concerning interpretations of agricultural statistics are fully agreed that the farmers encouraged the public mind, and particularly the Washington politicians, in putting a hoodwink on themselves in the form of the law forbidding the publication of the cotton planting intentions.

It is generally known that many business concerns pay large sums of money for securing reliable periodic information on the cotton crop. When farmers admit that speculators would like to have this kind of information, they should realize that what is *valuable* to the speculator, he is willing to pay for and is likely to secure. This they do in a far more detailed way than the government is able to do.

Is it better for the farmers and the speculators to have comprehensive information about the farmers' intentions, or for the speculators alone to have it? So long as the "trade" can keep the farmers ignorant of the trends of the speculative crops, the better it is for them. Naturally they will encourage any movement towards making the farmers believe that plantings intention reports are harmful to the farmers' interests.

It is generally recognized that the devil and his emissaries are scattered all over the country and even in our midst without our knowing it. This is also true of the speculative interests, who are frequently devilishly sly in their manner of doing business. That being their business, we should not blame them for their wisdom but rather should favor those agencies that are in position to keep us informed, that we might avoid the pitfalls made possible by our ignorance of situations.

It is hoped that the report on page 4 will be carefully scanned with a view of relieving the farmers' minds toward his planting intentions. It should be borne in mind that the farmers did not report as to what they thought the general farmers intentions were, but rather what each individual reporter planted last year and expected to plant this year. By using over 3,000 such reports from all parts of the State, we have an average of over 30 from each county. This meant that certain large counties had something over 100 reports which gave a fairly dependable trend.

It should not be misunderstood that these figures represent what are going to be planted, for these intentions may be changed. In fact it is the government's purpose to furnish this data in order that farmers may have a wise basis for changing their intentions before crops are actually planted.

By taking out the staples in this bulletin the small maps may be posted.

WHY FARMERS SHOULD STUDY CROP REPORTS

By DR. CARL C. TAYLOR, Economist

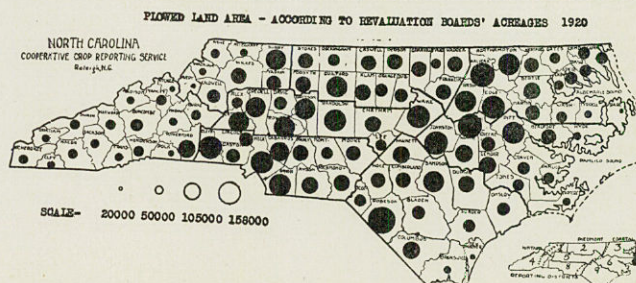
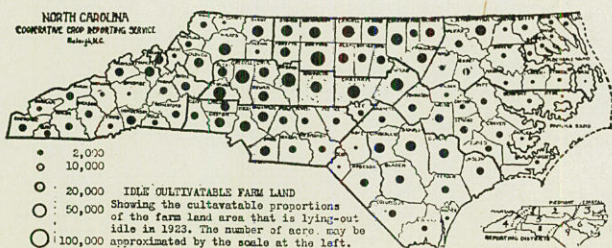
North Carolina State College, Raleigh, N. C.

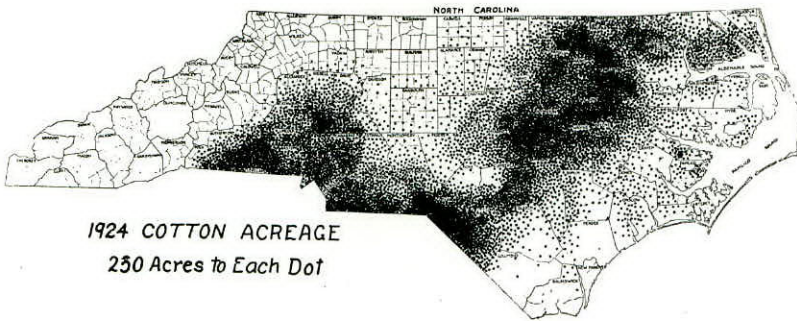
Probably the greatest weakness in the farm enterprise is that each farmer conducts his business as if it were a business unrelated to others. Every other business recognizes clearly that it is the total business in the field of production in which it operates which controls the prosperity of that business. A knowledge of what the total production in the steel industry is, for instance, demands a knowledge of what every producer of steel in the world is doing. Farming is not the least different from this. Every farmer should, therefore, have laid before him what other farmers in competition with him are doing.

Since farming is carried on over a very wide area and by thousands of individuals the only way that an individual farmer can know what is happening throughout that whole area is to have some central agency assemble all the facts and lay them before him.

In North Carolina there has been a steady transition for the last fifty years in the areas planted to certain crops. Every farmer ought to know before he plants a cotton crop or tobacco or corn crop, what the tendency of other farmers is in that direction for two reasons. First, because a very wide expansion of a given crop, particularly, if it is a cash crop, is probably a sign that there is a tendency to over-produce that crop and, therefore, reduce the prospective market price of that crop for the coming year. Second, if it is not a cash crop but a soil improvement crop, such as clover or some other of the legumes, it will show how widespread the use of such crops is and thus be a sign of the value of such practice.

Practically every big business in the world, and farming is a big business, has come to depend upon a statistical analysis of what is now happening as a basis for future action. Until farmers learn to use this same type of information upon which to base their programs of production they will continue to cut each other's throats by over production in one period and under production in another. Business firms pay hundreds of dollars to Rodger Babson and other statistical experts to furnish them the information which is furnished freely to the farmers of North Carolina by the Department of Agricultural Statistics at Raleigh. County agents and all others who attempt to assist the farmer in the wise choice of production should make large use of the information available from this Bureau.



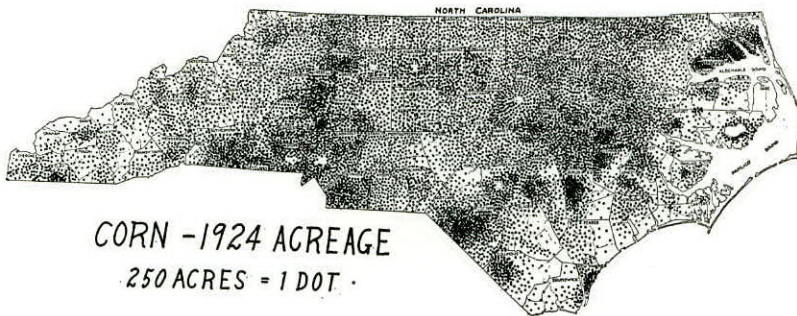
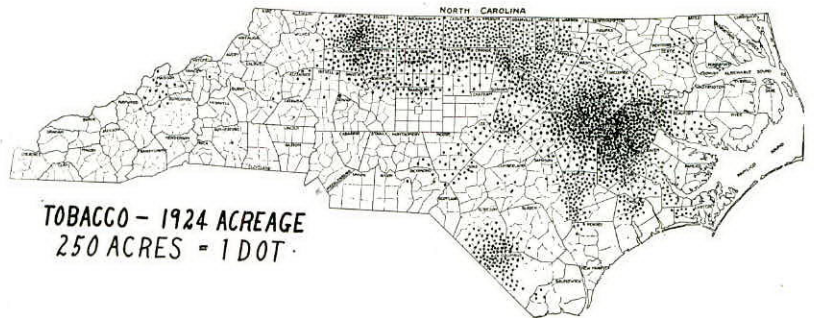


COTTON

Cotton is North Carolina's leading crop in value, and second in acreage. Its acreage distribution over the State is clearly shown herewith. The worst Boll Weevil damage is expected to be in the light area along the coastal belt. The stiffer upland soils suffer less from this pest than poor light lands. The more intensive the cotton planting, the near to one crop farming a community becomes.

TOBACCO

Tobacco with a value of \$73,000,000 last year held second place in the State. The previous year's \$94,000,000 was practically equal to the 1924, cotton crop. The acreage distribution as shown by the map includes the old belt in the upper Piedmont, and the new belt in the central east. The South Carolina belt is in the southern part and the small burley plantings are in the extreme west.

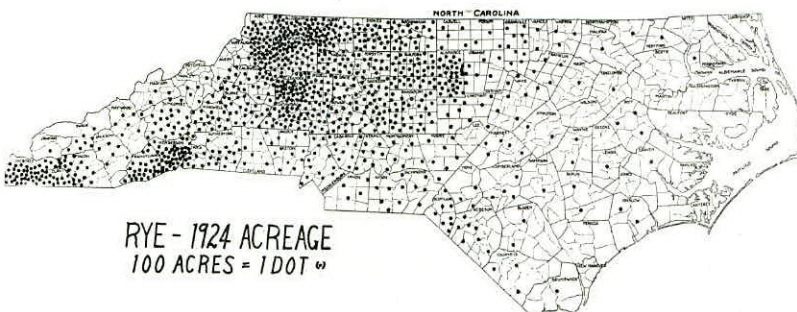
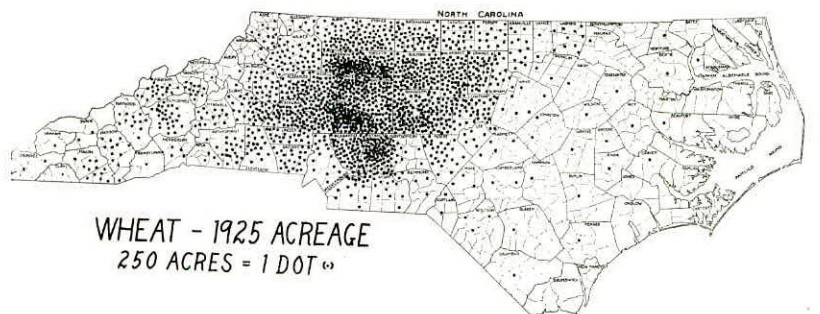


CORN

This is the crop that every farmer is familiar with. It ranks first in acreage, and third in value in North Carolina. This crop is the most evenly distributed one that is grown. The graph shows more or less the location of the intensively cultivated areas, especially in the eastern counties where a large area in the coastal plain is not cultivated at all. A comparison of the corn map with the other crop maps makes a very interesting study.

WHEAT

The principal wheat producing counties are located in the western Piedmont area, dwindling out through the western mountain counties. The 1924 wheat crop was estimated at 5,544,000 bushels valued at \$8,870,400. According to the 1924, Farm Census results, Rowan County ranked first in wheat acreage and Randolph second. Very little is harvested for grain in the eastern counties.

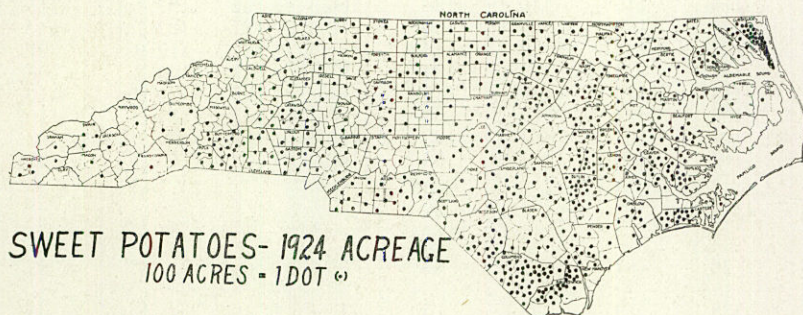
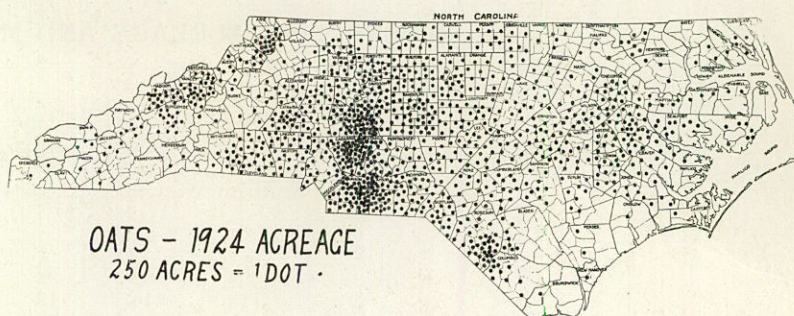


RYE

This State had only 71,000 acres of rye in 1924, harvested for grain. The price per bushel was \$1.49, which was only exceeded by South Carolina and Georgia, however, we ranked 25th in yield per acre. The 1924 crop was worth about \$1,269,000.

OATS

The acreage of oats is about half that of wheat, but the crop shows a more even distribution, especially through the eastern counties. A large percentage of the oat acreage is cut green for hay. There are prospects this spring for a 12 per cent increase in acreage in North Carolina and a 6 per cent increase in the National oat crop.

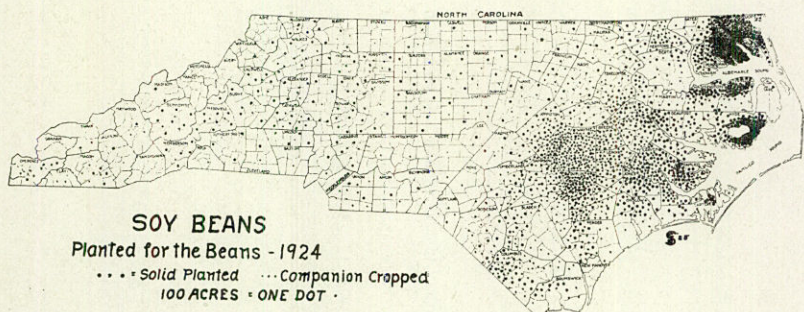
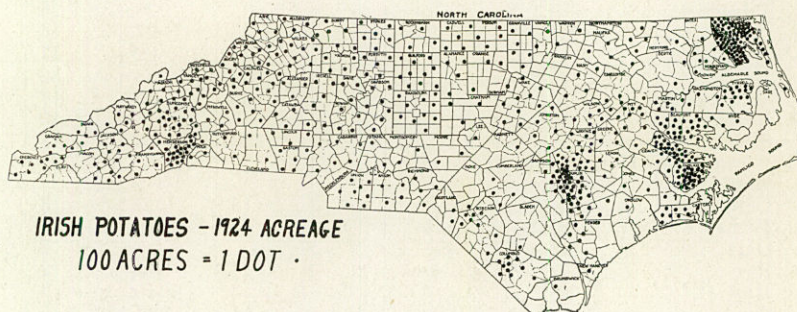


SWEET POTATOES

The general distribution of sweet potatoes indicates an appreciation of this delicious and highly nutritive vegetable. Production is heaviest in the eastern counties and shipments are pretty generally distributed. Growers are becoming more interested in curing and preparation for market, and there are indications of increased plantings in 1925, over last year.

IRISH POTATOES

The accompanying map indicates that Irish potatoes are pretty generally distributed over the State. Nearly every farmer has a potato patch of some sort but the commercially grown crop is confined to rather definite areas which may be easily seen on the map. The early commercial crop centers around Pasquotank and Currituck Counties in the northeastern corner of the State, Beaufort and Pamlico in the mid-eastern coastal, and Wayne and Duplin in the central southeastern section. Henderson County has the largest production of late potatoes.

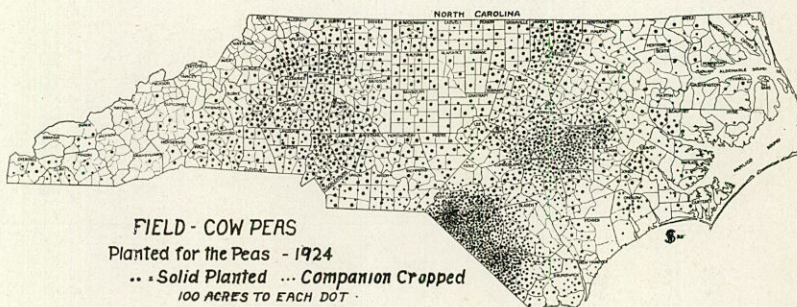


SOY BEANS

The soy bean is becoming more and more a favorite legume crop in North Carolina. The largest plantings are in the eastern part of the State with highly concentrated production in Hyde, Washington, Tyrrell, Currituck, Camden and Pasquotank counties. A large part of the acreage is grown with other crops, principally corn.

FIELD AND COW PEAS

The graph opposite shows the acreage distribution of both solid cowpea acreage and that planted with other crops. Three distinct areas are shown, the most intensive being in the southeastern counties. 130,000 acres were harvested last year for peas, 128,000 primarily for hay, 80,000 were used primarily for grazing and hogging. There were about 161,000 acres of both soy beans and cowpeas planted with other crops, principally with corn.



PROSPECTIVE ACREAGE AND MARCH 1, 1925, REPORT

Prospective Acreage 1925 Crops	Unit	MOUNTAIN COUNTIES		PIEDMONT COUNTIES			COASTAL COUNTIES			State Average 1925	State Average 1924
		Northern 1	Western 4	Northern 2	Central 5	Southern 8	Northern 3	Central 6	Southern 9		
Wheat.....	%	94	102	93	90	102	118	43	80	94.2	88
Rye.....	%	113	116	119	112	179	87	99	139	118.2	105
Corn.....	%	98	112	110	106	98	103	101	106	104.4	101
Oats.....	%	134	142	108	108	115	126	97	126	118.6	110
Barley.....	%		200	132	137	337				176.0	210
Potatoes, Irish.....	%	108	103	116	115	110	121	106	92	107.4	115
Potatoes, Sweet.....	%	115	120	125	124	123	130	112	127	122.7	112
Tobacco.....	%	117	122	103	121	112	118	131	122	119.9	97
Peanuts.....	%	180	104	135	123	122	104	97	113	104.2	109
Tame hay, cut.....	%	100	104	115	123	110	115	97	95	109.2	110
All other crops.....	%	104	105	100	101	105	96	104	113	104.	110
Total of all crops.....	%	105	108	107	104	107	105	105	109	106.	102
Total all land in farms.....	%	95	101	100	102	101	98	102	103	100.3	102
March 1st Crop Report:											
Corn, per cent last year's crop of mer- chantable quality.....	%	75	76	90	81	82	84	75	68	77	83
Rye, per cent of total acreage:											
To be harvested for grain.....	%	82	76	38	59	43	5	13	10	68	66
For all other purposes.....	%	18	24	62	41	57	95	87	90	32	34
Condition of crop.....	%	88	90	86	88	89	86	88	98	88	78
1924 Supplies on farms, March 1st:											
Corn.....	%	46	47	40	40	44	42	47	36	43	49
Wheat.....	%	35	28	28	28	25	8	35	36	25	28
Oats.....	%	26	27	16	18	15	12	20	19	18	21
Rye.....	%	25	22	17	14	14	5	31	10	18	18
Hay.....	%	32	33	30	24	27	40	38	39	32	37
White potatoes.....	%	35	45	17	22	13	17	20	17	21	22
Peanuts.....	%	7	15	10	18	7	9	20	14	9	10
Sweet potatoes.....	%	23	18	18	22	15	21	20	22	20	23
Per cent crop shipped out of county where grown:											
Corn.....	%	15	13	3	7	7	3	10	7	4	5
Wheat.....	%	8	22	6	14	13		50		7	7
Oats.....	%		8	2	15			41	10	2	6
Rye.....	%	14	45	2	12	3			5	7	5
Hay.....	%	13	16	3	15		1	5	10	3	3
Apples.....	%	54	47	5	33	10	2	15	20	20	15
White potatoes.....	%	35	42	3	18	13	36	28	68	50	30
Peanuts.....	%	7	21	7	11	5	91	32	59	85	80
Sweet potatoes.....	%	15	35	5	21	9	28	20	26	15	17
Average land value per acre:											
Poor plow lands.....	\$	29	34	30	33	32	40	56	34	33	35
Good plow lands.....	\$	72	40	55	58	65	84	114	82	70	75
All plow lands.....	\$	46	55	41	45	47	60	70	57	52	54
All farm lands with improvements.....	\$	56	78	49	49	63	76	90	78	65	67
All farm lands without improvements.....	\$	39	50	39	35	43	52	53	54	46	48
Cash rents:											
Average per acre for farms.....	\$	15	11	6	4	5	6	9	5	4	3
Average value per acre—inch farms.....	\$	42	59	43	38	42	52	66	59	52	58
Average per acre for plow lands.....	\$	9	13	9	7	6	9	10	9	9	9
Value per acre such lands.....	\$	40	60	43	44	46	75	92	61	60	65
Average per acre pasture land.....	\$	8	6	6	3	2	3	2	3	5	5
Value per acre such land.....	\$	28	39	35	23	23	22	29	33	30	40
Pecan, bearing age:											
Number trees compared last year.....	%	97	90	95	99	101	104	95	90	101	99
Number trees compared usual.....	%	99	91	95	99	106	106	98	89	103	102
Compared number trees year ago:											
Per cent died during year.....	%	16	8	6	2	6	3	6	5	6	5
Per cent reached bearing age.....	%	20	17	24	12	16	14	15	7	12	9
Trees planted compared to all bear- ing trees.....	%	19	40	14	21	27	8	23	71	20	8
Per cent seedlings.....	%	35	31	30	23	16	35	29	36	31	30
Per cent improved varieties.....	%	65	69	70	77	84	65	71	64	69	70
Home gardens:											
Condition crops now growing.....	%	66	78	73	75	63	62	67	76	70	50
Farm labor:											
Supply compared normal.....	%	93	85	91	86	89	88	97	86	89	84
Demand compared normal.....	%	86	88	90	93	92	91	90	93	92	96

COMMENTS ON MARCH FIRST REPORT

Economists have long claimed that the most important feature of agricultural statistics is usually omitted in census and other enumerations. This item is consumption or else supplies remaining from previous production. The March 1st crop report carried estimates pertaining to this subject. Controversies frequently arise concerning the commercial production of crops. This is also touched on in the last report. Every farmer is interested in Land Values and Land Rents. These too are included.

SUPPLIES LEFT ON FARMS

The per cent of the total crops produced last year left on farms March 1st, 1925, are shown on the opposite page. It will be found interesting to compare the data for this and last year. This shows that corn and hay were short. The wet July conditions prevented much planting of summer hays and the wet September resulted in much of that planted being ruined.

PROSPECTIVE FARM ACREAGES

On page four of this issue will be found a report indicating the planting intentions of a large number of farmers as compared with what they planted last spring. This report covers all of the important crops in the State, excepting, cotton. The farmers of the South not only permitted but encouraged Congress to pass a law prohibiting the publication of cotton planting intentions. This condition safeguards the speculators in the use of their privately collected information knowing that the farmers can be influenced and taken advantage of through their ignorance.

In reviewing the prospects for this year and the results of last year, in comparison with the intentions a year ago, it is decided that the peanut acreage harvested was about half the increase reported in the spring. If this trend holds true, we may expect from five to ten per cent increase this year. In tobacco, the reported intentions were for a three per cent decrease in March. The final results indicated from ten to twelve per cent decrease. The report this year shows a decided increase, and it would take about ten per cent increase to bring the acreage back to normal. A decided increase may be expected. This will be encouraged due to the boll weevil.

The early Irish potato crop showed an 18 per cent pros-

PER CENT OF CROPS SHIPPED

As might be expected, leaving out cotton and tobacco, peanuts show the largest shipments. White potatoes appear to be next with 50 per cent shipped out of counties where grown. Apples and sweet potatoes show appreciably large shipments. Corn and wheat, oats and hay, which are standard crops on farms, show very small shipments.

FARM LAND VALUES AND RENTS

Land values have remained about the same since a year ago. Poor plow land showed decreases of \$2.00 per acre, while general farm land, exclusive of buildings showed a slight increase in value. While very little of the farm land in North Carolina is rented for cash, farmers are interested in the rates. It appears that there is a slight decline in the rental rate of lands, while pastures remained about the same.

The rye crop shows excellent growth at this season. It appears that about two thirds of the crop is harvested for grain.

pective increase a year ago, which was also realized at harvest. The prospects this year are for the same acreage as last year. With sweet potatoes, the prospects reported in the preplanting season was quite an increase, while the outcome was only a slight increase. The intentions report this year shows a 20 per cent increase, and the farmers will try to carry this out, due to the very good price received for potatoes shipped since December. The corn crop is the one farm commodity that changes perhaps less than any other from year to year. The intentions, a year ago, was for a one per cent increase, but the unfavorable July and September weather resulted in a slight decrease. The prospects are for a three per cent increase this year, which will recover the loss in the last crop. Oats were almost ruined last year by the freezes. It will perhaps require more than the prospective 12 per cent increase, now estimated, to recover the usual oat acreage.

Tame hays were intended to be greatly increased last year, but the weather was entirely unfavorable for planting and harvesting resulting in a large decrease, with the prospects for only a 2 per cent increase this year, there will still be a shortage. Hay crops may count more than some of the cash crops this year, when labor is considered.

"We take this occasion to compliment you on your 1924 Census sheet, which contains much valuable farm statistical information of particular interest to us. It is the most complete and comprehensive census of any state we have ever seen."

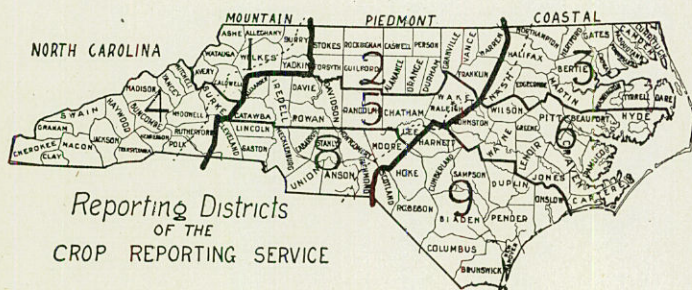
SWIFT & COMPANY.

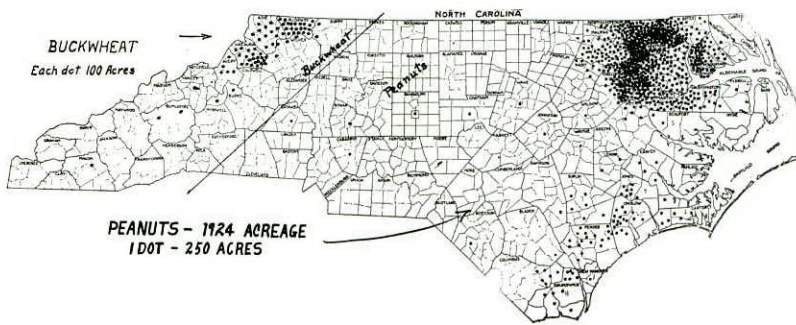
CONFERENCE OF STATISTICIANS

About thirty agricultural statisticians and their assistants from cotton-producing states and ten officials from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at Washington met at Gulfport, Miss., on March 24, 25, and 26. A very strenuous program of wide and scientific scope was pursued pertaining to the crop-reporting work. The principal idea was the discussion of cotton problems, and particularly concerning new and better checks and basis for estimates.

That the basis of percentage estimates is faulty, and that absolute data is more and more essential, was made quite clear. More scientifically statistical methods are growing into use. For instance, a "real" statistician has figured out that he can forecast to within two per cent of the acreage and one per cent of the yield of the cotton crop in February before planting.

The airplane method of observation and estimation is growing in possibility. Our Mr. Parker made a trip to the famous Tullulah (La.) United States Cotton Weevil Experiment Station for direct ideas, and made a 90-mile flight at 3,000- and 5,000-foot elevations. He saw clearly that this method offers the chance to get a comprehensive report in four hours (350 miles). From the plane-stands, growth, cultivation, comparisons between fields, soil preparation and crop distribution, etc., may be observed better than in any other way.



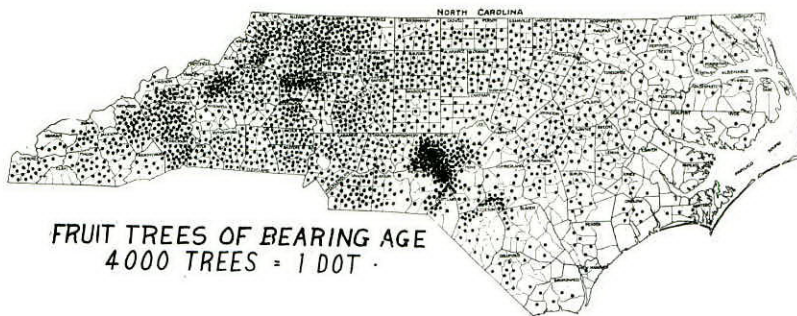
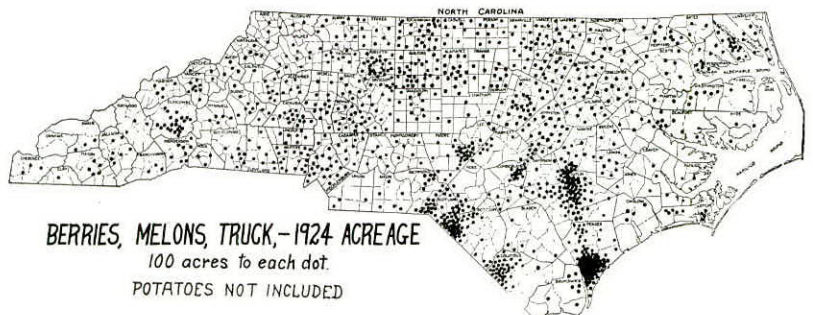


PEANUTS

While both Georgia and Alabama had considerably more peanut acreage last year, North Carolina ranked first in pounds produced with an average of 840 pounds per acre. Plans are general for increased acreages this year except in Georgia and Alabama. The domestic demand for Virginia type peanuts is in excess of present production especially for the larger size, and with a very light probable carry-over. The contemplated increase of about 11 per cent in acreage in this type is not out of line. The increase in Spanish and Runner types does not seem advisable.

BERRIES, MELONS, AND TRUCK

North Carolina has a wide range of adaptability for truck crops, but does not yet have a huge volume of any one particular crop. New Hanover County shows the most intensive production of any section. This is the outstanding lettuce area but a generous sprinkling of other truck crops is grown. Heavy shipments of cucumbers, as well as a good variety of other vegetables come from Wayne and Duplin. Strawberries from Columbus; Dewberries from Moore, Richmond, and Scotland; Melons, Cantaloupes from Scotland and Robeson complete the principal shipping areas.

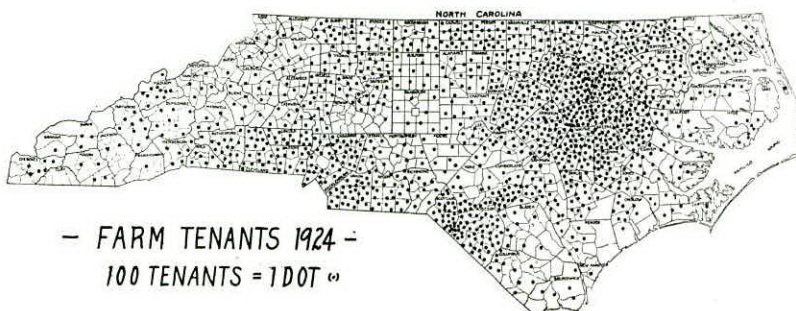
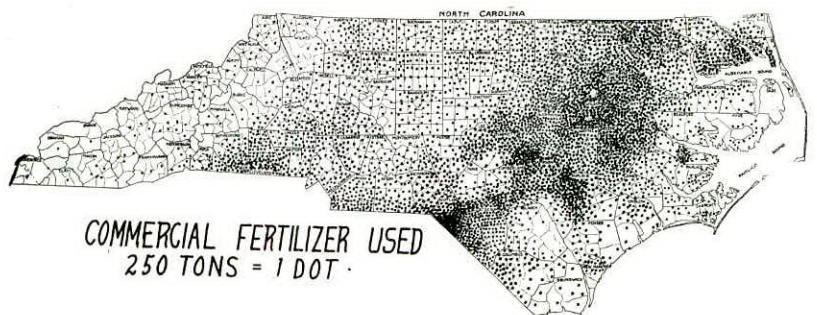


FRUIT TREES

Fruit of some sort is pretty generally distributed over the State but the leading favorites are apples and peaches. The most intensive and highly commercial production is to be found in the Sandhill peach area. Business like growing and selling are becoming the order of the day and Sandhill peaches have "found themselves" on the Northern markets. Apples are pretty generally distributed but are more important in the mountain areas. Surry, Wilkes, Buncombe and Haywood are heaviest shippers.

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER

The accompanying map indicates the importance of fertilizers in North Carolina crop production. There is a striking correlation between the amount of fertilizer used and the distribution of the cotton crop except in the piedmont cotton area where application of fertilizer is lighter. In a general way, the use of fertilizer follows pretty closely the distribution of cotton and tobacco with heavier applications in the eastern counties.

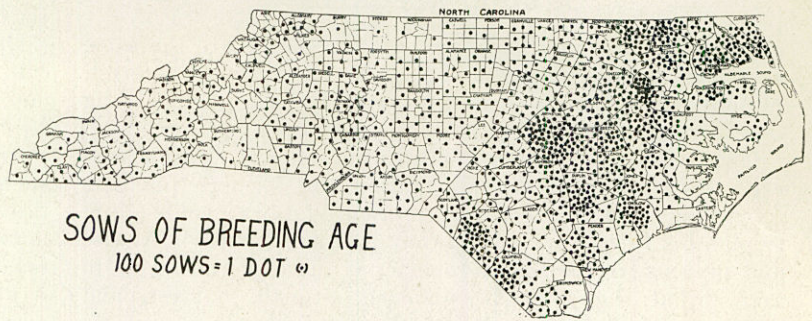


FARM TENANTS

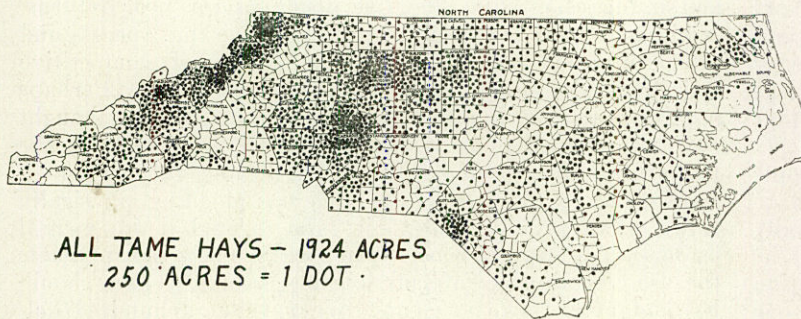
This graph shows the distribution of farm tenants in North Carolina. A close similarity exists between this and the cotton map. Likewise the tobacco area has an appreciable scattering of farm tenants. This map shows that the farm tenants are more concerned with the money crops, than with food, feed, and soil improvement.

SOWS OF BREEDING AGE

The distribution of sows for breeding, while very similar to the hog map in the February Forecaster, still shows some differences. The last few years have shown an increase in interest in these animals, and the Department of Agriculture is becoming more active in the eradication of diseases. The eastern section raises more truck, potatoes, and peanuts which are fed to hogs, hence the location of the heavy producing area.



SOWS OF BREEDING AGE
100 SOWS = 1 DOT



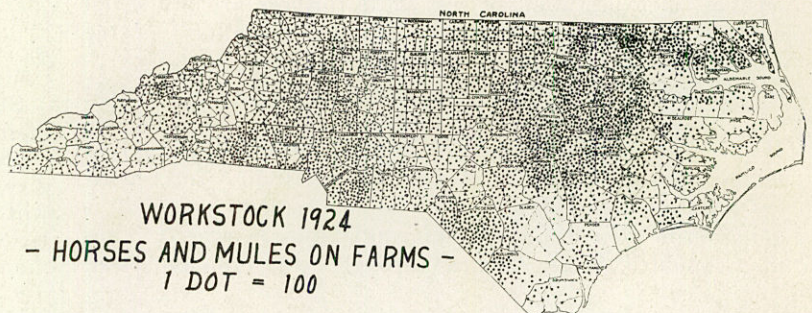
ALL TAME HAYS - 1924 ACRES
250 ACRES = 1 DOT

TAME HAY

According to the accompanying map, showing the 1924, acreage distribution, the principal hay area is located in the wheat belt and in the mountain section of the State. A large quantity of grains are cut green for hay in the piedmont area and the majority of the grazing and pasture lands in the State are located in the mountain counties.

WORK STOCK

This map shows a fairly even scattering of work animals on farms with largest numbers throughout the cotton belt. According to the 1924 farm census survey, there were 461,000 horses and mules used for work stock on North Carolina farms. A close similarity is observed in the distribution of the numbers of work-stock and the cotton acreage.



WORKSTOCK 1924
- HORSES AND MULES ON FARMS -
1 DOT = 100

WHY AN ANNUAL FARM INVENTORY

Every successful business man has found it not only indispensable but highly advantageous to make an annual inventory of his stocks and his financial condition. If the success or failure of manufacturers and even merchants are usually determined by the manner in which they keep their records, why wouldn't this also apply to farming?

How many farmers do you know who make any kind of inventory? Suppose that each farmer on or about January 1st, made a list and set a value in an itemized way of everything on his farm. What would this mean to him after four or five years? He would be able to compare one year with another in a way that would be very helpful towards his plans throughout the year. He would also be able to know whether he was going backward or forward, and would more likely be able to locate what was the contributing cause.

THE ANNUAL FARM CENSUS

Since 1918, North Carolina has been providing an annual enumeration of crop acreages and similar basic data through the township tax supervisors. This State was the first in the South to successfully start and maintain this form of agricultural information. It was started on a voluntary

basis in coöperation with the county commissioners, and has steadily grown in favor and completeness since that day. Farmers were not only wary of, but were frequently opposed to giving this information when the work was first started. At the present time, farmers anticipate reporting this information and are generally in favor of it.

As it means some additional work for the tax listers, they are naturally apt to be somewhat opposed to it. There now remains but two counties that show objection to securing the farm census data. More than ninety per cent of the counties show a fine spirit of coöperation.

The Department of Agriculture has completed the tabulation of results made last May and June, and have published this in the form of a farm census chart 30 by 18 inches. One side carries 58 columns of information by counties while on the reverse side is a large map giving graphic proportions that are cultivated and in individual crops. Twelve small State maps show dotted distribution of as many crops. The percentage that each crop occupies of the harvested area of each county is also shown. Due to the high cost of these, only a limited free distribution of these was possible. A few of these remain for those who are sufficiently interested to ask for them.

A GOOD REPORTER

The qualifications found in a good reporter are the same ones that go with any successful work. For instance, interest, promptness, coöperation, close observation, regularity, being a good reader, and seeker after farm facts.

One who has the above qualifications is not the one who criticizes crop reports, information on farmers planting intentions, or any other information that will enable him to plan his farm work more safely and intelligently. A wise and progressive farmer or reporter is the one who wants to know what the trend of planting, growth, harvest, and markets are. Just as in all productive enterprises, this information is essential to safe and profitable production.

The good reporter instead of being a pessimist, and criticizing as a habit, will be one who will greet his neighbors and fellow farmers gladly and be ready to ask for and exchange timely information. He will want to be a crop reporter because through this service, he systematically keeps in touch with the most timely features of farm work that will affect his crops and marketing.

Failure usually comes through ignorance. Many people could be well informed if they would be open-minded to the things they hear and see. A good listener is usually considered a wise man. Unless one is receptive to things he hears, he doesn't have opportunity to stow away information that would later be of help. Through crop reporting, one gains in exchange for his own opinions the massed opinions of thousands of other farmers. For this type of information, business men pay high prices, while farmers are prone not only to not appreciate, but to criticize the efforts of the Department of Agriculture towards securing it.

The farmer, more than any one else, should be a consistent reader and student of agricultural economic information. His isolation prevents him from having the contact that might be gained from hear-say and observation. Crop reporters more or less subconsciously become experts on what is going on in their own community as well as elsewhere. Thus they should be better farmers through being crop reporters.

THE FARMERS' WEAKNESS

Quite in line with our other article herewith, we wish to call attention to some things that prevent the farmers from making the success they should. These drawbacks are: 1, Proneness to the pessimists; 2, To think they are getting the worst end of every deal; 3, To believe that secretiveness and silence will protect their interests; 4, To work hard and think little; 5, To be against the pooling of collective information; 6, To think that prosperity goes with low taxes.—A few words on each of these is all we can do.

Pessimists are non-agreeable persons. One cannot do good work and have friendly relations under these conditions. Dissatisfaction comes from the conviction that we are getting the worst end of every deal. That every one else is prospering and living easy while they are drudging for poor returns. Nothing is more erroneous than to imagine that success and prosperity can follow isolation, ignorance of competitive conditions, and independence on the part of farmers. Perhaps nothing pays more in any undertaking, than carefully thought out and executed plans. This applies all the way from the preparation for to final disposition of any farm product. Farmers have too frequently done the plodding physically rather than avoided many pit falls through more mental exercise. All business concerns now realize how indispensable the use of collective information has become. Taxes should be thought of as investments. We pay out a hundred dollars in taxes for which we get in return a year's tuition to the public schools for our children, protection by law, expert advice and service along particular lines such as better health conditions, good roads, and other things that, if we paid for as private expenditures would cost several times as much.

Successful men try to avoid pessimists and over cautious methods. They like to look on the bright side of life, to be hail-fellows-well-met, to have a good word and idea to give in exchange for another. They want to do favors that will help others, which in return will usually yield return benefits. Until farmers think of themselves in a mass rather than as individuals, failure will predominate.

SPRING SUGGESTIONS

1, Plan and think more; 2, Have all implements in good shape before they are needed; 3, Good and abundant fruit depends on spraying and pruning; 4, Crop yields depend on preparation and plant food given them; 5, Working with good spirits rather than a grouch, will make better crops; 6, It is better to borrow cash at 6 per cent interest than to buy commodities at town prices; 7, Don't put off until tomorrow what may be done today; 8, Wash and dry fertilizer sacks immediately after using, as they will be

needed later; 9, When you have finished using a tool for the season, oil and paint it. This will save buying another next year; 10, Remember the garden is the best investment on the farm. Take care of it; 11, Don't drive a dingy looking automobile when an hour's work will make you take pride in it; 12, Plan your cash crops carefully, because last year's prices were good may mean everyone else is going to increase their acreage too. Watch the cycle of high and low prices and plan accordingly.

March 31, 1925.

"I once more congratulate you on the fine work you are doing for North Carolina. Send me four more copies of your Farm Census report."

E. C. BRANSON,

Rural Social Economics, State University.

March 30, 1925.

"You are furnishing a service to your agricultural interests that is bound to reflect in North Carolina's continued progress. I wish that we could find more states doing the same."

L. A. DUNCAN,

Alabama Extension Specialist.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Farmers Intentions Report—Why Farmers Should Study Crop Reports—	1
Crop Distribution Maps—Cotton, Tobacco, Corn, Wheat, Rye—	2
Crop Distribution Maps—Oats, Sweet Potatoes, Irish Potatoes, Soy Beans, Cowpeas—	3
Prospective Acreage and March 1, 1925, Crop Report—	4
Comments on March Crop Report—	5
Crop Distribution Maps—Peanuts, Truck, Fruit Trees, Fertilizer, Farm Tenants—	6
Crop Distribution Maps—Breeding Sows, Tame Hay, Work Stock—	7
Why An Annual Farm Inventory—	7
A Good Reporter—The Farmers Weakness—Spring Suggestions—	8

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