

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



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WHY FARMERS SHOULD STUDY CHARTS AND REPORTS

BY D. H. HOUSTON

Pres. Carolina Mortgage and Indemnity Co., Raleigh, N. C.

The practice of Gregarianism began with the dawn—The protective instinct was born with the created—Association is as old as the garden of Eden. The doctrine of the survival of the fittest practically obtains both in business and in nature. Success in business adventures or professions is seldom the result of mere accident. Worthwhile attainments, whether physical or mental, are the offspring of plans well laid and often privations long endured, whose genesis may be traced to the individual or organization that has profited by the expense of the past in laying the foundation of an admitted success of today.

Present day competition in all lines practically demands a close study not only of one's local position, but of his national environment as well. In farm products, prospective competitive production should be carefully studied—Unmanipulated supply and demand fix dependable basis of price—First hand information affecting one's line of business and dependable deductions of his own places him, who observes the sunshine and rain that adversely or beneficially affect competitive production elsewhere, in the ideal position of choice in his production.

Every farmer owes it to his family, his community and himself to exercise his best efforts, mentally and physically, to make advances in agriculture. This motive essentially calls for enlightenment all along the way and the agricultural charts and reports confronts one with an opportunity. Such an inclination as this makes for the constitution of the typical American Farmer.

It is true that neither time nor tide awaits man, but the farmer that is worthwhile today is up with the time and rides the tide. As readily as he can visualize the incoming tide or discern the periods of time he should be able to determine to a marked degree, by means of agricultural charts and reports, the trend of general farming.

The purpose of the agricultural charts and reports is to assist the farmers to form an intelligent judgment regarding the trend of agriculture. Every farmer naturally should know more about the internal affairs of his own business than any one else, but few men have time to study thoroughly the

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WHAT ABOUT 1925 FOR PROSPERITY?

The National Outlook is Optimistic

Q. "Is business good?"

A. "The best ever enjoyed in peacetime."

Q. "What about labor?"

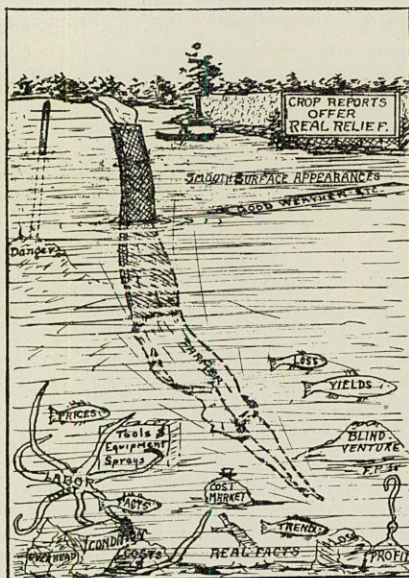
A. "Better satisfied than usual. Justly so, as their money buys more than ever before."

Q. "How is money?"

A. "Plenty of it at low rates, with inflation being avoided."

Q. "What of farming?"

A. "At last, farmers are experiencing limited prosperity. Credit is extensive



One Must Dive to the Bottom for the Facts

and rates low. Labor is better than usual."

Q. "How are taxes?"

A. "The President's and Governor's budget systems are effective and their economy moves are bearing such fruit that lower taxes are within sight."

Q. "How are we spending money?"

A. "Seemingly extravagant that people are buying beyond compare on the installment plans, yet saving deposits were never larger. Never was life insurance and home ownership greater."

Q. "How is the cost of living?"

A. "Commodity prices have tended downward after high prices for the past few years with a result that living costs in relation to current wages are considered reasonable."

Q. "Are farmers pessimistic?"

A. "In spite of a bad agricultural outturn last year in North Carolina, farmers are optimistic and determined to work for good results this year. Seasons have favored them thus far."

WHY FARMERS SHOULD FOLLOW BUSINESS METHODS

BY WADE S. MARR

Of Durfey & Marr, Investment Securities

Farming is a real business, therefore serious. It is burdened with its difficulties which have become more pronounced in this modern foot race for business supremacy. The majority of North Carolinians seek their livelihood from the soil—this is an inheritance; nature's gift to our people. The inclination to "guess thru" the problems of the farm is also an inheritance, and if the farmer is to be satisfied with a mere existence he can keep on guessing till the tax collector comes for a settlement.

It is easy to complain at the markets and easier still to lay our failures to the acts of Providence, but if we stick closer to truth we must admit that Ignorance is the cause of failure in the majority of cases.

The farmer can't produce crops thru Legislative enactments. His own brain must create and it must be equipped with facts which can achieve tangible results, for farming is a business just as much so as is banking, and there is no such thing as luck in business. The banker must know the facts before he can act, with the facts he can act in that safety zone demanded by his sacred trusts.

How is the farmer to get facts? No group of people in business have so many facts made available without cost as do the farmers. Bankers and other men of the commercial world spend thousands of dollars yearly to ascertain the TRUTH concerning the world of business—and they get the facts and act accordingly. It is their knowledge of facts that makes confidence in business and therefore makes an easy flow of these farm commodities produced in a knowledge of the same facts by intelligent farmers.

Statistical Charts and Reports may seem useless to the "guessing" farmer, but they are the "Hand Book" of success. They point the way for they photograph conditions which the farmer must meet if he will succeed. A Georgia cotton farmer with a thousand acres wouldn't plant it all in cotton—Why? Because the boll weevil has given him FACTS without so much as giving a Chart of the plans. But a North Carolina farmer need not get the facts under the same expense methods—Why? Because he can know from the report of facts just what to expect,

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THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

The early spring is the main contrast that we are now experiencing in comparison with a year ago. The farm work, both preparation and planting, has progressed more all over the country than for two or three years. This is particularly true in North Carolina. All through the South things are opening up in a nice way. While no serious damage seems to have been done by the cool nights and spotted frosts, yet this condition has affected some crops like truck and fruit. Corn and cotton are fairly well planted and progressing nicely in the eastern and southern portions of this State, as well as throughout the South.

It appears that there will be some increase in the corn acreage in the Mid-West, which will probably result in cheaper corn next winter. The livestock production has increased to the extent that considerable grain can be absorbed without much effect on the basic herds. Just after a general decline in the numbers of young stock, is the time when larger grain crops are least embarrassing from the standpoint of national surpluses. Livestock in general is in a better position than last spring.

As is known to those who study livestock reports, prices and production usually go in cycles; that is, they increase or rise and fall in more or less definite periods of time. Just now sheep are apparently near the peak of their price cycle. Hog prices have doubled since last spring and according to previous records, the price cycle of pork will continue high for at least another year. *While beef cattle prices have been low, they are on an upward trend and will probably have eight or ten years of rising prices ahead.* This is particularly gratifying to the farmers in western North Carolina. Milk prices show signs of improvement on eastern markets of the United States. Heavy selling in poultry has occurred during the past year, somewhat depleting stocks, and the prospects for prices during the next season appear good.

The morale or state of confidence on the part of both farmers and business men is better over the country at large than last year. This is perhaps less true in North Carolina than in most all other states for the simple reason that the farmers in this State had unusually good prospects to begin with, after a successful previous year's farming experience. It was the late spring freezes, wet June and September that spelled disaster during 1924.

While hard times are still being felt by farmers, the pressure of low prices has relaxed somewhat. A smaller number of farm boys and men have left the farms than for the year previous to the beginning of last season. The early spring and better contented farm workers have permitted of more and better farm work than for two or three seasons previous. Over the country at large the general conditions are more tolerable than farmers have seen since 1920.

Cotton and tobacco planting and the growth of earlier crops, including truck, crops, have generally been favored by splendid weather through the South, except early in May when conditions became dry. It is true that extremely dry weather has existed west of the Mississippi and in some local areas this side. Fruit and truck crops are generally promising, except in the mountain counties where a shortage of fruit is anticipated. Conditions are generally good, on the whole, throughout the South.

PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS

The actual prices received by producers at their local farm markets, as estimated by the price reporter and weighted according to the producing importance of the districts, show variable trends with consistent advances in livestock and their products. Elsewhere in this issue are shown prices for several years. As reported for April 15th, the average price of cotton was 23.7c per pound. This is 5c less than last year and almost twice the 1909 to 1914 average. Wheat averaged 95.8c over the country as a whole last year and \$1.40 this year. This shows a decline of 24c during the past month. The price in North Carolina was \$1.72 last month and \$1.30 a year ago.

As North Carolina is and should be taking more interest in hay producing and as there was a real shortage from last year, it may interest some to learn that the \$12.50 per ton price of loose hay last reported for the country as a whole is \$1.25 less

than a year previous. Oddly enough, the average price of hay for the 1909 to 1914 period was \$12.16, thus indicating that the price of this crop is fairly well stabilized. Of course, well-cured and baled high-classed hay like alfalfa, etc., will bring much better prices on the local market.

In contrast to the hay reported above for the country as a whole, North Carolina shows loose hay selling on local markets at \$21.00 per ton, or the same as a year ago. With favorable seasons, it is probable that a large acreage of hay will be planted this summer. This will be encouraged by the shortage of last year's crop saved. Timothy hay is reported at \$21.30 loose, as compared with the national average of \$13.40. Clover shows prices of \$17.50 for local markets and \$12.41 for the national average. Alfalfa averages \$22.00 for the State and \$14.08 for the National price paid to farmers.

The sale of poultry in North Carolina is commanding considerable attention. Carlot shipments of live hens are being sent out from several counties. The local price reported show the average for North Carolina and the United States as a whole to be 21c per pound for chickens. Last year the live weight of chickens in North Carolina was 19.2c per pound. The April price of eggs was 25c per dozen, as compared with 20c a year ago and 24c average over the country this year.

Butter, with an April average of 38c per pound, compares with the 40c National price and 36c in this State a year ago. Perhaps the greatest contrast is with hogs. The April price is \$11.64 per hundred pounds in contrast to the \$6.70 National average a year ago. The most significant thing this month is the rise in cattle prices, which is now higher than at any time during the past four years. While butter is lower than a year ago, the price is higher than in March and February.

APRIL PRICE INDEXES

The trend of cotton prices, comparing April with March and a year ago, shows a lower trend. Using a basis, 100 per cent, of the prices of farm products for the five years previous to the World War, it is found that cotton is 191 per cent or almost twice the pre-war average. Corn shows a lower trend, as compared with March but a much better price than a year ago. Wheat is considerably lower for the past month, but one-third higher than a year ago. Hay shows a decline from last year and no change for the past month. Potatoes are cheaper. While hogs are practically the same as last month, they are about 75 per cent higher than last April with an index of 161 compared with the pre-war average. Eggs show an index of 113, with a slight increase over March and about a 25 per cent increase over a year ago.

Farm products, on a wholesale basis as compared with the pre-war average, showed 137 per cent price index last year and 161 for the last report. The index of food shows 158 or appreciably more than last year and slightly higher than a month ago. Building materials continue about the same average as a year ago, but slightly lower during the past month. All commodities showed 153 index a year ago and 164 for the present.

RELATIVE PURCHASING POWER

Using March 1925 farm prices in comparison with the five year period previous to the World War as a basis, it is observed that the relative purchasing power of grain, dairy and poultry products declined during March. Meat animals and cotton also moved down. The purchasing power of all farm products reached 91 in March. This is quite in contrast to the low level reached in 1921 when the purchasing power of a farmer's dollar was at a low ebb. The downward swing of grains and wool during April will further reduce the index; in fact, the purchasing power of all farm products will probably go to around 90 in April. If a farmer wants to buy clothing with his cotton, his money will have an even purchasing power 102 per cent. His corn will purchase only 90 per cent of its pre-war purchasing power. The lowest purchasing power lies with hay, potatoes, beef cattle and eggs, these averaging very little more than one-half as much as they would buy before the War.

TRUCK OUTLOOK MAY 18, 1925

May 18, 1925.

While the previous truck information was based on May 1st and earlier reports, we have just received information from reliable sources that leads to the following statements:

The STRAWBERRY shipments are about over and will show from 20-25 per cent shortage in carlot shipments from last year. The prices received were generally satisfactory. The LETTUCE crop is about 30 per cent short of last year. The carlot shipments will be about 500, while the express will perhaps be heavier than last year. The trucking area from Goldsboro to Wilmington reports CUCUMBERS, BEETS and POTATOES as looking very good. BEANS are better than were expected. While in route through this area a month ago, the prospects were somewhat gloomy. At the present time, the growth and stands of almost all truck crop, and especially potatoes, are much better than was reported previously.

TOBACCO THE IMPOSSIBLE

Any tobacconist, warehouseman and many growers will agree that tobacco cannot be graded along standardized lines. For that reason we were interested in the conference for "Proposed United States Standard Grades for Flue-cured Tobacco," held in the Department of Agriculture at Raleigh, Tuesday, May 12th.

The Federal officials present were Mr. H. S. Yohe, in charge of the U. S. Warehouse Act; Mr. Frank B. Wilkinson, in charge of Tobacco Standardization; Mr. J. B. Morrow, Assistant in Tobacco Standardization and Mr. J. P. Brown, in charge of the warehousing in this State.

These officials, who are necessarily impartial in their views, except that standardized grading is important and needed in all farm commodities, were very positive that tobacco can be satisfactorily graded. At any rate, they can offer the farmers more uniform grades than has been done heretofore.

According to their system, letters and numerals are used. For example, 1 signifies "Flue-cured Tobacco," and 11 "The Old Belt, Golden Leaf, Virginia Bright and such types." Then 12 signifies "New Belt, Eastern North Carolina, Bright, etc." Likewise 13 represents the South Carolina Belt type. Those with 2 as the first numeral relate to the Virginia and Tennessee Dark Fired. Then the grading is indicated by letters. For example, grade C 6 L is described as follows: "Fair quality, thin leaf in lemon color. Must be sound, clean and uniform in color. Tolerance 5% of lugs, 25% of injury and 20% of greenish cast leaves."

It looks workable, and it enables the farmers to learn grades.

CROP ESTIMATES BY AIRPLANE

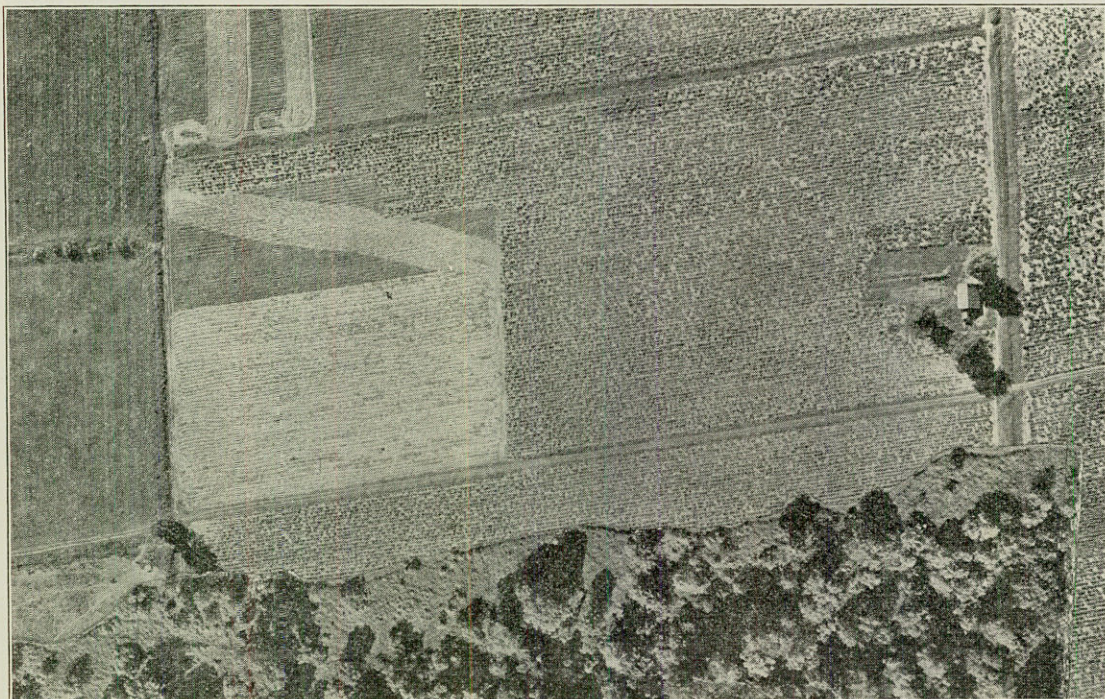
The airplane is thought of by almost every one as a wild, impractical vehicle for business usage. It appears ridiculous to almost any one to mention the idea of estimating crops, moving at 90 miles an hour and one to two thousand feet above the fields being passed. There is another side to the situation reported by Mr. Parker after an actual test at the Delta Experiment Station in Louisiana.

For the purpose of determining the feasibility of using the airplane in crop estimates, a trip of about one hundred miles was taken from Tallulah, La., southward, then across the Mississippi, up Mississippi state to Vicksburg and back to the beginning. Elevations of one thousand, two thousand, four thousand and five thousand feet were used for observation purposes. The plane used was one assigned to the Experiment Station for cotton dusting purposes by the War Department and was piloted by an army aviator. Strange as it may seem, the ground observation was clearer at five thousand than at two thousand feet elevation. It was warmer at four thousand than it was at one thousand feet.

The features found to be more easily and better observed by this method than by any other known way are surprisingly wide. First of all is the kind of soil where the fields had recently been cultivated. From straight above the light effects are ideal below. An airplane observer soon realizes why birds can see so distinctly below them. Soil colors, even to the finest shades, are not only easily observed, but the large plane of view below enables one to include a large acreage at a glance.

The different kinds of crops are easily distinguished after a little familiarity, due to the different shades of colors, the shapes and sizes of plants, and particularly the nature of leaf growth, as well as types of rows. The distribution of crops is naturally easily observed, because one may easily observe a strip from one-half to three miles wide, depending upon the elevation of the flight. The CULTIVATION and preparation of soil is easily distinguished, due again to the variation in color. Even a few hours difference in the cultivation is easily noticed in the color shade. Perhaps the easiest thing to note is the STAND and degree of GROWTH. Each plant stands out distinctly unto itself and each missing space is as distinct as a missing tooth in a boy's mouth when he laughs.

The accompanying illustration was taken at 2000 feet elevation. While the printed cut does not bring out the details that an actual photograph does, yet some idea of the ground conditions, as seen from an airplane may be appreciated. What this does not show and is most important from an observer's viewpoint is color. No one can realize the value of color until he realizes its variation and importance from high up. In general, it might be said that the best elevation for crop observation purposes is five hundred to one thousand feet.



Airplane View of Farm Showing Cotton, Corn, and Cultivated Fields Taken at Height of 2,000 ft.

North Carolina Crop Report—May 1, 1925

DISTRICT SUMMARY

	Unit	MOUNTAIN COUNTIES		PIEDMONT COUNTIES			COASTAL COUNTIES			N. C. Average 1925	N. C. Average 1924
		Northern Mountain 1	Western Mountain 4	Northern Piedmont 2	Central Piedmont 5	Southern Piedmont 8	Northern Coastal 3	Central Coastal 6	Southern Coastal 9		
Winter Wheat:											
Per cent not harvested	%	2.6	4.0	3.2	2.2	3.6	2.4	3.0	3.0	2.5	3.0
Condition May 1st.	%	94	92	86	85	84	90	93	78	87	87
Acreage to be harvested:											
Compared last year	%	99	91	91	93	93	101	93	93	97	92
Compared usual	%	94	84	90	90	92	101	89	93	92	88
Oats:											
Condition May 1st.	%	89	87	81.7	85	85	86	88	81	85	67
Per cent of total acreage:											
That is spring oats	%	86	80	48	41	23	69	73	61	54	
That is fall oats	%	14	20	52	59	77	31	27	39	46	
Barley:											
Condition May 1st.	%	85	75	90	87	84				85	
Rye:											
Condition May 1st.	%	92	88	93	87	87	106	97	81	89	86
Probable yield per acre	Bushels	12	14	12	10	11	14	15	11	12	10.3
Hay:											
Condition, tame hay	%	91	87	75	82	79	82	90	82	83	84
Condition, wild hay	%	89	81	76	85	81	84	94	88	83	84
Per cent last year's crop remaining on farms May 1st.	%	15	15	11	12	13	18	17	21	13	15
Condition May 1st:											
Irish potatoes	%	96	91	91	90	85	86	88	85	84	87
Apples	%	76	66	74	73	72	65	69	68	70	88
Peaches	%	56	56	75	75	79	74	76	86	73	83
Pastures	%	88	84	78	80	81	81	90	84	84	60
Home Gardens	%	92	90	84	89	83	82	83	86	86	82
Spring Sowing and Planting:											
Per cent done by May 1st.	%	76	81	70	74	75	70	80	82	78	78
Mortality of Live Stock:											
Number per 1,000 dying during year from causes indicated:											
Horses and Mules:											
From Disease	Number	14	11	17	6	11	23	17	18	16	20
Cattle of all ages:											
From disease	Number	20	22	19	12	17	35	13	17	17	20
From exposure	Number	13	17	16	4	4	14	6	7	12	11
Sheep:											
From disease	Number	36	16	46	8	3	52	7	27	26	23
From exposure	Number	11	14	27	5	6	18	4	10	13	13
Lambs:											
From disease and exposure	Number	52	24	43	12	7	78	18	34	45	45
Swine of all ages:											
From disease	Number	21	39	29	13	24	102	76	46	55	48
Condition of livestock, May 1st:											
Horses and mules, all ages	%	95	94	92	93	95	90	92	92	93	94
Cattle of all ages	%	94	96	90	93	90	88	94	92	93	93
Sheep (not including lambs)	%	92	94	96	93	95	91	92	96	93	90
Swine of all ages	%	91	91	91	93	95	86	89	93	92	93
Farm Labor:											
Supply compared normal	%	92	86	89	84	89	88	89	88	88	83
Demand compared normal	%	95	86	95	92	93	96	96	97	95	96

NOTE.—See District Map for location of Crop Reporting Districts, page 8.

Relative Exchange Value of Farm Production in Terms of Nonagricultural Commodities, 1910-1924¹

[Base for all index numbers: 1910-1914=100]

Year	Value of farm production (000,000 omitted)				Wholesale price index numbers of nonagricultural commodities ²		Exchange value of farm production in terms of nonagricultural commodities				Index numbers of relative exchange value of farm production in terms of nonagricultural commodities ⁴			
	Crops		(3) Animal products	(4) Total crops not fed and animal products	(5) Crop year	(6) Calendar year	Crops		(9) Animal products	(10) Total crops not fed and animal products	Crops		(13) Animal products	(14) Total crops not fed and animal products
	(1) Gross	(2) Not fed to livestock					(7) Gross	(8) Not fed to livestock			(11) Gross	(12) Not fed to livestock		
1910	\$ 6,211	\$ 3,449	\$ 3,743	\$ 7,192	97.3	102.2	\$ 6,383	\$ 3,545	\$ 3,662	\$ 7,207	94.3	95.6	94.6	95.1
1911	6,495	3,507	3,485	6,992	96.7	95.5	6,717	3,627	3,649	7,276	99.3	97.8	94.2	96.0
1912	6,799	3,689	3,778	7,467	104.4	100.3	6,512	3,534	3,767	7,301	96.2	95.3	97.3	96.3
1913	6,717	3,787	4,099	7,886	100.6	104.5	6,677	3,764	3,922	7,686	98.7	101.5	101.3	101.4
1914	7,268	3,916	4,249	8,165	96.3	97.4	7,547	4,066	4,362	8,428	111.5	109.7	112.7	111.2
1915	7,957	4,335	4,303	8,638	121.4	101.1	6,554	3,571	4,256	7,827	96.9	96.3	109.9	103.3
1916	10,305	5,497	4,862	10,359	167.6	138.4	6,149	3,280	3,513	6,793	90.9	88.5	90.7	89.6
1917	14,277	7,410	6,539	13,949	182.6	182.1	7,819	4,058	3,591	7,649	115.5	109.5	92.7	100.9
1918	14,814	8,422	8,082	16,504	190.4	187.6	7,780	4,423	4,308	8,731	115.0	119.3	111.3	115.2
1919	16,569	9,409	8,275	17,684	234.8	199.0	7,057	4,007	4,158	8,165	104.3	108.1	107.4	107.7
1920	11,578	7,102	7,439	14,541	198.4	241.0	5,836	3,580	3,087	6,667	86.2	96.6	79.7	88.0
1921	7,759	4,679	5,537	10,216	160.6	167.4	4,831	2,913	3,308	6,221	71.4	78.6	85.4	82.1
1922	9,430	5,560	5,612	11,172	176.5	168.0	5,343	3,150	3,340	6,490	79.0	85.0	86.3	85.6
1923	10,401	6,111	6,233	12,344	163.6	171.3	6,358	3,735	3,639	7,374	94.0	100.8	94.0	97.3
1924	11,404	6,453	5,951	12,404	163.0	161.6	6,996	3,959	3,683	7,642	103.4	106.8	95.1	100.8

¹ This table is confined to wealth production and makes no attempt to show farmers' income.² Computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from wholesale prices of all commodities other than those originating on farms.³ Column 1÷column 5.⁴ Column 2÷column 5.⁵ Column 3÷column 6.⁶ Columns 11 to 14 attained by using the 5-year average of 1910-1914 of columns 7, 8, 9, and 10, respectively, as a base.

MAY CROP REPORT

FOR NORTH CAROLINA

WHEAT

With the wheat crop showing a condition of 87 percent of a full or normal prospect and with a 2.5 percent abandonment, there is forecasted a production of 4,513,000 bushels. This is a reduction of almost 22 percent from last year's crop. The farm price on April 15th was \$1.72 compared with \$1.30 per bushel a year ago. The winter weather was more conducive to a good crop than otherwise. The stands and general growth have been good. While spotted areas showed increases in acreage, the majority showed decreases, the result being that the State averages 3 per cent decrease. The wheat has been gradually decreased in acreage since 1914 except one or two years during the war. Probably the leading cause for this is its unprofitableness, practically all of it being grown for home and local consumption.

OATS AND RYE

Oats were reported at 85 percent condition on May 1st, with 54 percent being planted in the spring. A much larger percent of this crop is planted in the spring over the eastern half of the state. The serious damage by winter freezes a year ago is largely responsible for the increased percentage of spring planting. The outlook is fair to good.

The condition of rye was last reported at 89 percent of a full crop promise or 12 bushels per acre. The general usage of the abruzz type has resulted in considerable increase in yield over that harvested a few years ago. The forecasted production this year is 635,000 bushels or about one-third less than was harvested a year ago. The average price to farmers is \$1.51 as compared with \$1.30 a year ago.

HAY

Tame and wild hays show a condition of 83 percent in this state. The percentage of last year's crop remaining on farms May 1st is reported at 13 percent. The early spring has caused clovers and early hay crops to grow rapidly. Red clover usually is irregular in stand. This condition seriously affects the yield of the crop. It is probable that the average reported does not give enough weight to the stands in estimating the crop. Last year's hay crop was seriously hurt by the summer and fall weather conditions, both in the matter of planting and harvesting.

EARLY IRISH POTATOES

The general farm crop of spring planted Irish potatoes showed a condition of 84 percent of a normal or full crop yield. This shows a very good prospect for the state as a whole. The trucking area in the eastern part of the state shows considerable shortage in acreage, stands, and prospective yield, as will be seen reported elsewhere in this issue. The prevalence of rhyzaetonia is expected to do considerable damage this year. This disease results in the rotting of the "mother" potato, which results in a dwarfed and weak plant, if any at all develops, and may affect the crop by poor keeping qualities.

FRUIT

The winter and spring weather conditions seem to have affected the fruit crop quite variably. While both apples and peaches showed an unusually heavy bloom, the crops have developed spottedly since. Apples in the Buncombe-Hayward county area seem to have been hurt most. Peaches appear to be damaged considerably all through the mountain and foot-hill counties, while they are very good in the Sand Hills. Apples averaged 70 percent of a full crop prospect and peaches 73.

CONDITION AND MORTALITY OF LIVESTOCK

Livestock shows a good condition of healthfulness for all classes with swine as usual trailing slightly. The only area reporting less than 90 per cent was in the northeastern Coastal counties where 88 percent was reported on the condition of cattle and 86 percent on the condition of swine. The rest being 90 or more, is evident of the prevailing good condition.

In the mortality of livestock, the general healthfulness is also indicated by the low percentages dying from disease, such as work stock (1.4) percent; cattle 1.9) percent; sheep (2.3) percent; swine (4.6) percent and lambs from disease and exposure (3.4) percent.

FOR UNITED STATES

Very few forecasts of national crops can be made until the June 1st crop report. Exceptions to this are wheat and rye. The wheat crop appears now with a forecast of one-third short of last year's harvested production. The very high 22.5 percent abandonment of acreage is somewhat responsible for this, together with the 77 percent condition in contrast with the 85 percent for a year ago and for the ten-year average. That this shortage is felt is apparent from the price of \$1.40 as compared with 96c on April 15th, 1924. The present outlook for winter wheat is 444,833,000 bushels or about 13 bushels per acre, this being much lower than usual.

The foreign wheat situation shows Canada having an ideal and early seeding condition which is expected to be completed by May 15th. The prospects are for about 30 percent greater spring crop than last year. European countries report a least increase in acreage but are counterbalancing lower yields. Africa and India will probably average last year's production.

The rye promise shows about the same acreage as a year ago and almost 20 percent less than two years ago. The 1922 crop was about 60 percent more in acreage than the present crop. The average condition of May 1st was 87 percent of a full crop promise, which represents 2 to 3 percent less than the ten-year average. This condition is indicative of about 14 bushels yield per acre and forecasts 57,968,000 bushels or about 10 percent less than last year. The 1922 crop was almost twice as much. The average price paid to farmers about April 15th was \$1.01 per bushel in contrast to about 60c a year ago.

OTHER NATIONAL FEATURES

The average condition of pastures is reported to be 86.5 percent of normal, which is better than usual. The spring plowing over the country at large on May 1st was reported to be 83 percent completed as compared with 72 percent at the same date last year and with the ten-year average. The farmers over the country had sown and planted at this date 66 percent of their contemplated total spring plantings. This is about 13 percent better than was sown a year ago or as is usually done. The stocks of hay or supplies remaining on farms on May 1st are estimated at 14 percent of the crop as compared with 12 percent twelve months ago. This is also better than usual.

NORTH CAROLINA TRUCK CROPS

The strawberry shipments have not been as large as were first expected. This was due to insufficient rainfall, the strawberry weevil and probably less acreage than some authorities had anticipated. The quality around Chadbourn was the best of any producing area in this state. Something like 40,000 crates shipment was expected from the usual strawberry territory between Goldsboro and South Carolina. This will be, perhaps, 10 percent less than was made last year.

The lettuce crop did not yield as great shipment as had been hoped for. This was due to leaf burn and damping off more than anything else. The acreage was perhaps slightly less than last year, but the prices were better. Shippers were expecting about 1500 acres around Wilmington and 1700 acres in the lettuce producing area or the equivalent of 360,000 crates.

The dewberry crop will soon command attention. This territory is located in Lee, Moore and Richmond counties primarily. The growth has not been as good as was hoped. The first shipments are expected early in June.

The early Irish potato crop will be considerably short of last year. Something like 4600 acres are expected in a radius of twenty-five miles of Mount Olive. In this area the crop is about 25 percent short in acreage and the stand is also short. Shipments are expected early in June. Beaufort is the earliest shipping point, the first cars being expected about the 15th of May. The acreage is about the same as last year. Aurora is the next earliest shipping point, the first car being expected on the 17th. They are also about 25 percent short in acreage and the stands are estimated at 80 percent. Pamlico county will perhaps have a larger acreage, with about 80 percent stand, and shipments beginning May 25th. Tyrrell county has 95 percent of last year's acreage and 80 percent stands—first shipments June 3rd. Elizabeth City shows 90 percent acreage, 80 percent stands, shipping to be-

(Continued on Page 8)

MAY CROP REPORT FOR NORTH CAROLINA—COUNTY SUMMARY

COUNTY	Winter wheat		Oats		Rye	Hay	Potatoes (Irish) early crop	Apples	Peaches	Plowing	Spring sowing and planting	12 home gardens	Condition of live- stock, May 1, 1925		
	Acreage to be harvested (for grain)		Per cent of the total oat acreage is—										21 cattle of all ages	Swine of all ages	
	Condi- tion of the crop to be har- vested	Com- pared with usual acreage	Condi- tion	Spring oats											
															Condi- tion at time of harvest
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	
Alamance.....	89	88	88	21	92	84	11	95	76	74	92	81	86	93	95
Alexander.....	92	97	88	49	87	79	15	96	68	66	88	79	90	96	96
Alleghany.....	96	96	96	97	96	96	9	95	90	70	92	81	91	93	96
Anson.....	95	110	100	35	—	90	12	85	90	100	85	50	100	98	93
Ashe.....	90	—	90	90	80	90	5	—	20	20	90	80	95	95	75
Avery.....	85	90	93	94	90	84	23	95	102	70	86	71	86	95	97
Beaufort.....	—	—	80	47	—	75	14	91	80	45	88	65	79	95	91
Bertie.....	—	—	85	72	—	82	9	85	37	64	82	58	70	80	87
Bladen.....	—	—	75	64	60	60	20	79	65	93	85	79	82	100	95
Brunswick.....	—	—	90	40	—	75	10	75	50	60	80	60	75	85	71
Buncombe.....	96	71	84	95	90	83	11	96	87	68	93	74	87	97	61
Burke.....	87	90	90	30	97	87	12	86	55	55	93	91	82	94	95
Cabarrus.....	66	95	76	14	93	80	15	95	78	88	86	72	85	96	99
Caldwell.....	102	85	88	75	98	95	11	100	53	37	93	85	95	98	98
Camden.....	—	—	90	100	—	85	40	77	20	40	90	63	75	90	100
Carteret.....	—	—	100	60	—	—	20	100	—	—	97	90	96	98	94
Caswell.....	80	95	87	27	93	68	8	97	52	42	86	72	80	90	91
Catawba.....	82	85	82	44	85	77	10	78	54	45	91	85	79	88	90
Chatham.....	91	82	87	20	85	83	10	100	73	87	100	61	100	89	93
Cherokee.....	90	96	79	92	87	89	17	85	80	28	89	75	96	97	86
Chowan.....	—	—	80	50	—	80	40	95	95	95	90	75	85	75	75
Clay.....	100	86	97	83	98	97	11	100	63	23	89	82	98	91	90
Cleveland.....	84	79	84	24	84	68	9	90	66	69	89	74	73	95	91
Columbus.....	—	—	82	47	—	80	20	93	65	89	89	83	90	95	95
Craven.....	—	—	100	80	—	100	35	100	50	40	100	99	88	100	100
Cumberland.....	—	—	75	42	83	78	22	90	56	93	92	82	84	91	95
Currituck.....	—	—	—	—	—	75	25	88	57	60	93	72	87	87	90
Dare.....	—	—	100	100	—	—	5	105	—	100	80	80	100	100	100
Davidson.....	82	70	90	37	80	100	13	80	60	90	87	75	92	95	95
Davie.....	69	78	83	40	90	88	12	90	63	53	94	75	84	94	92
Duplin.....	—	—	88	76	90	84	21	87	83	80	89	85	83	88	86
Durham.....	70	75	70	25	70	80	—	—	50	95	85	80	80	90	65
Edgecombe.....	90	102	90	61	95	81	17	94	82	80	87	74	91	93	88
Forsyth.....	91	94	84	50	97	76	13	87	61	74	88	78	86	97	98
Franklin.....	85	89	75	67	90	73	20	93	72	75	86	69	80	90	92
Gaston.....	89	81	91	22	87	84	10	82	61	69	91	84	86	88	89
Gates.....	—	—	78	78	100	100	35	77	55	63	92	80	93	88	93
Graham.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Granville.....	90	100	85	43	100	77	—	90	90	90	75	50	95	90	88
Greene.....	—	—	86	84	—	90	18	89	74	83	91	78	93	90	92
Guilford.....	89	92	75	33	91	79	3	83	70	95	87	72	81	92	94
Halifax.....	90	103	88	60	—	83	6	69	80	82	91	53	78	75	64
Harnett.....	—	—	92	70	—	95	12	78	78	86	83	80	93	96	95
Haywood.....	95	110	92	98	90	84	16	90	82	52	91	87	93	98	95
Henderson.....	85	94	87	91	85	89	16	94	55	61	95	73	88	97	96
Hertford.....	90	90	90	78	90	95	15	91	77	72	88	69	90	95	94
Hoke.....	75	95	78	57	75	—	20	85	58	95	98	90	82	98	88
Hyde.....	—	—	93	78	90	90	25	83	50	77	80	71	81	88	93
Iredell.....	80	100	70	52	80	77	19	90	71	70	93	71	86	93	83
Jackson.....	97	95	100	100	—	95	10	87	55	60	90	75	80	100	100
Johnston.....	94	88	93	83	100	88	9	96	75	80	93	86	91	97	92
Jones.....	—	—	75	63	—	—	33	83	30	50	85	80	77	92	85
Lee.....	82	95	90	8	90	80	5	85	85	88	80	72	90	97	100
Lenoir.....	—	—	95	87	—	100	17	87	65	83	88	75	77	95	98
Lincoln.....	88	93	92	26	—	90	10	85	22	16	93	79	89	92	87
McDowell.....	90	94	75	74	92	78	7	89	74	60	93	79	89	99	95
Macon.....	87	56	88	85	70	85	16	85	51	44	91	71	93	83	91
Madison.....	103	94	94	100	100	95	10	100	68	71	91	78	95	100	98
Martin.....	—	—	75	53	—	—	10	83	95	87	87	77	77	97	77
Mecklenburg.....	79	94	71	28	79	65	10	87	85	87	87	82	84	75	98
Mitchell.....	100	70	100	90	70	100	15	93	82	10	103	100	100	100	103
Montgomery.....	91	96	86	22	98	83	12	81	75	95	96	72	81	93	91
Moore.....	90	95	95	61	93	90	9	75	88	98	91	79	90	96	100
Nash.....	—	—	78	61	127	81	15	89	58	77	89	76	82	94	90
New Hanover.....	—	—	80	70	90	100	12	80	—	95	98	90	93	100	100
Northampton.....	—	—	100	90	—	100	25	90	75	75	80	80	75	100	95
Onslow.....	—	—	80	92	—	90	33	95	82	78	98	90	91	90	90
Orange.....	70	88	70	53	80	50	10	77	88	75	85	75	77	98	97
Pamlico.....	—	—	80	80	—	80	15	90	—	—	85	70	75	105	100
Pasquotank.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pender.....	—	—	90	100	—	—	—	85	—	—	75	60	90	—	95
Perquimans.....	—	—	100	100	—	75	—	75	75	75	95	70	73	75	83
Person.....	87	60	80	60	—	68	8	93	85	90	87	40	80	88	92
Pitt.....	80	95	78	85	—	—	2	68	25	70	94	76	69	91	78
Polk.....	88	100	80	65	95	87	20	97	23	75	97	82	85	97	97
Randolph.....	90	93	71	31	95	86	9	94	81	74	85	80	96	92	96
Richmond.....	95	88	95	25	75	100	20	100	—	—	100	95	88	50	90
Robeson.....	70	90	82	77	—	—	30	74	60	75	83	69	81	88	92
Rockingham.....	87	90	90	60	85	78	12	87	77	80	83	73	77	100	93
Rowan.....	77														

FARM LABOR—SUPPLY AND DEMAND

APRIL 1, 1921-1925

	North Carolina	South Atlantic States	United States
Supply—per cent of normal:			
1921.....	95	94.3	95.2
1922.....	96	97.3	99.5
1923.....	90	83.0	83.6
1924.....	83	77.3	83.4
1925.....	88	83.4	89.5
Demand—per cent of normal:			
1921.....	87	86.6	87.5
1922.....	93	88.4	89.3
1923.....	97	94.2	94.6
1924.....	97	92.6	90.4
1925.....	94	91.1	90.7
Supply—expressed as per cent of demand:			
1921.....	109	108.9	108.8
1922.....	103	110.1	111.4
1923.....	93	88.1	88.4
1924.....	86	83.5	92.3
1925.....	94	91.5	98.7

AVERAGE WAGES PAID TO HIRED FARM LABOR

APRIL, 1923-1925

	North Carolina	South Atlantic States	United States
Per month with board:			
1923.....	\$ 25.70	\$ 23.04	\$30.98
1924.....	27.20	25.50	33.71
1925.....	28.00	25.90	33.97
Per month without board:			
1923.....	37.00	33.69	44.47
1924.....	38.50	35.96	47.62
1925.....	40.00	36.70	47.58
Per day with board:			
1923.....	1.30	1.14	1.57
1924.....	1.45	1.33	1.79
1925.....	1.50	1.37	1.79
Per day without board:			
1923.....	.99	1.53	2.11
1924.....	1.35	1.73	2.37
1925.....	1.40	1.79	2.35

DISTRIBUTION OF ESTIMATED VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS AMONG STATES, 1909-1924

(in Millions of Dollars, i. e., 000,000 Omitted)

	CROPS			ANIMAL PRODUCTS		
	North Carolina	South Atlantic	United States	North Carolina	South Atlantic	United States
1909.....	\$ 143	\$ 741	\$5,483	\$ 38	\$ 216	\$ 3,398
1910.....	165	817	6,211	42	239	3,743
1911.....	175	859	6,495	40	227	3,485
1912.....	190	857	6,799	44	247	3,778
1913.....	206	977	6,717	48	270	4,099
1914.....	201	911	7,268	50	283	4,249
1915.....	232	1,072	7,957	52	288	4,303
1916.....	312	1,489	10,305	59	326	4,862
1917.....	459	2,164	14,277	80	443	6,539
1918.....	594	2,426	14,814	101	553	8,082
1919.....	677	2,596	16,569	104	570	8,275
1920.....	402	1,588	11,578	94	514	7,439
1921.....	305	1,052	7,759	70	382	5,537
1922.....	364	1,207	9,430	71	387	5,612
1923.....	478	1,479	10,401	79	430	6,233
1924.....	354	1,328	11,404	75	411	5,951

ESTIMATED PRICE OF FARM PRODUCTS

APRIL 15, 1925, IN NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES

PRODUCTS	Per Unit	North Carolina	United States
Wheat.....	bu.	\$ 1.72	\$ 1.40
Corn.....	bu.	1.42	1.04
Oats.....	bu.	.79	.45
Barley.....	bu.		.76
Rye.....	bu.	1.51	1.01
Buckwheat.....	bu.	1.34	1.04
Potatoes.....	bu.	1.01	.71
Sweet potatoes.....	bu.	1.59	1.96
Hay (loose).....	ton	21.00	12.48
Cotton.....	lb.	.23	.24
Butter.....	lb.	.38	.40
Eggs.....	doz.	.25	.24
Chickens.....	lb.	.21	.21
Hogs.....	100 lbs.	11.00	11.64
Beef Cattle.....	100 lbs.	5.70	6.55
Veal Calves.....	100 lbs.	7.30	8.80
Sheep.....	100 lbs.	7.40	8.42
Lambs.....	100 lbs.	11.10	12.22
Wool, unwashed.....	lbs.	.38	.41
Milk cows.....	head	42.70	56.85
Horses.....	head	97.00	82.64
Apples.....	bu.	1.10	1.58
Apples.....	bbl.	5.90	4.55
Beans (dry).....	bu.	4.20	3.84
Cotton seed.....	ton	42.00	37.94
Hay:			
Timothy.....	ton	21.30	13.39
Clover.....	ton	17.50	12.41
Alfalfa.....	ton	22.00	14.08
Clover seed (as bought).....	bu.	20.90	20.66
Timothy seed (as bought).....	bu.	4.60	3.97
Alfalfa seed (as bought).....	bu.	15.00	14.02
Bran (as bought).....	ton	41.20	34.75
Cotton seed meal (as bought).....	ton	44.10	46.17

Why Farmers Should Follow Business Methods

(Continued from Page 1)

and then go and do OTHERWISE. Only in an accurate knowledge of conditions surrounding the business of farming can dividends be earned on the capital investment of toil and land, and by no methods are such facts available in more reliable and easily assimilated form than in the Statistical Charts and Reports of the State and National Agricultural Bureaus. They are not prepared as a pastime, but to effectively serve the industrious farmer and business man who honestly desires to succeed and recognize at the outset that only those who KNOW can expect to achieve.

Why should Farmers use Statistical Charts and Reports? Because theirs is the most fundamental of all business, and success is founded nowhere save on knowledge.

Why Farmers Should Study Charts and Reports

(Continued from Page 1)

external tendencies of agriculture, and the charts and reports deal mostly with the fundamental tendencies, which always have a vital and sometimes determined influence upon the success of the individual farmer. Every farm must be adjusted to these trends in order to achieve the maximum profits and minimum losses.

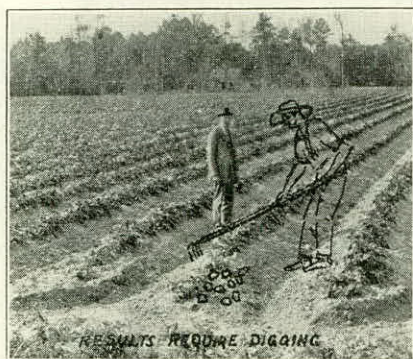
By observing the charts and reports, conclusions may be formed that will enable the farmer to better regulate the acreage of his different crops, the manner of cultivating same, marketing methods, and in numerous other ways make him a more successful, more useful to his vicinity and a much happier man.

On the other hand, there is no reward, other than ignorance and failure, for the man who isolates himself, so to speak, from the rest of the world, utterly disregarding costly and authentic information that purport to improve his peculiar vocational calling.

WHY FARMERS LAG

When you ask a farmer for confidential information, he acts the part of "that is none of your business." His isolation or lack of contact with progressive methods and up-to-date market and production information has made him wary of keeping in touch with things and of realizing the necessity and value of knowing what is going on.

It is not amiss to say that most farmers feel that, due to their hardships, isolation, and too frequently, unprofitable labors, they are living the life of martyrdom. In view of their laboring and producing foods and clothing for the rest of mankind and selling at prices which barely permit of an existence without the con-



veniences and luxuries enjoyed by the average city business with the capital, there does appear to be some basis for their feelings.

Our farmers must come to realize that competition will become increasingly greater and that profit must depend upon the farmer adopting business methods. He must plan his work several months ahead. He must analyze and study available information on the production, stocks on hand, market prices and other factors which will affect the products he has to sell. He must get away from the practice of the "time-system," whereby he procures supplies in the spring, to be paid for at harvest. If any farmer shows the right interest in progressive business methods, he will probably have little difficulty in securing money loans at 6 percent interest, which is usually much less than he pays to supply merchants.

It has frequently been claimed that farmers work only one-half of the year. While this is not strictly true, it is a fact that he wastes much time in the winter which he could more profitably use in studying crop and markets reports and in making detailed plans for the new crop year. In other words, he must think more.



North Carolina Truck Crops

(Continued from Page 5)

gin June 3rd. In almost all of this area rhizactonia has caused considerable rotting of the Mother Potatoes and some irregular stands. The Norfolk and eastern shore area shows about 18 percent shortage in acreage, fair to good stands, the shipment to occur the 1st of June. Very little disease is found in the Eastern Shore potatoes, but plenty around Norfolk.

Cucumbers to the extent of about 5,000 acres will be grown between Goldsboro and Wilmington. This will show considerable increase over last year. Mt. Olive and Wilmington are the main distributing points. Movements to begin June 10.

NOTICE TO CROP REPORTERS

A recent soil survey report, for Cherokee County, N. C., has been released by the United States Department of Agriculture, and copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for 15c a copy.

The following Farmer's Bulletins are ready for popular distribution, at the prices quoted, and may be obtained from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Number

- 1426—Farm Plumbing, (5c).
1430—Power for the Farm from Small Streams, (5c).
1436—Why Potatoes Run Out, (5c).
1437—Swine Production, (5c).

YEARBOOK SEPARATES

- 903—Farm Animals and Their Products; Part 2.—General,
Horses, Sheep, and Poultry, (10c).
905—Imports and Exports of Agricultural Products, (5c).
906—Miscellaneous Agricultural Statistics, (10c).

DEPARTMENT BULLETINS

- 1321—A Statistical Study of the Relation Between Seed-Ear Characters and Productiveness in Corn. (5c).

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

- Statistical Bulletin 5. Horses, Mules, and Motor Vehicles. Year ended March 31, 1924. With Comparable Data for Earlier years, (15c).
- Statistical Bulletin 8. Carlot Shipment of Fruits and Melons from Stations in United States. Calendar Years 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923, (10c).
- Statistical Bulletin 9. Carlot Shipments of Vegetables from Stations in United States. Years 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923, (15c).
- Statistical Bulletin 10. Statistics of Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes. Year ended July 31, 1924, with Comparable Data for Earlier Years, (10c).

Your Farm Census Report has elicited an unusual amount of interest in our bank, and among our customers, several of whom have asked for a copy.

We do not know what your arrangements are, but if it is possible to send us twelve or fifteen of these they could be put to good use.

JOHN W. DENTON

JOHN W. DENISON,
Illinois Merchants Trust Co., Chicago.

We wish to express our appreciation for the reports your bureau has been favoring us with during the past year. We assure you that they have always proven very interesting, and we have found the information quite valuable, and sincerely hope that you will be kind enough to retain our name on your mailing list.

J. N. WISNER & Co.,
New Orleans, La.

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W. A. GRAHAM, <i>Commissioner of Agriculture.</i>	H. C. TAYLOR, <i>Chief U. S. Bureau Agri. Economics.</i>
GEORGE R. ROSS, <i>Division of Markets.</i>	W. F. CALLANDER, <i>Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates.</i>

This Farm Forecaster is issued monthly for North Carolina by the

COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

FRANK PARKER, WILLIAM H. RHODES, JR.,
State Agricultural Statistician, Assistant Statistician.