

FARM FORECASTER

CROP AND LIVE STOCK REPORT FOR NORTH CAROLINA



COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA



SEPTEMBER, 1928

SUMMER-GROWING ISSUE

NUMBER 51



FROM PLAINS TO MOUNTAINS—FROM PLANTING TO HARVEST
NORTH CAROLINA

FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

All of our crops are fast nearing maturity. Some have already been harvested. While conditions throughout the State have been by no means uniform, and there have been losses on the part of many, yet, as a whole, North Carolina has enjoyed the bounties of a kind Providence. We have suffered no widespread agricultural disasters and those who have incurred losses have expressed a determination to profit by these rather than become downcast.

It now behooves our farmers to thoroughly investigate the marketing facilities at their command and to act judiciously in the distribution of that which they, through hard work and financial investments, have produced.

To those in our Statistical Division who have worked up the data contained in this issue of THE FARM FORECASTER, I extend my thanks and commend them for their tireless efforts and faithful performance of duty. This publication is indeed illuminating, and I hope that it will meet the needs for which it is designed.

WM. A. GRAHAM, *Commissioner*.

SUMMER OR GROWING CROPS ISSUE

The new plan of issuing quarterly or seasonal FARM FORECASTERS is commenced with this copy. The farming seasons are distinctly divided into the planting (spring), growing and cultivating (summer), harvesting (fall), and dormant (winter) periods. This issue, therefore, relates to the growing or summer months.

Accordingly the months of July, August and September crop conditions appear frequently in the following pages. Trends in the crop growing data will be found for both North Carolina and its counties. It is believed that the new program will provide an ideal plan for presenting the State's crop data in a current and seasonal way.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
The Agricultural Situation.....	3
Farm Census (1928) of Davidson County.....	4
1928 Farm Census Summaries, Four Counties.....	5
North Carolina Crops.....	6
September County Report for North Carolina.....	7
United States Crops.....	7
County Crop Conditions for North Carolina.....	8-9
Corn and Tobacco Condition Maps.....	10
Index Numbers of North Carolina Farm Prices.....	11
Prices Paid to North Carolina Producers.....	11
Cotton.....	12
Tobacco.....	13
Crop Indications for North Carolina and United States.....	14
October 1st Crop Indications for North Carolina.....	15
Carlot Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables.....	15
Graphic Illustration North Carolina Crop Conditions.....	16

STATE-FEDERAL CROP REPORTING SERVICE

WM. A. GRAHAM, Commissioner of Agriculture (N. C.)

W. F. CALLANDER, Chairman Crop Reporting Board (U. S.)

This Publication is Issued Quarterly for North Carolina by

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FARM FORECASTER

CROP AND LIVE STOCK REPORT FOR NORTH CAROLINA

WATCHING CROP DEVELOPMENT

In some counties there are found those who insist that the government crop reports and the publishing of agricultural information are harmful to the farmers' interests. The more intelligent thinking farmers and agricultural specialists know for a certainty that authentic agricultural data based on past results is the only foundation by which crop and livestock growers, as well as industrial manufacturers, can safely plan and guard against repetition of expensive and sad past experiences.

The farmer who watches the monthly change in crop conditions, as shown by the government reports, and studies these in relation to past trends of production, prices and carry-over of stocks, will undoubtedly be better prepared to anticipate over production and low prices as well as low production and good prices than one who does not use such reports.

This is our first attempt to provide seasonal crop condition trends which should enable one to watch the monthly changes in crop growth. The line graph for several crops gives an instant idea of changes during the three months mentioned. For more detailed information for the State and by counties, your attention is called to pages 8-9. Other tables of State data are equally as interesting.

Special page reports are provided for the cotton and tobacco crops on pages 12 and 13. The illustrations given are largely those taken by our statistician during the summer months of the current year. Thus the effort is made to provide a true North Carolina publication.

Our crop reporters, numbering about 3,000, are in an ideal position to take best advantage of the benefits of watching crop developments. Monthly reminders in the form of crop schedules come to them regularly calling attention to the most important crop and livestock features for that particular time. The various publications sent to them not only show the results of such reports for their own State and Nation, but they show similar data for crop and market conditions throughout the United States. Thus contribution of a few minutes each month not only results in self-helpfulness but brings to them without cost valuable information bearing directly on their business.

THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

Over the United States at large, and especially in North Carolina, crop prices are on a low level, while livestock prices are high. Unless cotton takes a turn upward, it now looks like practically all crops in North Carolina will be made at or below the cost of production. It will be remembered that the spring was late, with a corresponding growth of crops. June and July rains gave a nice start. Farmers generally over the country, have made fairly good hay crops, but have experienced some difficulty in saving them. Through much of the West a lack of rain was experienced in August. The thrashing of small grains is now nearing its end, the greatest activity being in the extreme Northern States. Prices of wheat have become disappointing and those who are able to do so are holding what they can in storage.

A fortunate situation in the West is that some of the grain, particularly corn, can be fed to livestock, thus offsetting the low price of that crop. The Irish potato situation is much the same in the West as it is in this State, in that there is a big crop with no profitable market.

The bright side of the situation is with the livestock industries. Even beef cattle are now selling at good prices. Thus with low feed costs and high livestock values, prospects for this class of farming are good for the time being, and it now appears that the upward cycle will last for some time.

The general index of purchasing power of farm products, in relation to things that farmers buy, now stands at 93 per cent of what they were before the World War. Excepting for November of last year, when 94 per cent in the ratio of prices received, to prices paid by farmers was reached, the present purchasing power is as high as has been reached since 1920, taking all farm products collectively in consideration.

Irish potatoes for crops, and horses for livestock, are the only two farm commodities selling at below the pre-World War prices in North Carolina.

The index number for agricultural products in this State stands at 145 per cent of the 1909 to 1914 averages. This compares with 156 per cent for the non-agricultural products, which show a purchasing power of 108 per cent.

The cotton crop in the South shows a very varied condition. Picking and ginning, though belated, are under way throughout the Belt. The past two weeks have especially been unfavorable for picking and favorable to boll weevil ravages. Crops other than cotton show wide variations in condition, from drought in the West to flood conditions in the East. Taken as a whole, the South has made about normal progress during August.

In North Carolina agricultural conditions indicate serious weevil damages to the cotton crop beginning the latter part of August. The number of safe bolls on plants, or rather the safe locks in the bolls, is problematical but appears to be equal to last year. Tobacco suffered heavily from field burning, and premature ripening, which affected the ability to handle the curing properly. Weather conditions which in other places caused second growth, affected the quality. The corn crop seems to have come through fairly well, but is probably not equal to last year's yield. The saving of fodder was affected by the wet weather period during the early part of September. Hay crops have been good, but the ability to harvest them was affected by the same wet weather period. Fruit crops, particularly apples, appear to be fair this year with the quality probably not up to normal.

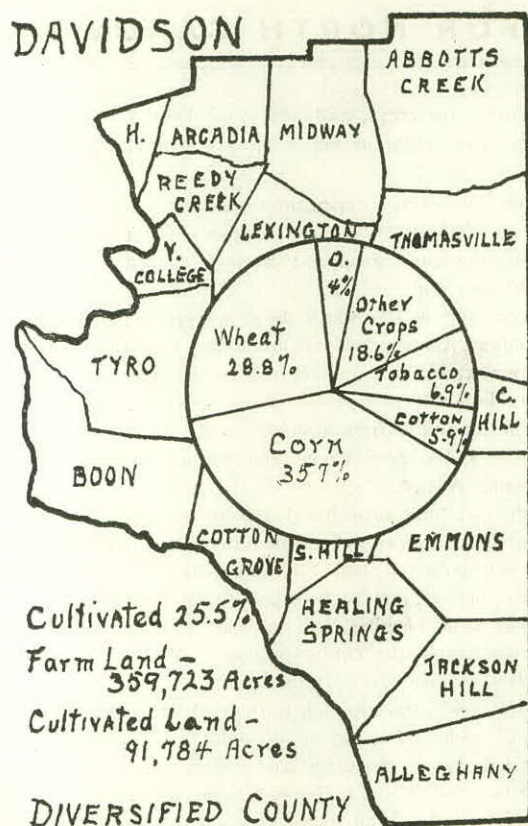
KNOW THE FACTS

Always there are those who will find objections to any good cause. Even in churches there are regular fault finders and backsliders. There are pessimists and "whisperers" everywhere. Because there are two knockers to one hundred supporters is no reason for doing away with crop reports or the Farm Census. Our survey of many farmers showed that the above per cent held true. These are facts—based on the farmers' own statements. Approached reasonably, farmers in general do not object to giving their crop figures. This also applies to the Farm Census, as experienced by our statisticians in many actual listing experiences where it was said that "The farmers just will not report their crops." Our farmers should know the farm facts just as well as should other industries require their facts.



Carteret County. First three rows are cowpeas. Soy beans in front of County Agent Overstreet.

FARM CENSUS OF DAVIDSON COUNTY



The illustration at the left pictures the township areas, while the circle indicates the proportion of the county that is in cultivation; (25.5%). The farm land area of the county is 359,723 acres with 91,784 acres in crops.

The cultivated area (circled) shows by the spoke or slice graph arrangement, the proportions that are in corn, wheat, etc. Hay crops make up a large proportion of the 18.6 per cent slice entitled "other crops." Similar studies of any particular township shown in the table below, may be made by those interested in a closer analysis.

This is the tenth year that the farm census has been made annually in North Carolina. Many of the counties have been constantly im-



Davidson County. Grain and money crop.

TOWNSHIP FARM CENSUS OF DAVIDSON COUNTY

	Abbotts Creek	Alleghany	Arcadia	Boone	Conrad Hill	Cotton Grove	Emmons	Hampton	Jackson Hill	Lexington	Midway	Reedy Creek	Silver Hill	Thomasville	Tyro	Yadkin College	County Total
Farm Owners.....	284	164	210	223	329	274	372	53	150	485	358	208	296	742	268	66	4,743
Tenant Families.....	89	24	17	34	31	15	74	11	18	111	7	19	122	79	114	13	815
Acres in Farms.....	20,762	15,479	13,393	21,052	24,668	36,802	32,301	4,321	15,899	32,798	21,907	12,288	21,594	37,291	22,362	3,938	359,723
Acres cultivated:																	
By Owners.....	3,514	2,107	3,759	3,620	6,422	6,031	5,581	562	1,649	6,211	5,117	2,707	2,678	8,085	4,260	463	65,373
By Tenants.....	1,879	494	839	1,937	1,869	2,710	1,455	301	1,623	4,111	1,386	647	1,064	1,686	2,426	544	26,411
Tobacco.....	989		416	123	58		36	94		403	663	402	17	1,422	1,546	32	6,309
Cotton.....	24	132	101	1,036	57	955	98	36	191	740	107	249	98	52	1,176	143	5,403
Corn.....	1,612	863	1,164	1,301	11,594	1,691	1,771	305	894	2,441	1,700	757	954	2,648	1,582	362	32,785
Wheat.....	908	1,074	767	1,029	2,388	3,006	3,854	223	1,423	2,631	1,127	747	1,440	2,088	1,939	222	26,447
Oats (Grain).....	204	204	304	215	321	401	241	44	195	261	306	134	238	189	242	35	3,749
Barley.....	288	156	117	63	504	231	549	14	225	191	199	37	493	476	110	28	3,944
Cowpeas (alone).....	178	103	87	260	196	229	154	36	183	212	162	167	61	263	143	39	2,724
Soybeans (alone).....	246	142	239	287	290	620	351	86	123	358	298	228	284	376	265	44	4,382
Cover Crops (acres).....	482	16	226	245	365	305	8	29	73	108	88	73		704	140		2,872
Hays*																	
Grains.....	20	2	62	46	31	9	8		12	14	100	3	20	11	100		448
Clovers.....	221	58	196	252	355	446	267	17	57	837	356	140	325	144	698	8	4,473
Grain Mixtures.....	666		730	179	84		21		12	168	920	306		1,034	117	64	4,367
Vegetables:																	
Irish Potatoes.....	60	14	55	25	49	56	31	1	20	55	53	11	44	110	33	5	665
Sweet Potatoes.....	63	14	155	174	50	91	26	29	16	139	152	224	32	99	142	35	1,465
Strawberries.....	4		11	15	3	15			4	2	7			2	13		82
Other field truck.....	146	10	157	220	11	31	23	12	51	58	264	65	2	496	61	12	1,670
Other field crops.....	453	60	944	88	42	83	48		55	37	113	10	19	256	49		2,309
Fruit trees (bearing).....	11,867	2,389	7,406	5,922	9,608	3,948	7,567	1,073	2,482	9,017	10,715	3,524	7,490	14,004	10,806	1,217	113,123
Fertilizer tons.....	638	158	435	311	316	283	636	67	251	413	414	256	292	4,678	392	38	9,902
Productive animals:																	
Sows.....	113	23	107	108	118	109	116	10	40	140	87	44	77	73	111	9	1,344
Hogs sold, etc.....	634	235	840	1,584	616	668	1,094	168	317	1,295	1,078	437	559	1,662	995	150	12,801
Hens.....	7,712	3,442	5,409	6,092	7,392	7,365	8,556	844	4,756	10,398	6,221	3,423	5,800	13,723	7,990	1,099	106,222
Milk Cows.....	414	118	524	414	340	468	382	91	154	936	435	381	265	691	407	82	6,328
Workstock (H. & M.).....	359	174	311	363	71	453	430	61	163	644	349	279	293	647	428	61	5,374
Autos on farms.....	220	89	201	215	206	207	220	36	87	356	246	172	168	404	215	27	3,208

* Hay crops do not include Soybeans and Cowpeas for hay. These included in "alone" acreage for those crops.

NOTE:—Healing Springs township was omitted for lack of space and as it was only 49 per cent complete (below the minimum), its 100 per cent determination is included in the county total.

proving their results, this county being one of them. The particular purpose for selecting Davidson in this issue was due to her central location in the State and to the recognized diversification of crops that is practiced.

In the table below, it is very evident that such cash crops as tobacco and cotton are by no means depended on in any one locality, although Tyro goes above a thousand acres in each of them. Thomasville goes above the thousand acre mark for tobacco, while Boone is the only other township going above a thousand in cotton.

The livestock is rapidly and wisely gaining headway in this area. Improved permanent pastures are proven to be quite as practical in our Piedmont counties as they are in the well known north-western livestock counties. In fact, many permanent pastures in eastern counties are proving to be quite successful and may be the forerunners of livestock industries in our least developed livestock sections.

It is quite interesting to study the distribution of livestock in this county, by townships. A comparison of the number of workstock with milk cows makes quite a contrast with certain eastern areas. The number of automobiles on farms is also interesting as is the number of farm owners. The grain crops, corn and wheat, occupy about two-thirds of the total cultivated land. Improved pastures are not included in the cultivated area, so do not show their importance in this table.

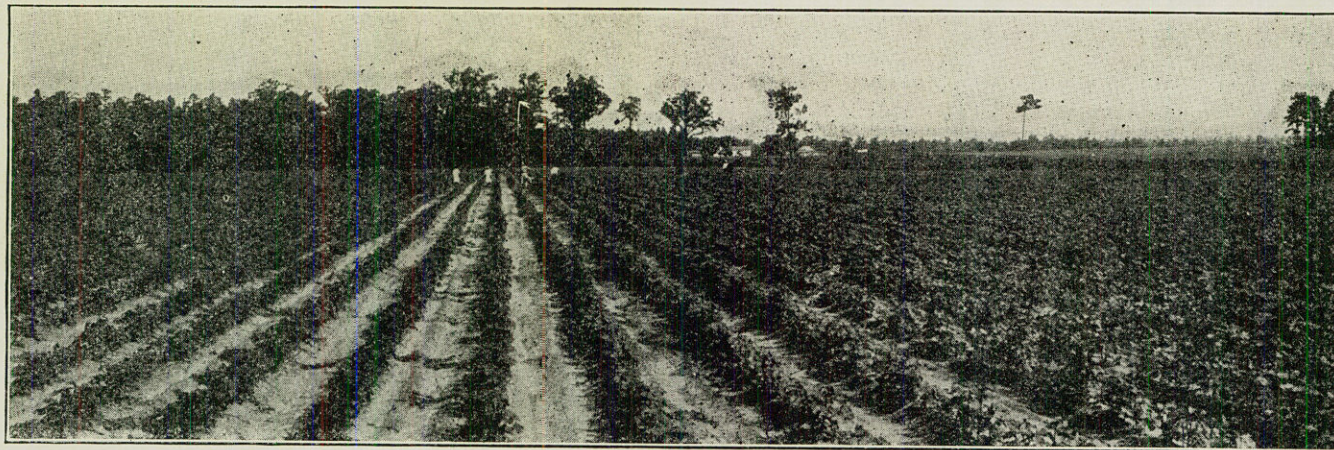
FOUR COUNTY FARM CENSUS SUMMARIES

The five counties selected including the one on the opposite page illustrate the diversification of crops in the mountain counties (Henderson), the foot hills (Wilkes), the central Piedmont (Davidson), Inter-coastal area (Edgecombe), and the coastal trucking type (Pasquotank).

The four year trends are given in order to arrive at averages or changes from year to year. Wilkes and Edgecombe have consistently reported almost perfect results for several years and provide reliable studies of trends from year to year. The type of diversification followed in these various areas is interesting to study and is especially appropriate for use in the agricultural schools of the state.

Doubtless errors are to be found in this data due to many causes, but it has been found true that it is the nearest accurate and most reliable method available for securing basic farm data like acreages, numbers of livestock, etc.

Individual farmers will find it advantageous to study any government crop reports and especially information relating to local conditions with which he may and should be familiar. It is perhaps true that our farmers are putting too much brawn and too little brain work into their business. Industries have found it profitable to spend from five to fifteen per cent of their expenses in their accounting department. If this pays them, it seems reasonable that more attention to statistical studies in agriculture would not only be advisable, but might enable many farmers to avoid pitfalls and make their work more profitable.



Typical Cotton field in eastern Counties.

FARM CENSUS—COUNTY ACREAGE SUMMARIES, 1928

CROPS	Henderson				Wilkes				Edgecombe				Pasquotank			
	1925	1926	1927	1928	1925	1926	1927	1928	1925	1926	1927	1928	1925	1926	1927	1928
Tobacco	47	21	3	5	1,564	946	1,149	981	15,876	18,060	21,357	20,523	7	1		
Cotton					459	473	281	431	68,930	64,495	53,157	56,513	12,468	8,470	7,793	8,690
Corn	21,165	16,825	20,471	18,557	41,904	42,085	37,735	37,570	33,891	34,174	33,673	32,769	22,068	20,432	21,095	20,114
Wheat	1,015	1,165	1,049	1,255	12,274	16,262	14,783	14,680	365	116	254	140	34	21		7
Oats		1,178	1,109	802		1,883	1,893	1,491		2,794	2,499	1,833		224	674	406
Rye	3,380		3,370		8,665		7,721		96		160		5		97	
Irish Potatoes	1,980	1,485	1,825	2,342	1,304	1,388	1,155	1,656	364	529	631	845	4,850	4,712	5,274	5,857
Sweet Potatoes	239	272	211	259	804	920	727	963	818	862	715	732	299	287	188	173
Peanuts	17	14	23	8	19	75	8	23	11,414	12,459	15,669	16,438	280	503	653	573
Hays																
Grains Cut Green	951		212	444	288		87	341	3,991			1,407	583		879	520
Clover	2,147		1,114	625	3,227		905	1,358	1,347		707	633	97		185	170
Soybeans	915				423				426				2,096			
Cowpeas	103				249				639				21			
Legumes																
Soybeans for beans	370	987		*1,368	571	1,829	1,384	*1,868	636	1,165	1,084	*2,181	15,735	10,718	11,847	*12,987
Cowpeas for Peas	345	229	385	*1,128	2,037	3,395	2,100	*4,327	137	425	828	* 647	81	139	20	* 86
Truck																
Berries or Melons	38		† 48	† 82	215			† 58	352		† 401	† 17	72		† 30	† 5
Other field truck	793		741	1,952	1,445			1,639	197		357	1,117	1,450		1,478	1,582
Home Gardens	985		1,276		1,891		1,784		1,430		1,288		178		151	
Livestock																
Sows of Breeding Age	399	568	523	477	568	976	586	708	2,338	2,226	2,228	2,629	1,698	1,630	2,139	2,010
Hens of Laying Age	63,950	62,997	71,001	73,531	87,752	84,777	95,015	90,522	56,570	70,435	62,149	67,645	45,041	41,957	46,467	41,948
Cows of Milking Age	4,689	4,646	4,480	4,144	7,458	7,354	6,931	6,340	1,647	1,470	1,378	1,436	1,745	1,649	1,784	1,449
Tons Commercial Fertilizers	2,378			2,317	3,501			3,089	37,776			36,313	9,272			9,210

* Soybeans and Cowpeas planted alone reported for all purposes, 1927 and 1928.

† Strawberries and Dewberries only.

‡ Watermelons and Cantaloupes only.

STATE-FEDERAL CROP REPORTING SERVICE, RALEIGH, N. C.

September 24, 1928.

Mr. C. A. Williams,
Ringwood, Halifax County,
North Carolina.

My Dear Mr. Williams:

We appreciate your messages on the cotton crop. Excepting for these contacts with our farmers we would surely be lost. Each grower has his own ideas about conditions, and these are what we depend on for determining the AVERAGE condition. While we get out and examine probably more fields than any individual in the State, we have come to realize that our opinions do not equal the combined opinions of thousands of others who have known their own local conditions for years and are, therefore, better able to judge of comparisons.

It is the farmers who make the reports including the size of bolls, conditions, yields, acreage, etc. Based on their reports in comparison with the final production over a period of years is how we arrive at a full crop or NORMAL yield (par). Thus the chance of bias or error is largely eliminated.

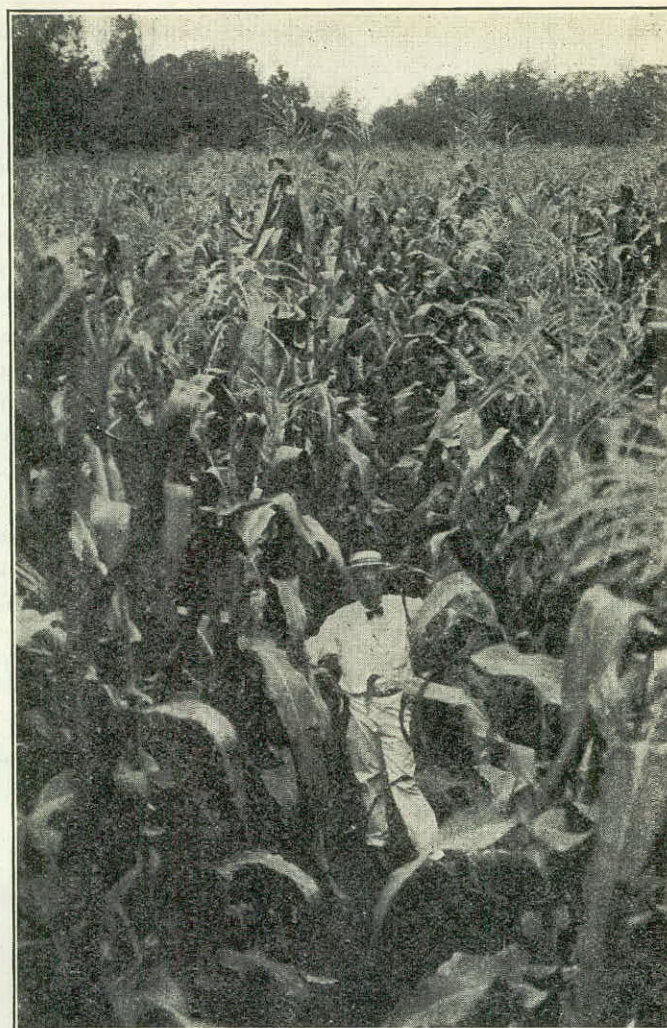
We must not forget that our September estimate last year was equally criticized and yet it was 50,000 bales BELOW the final ginnings. Then again one must not presume that we are forecasting what WILL be made but what MAY be produced if the conditions are AVERAGE after the date of the report.

We have in our reporters greater confidence this year than ever before, because we have directed them to examine and COUNT the bolls, blooms, damage, etc. Thus they do know conditions. I might say that my corn promises 50 bushels to the acre, and a storm may ruin half of it later, but that does not change its promise now.

As shown in our last ANNUAL (March) issue of the FARM FORECASTER, our North Carolina September cotton forecasts for the past four years averaged well within one per cent of the final ginnings. As a rule our forecasts are below the final results. This applies especially to tobacco.

Sincerely,

FRANK PARKER,
Agricultural Statistician.



Beaufort County. Black land soil without fertilizers. County Agent Welch in jungle.

SEPTEMBER 1, CROP INDICATIONS FOR NORTH CAROLINA

The accompanying table covers the important crops for this State showing the September 1st condition and indicated yield for the past three years, while the final yield and average December 1st prices are shown for 1926 and 1927. This table is presented to offer a study of State trends, with the idea of making some deduction of the 1928 probable yields and prices. In as much as yields have not been reported yet for most crops, it may be explained that the indicated yield is determined by multiplying the condition reported by a basic par which farmers would recognize under the term "full crop yield." Thus corn at 75 per cent of a crop this year, when multiplied by the basic par (full crop) indicates 19.5 bushels per acre. The 1926 indicated yield is more than one bushel less than the final yield. In the case of soy beans, the indicated yield for last year was reduced from 17 bushels to 15 for the final figure. This clearly illustrates that the forecast at any one period prior to harvest does not mean that the crop WILL finally make that production but that it MAY do so if the conditions following the date of the FORECAST turn out to be equal to the average of the several preceding years.

CURRENCY OF INFORMATION

It requires about three weeks from the time copy is delivered to printers until it is delivered. Thus information prepared in September makes its appearance in October. Tabular matter requires great patience and time to prepare and to set up in print. We get as speedy service as others, only the fact that we publish figures pertaining to past performance or conditions as they were, prevents preparing copy ahead of the dates of publication. Then, too, the regular duties of those in the Crop Reporting Service do not permit of steady work on and attention to this publication.

NORTH CAROLINA CROPS

CROPS		Condition September 1			Indicated Yield September 1			Final Yield December 1		Average Price December 1	
		1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1926	1927
Corn	bu.	83	87	75	20.9	22.4	19.5	22.0	22.8	.88	.91
Winter wheat	bu.							14.1	10.7	1.43	1.45
Barley	bu.					24.0	23.0	26.0	24.0	1.00	1.10
Rye	bu.							13.0	12.0	1.25	1.35
Oats	bu.					21.0	21.6	22.0	21.0	.69	.72
Buckwheat	bu.			84			20.2	22.0	20.0	1.00	1.00
Soybeans (total)	bu.	80	87	85	15.8	17.0	16.6	12.0	15.0	1.75	1.50
Cowpeas (total)	bu.	82	83	78	10.7	12.5	9.8	12.0	12.0	2.25	1.75
Peanuts	lbs.	73	78	77	949.9	1006.2	993.3	1030.0	997.0	.042	.045
Velvet Beans	lbs.	78	80	78				1000.0	1300.0		
Potatoes	bu.	64	83	84		94.6	94.9	94.0	102.0	1.60	1.50
Sweet Potatoes	bu.	78	86	82	97.5	107.5	104.1	90.0	114.0	1.00	.80
All Hay	tons							.90	.95	19.72	17.71
Cotton, lint	lbs.	69	64	69	267.0	244.0	252.0	282.0	238.0	.115	.195
Wild Hay	tons							.90	1.10	16.00	13.40
Tame Hay	tons	77	86	85	1.0	1.1	1.0	.90	.94	20.00	18.00
Tobacco	lbs.	79	83	76	639.9	672.3	657.4	684.	720.	.264	.258
Sorghum Sirup	gals.	83	82	79	93.0	91.8	91.6	91.	92.	.90	.90
Apples:											
Agricultural	bu.	79	32	66						.85	1.65
Commercial	bb.	79	32	66						2.30	5.10
Peaches	bu.	67	37	74						.90	1.70
Pears	bu.	67	33	61						1.15	1.35
Grapes	tons	85	70	80						50.00	50.00

SEPTEMBER COUNTY CROP REPORTS

Pages 8 and 9 of this issue carry a study of eight crops for July, August and September this year in comparison with a year ago. Irish potatoes, pastures, sorghum and apples are shown for this and last year. These county data offer trend studies to those interested in local conditions. Greater variation and inaccuracy are, of course, to be found in county than in the district or State conditions. The reason for this is that only one to twenty reports may be used for a particular county. The more reports there are entering into an average, the more devoid is the bias and representative of county conditions.

The crops are arranged in proportion to their acreage importance. Corn being the first crop, with well over 2,000,000 acres, is grown in every county. On page 10 will be found three North Carolina map graphs illustrating the July, August and September conditions of these crops by zones. These show in an ideal way the changes in condition from month to month. Your careful attention is called to a study of these maps. During August severe wind and rain storms occurred in the western Piedmont area. The July and August areas will be different because they indicate more favorable weather conditions. The high or best condition areas are found in the extreme west, the extreme east and the northeastern Piedmont areas for the September 1st report, which is the last one developed.

The cotton crop, with 1,839,000 acres indicated for this year, has a production of 970,000 bales forecasted. The prospective yield was seriously affected late in August by extensive boll weevil ravages and by a prolonged wet period early in September. The September conditions, of course, were not included in the September 1st report. From the frequent communications received during September, it is generally thought that the cotton condition would decline, making a lower estimate for the October 1st report.

The tame hay of North Carolina is found largely in the western counties. This particularly applies to the grass mixtures, while soy beans and peanuts are found principally in the northeastern counties. Red clover and cowpeas are found in the central and southern areas. The tame hay area is estimated at 851,000 acres which is less than last year but more than the previous years as shown by the table on page 14. With a September condition of 85 per cent, we find no appreciable change from the two previous months or from a year ago. The recent rains were favorable for meadows and native grasses for fall harvest. Our falls are usually dry and result in a short hay crop.

PEANUTS

With a 77 per cent condition reported September 1st, which is only

one per cent less than the report a year ago, we have a decline of four per cent from August 1st and the same condition as was reported July 1st. The acreage is estimated at 215,000, with a prospective production of 213,560,000 pounds. This is practically the same size crop as was made last year and in 1925. The commercial peanut area is in about ten northeastern counties, where the condition averages 78 per cent. Northampton county shows the highest condition at 85 per cent and Edgecombe the lowest at 74 per cent of a full crop. Those familiar with the peanut industry well remember that peanuts were looking good a year ago, but due to wet weather later, suffered severe shortage and damage without the growers appreciating the true situation until they were picked.

SOY BEANS AND COWPEAS

The future of the soy bean and cowpea crops is going to depend quite largely on the effect of the bean beetle which made its advent into eastern Carolina this year. The first year's serious damage will be felt in 1929. As shown in the table on page 14, there has been a change in the basis for the determination of these crops. There are no more complicated crops to be reckoned with than soy beans and cowpeas. The reason for this is that they may be planted in rows or broadcast, they may be interplanted with corn in rows or broadcast, they may be harvested in part or wholly for seed, they may be harvested for hay or may be plowed into the soil. Again they may be pastured or they may be grown for a combined grain and forage purpose. This makes it almost impossible to forecast what the acreage and production of the seed will be. For this reason only the final December estimates are recommended. The September condition of soy beans at 85 per cent of a crop is two per cent less than a year ago, while cowpeas at 78 per cent compares with 83 a year ago.

SEPTEMBER WEATHER

More recent reports on the progress of crops during the month of September are to be found in this issue. Excessive rainfall during the month and high winds resulting from tropical storms resulted in the destruction of a large percentage of the crops. Many of these have recovered, but will be difficult to handle with machinery in harvesting. Flooded areas were general in the eastern half of the state. Lands along river courses suffered heavy in crop damage. These crops include primarily corn, hays, and cotton. Most hay crops have made good growth this year on account of the moist conditions. This was often at the expense, however, of seed formation. However, in a general way, hay yields should be better than usual.

UNITED STATES CROPS

CROP		ACREAGE 1928		CONDITION				TOTAL PRODUCTION			YIELD PER ACRE		
		Per cent of 1927	Acres	Sept. 1, 10-yr. av. Per cent	Sept. 1, 1927 Per cent	Aug. 1 1928 Per cent	Sept. 1, 1928 Per cent	Harvested		Indicated by Condition Sept. 1, 1928	Harvested		Indicated by Condition Sept. 1, 1928
								5-yr. av. 1922-1926	1927		5-yr. av. 1922-1926	1927	
Corn	bus.	103.6	102,380,000	76.6	69.7	83.3	78.4	2,776,000,000	2,774,000,000	2,931,000,000	27.3	28.1	28.6
Winter wheat	bus.	95.2	36,125,000					556,000,000	553,000,000	579,000,000	15.0	14.6	16.0
All wheat	bus.	98.5	57,750,000					807,000,000	873,000,000	901,000,000	14.3	14.9	15.6
Oats	bus.	99.9	41,974,000	77.2	70.3	84.8	84.4	1,352,000,000	1,184,000,000	1,454,000,000	31.7	28.2	34.6
Barley	bus.	129.5	12,243,000	77.7	82.9	86.5	84.4	192,000,000	264,000,000	346,000,000	25.2	28.0	28.3
Rye	bus.	95.8	3,535,000					63,800,000	58,800,000	43,300,000	13.6	15.9	12.2
Buckwheat	bus.	102.1	840,000	85.8	83.1	84.2	83.8	13,700,000	16,000,000	15,500,000	18.6	19.5	18.5
Sorghum for sirup	gals.	99.0	382,000	77.0	75.7	74.3	72.4						
Potatoes, white	bus.	109.2	3,842,000	76.2	77.8	85.8	83.0	394,000,000	407,000,000	467,000,000	111.5	115.7	121.5
Sweet potatoes	bus.	91.9	856,000	77.5	80.0	79.9	77.2	81,100,000	93,900,000	81,600,000	92.2	100.9	95.3
Tobacco	lbs.	117.3	1,850,100	77.6	76.5	74.6	74.5	1,338,000,000	1,211,000,000	1,372,000,000	769	768	742
Beans, dry edible	bus.	107.2	1,735,000	74.3	70.8	76.2	67.5	16,300,000	16,900,000	15,800,000	11.2	10.4	9.1
Soy beans	bus.	101.6	2,309,000	82.8	82.2	83.4	84.1						
Cowpeas	bus.	97.8	2,410,000	69.7	78.7	76.9	75.3						
Velvet beans	bus.			71.4	78.0	79.0	76.2						
Peanuts	lbs.	105.1	1,185,000	75.8	78.6	79.5	76.0	671,000,000	807,000,000	849,000,000	686	715	716
Hay, all tame	tons	95.6	58,631,000	81.7	91.0	81.7	81.7	91,000,000	106,500,000	87,900,000	1.52	1.74	1.50
Pasture				78.5	84.2	85.6	83.3						

8 COUNTY CROP CONDITIONS FOR NORTH CAROLINA

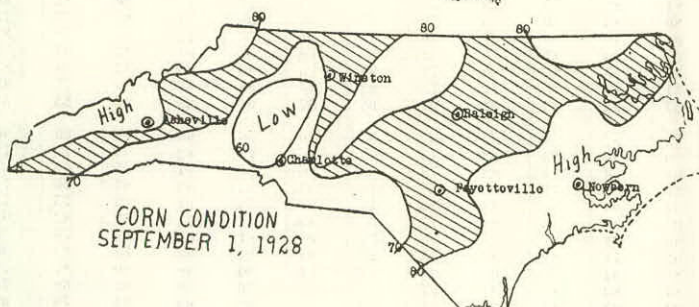
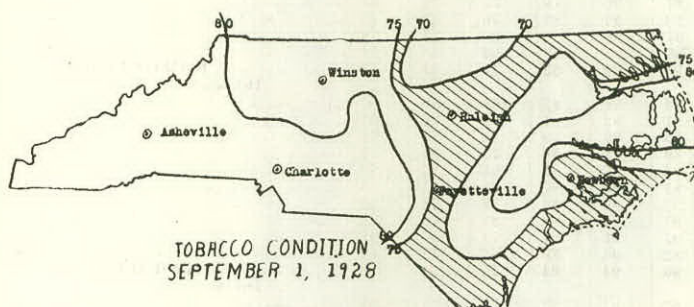
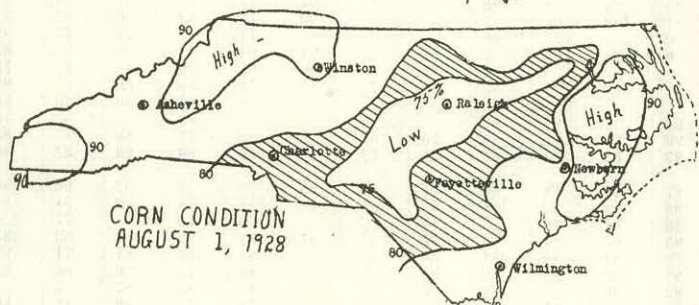
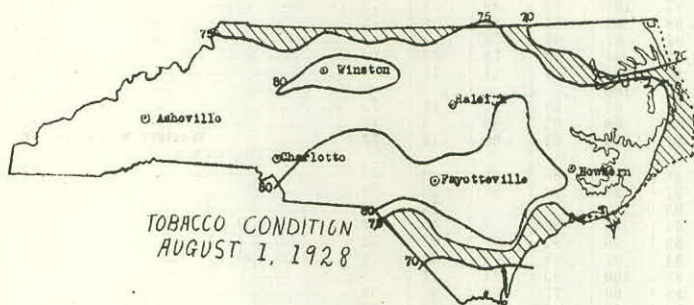
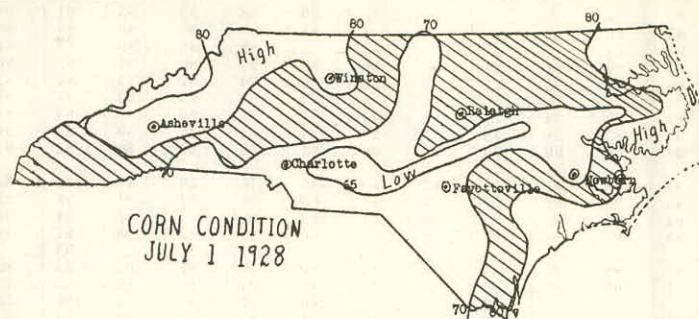
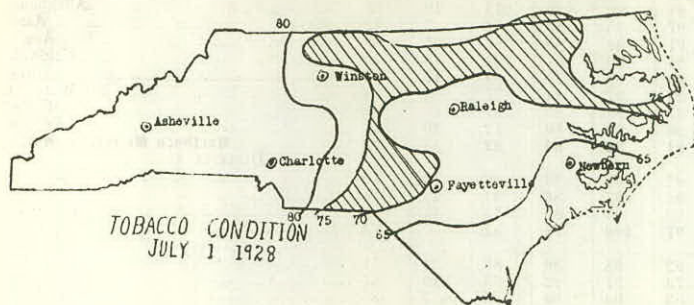
DISTRICT AND COUNTIES	CORN				COTTON			TAME HAY				TOBACCO				PEANUTS			
	1927	1928			1927	1928		1927	1928			1927	1928			1927	1928		
	Sept.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Sept.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Sept.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Sept.	July	Aug.	Sept.
Alleghany	83	85	92	78				97	99	99	88								
Ashe	79	83	90	83				98	90	96	87		90						
Avery	77	74	88	72				97	83	98	92				83				
Caldwell	89	80	89	79				86	96	95	92	85			83		75		90
Curry	74	84	90	69				88	87	85	88	84	79	72	81				80
Watauga	83	81	89	84				99	94	99	95				84				88
Wilkes	81	83	94	73				86	96	91	90	87	83	80	71		78		
Yadkin	76	75	83	63				81	85	93	82	73	80	77	78				88
Northern Mountain (NW.)	80	81	91	75				90	92	95	89	81	84	77	79		75	78	88
DISTRICT 4																			
Buncombe	86	84	85	84				89	89	96	88	92	87	88	77				
Burke	87	83	89	76				89	91	94	89				82	88	85	95	84
Cherokee	92	78	94	91				89	87	87	95				77				
Clay	85	76	88	80				92	96	94	98				100				
Graham	90	73	90	90															
Haywood	93	83	82	96				88	100	97	96	75	77		75				
Henderson	88	78	88	62				84	92	95	78	85	80						
Jackson	95	72	87	77				90	87	88	99								
McDowell	91	88	90	79				93	96	97	96	95			80	83	85	90	85
Macon	89	70	94	75				87	90	90	97								
Madison	87	72	80	82				83	88	95	88	91	79	76	77				
Mitchell	84	76	87	75				91	83	96	96		80		80				
Polk	81	66	86	67	65		80	92	65	80									
Rutherford	85	69	80	69	79	83	76	88	72	79	84					75		83	77
Swain	90	80	85	90				90	100	92	96								
Transylvania	92	80	86	60				80	60	91	88								
Yancey	83	87	88	77				98	85	94	85	75	72	81	82				
Western Mountain (W.)	89	79	87	77	78	83	77	90	68	93	88	83	78	82	78	83	85	89	79
DISTRICT 2																			
Alamance	88	71	81	78	73	78		85	72	82	74	92	74	80	75	65	70	75	80
Caswell	85	71	82	82				75	78	83	87	88	75	79	79				80
Durham	75	75	75	81	67			80	80	70		85	75	78	72		80		
Forsyth	90	89	92	79				93	83	88	94	90	75	86	75		90	75	95
Franklin	82	76	75	73	72	76	68	78	83	88	86	80	70	77	74	75	75	77	87
Granville	83	75	80	84	70			89	90	93	79	87	75	83	64	70			
Guilford	91	80	84	78				89	81	90	86	88	78	80	82				
Orange	78	70	78	88	64	73	76	84	80	76	83	87	73	77	71	65			
Person	87	70	76	70				89	78	78	78	87	74	75	66				
Rockingham	82	78	86	73				75	77	78	86	90	70	76	75				85
Stokes	77	88	96	75				94	93	88	88	87	72	79	78				86
Vance	90	79	83	79	70	84	75	90	81	80	82	90	72	82	72				
Warren	84	77	78	77	75	82	76	82	75	78	89	86	77	82	67	83	74	73	87
Northern Piedmont (N.)	85	77	83	78	73	79	74	86	81	82	86	87	73	79	74		72		86
DISTRICT 5																			
Alexander	83	75	80	56	69	68	68	85	90	90	80	85	71	82	76	85	80	95	
Catawba	77	76	85	57	77	78	74	83	94	83	86	90	85			78	88	83	83
Chatham	79	70	72	73	73	81	77	83	90	86	74	88	67	84	76		90	85	86
Davidson	86	77	85	72	75	81	79	93	98	92	77	87	80	77	68	87	80	82	83
Davie	85	70	80	58	71	72	64	93	80	88	79	90	76	75	68				75
Iredell	80	74	83	61	76	75	75	81	96	83	73	95	90	80	81	70	77	88	79
Lee	88	74	71	72	68	78	69	89	89	78	86	86	66	70	74		78		90
Randolph	87	76	84	80	76	72	78	96	95	88	84	94	78	73	80	84	93	80	86
Rowan	83	76	83	66	81	81	72	90	85	82	88					85	83	85	87
Wake	85	74	81	79	68	75	69	90	83	82	84	96	79	81	74	82	88	80	88
Central Piedmont (C.)	84	74	79	67	74	76	64	87	92	86	80	91	76	78	76	82	84	85	84
DISTRICT 8																			
Anson	91	69	74	71	61	66	67	84	79	79	83		76			75			87
Cabarrus	86	65	74	68	70	69	77	79	95	91	98					82	85	80	88
Cleveland	74	74	88	70	71	84	77	76	82	88	86					77	80	84	76
Gaston	73	65	78	61	77	79	68	78	79	84	77					70	75	85	78
Lincoln	70	76	87	63	69	80	78	81	89	90	88					74	78	83	80
Mecklenburg	72	70	74	59	65	77	69	82	80	83	81					75	89	90	89
Montgomery	83	63	77	73	72	78	71	84	86	74	83	86	83	80	84	88			
Moore	91	73	70	74	72	82	73	88	88	90	90	85	73	82	79	82			89
Richmond	91	63	79	69	62	70	73	99	80	70	79	81	74	85	80			95	85
Stanly	85	63	80	81	77	77	68	95	92	88	95					88	79	86	85
Union	79	75	79	69	67	75	71	83	90	88	88		80				70	90	91
Southern Piedmont (S.)	80	70	79	67	68	77	73	81	83	87	86	84	72	83	80	79	80	85	82
DISTRICT 3																			
Bertie	93	74	73	77	59	68	73	87	90	79	85	75	76	71	77	73	76	76	80
Camden	90	80	85	76	65	78	75	84	75	91	83								
Chowan	93	88	82	73	60	73	75	90	90	78		76	78	65	67	77	81	80	74
Currituck	88	78	80	72	65	75	65	82	88	80									
Dare	90	80																	

COUNTY CROP CONDITIONS FOR NORTH CAROLINA

9

SOY BEANS			COWPEAS			SWEET POTATOES			SEPTEMBER								DISTRICT AND COUNTIES	
1927		1928	1927		1928	1927		1928	Irish Potatoes		Pasture		Sorghum		Apples			
Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Sept.	July	Aug.	Sept.	1927	1928	1927	1928	1927	1928	1927		
93	87	85				90	88	93	85	91	94	91	96	86	73	19	68	Alleghany
95	90	87				81	85	86	89	89	86	97	95	83	86	7	78	Ashe
92	73						92	93	89	88	94	97	99	80	82	7	69	Avery
85	90	91	83	92	86	89	94	90	94	93	96	95	96	87	84	10	79	Caldwell
86	95	95	77	80	80	86	80	87	84	84	93	85	89	75	79	17	73	Curry
						85	80	95	90	95	91	93	97	84	77	9	71	Watauga
84	80	84	77	81	84	83	88	90	86	93	81	87	94	85	81	23	82	Wilkes
93	85	98	88	87	90	85	83	86	89	95	90	86	95	80	72	20	72	Yadkin
88	86	90	79	84	86	84	86	90	89	92	91	91	96	84	82	15	72	Northern Mountain (N.W.)
DISTRICT 4																		
84	78	91	85	93	89	85	76	76	79	80	83	92	99	86	86	12	79	Buncombe
93	94	87	90	80	87	93	87	91	91	88	92	96	97	86	81	25	81	Burke
94	78	89	89	80	81	93	81	84	82	91	90	93	94	80	73	11	94	Cherokee
89	95	94	87	90	95	90	90	82	99	87	88	97	100	91	87	7	74	Clay
										95								Graham
97	88	87	95	95	95	90	75	87	93	85	82	92	98	80	87	4	71	Haywood
87	90	95	92		90	85	81	83	80	85	73	73	97	92	73	13	67	Henderson
			92			100	87	84	94	100	88	93	99	86	88	5	85	Jackson
93	95	98	93		85	92	87	89	92	95	84	93	101	89	84	19	81	McDowell
91	100	96	77			90	78	88	96	93	73	95	101	73	89	4	78	Macon
90		87	80		94	81	71	81	78	77	82	98	95	81	84	8	72	Madison
90	98	96	75			94	94	85	90	95	87	97	97	81	79	5	82	Mitchell
			87		80	90	68	80	85	75	72	75	94	83	72	30	85	Polk
91	78	79	83	81	78	87	70	88	86	65	88	86	81	81	71	14	76	Rutherford
							90	82	90	100	90	90	100				89	Swain
90		94	93				80			99	70	91	87	88		11	75	Transylvania
90	75	92	80	90	92	79	82	75	80	83	82	84	98	92	80	5	73	Yancey
92	86	87	87	85	87	89	80	86	86	87	84	91	96	84	80	14	77	Western Mountain (W.)
DISTRICT 2																		
87	78	78	80	79	78	89	75	79	82	90	80	88	89	86	65	49	48	Alamance
86	89	83	86	83	84	88	72	79	90	91	86	87	88	88	85	55	59	Caswell
80	75	79	75	75			75	70		77		95				75	59	Durham
95	91	94	85	90	97	87	87	93	87	83	92	94	95	89		44	63	Forsyth
79	84	80	81	80	81	89	84	83	81	71	80	85	90	92	78	65	62	Franklin
95	89	84	83	81	87	89	84	79	90	86	82	94	97	79	71	33	73	Granville
93	89	82	86	85	85	93	83	85	87	87		96	100	93	71	47	55	Guilford
81	85	75	79	73	73	74	73	77	80	82	80	88	90	77	68	47	50	Orange
80	83	80	75	70	85	86	86	71	83	77	77	93	88	82		48	77	Person
90	79	86	77	80	85	85	75	77	84	78	83	87	96	78	73	36	67	Rockingham
87	86	87	79	81	82	88	81	91	92	91	92	93	94	83	76	32	46	Stokes
90	83	86	80	74	85	95	80	80	82	84	81	97	96			77	58	Vance
81	85	78	76	79	82	84	89	85	84	75	88	87	93	79	90	68	54	Warren
87	85	85	82	81	85	87	81	83	86	85	85	91	92	82	74	51	58	Northern Piedmont (N.)
DISTRICT 5																		
93	92	80	87	95	84	90	78	90	83	69	80	92	98	85	68	39	67	Alexander
90	90	85	83	74	83	76	71	83	94	73	78	81	92	87	79	26	67	Catawba
91	79	72	82	79	66	96	90	91	85	68	87	95	96	89	85	71	51	Chatham
89	86	78	86	83	76	93	84	93	83	86	74	89	88	90	75	34	57	Davidson
91	84	79	88	81	79	100	75	91	75	75	75	93	93	85	68	15	52	Davie
94	88	86	86	78	85	83	84	93	83	82	92	91	96	87	68	35	55	Iredell
90	81	82	87	80	74	91	81	68	83	78	75	93	96	86	72	78	52	Lee
92	78	91	96	78	74	82	84	84	78	93	80	95	91	88	83	49	62	Randolph
89	81	88	91	88	84	90	85	88	89	87	72	91	91	81	74	35	48	Rowan
81	83	83	81	77	76	87	76	88	86	69	70	82	96	80	83	71	63	Wake
91	83	83	87	81	80	85	82	88	85	78	82	90	94	84	75	51	53	Central Piedmont (C.)
DISTRICT 8																		
80	79	76	79	83	68	83	86	80	80	71	78	82	92	82	79	51	58	Anson
81	88	92	83	75	81	91	88	83	83	78	75	95	92	87	73	29	46	Cabarrus
85	85	84	80	89	87	81	76	88	83	55	71	78	90	74	76	24	74	Cleveland
81	90	72	75	74	72	81	79	88	84	57	75	73	82	75	64	34	68	Gaston
81	85	83	78	83	87	80	75	89	87	70	89	76	85	77	73	22	73	Lincoln
90	83	72	88	81	74	78	83	79	85	73	76	86	85	77	69	26	58	Mecklenburg
92	83	88	90	78	82	91	89	78	85	95	82	84	91	92	77	61	65	Montgomery
85	80	87	88	83	78	86	90	85	90	72	85	98	81	84	74	70	70	Moore
90	82	79	85	80	63	93	91	84	73			98	95	86	82	41	65	Richmond
87	91	90	88	88	84	98	85	87	87	97	83	94	90	91	82	57	66	Stanly
83	85	82	80	91	81	82	82	79	77	83	85	83	89	78	74	56	48	Union
84	85	84	83	83	78	85	81	84	83	70	78	83	89	80	71	40	64	Southern Piedmont (S.)
DISTRICT 3																		
87	88	85	72	75	71	78	82	77	79	68	77	76	84		82	34	79	Bertie
90	88	84	90			90	77	88	82	80	83	94	89	86		35	62	Camden
88	83	78	86		74	73	77	79	80			86	80			15		Chowan
82	75	82				88	71	78	74	63	81	93	86			38	60	Currituck
90	90	91				85	75	78	80	85	90	96						Dare
85	84	78	89	79	74	80	82	87	79	75	80	89	90	83	83	44	68	Edgecombe
88	88	81	85	78	76	75	67	83	77		75	97	95			17	52	Gates
83	86	85	83	73	87	78	82	78		87	83	80	86	81	80	41	51	Halifax
80	90	88	77	80	85	91	78	85	87	75	80	75	93	80	86	45	77	Hertford
89	89	83	84	81	80	85	88	83	79	69	89	98	81	79	81	63	71	Martin
84	81	89	89	81	71	89	80	85	79	83	95	88	84	71				

CONDITION ZONES OF TOBACCO AND CORN IN NORTH CAROLINA.



Shaded areas show conditions of growth from 70 to 75 per cent of a full crop prospect.

TOBACCO

Tobacco experienced quite a setback in limited areas of the State, due to fields burning by the heat and drought and to renewed growth in parts of the Old Belt. Reports are general that the crop will be shorter than expected, in spite of the large increase in acreage. We recall vividly that the same complaint and predictions were made a year ago when the increased production was 100,000,000 pounds more than the previous year. The uncertainty of this crop is very evident and dependable data will not be available until later on in the season. The prices received on the auction markets indicate both poor quality and over production. The September 1st condition was seven per cent below that twelve months ago.

The Piedmont or Old Belt counties have experienced very trying harvesting conditions. The September rains and even unknown conditions caused great firing and bad leaf quality. All over this and much of the New Bright Belt there was experienced considerable field burning and diseased conditions, damaging the leaves so that they were not even harvested.

On October 1, the tobacco outlook was for a poorer and shorter crop than expected earlier. Improved prices on markets also showed that the buyers realized this.

The maps above warrant your careful study. The shaded areas show where a condition of 70 to 75 per cent of a full crop was reported for each of the three months indicated. This condition zone was about the AVERAGE for July and September. August showed an average condition of 75 to 80 per cent. Important towns are shown to help in locating these areas. On the whole, the tobacco crop is perhaps in the most puzzling condition for several years.

CORN

The maps above showing the high and low condition areas for corn since July 1, possibly shows a little heavier decrease in the condition of the crop than was actually the case. There is evidence of much pessimism on the part of farmers, probably brought about as a result of excessive rains and the impossibility of pulling fodder and cutting stalks just at the time desired. This may, however, result in a slightly better yield of grain than might have been expected otherwise. The condition of the crop averaged 69 per cent of normal on October 1.



Beaufort County. Million dollar grass with soy beans hay crop at extreme left.

INDEX NUMBERS OF NORTH CAROLINA FARM PRICES FOR 1926-1928

Based on Five-Year Period---August, 1909-July, 1914---100

	RELATIVE FARM PRICES																				Index Agricultural Products (N. C.)	Index Non- Agricultural Products (U. S.)	Purchasing Power of Farm Products (N. C.)	Purchasing Power of Non- Agricultural Products
	Corn	Wheat	Oats	Rye	Irish Potatoes	Sweet Potatoes	Cotton	Cotton Seed	All Hay	Beef Cattle	Milk Cows	Veal Calves	Hogs	Sheep	Lambs	Horses	Chickens	Eggs	Butter	Wool				
1926																								
January	126	170	119	147	304	194	148	135	126	122	136	162	161	152	207	48	188	171	167	182	132	165	80	125
February	127	173	116	146	332	205	150	131	129	120	139	168	157	149	219	58	197	185	158	173	134	164	82	122
March	122	165	109	136	319	184	137	140	129	133	131	146	156	169	230	57	198	141	158	182	131	162	81	124
April	121	157	114	140	365	176	139	153	130	119	140	162	152	180	210	53	197	180	158	172	130	160	81	123
May	113	163	109	131	361	184	133	145	124	135	148	167	162	179	226	59	218	173	163	132	132	160	83	121
June	112	159	111	136	323	202	123	150	120	130	139	146	168	184	223	55	255	175	161	163	129	160	81	124
July	113	144	103	133	191	227	128	151	122	145	145	153	169	177	217	53	198	171	161	172	130	159	82	122
August	111	134	105	138	185	202	134	142	126	143	146	149	174	176	212	55	203	165	168	172	130	160	81	123
September	112	132	103	133	200	184	137	137	140	147	153	140	172	164	205	53	189	165	165	169	130	161	81	124
October	109	123	111	122	179	154	101	101	118	148	151	173	163	178	209	52	188	168	154	179	118	160	74	136
November	104	125	111	123	207	135	95	90	132	149	150	164	162	188	228	54	192	179	163	179	116	161	72	139
December	101	126	111	126	205	159	89	81	120	139	151	161	164	201	233	49	191	196	158	175	113	158	72	140
1927																								
January	99	127	106	122	200	143	94	88	116	149	151	168	168	196	237	51	196	158	154	159	114	156	73	137
February	98	127	111	121	190	140	101	109	114	141	161	164	169	195	205	54	199	145	158	159	116	155	75	134
March	94	127	106	121	191	151	104	126	113	145	163	169	169	171	228	59	202	129	154	172	118	153	77	130
April	94	121	105	115	188	131	104	126	111	142	166	162	150	173	190	58	196	147	150	167	116	151	77	130
May	92	123	105	115	186	132	113	113	110	140	168	182	152	177	205	61	206	147	146	159	118	150	79	127
June	98	127	105	115	215	140	118	120	111	141	159	170	151	182	205	60	243	138	152	154	121	150	81	124
July	103	133	106	112	197	167	119	126	113	147	171	173	154	172	200	57	180	141	161	167	123	151	81	123
August	107	131	111	121	173	167	138	140	113	152	176	185	159	187	203	59	186	159	164	167	130	151	86	116
September	113	131	114	126	156	158	171	154	114	169	187	177	158	176	197	56	172	175	157	179	141	152	93	108
October	113	129	111	129	148	131	168	159	120	170	194	185	137	159	213	56	182	168	158	169	140	151	93	108
November	111	127	113	133	146	136	168	162	109	182	195	198	145	172	198	56	190	171	167	175	142	151	94	106
December	108	130	118	135	151	127	153	150	107	182	201	205	145	191	224	61	195	176	163	179	139	151	92	109
1928																								
January	106	129	119	134	147	114	153	147	110	169	196	191	142	196	222	58	193	162	163	159	135	151	89	112
February	107	132	117	130	152	127	138	156	111	164	206	187	140	174	218	60	192	155	163	159	132	151	87	114
March	111	137	125	139	160	132	143	162	102	175	204	200	123	203	263	61	191	124	163	172	135	151	89	112
April	116	143	125	138	161	119	150	171	101	171	206	203	114	196	218	62	186	147	158	191	137	155	88	113
May	122	163	128	144	165	121	159	173	103	167	211	196	123	201	228	63	199	153	154	182	142	156	91	110
June	123	163	136	143	134	118	154	172	105	180	205	183	129	194	232	62	230	156	161	191	143	156	92	109
July	128	149	133	147	84	133	165	176	108	175	209	202	129	193	223	62	188	159	161	201	145	156	93	108
August	128	135	129	139	86	149	153	176	109	188	215	219	135	187	209	64	199	153	168	196	145	156	93	108

Note—The Price and Production data used in computing this index number are the estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture. The figures in the index column represent the price level of the 20 Farm Products shown as compared with the price level of the five years from August, 1909, to July, 1914, as a base (100%). The same is true of the 20 individual items as shown.

The index of non-agricultural products relate to retail prices after March, 1928. Previous to this time they were computed from wholesale prices, Farmers buy at retail prices, which warrants this change.

PRICES PAID TO NORTH CAROLINA PRODUCERS FOR FARM PRODUCTS

This table shows yearly, and monthly comparisons and price trends. These prices are those to farmers and NOT retail prices.

	Unit	1924	1925	1926	1927				1928								
		Sept.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Farm Crops:																	
Corn	bu.	1.24	1.43	1.05	1.06	1.01	.93	.90	.89	.91	.97	1.03	1.12	1.17	1.22	1.24	1.22
Wheat	bu.	1.40	1.73	1.43	1.42	1.43	1.42	1.44	1.44	1.49	1.55	1.65	1.87	1.84	1.59	1.46	1.43
Oats	bu.	.80	.74	.65	.72	.70	.71	.73	.74	.74	.80	.81	.83	.87	.84	.80	.75
Barley	bu.			.83			1.20	1.23	1.25	1.20	1.26	1.22	1.35	1.36	1.33	1.26	1.21
Rye	bu.	1.35	1.49	1.30	1.24	1.29	1.34	1.34	1.32	1.29	1.38	1.38	1.43	1.42	1.44	1.36	1.39
Cotton, (lint)	lb.	.22	.22	.17	.21	.21	.20	.19	.19	.17	.18	.19	.20	.20	.21	.19	.18
Cottonseed	ton	33.00	37.60	31.10	35.00	37.80	38.70	38.00	38.50	40.00	40.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	42.00	39.00	36.00
Irish Potatoes	bu.	1.05	1.72	1.60	1.25	1.20	1.20	1.25	1.25	1.40	1.50	1.55	1.60	1.25	.75	.70	.70
Sweet Potatoes	bu.	1.45	1.45	1.40	1.20	.85	.80	.80	.80	.95	1.00	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.00	1.25	1.15
Apples	bu.	.74	1.05	.75	1.20	1.65	1.60	1.80	1.90	2.10				1.65	.90	.85	.80
Apples	bbl.	2.80		3.00	3.50	3.90	5.10	5.60	6.00	5.80				4.40	2.90	2.75	2.40
Tobacco	100 lbs.	19.66	17.40	24.80	17.87	22.81	26.28	21.73	19.07	13.98					14.42		
Livestock (Live wt.):																	
Hogs	100 lbs.	10.10	11.60	13.00	10.20	10.70	11.30	10.80	10.60	10.40	9.10	9.00	9.10	9.80	9.90	10.00	10.40
Beef Cattle	100 lbs.	5.20	5.80	6.00	5.40	6.80	7.20	7.20	6.80	7.00	7.40	7.60	7.40	7.90	7.60	7.90	7.80
Veal Calves	100 lbs.	8.00	7.50	7.30	7.00	9.20	10.00	9.80	9.80	9.90	10.70	11.00	10.00	10.00	11.00	11.00	10.80
Sheep	100 lbs.	6.20	6.00	7.20	7.30	6.70	7.30	7.60	8.00	7.60	8.30	8.70	8.50	8.40	8.30	8.20	8.70
Lambs	100 lbs.	9.80	11.00	11.00	10.70	10.50	9.60	11.00	10.70	11.10	12.70	12.10	11.60	12.40	12.00	10.80	10.90
Livestock and Products:																	
Milk Cows	head	47.00	48.00	50.00	52.00	64.00	66.00	68.00	65.00	69.00	70.00	72.00	73.00	72.00	72.00	72.00	74.00
Horses	head	102.00	84.00	80.00	84.00	84.00	85.00	90.00	88.00	93.00	92.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	91.00
Mules	head			116.00	117.00	120.00	120.00	125.00	126.00	135.00	140.00	145.00	145.00	145.00	140.00	140.00	135.00
Butter	lb.	.38	.40	.38	.36	.39	.40	.39	.39	.39	.39	.38	.41	.40	.37	.37	.38
Wool (unwashed)	lb.	.34	.36	.34	.36	.27	.35	.36	.35	.35	.36	.40	.40	.42	.42	.41	.45
Eggs	doz.	.33	.36	.33	.35	.37	.41	.44	.39	.31	.21	.22	.23	.25	.27	.26	.33
Chickens (live wt.)	lb.	.22	.23	.23	.21	.23	.22	.21	.21	.21	.21	.21	.24	.25	.25	.24	.23
Turkeys (live wt.)	lb.					.30	.30	.30	.30								
Hay Crops:																	
Hay, all (loose)	ton	20.00	18.80	22.00	18.00	18.50	17.00	17.00	17.50	18.00	17.10	17.40	17.90	18.00	18.00	17.30	17.30
Timothy, (loose)	ton			27.50	19.50	20.00	21.00	19.00	22.00	20.80	17.70	19.70	21.50	20.00	21.00	20.40	20.70
Clover hay, (loose)	ton			20.00	19.20	20.00	20.00	18.50	20.50	19.80	20.00	19.00	20.00	19.00	21.00	19.00	20.90
Alfalfa (loose)	ton			28.00	23.40	24.00	22.70	23.00	25.00	22.00	22.00	20.30	21.00	20.00	22.00	20.90	22.00
Prairie (loose)	ton				16.50	15.50	16.00	15.50	16.50	17.50	16.00	14.00	15.00	13.50	15.00	15.30	13.50

COTTON

STATES	Condition September 1				Indicated Bales Production September 1				Final Production Bales		
	1925	1926	1927	1928	1925	1926	1927	1928	1925	1926	1927
Virginia	68	66	70	78	46,000	45,000	37,000	46,000	53,000	51,000	32,000
North Carolina	68	69	64	69	1,132,000	1,137,000	911,000	970,000	1,102,000	1,213,000	857,000
South Carolina	46	54	48	58	830,000	983,000	784,000	890,000	889,000	1,008,000	735,000
Georgia	55	53	55	58	983,000	1,132,000	1,035,000	1,100,000	1,164,000	1,496,000	1,100,000
Florida	78	65	58	58	30,000	26,000	15,000	19,000	38,000	32,000	17,000
Missouri	70	65	52	64	250,000	225,000	106,000	165,000	299,000	218,000	104,000
Tennessee	66	60	60	65	437,000	388,000	335,000	441,000	515,000	451,000	345,000
Alabama	65	61	58	59	1,024,000	1,085,000	952,000	970,000	1,357,000	1,498,000	1,200,000
Mississippi	74	62	57	60	1,350,000	1,319,000	1,075,000	1,250,000	1,991,000	1,888,000	1,340,000
Louisiana	67	57	55	53	644,000	624,000	487,000	560,000	910,000	829,000	545,000
Texas	43	57	56	61	3,851,000	5,000,000	4,700,000	5,100,000	4,163,000	5,628,000	4,280,000
Oklahoma	61	63	51	53	1,520,000	1,561,000	1,025,000	1,306,000	1,691,000	1,773,000	990,000
Arkansas	69	63	55	61	1,368,000	1,327,000	970,000	1,250,000	1,600,000	1,548,000	980,000
New Mexico	88	86	90	89	59,000	70,000	70,000	80,000	66,000	75,000	70,000
Arizona	92	82	90	87	89,000	104,000	90,000	133,000	119,000	122,000	93,000
California	90	92	90	87	112,000	122,000	90,000	149,000	122,000	131,000	94,000
All others	76	72	77	62	15,000	18,000	10,000	10,000	26,000	17,000	7,000
United States	56.2	59.6	56.1	60.3	13,740,000	15,166,000	12,692,000	14,439,000	16,104,000	17,977,000	12,789,000
Lower California		95	90	87	80,000		62,000	95,000	75,000	86,000	50,000

NORTH CAROLINA COTTON REPORT,
OCTOBER 1, 1928

A North Carolina cotton crop of 925,000 bales in 1928 is forecasted by the reported condition of 59 per cent of normal and indicates an average yield of 240 pounds (lint) from the 1,839,000 acres to be harvested in the State.

Weather conditions since September 1 have resulted in the wettest September on record in eastern North Carolina. This is also true for the State as a whole. Heavy winds, combined with wet conditions, have meant heavy damage to the cotton crop. There is much complaint from farmers of the lint being battered out, ground bolls rotting and heavy deterioration. A close examination by field men from this Department, covering 1,500 miles through the cotton belt, has revealed less actual rot and weather damage than was generally reported. It is very evident that much of the so-called rot and weather damage has really resulted from original weevil punctures. Flooded conditions covered less than one per cent of the cultivated land area of the State. The per cent of cotton land included was, therefore, relatively small.

The October condition of 59 per cent for the State represents a decline of 10 per cent since September 1. While the damage has been serious since that time, it is very probable that most of the damage was already under way as a result of weevil punctures prior to the September winds and rains. This is evident from actual boll counts made by our field men and by the farmers themselves. Heavy weevil damage occurred in the Central and Southern Coastal counties and in the lower Piedmont section.

Farmers should bear in mind that the 925,000 bales is the crop indicated by conditions existing on October 1. The final outturn of the crop will depend on whether the various influences affecting the crop during the remainder of the season are more or less favorable than usual. Farmers' reports indicate that about nine per cent of the crop had been picked by October 1.

(Continued on Page 15)

HOW FORECASTS ARE MADE

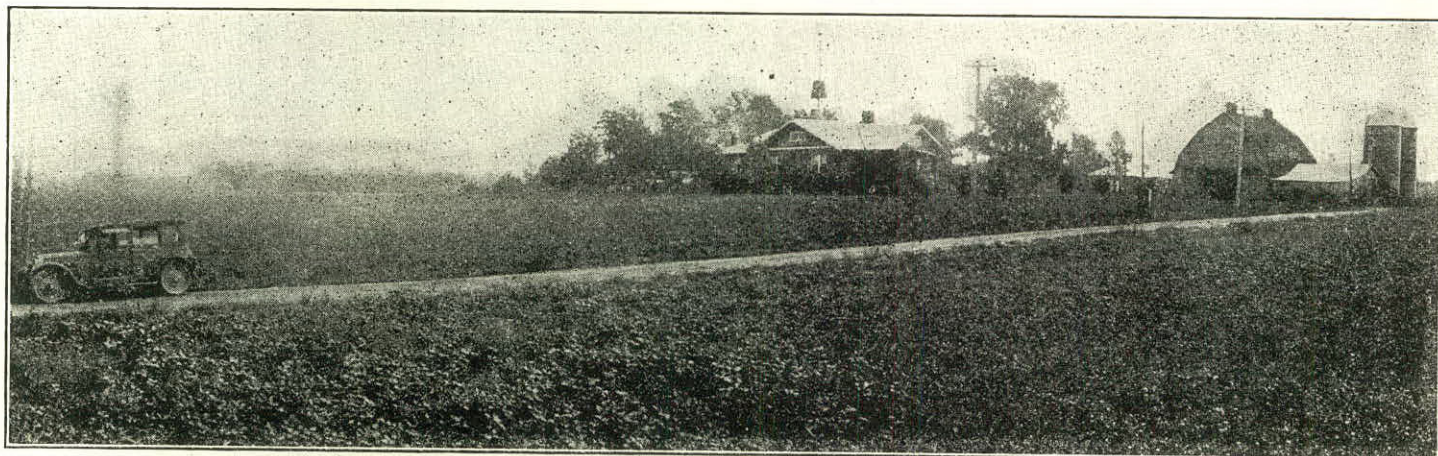
Practically all of the crop reporters of North Carolina are farmers. The rest are those who are directly in touch with the farmers and are interested in studying crop conditions at first hand. Thus the reports used as a basis of crop forecasting come from those who are best informed on the subject. The government reports, therefore, are the farmers' reports just as the people are the government.

The conditions reported to the Raleigh and Washington offices are developed into district and county data (see district map elsewhere) or average which, in turn, are made into State figures.

From past experience it has been learned for instance that a September 1st condition of corn at 80 per cent of a full crop indicates 21 bushels per acre which, in turn, indicates an average of 26 bushels per acre for a normal or full crop. This same method is used with other crops. With an average yield indicated and the preliminary acreage arrived at from the early summer farm reports, it is easy to prepare a forecast.

To illustrate this the September 1st corn condition for North Carolina is reported to be 75 per cent of a full crop. This indicates 19.5 bushels per acre. The acreage is estimated at one per cent less than last year or 2,328,000 acres this year. This indicates 45,396,000 bushels as compared with last year's final estimate of 53,626,000 bushels.

The cotton crop is the most complicated one that we have to deal with. This is because of its highly speculative nature and of the need to secure the most reliable information. In spite of the many criticisms directed at the unreliability of cotton estimates, a review of the past four years' September forecasts shows them to average within 4 per cent of the final March ginnings while the December 1st estimates are



Davidson County. Diversified Farming. Alfalfa hay at left of road. Soybeans mixture in front. Dairy farming shown by silos.

TOBACCO

STATES	Condition September 1				Indicated Pounds Production September 1 (000 omitted)				Final Production Pounds (000 omitted)		
	1925	1926	1927	1928	1925	1926	1927	1928	1925	1926	1927
Massachusetts	89	91	79	87	12,656	8,299	8,558	10,162	10,690	9,412	8,683
Connecticut	89	88	75	87	38,208	31,979	28,142	33,930	40,019	29,346	28,886
New York	84	82	70	88	2,386	2,329	1,579	1,140	2,200	1,320	960
Pennsylvania	90	86	81	84	59,778	45,692	40,694	47,040	57,400	43,560	44,880
Ohio	88	76	72	71	42,134	39,330	27,251	29,948	50,745	37,389	24,012
Indiana	76	81	63	75	15,185	15,422	7,133	13,653	18,291	12,995	6,384
Wisconsin	95	85	67	91	44,830	35,496	30,635	45,546	44,000	33,350	31,620
Missouri	86	79	86	83	5,934	4,503	4,816	3,752	4,075	4,750	4,400
Maryland	80	85	85	64	20,200	27,472	26,957	20,685	24,690	26,040	26,176
Virginia	62	81	84	74	104,346	135,626	133,585	123,743	129,400	137,032	129,940
West Virginia	70	79	73	80	5,152	7,663	5,420	6,922	6,975	8,500	6,000
North Carolina	80	79	83	76	325,296	360,264	425,431	470,041	380,165	386,460	485,000
South Carolina	78	68	79	62	68,188	57,548	75,151	75,531	71,040	56,780	75,920
Georgia	78	87	80	73	47,174	39,933	59,760	85,118	48,275	39,963	59,088
Florida	84	85	76	75	6,451	4,845	6,170	9,922	5,824	5,808	8,228
Kentucky	70	83	63	72	361,767	381,866	219,401	312,602	387,990	358,568	242,820
Tennessee	67	83	76	77	86,832	107,883	67,330	81,642	94,380	106,216	71,435
Louisiana	95	65	74	75	494	344	400	405	504	400	400
United States	75.2	81.0	76.5	74.5	1,247,011	1,306,494	1,168,413	1,371,782	1,376,628	1,297,889	1,237,832

less than one per cent away from the final ginnings. Special attention is called to the fact that most of the government forecasts, and especially those of cotton and tobacco, are less than the final productions.

Factors entering into the complication of the cotton estimates are (1) preliminary acreage estimates from four sources; (2) condition reports from three sources; (3) cotton bloom and boll counts; (4) insect and disease damages to bolls; (5) several hundred semi-monthly field examinations by reporters (farmers); (6) bias in reported figures, based on previous year's findings; (7) par adjustment factors; (8) ginner's reports sent directly to the Raleigh office and other minor indications.

The Crop Reporting Board at Washington is at all times on the lookout for practical methods that will aid in improving the reliability of their forecasts. Of course, the most disturbing factor is that of the weather which, thus far, cannot be foretold beyond two or three days, and some of us know that even then it is not always correctly forecasted. Those responsible for the government crop reports do not and cannot claim ability to forecast what is actually going to be produced. Their purpose is to tell what MAY be produced provided this year's conditions following the time of the forecast are in accordance with previous years' experiences or results during the same remaining period of development. The good Lord does not permit any mere man to see far into the future, because Nature is an ever varying factor and no man knows what tomorrow will bring forth.

Suffice it to say that the government forecasts are considered the

most reliable of any secured in this or any other country. Those experienced in this work confidently believe that the average farmer and particularly the crop reporters are honest in their estimates as reported to the State Statisticians.

TOBACCO

The table above shows our September tobacco estimates compared with the final estimate for the past three years. On October 1 farmers reported the condition of the crop at harvest as 70 per cent of normal, with a production indication of 465,465,000 pounds. Many farmers and others observing the crop this year seem to be at a loss concerning the condition, yield and quality, etc. About the time the harvest began the crop appeared to be quite up to the average. Then followed an almost sudden ripening condition when, instead of the usual three or four primings, the whole crop was ready to harvest at the same time. This resulted in overloading of barns, and over ripening of some tobacco left in the field. Field firing was common. More than the usual number of barns were burned under the crowding conditions. Rains interfered with normal and needed harvesting of the crop. This encouraged field burning.

The tobacco marketed thus far is much poorer in quality than usual, which accounts in part for the low prices. The low quality indicates light weight. The yield per acre indicated by the October 1 condition estimate averages 651 pounds.



Continuation of some farm scene shown at left. Corn, with soy beans as companion crop in background. Home conveniences are evident here. No dependence on cash crop.

UNITED STATES CROP OUTLOOK OCTOBER 1, 1928

There have been relatively few important changes since last month in the United States crop situation. Excessive rain has hurt all growing crops in the South Atlantic States and frost has hurt some late fields of corn, buckwheat, flax, potatoes and tomatoes along the northern border, with more or less local damage down to nearly the southern limits of the Ohio and Missouri Valleys. The generally dry weather in the central States and Southwest, while unfavorable for certain crops,

has facilitated the harvest of late hay and grain crops, helped to mature the corn, and to check the spread of the potato blight. In general, the reports on yields of crops that have been harvested and reports on prospective yields of the crops now being harvested confirm earlier yield indications. Considering all crops and all States, yields are still expected to be about three per cent above the average yields during the last ten years. As the total acreage harvested of all crops this season will probably be above that harvested last year by about 8,000,000 acres or two per cent, the total production of all crops combined seems likely to exceed production last year by around five per cent.



Pasquotank County. Soybean field. Here is where and how they are grown for picking or threshing. The "pickers" are pulled astride the row leaving the bare plants behind.

NORTH CAROLINA ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION INDICATIONS

CROPS		ACREAGE (000 omitted)				PRODUCTION (000 omitted)			
		1925	1926	1927	Indicated 1928	1925	1926	1927	Indicated Sept. 1. 1928
Corn	bu.	2,400	2,376	2,352	2,328	44,400,000	52,272,000	53,626,000	45,396,000
Cotton	bales	2,017	2,015	1,748	1,839	1,102,000	1,213,000	857,000	970,000
Wheat	bu.	406	447	483	435	4,466,000	6,303,000	5,168,000	5,046,000
Oats	bu.	258	310	273	191	4,902,000	6,820,000	5,733,000	4,126,000
Barley	bu.	10	15	20	22	230,000	390,000	480,000	506,000
Rye	bu.	80	104	94	89	920,000	1,352,000	1,128,000	1,024,000
Tobacco	lbs.	547	565	650	715	380,165,000	386,460,000	468,000,000	470,041,000
Tame hay	tons	710	759	900	851	481,000	681,000	845,000	904,000
Irish Potatoes	bu.	58	67	72	87	4,524,000	6,325,000	7,368,000	9,863,000
Sweet Potatoes	bu.	80	84	89	80	7,040,000	7,560,000	10,146,000	8,331,000
*Soy Beans	bu.	230	174	161	161	1,218,000	2,088,000	2,415,000	2,355,000
*Cowpeas	bu.	110	95	147	126	414,000	1,140,000	1,764,000	1,420,000
Peanuts	lbs.	185	180	211	215	212,750,000	185,400,000	210,367,000	213,560,000
Apples	total bu.					3,192,000	5,986,000	1,825,000	4,722,000
Apples	com'l bbls.					160,000	345,000	91,000	236,000
Peaches	total bu.					1,500,000	2,250,000	1,300,000	2,590,000
Pears	bu.					158,000	270,000	100,000	215,000
Grapes	tons					5,000	7,000	5,000	6,000

* Note—A new basis of determination for these crops makes them differ from previously published data. The 1928 data is preliminary and subject to revision.

CROP ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION TRENDS

The accompanying table gives the acreage and final outturn figures for the years 1925 to 1927, and the indicated similar data for 1928, based on September 1st conditions. Similar to the data shown on

page 6, a four year trend is made available. The production figures for the three preceding years are the official estimates for these crops as determined by the Crop Reporting Board at Washington. The 1928 data, is preliminary for crops already harvested and is FORECASTED for crops on which condition was reported September 1st.

NORTH CAROLINA CAR LOT SHIPMENTS FRUITS
AND VEGETABLES

COMMODITY	Sept. 1 1928	Sept. 1 1927	Total 1927	Total 1926	Total 1925	Total 1924
Apples	2	2	46	393	344	433
String Beans	650	459	504	550	459	559
Cabbage (Early)	212	228	228	347	371	263
Cabbage (2nd crop)	8	8	64			
Cantaloupes	274	606	606	397	655	401
Cucumbers	790	935	935	869	1,562	1,639
Lettuce	476	446	447	540	537	714
Mixed Vegetables	504	729	761	673	853	1,093
Peaches	3,098	1,702	1,702	2,155	2,024	1,657
Spinach	8	12	14	2	11	21
Strawberries	2,137	2,201	2,202	1,253	1,634	2,046
Potatoes	9,124	7,487	7,555	6,713	4,052	6,566
Tomatoes	3	9	13	27	8	8
Watermelons	1,178	1,085	1,085	1,301	991	664
Sweet Potatoes	249	480	1,649	1,364	1,189	720
Peppers	107	38	39	11	18	11
Grapes	2	1	1	1		1
Green Peas	667	570	570	596	491	
Onions	2	0	0	2		
Total	19,491	16,998	18,421	17,194	15,199	16,796

TRUCK

The figures in the table above showing carlot shipments are taken from the report of the Bureau of Markets and show actual shipments to the dates listed. As will be seen, peach shipments this year were considerably more than any of the previous five seasons. This is likewise true in the case of potato shipments. These facts are accompanied by a disastrous price situation that means untold loss to the growers. Beans and peas show record shipments and a considerable increase is noted in peppers also.

NORTH CAROLINA COTTON REPORT

OCTOBER 1, 1928

(Continued from Page 12)

Excessive shedding has been general, but possibly not more so than last year, though there is admittedly very little top bolls left to depend on. Farmers' reports last year indicated a heavier weevil infestation on October 1 than is the case this October. Ginning is much later at this date than for the past two seasons.

UNITED STATES COTTON CROP OCTOBER 1, 1928

The 1928 cotton crop of the United States is forecast as of October 1, by the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture, at 13,993,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight. The forecast is based upon analysis and interpretation of reported condition, reported probable yield per acre, reported per centage of the crop ginned to October 1, considered in connection with actual ginnings to that date, reported expected county total ginnings, and reported number of bolls safe on October 1.

Reported condition of the crop declined during the month of September from 60.3 per cent to 54.4 per cent of normal. The forecast as of October 1 is 446,000 bales below the forecast of September 1. This reduction is less than the reduction indicated by the decline of 5.9 points in condition for the reason that in the September forecast the Board's interpretation of condition made allowance for damage from boll weevil unanticipated by reporters at that time.

The reduction of 446,000 bales in the forecast, therefore, represents approximately the reduction due to unfavorable climatic developments of the month. In the South Atlantic States excessive and continuous rain caused heavy losses from boll weevil and boll rot. In the northern portions of the belt below average temperatures prevented average development of bolls. In parts of Oklahoma continued drought has reduced the size of bolls and outturn of lint. On the other hand, a slight improvement has resulted in Mississippi and Louisiana due to favorable weather for maturing the crop.

NORTH CAROLINA CROPS, OCTOBER 1, 1928
CORN

A 41,764,000 bushel corn crop was forecasted on October 1, with a condition 69 per cent of normal. This condition is 11 points below the past ten year average on October 1. The crop is nearly eight per cent below the estimate of September 1, and 22 per cent less than the crop harvested last year.

TAME HAY

The October estimate of tame hay production is 8.5 per cent below the 1927 harvest but is better than the past five year average production. The quality of the crop at 82 per cent of normal is three points below the past ten year average.

IRISH POTATOES

The late irish potato crop showed a condition 79 per cent of normal on October 1—four points better than the ten year average on that date, with a prospect of 9,770,000 bushels (total crop) for harvest. This estimate is 13.3 per cent better than last year's crop and nearly 19 per cent more than the past five year average crop.

SWEET POTATOES

While the general appearance of the sweet potato crop is unusually good, there is a general complaint that the root development is suffering and that the yield is not as good as it appears. It is quite probable that the average farmer has not examined his potatoes and may be judging his crop by its outward appearance. However, the average condition of 75 per cent reported on October 1 indicates a 7,980,000 bushel crop as compared with 10,146,000 harvested last year and a five year average crop of 8,978,000 bushels.

PEANUTS

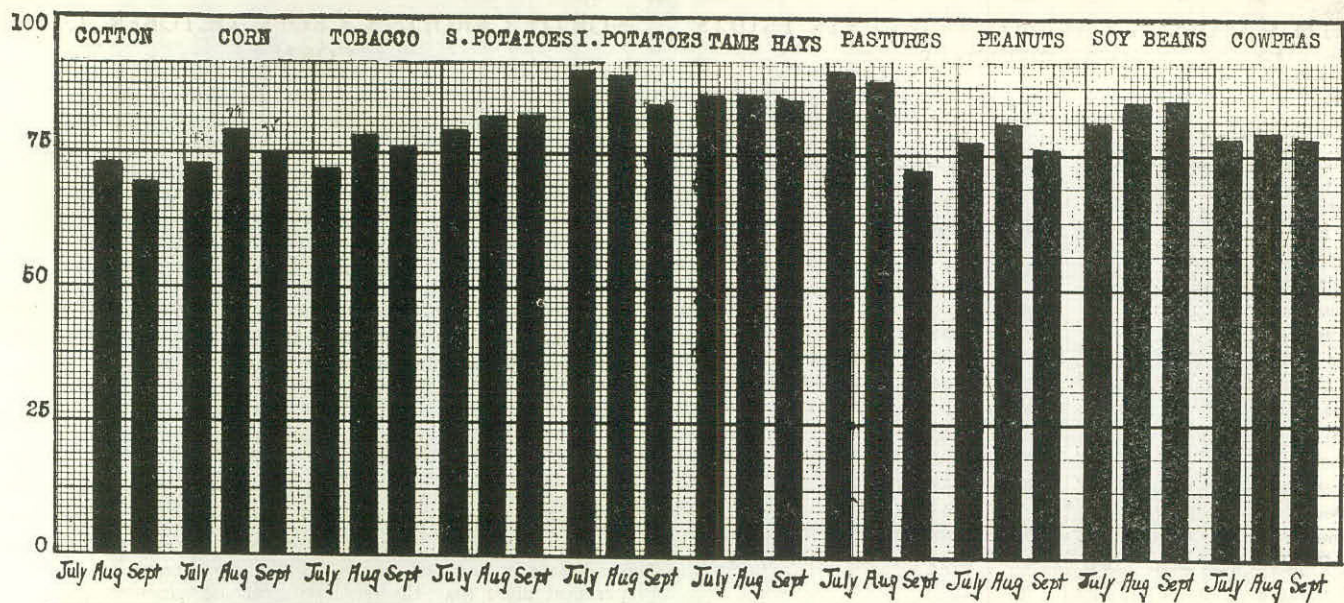
Peanut growers complain that the crop is light in yield this year, although good in quality thus far. Crop prospects are considered good at present. The 73 per cent condition reported is two points below the ten year average on October 1. The crop indicated, 208,744,000 pounds, is over 13 per cent more than last year's harvested production. The United States production indicated is about two per cent more than last year.

FRUIT

The high winds during September resulted in heavy dropping of fruit in the eastern half of the State. The apple crop has suffered from shedding. Rot has been worse than usual. The crop of 4,553,000 bushels indicated on October 1 is 250 per cent larger than the crop failure last year. However, the condition of 63 per cent normal is only 11 points higher than the past ten year average.



Caldwell County. Cabbage field in foreground. Corn and hay in back.



Growing conditions of North Carolina Crops. July, August and September percentages pictured in graphic form, showing comparisons or trends in the growing season.

THE CROP CONDITION GRAPH

Above is illustrated the July, August and September condition of ten crops grown in North Carolina. Thus we offer an opportunity for an easy study of condition trends in these crops during the growing period. Corn, for instance, is shown to have a condition of 73 per cent for July, 78 per cent in August and 75 per cent on September

1st. Sweet potatoes show a gradual improvement in condition, while Irish potatoes show a steady decline during the three months mentioned. Pastures fell from 88 per cent August 1st to 72 September 1st. This is on account of the dry weather and to the natural dying out of pasture grasses at this season of the year.

For a more complete county study of similar information, see the table in the middle of this issue.

THE TASK MASTER

The public or government servant renders an unappreciated service. This is due to its gratuitous nature and to a lack of realization of the extent and complication of the duties involved. We say, "Oh, Mr. Doe has a nice easy and fat job." Most positions that pay well require a corresponding ability and effort to fill it. People can make or break a position. The "take it easy" type soon find someone else getting their pay.

There are many town folks who really think that farming is an easy and bountiful vocation. There are many farmers who think that government positions are all soft and fat jobs. It is unwise to judge people and positions upon first and shallow impressions. Because a man carries a happy smile does not mean that all is happiness and that he has no worries.

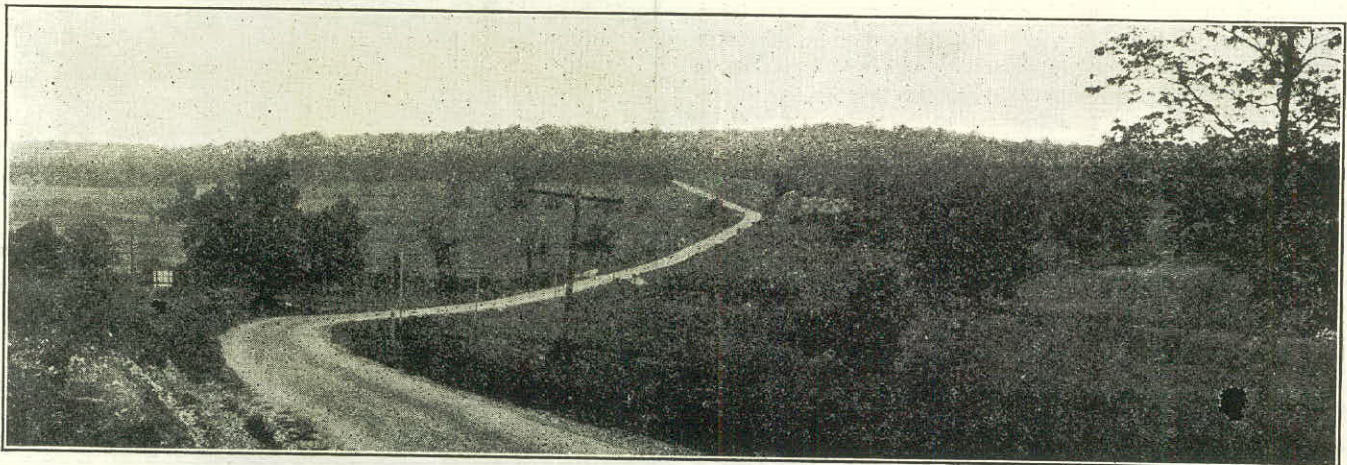
Our statisticians take trips to Washington, D. C., occasionally. They ride the Pullman and live at the hotels. Appear as Board members, which sounds big and easy. What is the true situation? On October 5, the Raleigh office work was tense to the extreme all day and into the night developing the much misjudged and too little used crop

reports. A few minutes later one member caught a train for Washington. He slept very poorly, of course. Next morning he reported for duty at 8:00 o'clock, three miles from his "room." It was grinding statistical analysis and details all day and into Saturday night. Sunday morning it was work again for several hours, to be resumed at 10:00 o'clock Sunday night for the Board meeting. It was then a grind behind locked doors and frosted windows all night until noon Monday. The days following were continued with statistical work, although less arduous. This is one of the easy jobs.

Isn't it better to credit the "other" fellow as having just as difficult a task as one's own? Because the government information comes FREE is no reason for presuming that it is worthless or that those who compiled it found it waiting only to be picked up and passed on.

We know of a fruit orchard. The apples in it are now very pretty and delicious. Some one recently said to the owner, "You always have such fine fruit, and it is just like handing you that much money, isn't it?" They did not see the time and money spent in fertilizing, cultivating, many sprayings, pruning, worming, thinning, grading and marketing the product. Neither did they know that every apple that they gave away cost the owner more than they retailed at in the stores.

If we just knew the other fellow's trials we would appreciate our own duties more.



Randolph County. Grain and hay crops predominate here. Land rolling, Nice homes and good soil.