

FARM FORECASTER

CROP AND LIVE STOCK REPORT FOR NORTH CAROLINA

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NORTH CAROLINA CROP REPORT

August 1, 1937

The month prior to August 1 was favorable to North Carolina crops from the standpoint of both rainfall and temperature. Extremely heavy rainfall occurred in the Coastal Counties with favorable results, however, to most crops. Piedmont Counties experienced rather spotted condition with some areas continuing dry. Favorable conditions were general through most of the Mountain Counties. The entire situation over the State, therefore, was considered by farmers as favorable as of August 1, with crops inclined to be grassy except where unusual care and cultivation were provided. Very little change in the indicated production of crops, however, has taken place since a month ago according to the crop condition reported by the growers.

CORN

The corn crop is consistently good in all sections of the State with the exception of the southern piedmont counties where the lowest July rainfall occurred. Growers reported an average condition of 83 percent of normal on August 1, which is 8 percent better than a year ago and 5 percent better than the past ten year average on August 1. This indicates a total production for the State 44,194,000 bushels. This estimate is the same as indicated a month ago and is one of the largest corn crops on record for this State.

TOBACCO

Weather factors during the month have been favorable for the tobacco crop especially so in the New Bright Belt where the plentiful rainfall added substantial growth to the plants still in the field. The August 1 condition reported by growers was 75 percent of normal, this being 8 percent better than a month ago, 9 percent better than a year ago, and 2 percent better than the past ten year average condition. The total pounds indicated for the crop is estimated at 546,940,000 which is an increase of 4,320,000 over the July 1 estimate. This increase occurred in the New Bright or Eastern Carolina belt as a result of the favorable rainfall. The probable yield per acre indicated by the August 1 condition by belts is as follows: Old Bright Belt (type 11) 700 pounds; New Bright Belt (type 12) 880 pounds; South Carolina Belt (type 13) 950 pounds; and Burley Belt (type 31) 900 pounds. The State average is estimated at 817.5 pounds. This estimate has only been exceeded twice (1934 and 1935) in the history of the crop in this State.

OLD BRIGHT BELT: The lowest conditions reported in the State occurred in the Type 11 or Old Bright belt where the northwestern counties experienced severe attacks from insects and where lighter rainfall occurred during the month of July. The crop indicated at 182,700,000 pounds showed no change from the estimate of a month ago. This belt increased its plantings this year 10 percent over last year and the crop indicated is 2.8 percent more than was harvested last year.

NEW BRIGHT BELT: The August 1 condition of tobacco in this belt averaged 78 percent of normal compared with 70 percent a month ago and with 65 percent on this date a year ago. The crop indicated for the belt is 288,640,000 pounds, this being about 13 percent more than the 222,680,000 pounds harvested last year, and about 11 percent more than the average crop for the period from 1928 to 1932.

SOUTH CAROLINA BELT: The August 1 condition of tobacco in this belt reported that 82 percent of normal is 20 percent better than on this date last year. The acreage in cultivation this season estimated to be 72,000 represents an increase of 18 percent over that harvested last year. The production indicated by the August 1 condition at 68,400,000 pounds represents an increase of 33 percent over the 1936 production for this belt and an increase of 74 percent over the five year average crop for the period from 1928 to 1932.



Tobacco Field in Harnett County—Late July 1937

ALL TAME HAY

The condition of hay crops improved considerably during July in the eastern counties, but this was partially off-set by reports from the drier western Piedmont areas, so that the State average condition on August 1 at 81 percent of normal was only 2 percent above that of a month ago. The production indicated at 750,000 tons represents 11 percent more than the 1936 harvest and is 31 percent more than the five year average crop from 1928 to 1932.

PASTURE

Pasture conditions average 80 percent of normal on August 1 compared with 60 percent on this date last year, but this estimate represents a decline of 2 percent from a month ago. This is the result of the lighter rainfalls occurring in the Piedmont counties and in some of the livestock producing areas in the mountains. The condition estimate, however, is 3 percent above the past ten year average for August 1.

LEGUME CROPS

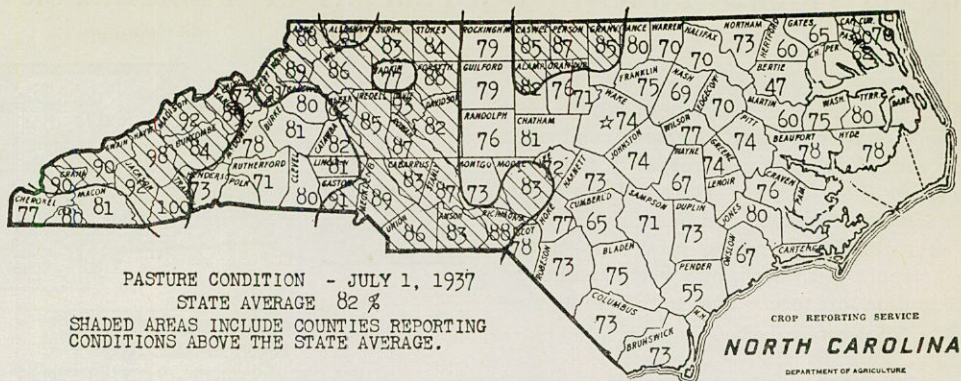
PEANUTS: The July rainfall was conducive to a very rapid growth of the peanut plants. The August 1 condition averaging 83 percent is 5 percent above the past ten year average for this date. August weather conditions will determine the setting of nuts. Too rapid development of the peanut plants is usually at the expense of the formation of the nuts. Thus it is too early on this date to determine a definite indication for production. **SOYBEANS:** The condition of soybeans quoted at 84 percent is 5 percent better than on this date last year, and 2 percent better than the past ten year average. Acreage and cultivation is about the same as in 1936. **COWPEAS:** With a 15 percent increase in acreage the August 1 condition of cowpeas at 81 percent of normal is 8 percent better than a year ago and 4 percent better than the past ten year average for this crop.

POTATOES

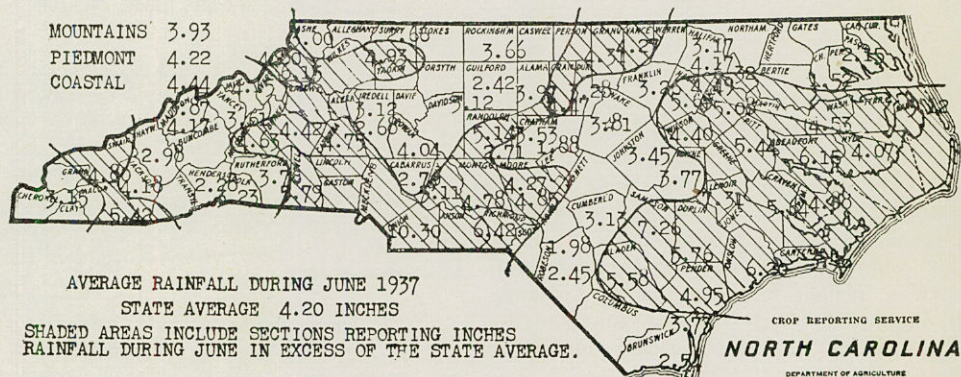
IRISH POTATOES: The indicated production of Irish Potatoes at 9,200,000 bushels represents an increase of 54 percent over the crop harvested last year. Late harvested potatoes produced principally in the mountain counties have experienced favorable weather conditions throughout the growing season. This crop was a practical failure last year in this State. **SWEET-POTATOES:** A slight reduction in the sweetpotato crop was indicated by the August 1 condition reported at 80 percent of normal.

PASTURE CONDITION AND RAINFALL DISTRIBUTION DURING JUNE 1937.

PASTURE: As a result of the better rainfall during June, pasture conditions have improved considerably. Pasture grasses begin to grow and to afford pasturage soon after rains occur, whereas, hays and other crops require several days before appreciable recovery is shown. Most of the Piedmont and mountain counties show better pasture conditions than the eastern portion of the state.



JUNE RAINFALL: While most of North Carolina averaged less than two inches rainfall during May, during the month of June the average was above four inches. North of the Albemarle Sound, in the northern Piedmont, and in the inner coastal regions deficient rainfall was experienced. See map herewith. The decimal point for each figure shown locates approximately the weather station making such report.



THE NATIONAL FARM SITUATION

The demand for farm products is regarded as generally favorable, in view of the healthy industrial or non-agricultural activities. While the farm income showed a decrease from April to May, there were good reasons—such as smaller marketing of farm products in spite of good prices for hogs and grains. Still the May income was the highest for any May since 1930, which also holds true for the first five months of the current year, and it is expected to be even better for the remainder of 1937.

Farm prices were lower June 15th than on May 15th, yet they were 24 percent above the 1910-14 level. The chief cause for the decline was better crop prospects. The prices farmers paid resulted in the lowest level since July 1936. Their purchasing power being 93 percent of pre-war level.

The good prices of wheat are due largely to the small world stocks of 1936 wheat on hand. As a result of good weather, average cotton prices of 12.4 cents compare

with the peak of 14.7 cents in early April. Consumption by mills is heavy, and competition from other countries is increasing for foreign shipments.

Fruit crops are good generally, excepting for peaches in the Southern States (excepting North Carolina). The California peach crop is good and under favorable price conditions they would readily ship to eastern markets. Their fruit looks well but has little taste.

Truck crops have varied considerably. Cabbage had a near record acreage. Cantaloupes have been higher than last year. Tomatoes are expected to be more than in 1936. The Beaufort, North Carolina, section had over 700 acres for early shipment. Watermelon shipments were greatly reduced in June, but have increased since then because of the larger acreage.

The index of prices paid by farmers increased from 94 percent in January 1936 to 153 percent in May 1937. A slight decline was reported for June. Hog prices are high this summer and may go higher. The better grades of beef cattle are scarce and in demand. Dairy products show an increase in production.

NORTH CAROLINA CROP REPORT
(Continued from Page One)

8,925,000 bushels is 18 percent more than was harvested last year.

LEGUME CROPS

PEANUTS The peanut crop is the one major money crop showing a decrease in acreage this year. The 235,000 acres in cultivation is 4 percent less than the 245,000 harvested last year and the condition at 78 percent is one point below the condition a year ago. The June weather conditions were most favorable to the growth of the crop. Fairly good stands are reported with prospects for good yields.

SOYBEANS The acreage grown alone for all purposes is estimated at 258,000, the same as harvested last year while Cowpeas with 207,000 acres in cultivation were increased 15 percent over 1936.

FRUIT CROPS

APPLES The condition of apples at 70 percent is 2 points below a month ago but is 38 percent better than conditions on this date a year ago. A 4,200,000 bushel crop is in prospect at present compared with 1,890,000 bushels harvested in 1936 and a 1928-1932 average crop of 3,199,000 bushels.

THE COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

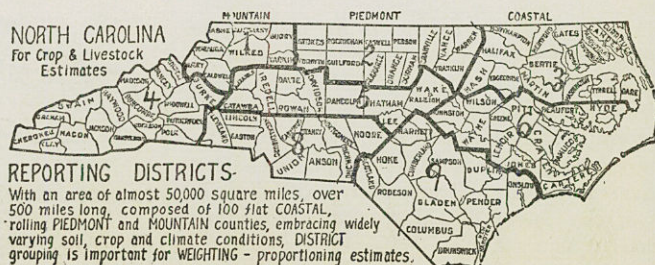
W. F. Callander, Chairman, Crop Reporting Board

Frank Parker, Agricultural Statistician

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

W. Kerr Scott, Commissioner of Agriculture

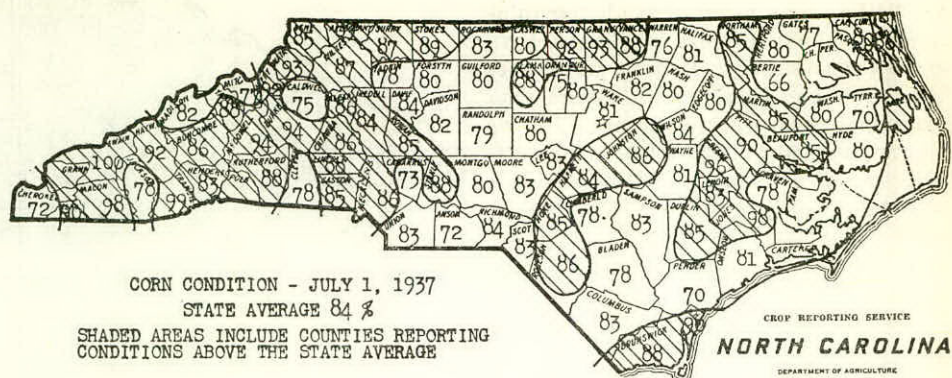
W. H. Rhodes, Associate Agri. Statistician



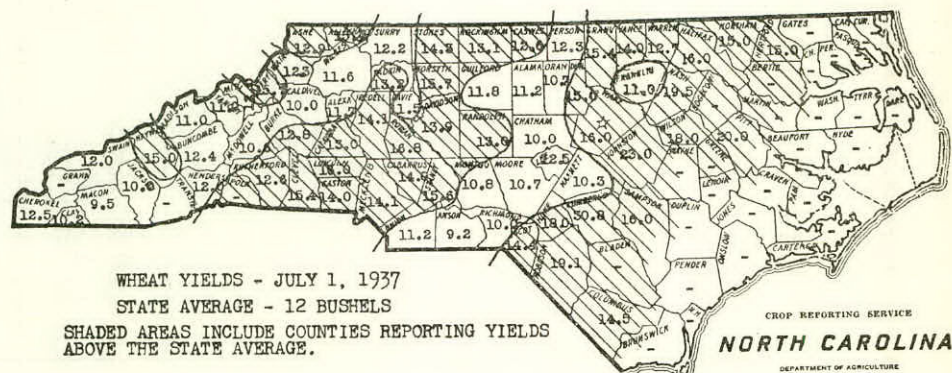
COUNTY CROP CONDITIONS JULY 1, 1937

COUNTY FIGURES INDICATE THE PERCENT OF A NORMAL, OR FULL CROP PROSPECT ON JULY 1

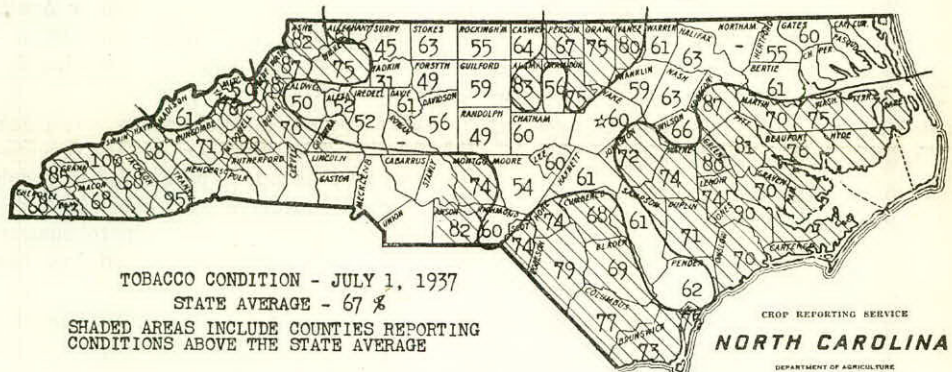
CORN: A study of the map at right shows very irregular zoning of corn conditions. The zone line, of course, refers to the average condition for the state. Here again the eastern Piedmont and most of the coastal area reflect the poorer conditions of this corn crop. With a slightly less acreage the production prospects are appreciably more than last year.



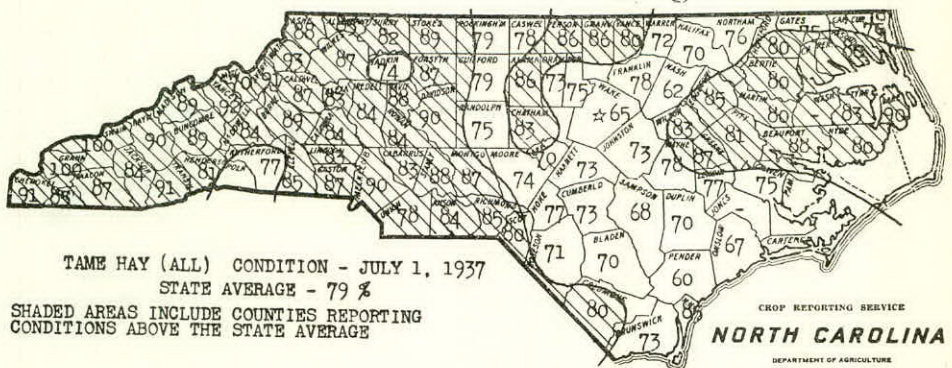
WHEAT YIELD: While the wheat conditions and yields are unusually good this year, the map herewith may not properly reflect the true situation. It shows the figures as reported by farmers and sometimes farmers exaggerate a little bit. It is a rare county indeed that will make over fourteen bushels of wheat on an average, although individual farmers may easily make twenty or more bushels per acre. (Zoning based on 12.5 bushels)



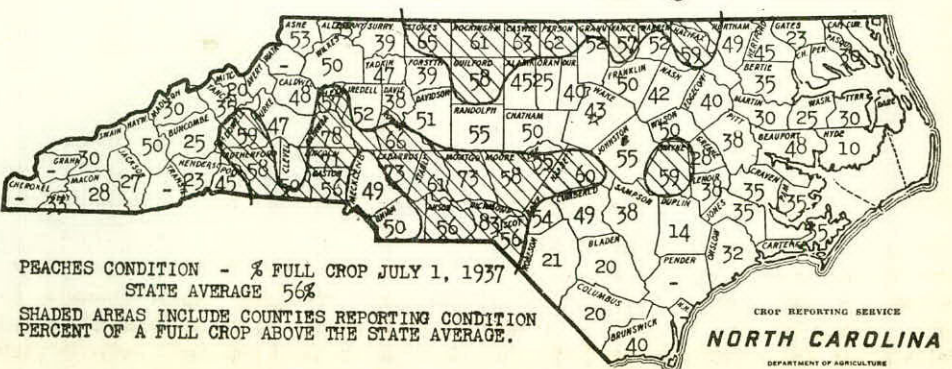
TOBACCO: The very irregular stand resulting for this crop after the plants were set in the field may off-set any favorable weather conditions that may have occurred since that time. As a result the condition of the tobacco crop on the map herewith shows very irregular zoning. It really includes not only the growth but stands. Irregular growth may mean variable and faulty curing or even low yield.



ALL TAME HAYS: Most of the western half of the state shows decidedly improved conditions for hay crops since the June report. This is the result of much better rainfall. The northeastern coastal counties also reflect considerable improvement. Since hay crops are maturing all the way from April to October, it is difficult to know just what condition of hay might now mean as far as yield is concerned.



PEACHES: The condition of peaches is shown to be best in the southern and northern Piedmont counties. This better area includes our sandhill commercial belt where the crop really looks to be quite good. The commercial peaches are bringing excellent prices this year. Thus, North Carolina is especially favored. Most fruit crops are good in this state.



NORTH CAROLINA FARM FORECASTER

TABLES BELOW SHOW RESULTS OF THE JUNE ACREAGE SURVEY, JULY CROP CONDITIONS, FORECASTS, AND PRICES

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES CROP REPORT JULY 1st 1937

PRINCIPAL CROPS	NORTH CAROLINA CROPS						UNITED STATES CROPS					
	ACREAGE		CONDITION % FULL CROP		* PRODUCTION		ACREAGE (000)		CONDITION % FULL CROP		* PRODUCTION (In Thousands)	
	1936	1937	Average 1923-32	1936 1937	Average 1923-32	1936 1937	Thousands	Omitted	Average 1923-32	1936 1937	Average 1923-32	1936 1937
Corn	2,350,000	2,326,000	82	75 84	38,415,000	43,475,000 44,194,000	92,829	96,146	79.5	72.8 82.1	2,554,772	1,529,327 2,571,851
Winter wheat	530,000	519,000	*10.7	*9.5 *12.0	3,790,000	5,194,000 6,228,000	37,608	47,079	74.5	66.3 71.0	623,220	519,013 663,641
Oats	245,000	233,000	*17.6	*15.0 *20.0	3,572,000	3,430,000 4,560,000	33,213	35,933	79.9	60.6 83.8	1,215,102	789,100 1,111,229
Barley	9,000	7,000	*18.1	*17.0 *19.0	361,000	153,000 133,000	8,322	11,166	80.0	60.3 79.3	281,237	147,452 243,540
Rye	60,000	62,000	*7.8	*6.0 *7.5	486,000	390,000 465,000	2,757	3,960	76.8	50.9 76.9	38,212	25,554 50,398
Potatoes	82,000	92,000	*80	*42 *78	7,540,000	5,986,000 9,200,000	3,058.2	3,223.9	*83.9	*73.5 *83.3	372,115	329,997 404,229
Sweet potatoes	84,000	85,000	79	65 76	7,141,000	7,560,000 8,925,000	822	828	77.1	58.8 73.8	66,368	64,144 72,706
Tobacco	597,000	669,000	71	59 67	469,135,000	457,375,000 541,620,000	1,436.9	1,669.7	75.3	57.1 73.4	1,427,174	1,153,083 1,420,943
Peanuts	245,000	235,000	79	73 78	-	-	2,066	2,016	77.8	70.2 75.5	-	-
Hay (Tame)	690,000	937,000	79	58 79	571,000	680,000 750,000	57,055	58,773	78.2	64.7 82.0	70,146	63,309 75,321
Pasture	-	-	81	47 82	-	-	-	-	81.6	58.1 79.4	-	-
FRUIT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apples	-	-	50	32 70	3,199,000	1,890,000 4,240,000	-	-	59.8	42.6 70.2	164,365	117,506 194,329
Peaches	-	-	57	45 56	1,877,000	1,558,000 1,860,000	-	-	62.1	48.2 64.8	57,298	47,650 57,693
Pears	-	-	45	36 44	220,000	240,000 257,000	-	-	61.3	57.1 62.1	24,334	26,956 30,178
Grapes	-	-	79	73 80	4,704	7,900 7,900	-	-	83.0	67.7 86.5	2,214	1,916 2,527

* Figures under condition for wheat, oats, barley and rye are estimates of actual yield per acre.
 Irish potato condition figures relate to late crop only.
 Production estimates in bushels except tobacco in pounds; hay in tons, and grapes in tons.

NORTH CAROLINA CROP CONDITIONS JULY 1st by DISTRICTS

CROPS	MOUNTAIN COUNTIES				PIEDMONT COUNTIES						COASTAL COUNTIES					
	Northern District 1		Western District 4		Northern District 2		Central District 5		Southern District 8		Northern District 3		Central District 6		Southern District 9	
	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937
Corn, Condition	72.0	67.0	67.0	89.0	69.0	83.0	63.0	83.0	58.0	82.0	84.0	81.0	88.0	85.0	83.0	83.0
Wheat, Yield per acre	9.7	13.0	9.9	11.6	10.3	13.0	11.3	13.3	9.8	13.1	15.3	17.5	24.4	19.3	15.1	17.9
Oats, Spring Yield - acre bu	13.5	21.5	10.7	20.7	12.7	19.8	13.5	21.1	15.0	22.7	15.8	19.0	14.1	20.3	16.4	22.4
Oats, Fall Yield - acre bu	16.8	26.7	15.4	21.6	20.8	26.2	26.8	28.2	21.7	28.0	24.5	24.0	29.2	29.6	25.9	33.7
Barley, Yield per acre	18.3	24.7	16.1	20.2	11.0	21.3	21.3	26.9	21.6	22.3	15.0	21.0	30.0	30.0	17.5	31.3
Rye, Yield per acre	8.1	11.5	9.1	11.6	10.0	10.6	7.9	10.1	12.5	9.8	12.5	11.0	11.0	14.0	9.0	11.8
Potatoes (late), condition	46.0	79.0	36.0	77.0	47.0	75.0	39.0	74.0	30.0	72.0	57.0	60.0	52.0	65.0	50.0	72.0
Potatoes (early), Yield bu	46.6	84.0	33.6	61.0	43.0	75.0	32.4	74.0	28.5	69.0	61.9	77.0	59.0	79.0	46.0	94.0
Sweet potatoes, condition	63.0	77.0	52.0	79.0	64.0	83.0	58.0	77.0	54.0	77.0	70.0	74.0	74.0	75.0	68.0	72.0
Tobacco, condition	58.0	60.0	49.0	71.0	60.0	63.0	57.0	55.0	59.0	69.0	61.0	65.0	60.0	74.0	58.0	71.0
Peanuts, condition	32.0	70.0	53.0	81.0	54.0	74.0	53.0	76.0	51.0	75.0	73.0	79.0	81.0	82.0	71.0	73.0
Hay (Tame), condition	45.0	86.0	40.0	86.0	54.0	80.0	51.0	81.0	43.0	85.0	67.0	75.0	76.0	77.0	71.0	71.0
Pasture, condition	47.0	89.0	35.0	82.0	61.0	80.0	57.0	81.0	43.0	84.0	67.0	68.0	72.0	72.0	68.0	71.0
COTTON	-	-	5/1	5/1	5/4	5/5	5/2	5/1	5/2	4/30	4/30	4/28	4/27	4/24	4/23	4/19
Date planted (month - day)	-	-	6/19	5/17	6/14	5/29	6/15	5/22	6/17	5/21	5/31	5/17	5/30	5/14	6/2	5/10
Date up to a stand	-	-	7/18	7/6	7/24	7/7	7/21	7/7	7/13	7/6	7/9	7/4	6/30	6/29	6/29	6/22
Date first bloom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FRUIT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apples, percent full crop	24.0	71.0	27.0	73.0	35.0	68.0	30.0	69.0	32.0	67.0	51.0	65.0	48.0	65.0	53.0	58.0
Peaches, percent full crop	24.0	44.0	16.0	40.0	25.0	52.0	21.0	56.0	30.0	58.0	50.0	46.0	45.0	47.0	52.0	34.0
Pears, percent full crop	26.0	40.0	12.0	38.0	35.0	52.0	25.0	48.0	17.0	47.0	44.0	38.0	43.0	39.0	55.0	33.0
Grapes, percent full crop	76.0	84.0	77.0	86.0	77.0	82.0	70.0	85.0	67.0	84.0	72.0	73.0	72.0	76.0	73.0	78.0
OTHER FARM INFORMATION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Previous year's crop on farms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wheat	7.9	6.7	3.3	4.0	11.1	6.2	4.5	3.1	11.1	6.2	10.0	-	-	17.3	22.0	16.8
Corn	15.2	19.0	25.8	20.0	24.6	16.0	15.9	14.9	30.4	18.1	27.4	21.0	25.1	17.3	22.0	16.8
Oats	2.3	2.4	5.6	4.8	12.7	3.4	9.0	8.8	8.7	8.2	3.7	-	-	1.9	7.3	2.5
Hay	-	5.7	-	10.1	-	15.8	-	14.7	-	12.7	-	23.5	-	21.0	-	16.6
Wool, aver. wt. per fleece lb	4.7	5.0	5.0	3.9	5.0	4.5	4.5	7.0	6.5	7.0	4.7	4.7	-	5.0	5.5	5.0
Average milk per cow gal	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.2	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.8
Average eggs per 100 hens	41.0	43.0	42.0	43.0	46.0	41.0	45.0	45.0	48.0	47.0	38.0	42.0	42.0	43.0	42.0	40.0
Average family labor - farm	2.2	2.2	2.8	2.7	3.3	4.2	2.7	3.2	3.6	3.5	3.4	4.1	3.8	4.2	3.7	4.2
Average hired labor - farm	.7	.8	1.2	1.3	.9	1.0	1.1	.6	1.9	1.9	3.2	4.0	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.5
SUPPLY farm labor of normal	84.0	81.0	89.0	81.0	91.0	82.0	86.0	84.0	90.0	76.0	90.0	88.0	91.0	91.0	91.0	86.0
DEMAND farm labor of normal	80.0	93.0	74.0	92.0	84.0	99.0	85.0	89.0	81.0	92.0	85.0	93.0	92.0	95.0	90.0	94.0
Wages paid hired farm labor:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Per month with board	18.00	21.37	15.50	18.85	16.00	18.70	15.00	16.29	14.25	16.55	14.75	17.07	16.75	19.00	15.75	17.92
Per month without board	27.25	29.90	23.25	26.96	23.75	27.23	24.00	26.35	20.50	23.90	20.25	22.74	24.50	26.29	23.25	25.21
Per day with board	.95	1.07	.90	1.01	.95	.98	.80	.94	.70	.82	.80	.84	.85	.88	.70	.86
Per day without board	1.20	1.36	1.15	1.32	1.35	1.43	1.10	1.21	1.00	1.05	1.00	1.08	1.10	1.11	.95	1.09

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS

FARM COMMODITY	June 15 1936	May 15 1937	June 15 1937	June 15 1937	FARM COMMODITY	June 15 1936	May 15 1937	June 15 1937	June 15 1937
	1936	1937	1937	1937		1936	1937	1937	1937
Corn, per bushel	\$.71	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.13	\$ 1.172	Mules, per head	\$177.000	\$180.000	\$170.000	\$117.100
Wheat, per bushel	1.02	1.41	1.29	1.089	Chickens, per pound	.174	.157	.162	.148
Oats, per bushel	.55	.74	.68	.461	Turkeys, per pound	.180	.100	.170	-
Barley, per bushel	.75	.93	.90	.714	Eggs, per dozen	.207	.191	.198	.176
Rye, per bushel	.90	1.20	1.07	.853	Butter, per pound	.230	.240	.240	.287
Buckwheat, per bushel	.83	.95	.95	1.003	Butterfat, per pound	.240	.280	.270	.308
Cotton lint, per pound	.119	.138	.130	.124	Milk, retail, per quart	.115	.119	.119	-
Cottonseed, per ton	31.00	39.00	36.00	36.810	Milk, wholesale, per 100 pounds	2.400	2.900	2.900	1.740
Potatoes, per bushel	1.85	1.45	.65	.906	Wool (unwashed), per pound	.300	.310	.350	.314
Sweet Potatoes, per bushel	3.40	2.70	1.30	-	Apples, per bushel	1.500	1.650	1.500	1.563
Peanuts, per pound	.85	.90	.90	1.045	Hay (loose), per ton	15.000	16.500	16.300	10.930
Soybeans, per bushel	1.20	1.70	1.65	1.497	Hay, all (baled), per ton	17.400	20.000	19.500	-
Cowpeas, per bushel	1.95	2.15	2.10	1.966	Alfalfa hay (loose), per ton	19.200	22.200	20.900	11.760
Hogs, per 100 pounds	8.70	9.30	9.70	9.970	Clover hay (loose), per ton	19.500	-	-	-
Beef Cattle, per 100 pounds	5.10	5.60	5.70	7.130	Mixed Clover & Timothy, per ton	15.000	18.100	16.800	12.500
Veal Calves, per 100 pounds	7.10	7.90	8.00	8.010	Prairie hay (loose), per ton	9.000	10.200	11.000	7.320
Sheep, per 100 pounds	4.00	4.45	4.45	4.520	Legume hay, per ton	-	17.000	17.100	-
Lamb, per 100 pounds	7.90	7.50	8.50	8.880	Grain hay, per ton	-	15.700	15.300	-
Milk cows, per head	39.00	42.00	42.00	57.300	Lespedeza hay (loose), per ton	-	18.000	18.800	-
Horses, per head	121.00	133.00	130.00	96.500	Lespedeza seed, per bushel	-	3.750	-	-
					Lespedeza seed, per 100 pounds	6.00	15.500	12.000	-

NATIONAL CROP CONDITIONS

The national Crop Report as of July 1 shows estimates about equal to the ten year average for both acreage and prospective yields. Many of the Western or Great Plains states are urgently in need of rain. The crops as a whole seem to be sufficient

to balance off the conditions or requirements for the United States including increasing population, increased industrial requirement, changing export average, reduced numbers of grain consuming livestock on hand and depleted reserve in grain bin, corn crib and hay stack.