

WIDE and NARROW ROW TOBACCO



Method of preparing land for planting.

Fig. 1. In preparing land for planting, first operation was to disk where necessary, lay off rows 8 feet wide, and bed out (as shown) using a one- or two-horse turnplow. Bedding was done well in advance of transplanting time and this helped considerably in getting stands.

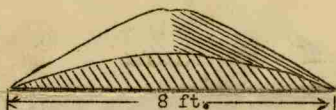


Fig. 2. Second operation was opening furrow with middle-burster on top of bed and put down half the fertilizer in furrow shown by X. Fertilizer was stirred with a small sweep.



Fig. 3. A broad, round-top ridge, not too sharp nor too flat, was thrown on first furrow with two-horse turnplow. Other fertilizer was then put down in two ridging furrows indicated by X marks.

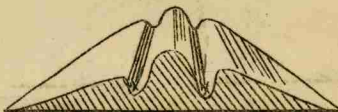


Fig. 4. Next, fertilizer in ridging furrows was covered with a one-horse turnplow. Use two furrows for this operation . . . running the first furrow close and follow with second furrow, making smooth level surface on which to set plants . . . the middle ridge 4 to 5 inches higher than the level on which the plants are set.

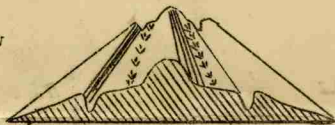
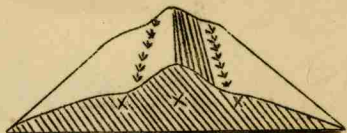


Fig. 5. Remaining middle was run out immediately after transplanting — making a broad, oval-shaped bed as shown. This broad bed protects the plants against too much loss of moisture and also provides ample drainage in case of heavy rains. The X marks show placement of fertilizer in relation to tobacco plants.



The above procedure was carried out in detail in all of the demonstrations listed on the following page and was found to be satisfactory by the growers cooperating in this project.

Rows were spaced two feet and six feet.

The fertilizer placement together with the better moisture holding capacity of the wide bed resulted in a good stand and uniform growth of tobacco.

The tobacco produced was thinner and ripened faster than the regular planted tobacco in the same field.

Comparative fields are listed below with the name of grower conducting the demonstrations during the season, 1941:

Note: W. - N. - Indicates wide and narrow row tobacco.

Regular - Indicates tobacco planted in the ordinary manner.

		Yield per acre.	Value per acre.	Average price.
<u>Horry County</u>				
Miss Mary Johnson	W. - N.	1761 lbs.	\$414.81	\$23.56
Mr. Walter Johnson	Regular	<u>1569 "</u>	<u>389.45</u>	24.82
		192	25.40	
Mr. L. P. Williams	W. - N.	2057 lbs.	\$549.30	\$26.70
Williams & Bullock	Regular	<u>1202 "</u>	<u>335.42</u>	27.90
		855	213.88	
Mr. Joe Blount	W. - N.	1356 lbs.	\$360.65	\$26.60
Blount & Parker	Regular	<u>1084 "</u>	<u>241.20</u>	22.25
		272	119.45	
Mr. Shelby Ellis	W. - N.	1312 lbs.	\$323.00	\$24.60
Mr. D. M. Lupo	Regular	<u>1100 "</u>	<u>268.29</u>	24.39
		212	54.71	
Mr. E. M. Meares	W. - N.	1892 lbs.	\$525.37	\$27.76
Meares & Fullard	Regular	<u>1166 "</u>	<u>256.44</u>	22.00
		726	268.93	
<u>Georgetown County</u>				
Mr. N. H. Cribb	W. - N.	1132 lbs.	\$232.73	\$20.55
" " " "	Regular	<u>922 "</u>	<u>165.38</u>	17.94
		210	67.35	
<u>Clarendon County</u>				
Mr. Joe K. DuRant	W. - N.	1705 lbs.	\$432.15	\$25.35
" " " "	Regular	<u>801 "</u>	<u>184.23</u>	23.00
		904	247.92	
<u>Dorchester County</u>				
Mr. S. H. Bishop	W. - N.	1012 lbs.	\$200.83	\$19.84
" " " "	Regular	<u>857 "</u>	<u>172.70</u>	20.15
		155	28.13	

Average for the eight demonstrations listed above:

		Yield per acre.	Value per acre.
Wide & Narrow Row	1528 lbs.	\$379.86
Regular Planted	<u>1088 "</u>	<u>251.64</u>
		440	128.22

The wide and narrow row method of planting field crops, including tobacco, has been in use for many years, but its application to the production of flue-cured tobacco in South Carolina is an entirely new experience and the results of the demonstrations given above must be accepted as preliminary and not as final proof of its merits over our old and tried method of cultivation.

It is, therefore, recommended that plantings of this character be made only in an experimental way until we have had sufficient experience in the planting and handling of the crop to assure a reasonable degree of success.

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