

NORTH CAROLINA
FIGHTS WITH
EXTRA FOOD

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FOOD FIGHTS

For the last seven years American farmers have produced increasing amounts of food but still there is not enough. For the duration of the war, no matter how much food America produces, we will always need more.

The demand for food by both civilians and the armed forces has grown faster than the supply. The result is rationing so that all may get a fair share. Then, too, there is an urgent request for more acres in food crops and greater yields per acre through improved farming practices. More milk, more eggs, more oil-bearing crops, and still more gardens.

America's food supply represents perhaps the greatest single weapon of war in our fight against the Axis. Food fights for your boy and mine, for you and me. Extra food can

1. Shorten the war.
2. Save American lives.
3. Help write the peace.

WHAT WE CAN DO

1. Inform ourselves on what foods are needed.
2. Adjust our farm plans and practices.
3. Produce more food.
4. Save and conserve more food.
5. Cooperate in rationing.
6. Inspire our friends and neighbors to join in the food fight.
7. Always remember that food ranks with guns, tanks, ships and planes in winning the war.

Prepared by the N. C. State College Extension Service.

FOOD NEEDS

Before the war, we shipped to other countries some of our cotton, tobacco, wheat, pork, and lard. We brought in coffee, tea, sugar, and other products. Now, the war has changed almost everything.

Our food supplies as produced in 1943 were divided in about the following manner: 13 percent to our armed forces; 10 percent to Lend-Lease for our Allies, and 2 percent for special needs. This left about 75 percent, or three-fourths of the total food produced, for our own civilian population. Our people are consuming much more food per person than a few years ago, because of more money with which to buy food. This must be considered in determining our needs for extra food.

Our Armed Forces

Every American agrees that our armed forces must be fed and fed right. It is a basic policy of this war that our fighters must be the best fed men in the world.

The size of our armed forces both at home and abroad is being steadily increased and this will automatically call for a gradual stepping up of the amount of food they will need. In wartime it is impossible to determine with any degree of certainty what will happen 3 or 6 months from now. A successful invasion in full force may step up food requirements tremendously.

The armed forces require relatively large amounts of such "protective" foods as meats, fats and oils, milk, and canned goods. It is estimated that they will need about 40 percent of the canned fruits and juices, 15 percent of the citrus, 26 percent of the canned vegetables, and 15 percent of the butter. They will also require about 6 percent of the other edible fats and oils, 32 percent of the canned milk, 14 percent of the canned fish, 10 percent of the eggs, and 15 percent of the dry beans and peas.

These figures tell us why rationing is necessary and why everyone should be encouraged to support it. They also tell us why we must first of all "live at home" and then produce and conserve all the food possible.

Reserve Food Supplies

For every member of the armed forces stationed in the United States, there must be a 3-months' reserve supply of food. This is about what our wholesale food dealers figure on for civilian needs.

When that same fighter goes "overseas," he must be provided with a 9-months' food reserve, about 1,400 pounds, rather than a 3-months' reserve. This larger supply provides for the time

factor in transporting the food from the producer to the soldier. It also includes a small reserve against ship sinkings and other war losses.

The more men sent "overseas," the larger will be the "reserve food supplies," which will have to be built up.

The average "soldier" eats $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as much as he did in civilian life. Multiply $1\frac{1}{2}$ by 10 million fighters and this equals food for 15 million average people.

If 4 million men are sent "overseas" and they require three times the normal food reserve, this amounts to food for 12 million fighters stationed in the United States. Since the fighter eats $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as much as in normal life, the total food reserve for the 4 million overseas fighters is as great as for 18 million people at home. And so the problem grows.

Lend-Lease

England and Russia must be sent some food. In England we are helping to supply both the civilians and the armed forces. Practically all the food sent to Russia goes to the Russian army.

We have a clear-cut choice. We will be able to shorten the war by giving our Allies all the food we can spare. We can sustain them, keep their factories humming, and their soldiers fighting—killing our enemies. Or, we can run the risk of dulling their spirit and their will to fight—by keeping all of our food for our armed forces and civilians.

England produced about 45 percent of her food requirements before the war. Under trying conditions her farmers have increased their production of food by 50 percent. This is just about the maximum of what they can do. All arable land is now under cultivation.

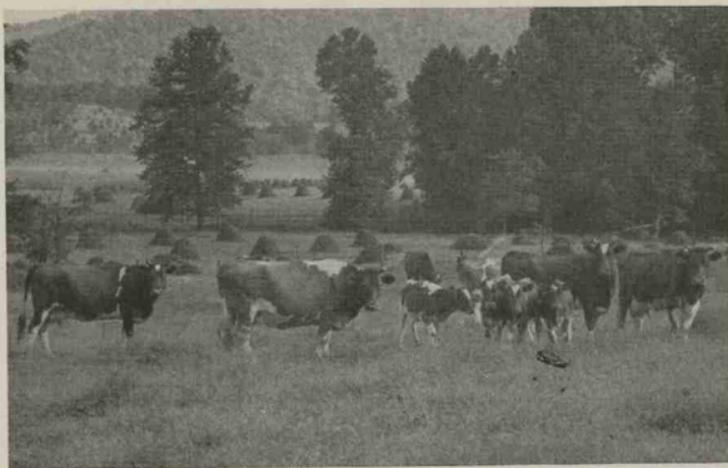
England must trade for the remainder of her food. America has furnished a vital 10 percent of England's food requirements. Canada has shipped more food to England than we have.

Lend-Lease works both ways. Last year Australia and New Zealand furnished our American forces with almost as much beef as we shipped to all countries receiving Lend-Lease supplies from us.

British and Russian ships help to transport our troops. Our ships are repaired and serviced in Allied ports. Our Allies help build American camps and furnish a part of the uniforms and weapons needed in "overseas" campaigns. They are swapping labor and materials for the supplies which we send to them.

Food For Freed Peoples

Germany has used starvation as a weapon in the countries which she has conquered. The Pole, for example, must give his German conqueror about 10 bushels of grain per acre. This leaves the Pole only about 5 bushels per acre with which to feed his



INCREASED AMOUNTS OF MILK ARE NEEDED.

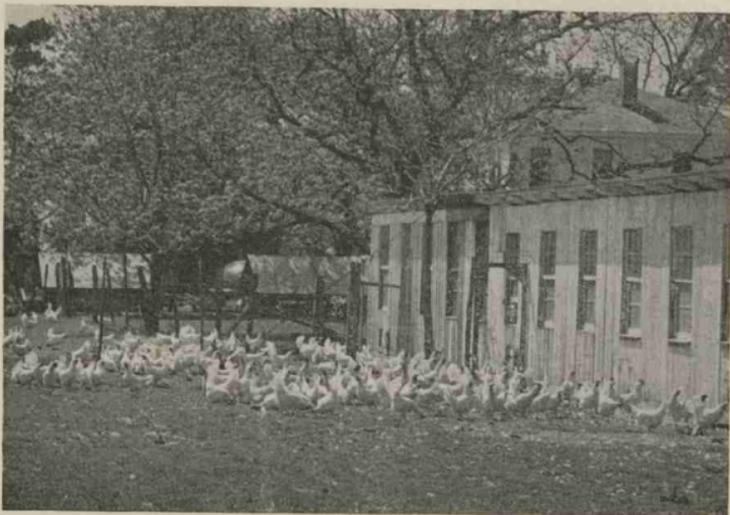
family and his livestock. Germans have given death sentences to peasants for failure to deliver grain and potato quotas.

Disease conditions in German-occupied countries are reported terrible. The health of Belgian children, for instance, has been gravely affected by scurvy and anemia. Rickets and skin troubles are frequently observed. The disease rate in Holland is said to have increased 70 percent in a single year.

On the other hand, America is fighting this war with food rather than with starvation. When an area is liberated, emergency food and other supplies are sent in to sustain life. Programs are begun which will help the people become self-sufficient.

Sanitary conditions are restored. Every effort is made to prevent disease epidemics. Feeding liberated peoples is more than a military necessity. It has its effect on peoples still enslaved.

These people are stiffening their resistance to the Axis. They will welcome allied forces at the time of liberation and help them in every way possible.



CULL UNPROFITABLE LAYERS. PRODUCE MORE FEED.

NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURE UNDER WAR CONDITIONS

North Carolina has a diversified type of farming and, therefore, both extra food and extra feed must be considered in the "Food For Freedom" fight. In the "Value of Farm Products Used by the Farm Household," North Carolina leads the United States, placing 19 counties in the first 100 counties in the entire country. Considering the "Value of Vegetables Grown for Use on Farms," we place 24 counties in the first 100 counties. But this is no time for patting ourselves on the back. We must do better.

Feed Shortage

The "feed shortage" is the most serious problem facing North Carolina livestock growers, dairymen, and poultrymen. More acres of feed crops were planted in 1943 than the year before but the total production was less because of unfavorable weather conditions.

Total feed supplies are relatively low for the United States. The supply of protein concentrates is especially short, about one-fifth lower than at this period last year.

Livestock Increased

We have increased our livestock during the last year: hogs by about 160,000; milk cows by 11,000; beef cattle by 7,700; and sheep by 5,500. Hens and pullets have been increased by 3½ million and broilers by about 14 million. Adding all of these together gives us about 15 percent more livestock than last year.

Balance Between Feed and Livestock

Considering the increase in livestock and the decrease in feed, we have about one-fourth less feed per animal than a year ago. In the past we could bring into North Carolina all the extra feed we needed.

To balance our feed supplies with our present livestock numbers, however, would take an additional 248,000 tons of grain. It is doubtful if we can buy this much extra feed at any price.

Oil Crops

In 1943 we increased the acreage of oil-bearing crops: soybeans for oil by 100,000 acres; peanuts by 21,000 acres, and cotton by 22,000 acres. In spite of these acreage increases, we produced less soybeans, peanuts, and cotton than the year before. We couldn't control the weather.

About one-third of the total soybean acreage planted for oil was cut for hay to help take care of the feed situation and because of poor yields.

Fertilizer

We should have enough phosphate to take care of the increased acreage of crops in 1944. We are told that there will be ample nitrogen for all mixed fertilizers and also for top dressing. Manufacturers have been allotted four-fifths as much potash as last year.

With an increase in tobacco acreage and other crops, North Carolina growers can use considerably more potash.

Fertilizer shipments will have to be made earlier than usual if growers are to be supplied with needed fertilizers. They should place their orders at once. If there are delays in ordering fertilizer deliveries cannot be made on time.

More Machinery

The farm machinery outlook is brighter for 1944. We anticipate a decided increase in machinery this year, more timely deliveries, and better distribution. Manufacturers will be permitted to make their normal lines of equipment on the basis of quotas established for them.



MORE OIL-BEARING CROPS ARE ESPECIALLY NEEDED.

Insect and Disease Control

Materials for controlling insects and diseases will be available in 1944. There are shortages of some materials but supplies of other materials have been increased, which will provide protection to essential crops and livestock.

Labor

There will probably be sufficient labor to plant and cultivate essential crops in 1944. The chief problem will come in harvesting these crops.

Outside labor was used in harvesting the main truck crops and peanuts in 1943. At present, there is no indication that more outside labor will be available in 1944.

Additional machinery, the swapping of hand labor for machinery, and the exchange of machinery offer the best methods of offsetting the labor shortage.

The greatest difficulties in marketing and transportation will be encountered with perishable products. The outlook for better transportation is not bright. It is expected that the marketing situation will be slightly better in 1944.

WE MUST PRODUCE MORE

Oil Crops.—Peanuts and soybeans are listed as the crops most needed in the war effort because of the oil which they produce. North Carolina growers are asked to produce about one-fifth more than was harvested this year for oil purposes.

Feed Crops.—Extra feed crops are important to most North Carolina growers because of the need for maintaining our livestock and poultry. Every effort should be made to increase the per acre yield of corn and small grain. Grazing crops offer the quickest and cheapest method of producing extra feed. Permanent pastures are the bedrock on which to build a profitable livestock industry.

To take care of all of our animals for the coming year, about 355,000 extra acres in feed crops will be required. This will be one-twelfth more acres in feed crops than in 1943. Since this large increase in acreage will call for additional machinery and labor, we should strive to increase yields per acre.

Cotton.—The 1944 cotton goal will be about the same as in 1943. Here, also, increased yields per acre are needed. Only good staple cotton should be produced for the war industries. Growers will find it to their advantage to organize one-variety cotton communities.

Truck crops.—An acreage increase of 5 to 10 percent in fresh vegetables will be needed. The acreage of sweet potatoes should be increased about one-fourth and this can be done on many farms without interfering with tobacco and cotton. It has been suggested that the Irish potato acreage be decreased about 10 to 12 percent below the acreage of 1943.

Milk and Eggs.—As to livestock and poultry products, we increased milk by 72 million pounds and eggs by 37 million dozen during the past year. Increases in both items are needed in North Carolina and for the nation as a whole in 1944.

Purchased feeds play a big part in the production of both milk and eggs. The spread between the price of feed to the farmer and the price at which he must sell his milk and eggs has continually narrowed and will be a great determining factor in future production on many farms.

Meat Products.—Production of meat animals will largely be governed by the amount of feed which can be produced and by the conservation practices put into effect in feeding. The number of hogs will have to be reduced.



FIRST LIVE AT HOME AND THEN PRODUCE EXTRA FOOD.

PRODUCTION SUGGESTIONS

Because of the labor situation, increased yields per acre offer one of the best methods of enlarging total production. Increased acreage of food crops is also needed. Available fertilizer must be used to the best advantage.

Acreage and animal units can be increased where available labor, machinery and feed will justify the increase.

Adjust farm enterprises to a 12 months period rather than just a few months in the year. This change provides for a better utilization of land, machinery, labor, feed and time.

Consider conservation practices, which would include better harvesting methods, insect and disease control, proper curing, and more storage.

THE FARM HOME

If all farm families in North Carolina live at home and feed themselves, food for 1½ of North Carolina's 3½ million people can be saved for the armed forces, Lend-Lease, freed peoples, and those of us who cannot produce our own food.

Victory Gardens in towns and cities can also relieve the demand for large quantities of food and help save on the rationed items. Fresh vegetables are the basis of sound health.

No farm in North Carolina is 100 percent in the "Food For Freedom" fight until it is self supporting and produces extra food and feed for wartime needs. This includes both landlord and tenant.

Produce

Grow plenty of the right kinds of food for health's sake. This calls for green leafy vegetables, yellow vegetables, tomatoes, potatoes (sweet and Irish), and fruits and berries.

Milk is one of the most important basic foods. Every child should have a quart and every adult a pint of milk a day. There are 12,000 family dairies in North Carolina producing fluid milk and this number can be greatly increased. Interest your neighbors in a milk route.

Eggs, meats, whole grain cereals, whole wheat or enriched flour, soybeans, and peanuts are all excellent foods, which are included in the basic seven for everyday use.

Conserve

Conserve surplus foods by canning, drying, brining, and freezing. Plan proper methods of storage. Can for each person at least 32 quarts of vegetables and 24 quarts of fruits in addition to dried and brined vegetables and dried fruits. Do not let any food go to waste. Eat it, can it, sell it, or give it away.

Conserve the health of every member of the family. Good food, good clothing, and the prevention of accidents will keep "every soldier on the farm front" ready for action. A day lost during the busy season means just that much less food for the freedom fight.

Conserve time. Home improvements and planning can make for greater total production of food and feed crops. Plan to swap labor and machinery with neighbors. "A stitch in time saves nine."

Save

Waste not a crumb of bread, a bite of meat, or a drop of fat. It is estimated that about one-sixth of the food prepared goes into the garbage pail. This can easily be cut to less than 5 percent.

One of the best ways to save food is to prepare it correctly. It should be well cooked but not over cooked, well seasoned, and served attractively. Prepare only the amount of food needed and keep leftovers to a minimum.

If every family in North Carolina saves one slice of bread a day, the total in one month will amount to 840,000 loaves of bread.

How many chickens did you lose last spring? Better care would probably have reduced your losses to a minimum. There are many ways of saving.

For Homemakers

Some farm women have felt that they were not directly aiding in the war effort unless they were rolling bandages, attending nursing classes, or collecting scrap. In fact, homemakers can render no greater war service than by keeping the farm family healthy, happy, and ready for the "Food For Freedom" fight. Keep the family producing, conserving, and saving.

Such a program calls for careful planning, good home management, and the exercise of good judgment.

All boys and girls should be encouraged to do their bit. In the 4-H clubs they find an opportunity for carrying out projects which are character building and of great importance to the war effort.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO LEADERS

Our need for production is great, it is time for decisions, special effort, and definite plans. This situation calls for the combined judgment and effort of all leaders. You have received this publication because you are one of these leaders. It was prepared especially for you. Your neighbors do not have a copy but they need this kind of information and your help. They are influenced by your judgment and actions and they look to you for guidance. Now is the time to really serve them and your country by:

1. Telling them why we need more production.
2. Telling them what commodities are most needed.
3. Helping them to make proper decisions and plans for maximum production of these needed commodities best suited to the locality and their farms.