

HURRICANE

WIND

FLOOD

DISASTER FACT SHEET

AFTER-THE-FLOOD TIPS FOR HOMEMAKERS

FLOORS--Should be dried as soon as possible. Long submersion will loosen adhesive under tile and linoleum and will cause wooden flooring to warp. If linoleum buckles, it may be necessary to slit the humps to allow the water underneath to evaporate. Like individual tiles, it may then be reglued with a commercial adhesive.

WALLS--Must be dry before they can be cleaned with a damp sponge or cloth. Washable wallpaper or paint may be washed with mild soaps or commercial cleaners, starting from the floor and working up with overlapping strokes. Work small areas and rinse immediately with clean water.

DOORS--Should be stacked on a level surface with strips separating them. Careful stacking is especially important with veneered doors. Take hardware apart, wipe with kerosene and oil. When this is not possible, oil liberally to prevent rust.

WOODEN FURNITURE--Should be taken outdoors for thorough cleaning and returned to the house for drying. **DO NOT DRY FURNITURE IN THE SUN.** Remove white spots with a cloth dampened in a one-to-one mixture of ammonia and water. On varnished surfaces, if the ammonia doesn't work, try camparated oil or oil of peppermint.

UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE (Also rugs and carpets)--Can be shampooed with a commercial product or with a mixture of two heaping tablespoons of detergent in a gallon of water. Use mixture sparingly, working small areas gently and following with a clean damp cloth. **DO NOT USE SOAP, SODA OR AMMONIA.** To speed drying, use a fan.

MATTRESSES--Should be discarded or sterilized by a commercial firm.

PILLOWS--Should have feathers removed and washed separately in a muslin bag. Wash bag of feathers in warm, sudsy water and rinse with several changes of warm water. Foam rubber pillows may be washed with covers on. In either case, it may not be possible to remove all objectionable odors.

BLANKETS AND QUILTS--Should be rinsed in cool water to loosen dirt. Work gently in warm detergent suds and rinse in several changes of water. Dry across two lines. Thick comforters may be opened to wash filling and covers separately.

NEVER USE HOT WATER ON MUD-STAINED FABRICS. Hot water sets stains rather than removing them. Always use mild or all-purpose detergents.

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EMERGENCY CROP FLOOD INFORMATION

EARS OF CORN--When heavy rains or hurricanes damage corn in the field, the corn can be saved if it dries out enough to harvest before mold hits the ears. Ear corn can be dried in conventional dryers. If ear corn stored in a crib is flooded, but the water recedes fairly quickly, the ears may be dried in a dryer with heated air.

GRAIN--When shelled corn becomes wet during a storm, it can be dried in conventional dryers with perforated metal floors and supplemental heat.

If no drying facilities are available, grain can be spread on a dry floor to a depth of not more than 6 inches and stirred often enough to prevent heating.

Wet corn may be used as silage if the moisture content is between 25 and 35 percent. Wet corn can be placed in a concrete-stave or metal silo and used as livestock feed. Be sure that the silos are reinforced to hold the extra weight of the wet corn. Plastic sheets should be used to seal out air at door openings and the grain should be covered with plastic on top and sealed around the edges.

SILAGE--Experience has shown that corn silage is not greatly damaged if the flood waters are drained away from the silos quickly after flooding. The silage should be watched for spoilage as it is removed for feeding and damaged silage should not be fed.

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HURRICANE AND FLOOD TIPS FOR TOBACCO FARMERS

Tobacco damaged by hurricane winds and the resulting floods can often be salvaged, but prompt action by the farmer is necessary. The following suggestions are based on recommendations made by Agricultural Extension Specialists at N. C. State.

***Relight curing fires as soon as possible. Low heat and high humidity cause runback, discoloration, and may allow soft rot to set in. Make a thorough check for structural damage to the barn and curing system BEFORE refiring or refilling.

***Stand up tobacco flattened by wind or flood. Make sure roots are well-covered. Firm-up soil around root crown with foot.

***Pick up leaves which have blown off. These leaves may still cure if gathered promptly.

***When unloading tobacco barned before or during the storm, check all sticks for smoke damage and water discoloration. Separate damaged tobacco.

***Check stored tobacco for water damage. Reburn wet tobacco and fire with low heat. Mold will hit even slightly wet tobacco.

***Do not attempt to sell wet tobacco.

***Keep your radio or TV set tuned to your favorite farm news station. Your county agent will keep you posted on the latest advisories from N. C. State and USDA.

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MINIMIZE POULTRY LOSSES

Wind and flood damage to poultry operations can be minimized by some advance planning and prompt action by the poultryman after the storm subsides. Agricultural Extension Specialists at N. C. State offer the following suggestions:

***Consider an auxilliary power unit. How dependent is the operation on electrical equipment? How much loss would be incurred by losing electricity for 12, 24, or even 48 hours? Depending on the answers to these questions, an auxilliary power unit may be a wise investment.

***Could the flock be moved to dry quarters? County agents can locate plans for temporary shelters utilizing plastic or other inexpensive materials for siding and roof.

***Broilers and turkeys near marketable age should be sold.

***Keep birds behind fence to prevent their eating wet, moldy feed or drinking contaminated water.

***Feed a broad spectrum antibiotic if conditions are particularly dangerous. Check with your county agent or veterinarian.

***Emergency program for turkeys: (a) Keep birds away from ground water or treat it with disinfectant to keep them from drinking it. (b) Add copper sulfate (1:2, 000) to drinking water to control digestive disturbances. (c) Feed a drug to prevent fowl typhoid. (d) Do not allow birds to eat from ground. (e) Keep turkeys away from dead birds.

***Bury all dead birds under two feet of earth or incinerate them.

***Resume routine practices of feeding, watering and use of lights as soon as possible.

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GUIDELINES FOR RESTORING FIELDS FLOODED BY SALT WATER

Agricultural Extension Specialists at N. C. State suggest that the procedures listed below be followed when crop land is flooded by salt water.

Salt water damage is greatest in dry soil. Salt is deposited on soil particles as water seeps through the ground. However, salt water may wash across fields doing little or no damage if the soil has been saturated by rain or fresh-water flooding. Salt damage makes it difficult for plants to live; salt-saturated soils take water slowly, crack badly when dry, and are difficult to till.

The first step in returning land to productivity is a soil test. Collect four core samples 18 inches deep from each field. Divide samples into four parts and label as follows: (a) 0-2 inches; (b) 2-6 inches; (c) 6-12 inches; and (d) 12-18 inches. Fill out a sheet (see sample on back) for each field and send them to Raleigh with the samples. Mark on the box, "For Soluble Salt Analysis."

The degree of damage is based on the salt concentration in parts per million (ppm) and is reported as follows:

Salt Concentration to depth of 18 inches	Suggestions
(a) 500 ppm or less	Reasonably safe to plant all crops.
(b) 500 to 1,000 ppm	Fairly safe for most crops, though long dry spell may draw salts up near the surface and damage plants.
(c) 1,000 to 2,000 ppm	Grow only salt-tolerant crops (see list). During wet season they should make good yield.
(d) Above 2,000 ppm	No crops suggested.

When the report is returned, apply land plaster (gypsum) to the fields if the soluble salt concentration is above 1,500 ppm in the top six inches of the soil. The application rate is as follows: (a) Less than 2% organic matter, 1,000 lbs./acre; (b) 2 to 5%, 2,000 lbs./acre; and (c) Above 5%, 3,000 lbs./acre.

Gypsum (calcium sulfate) replaces salt (sodium) in the soil. Salt concentration decreases as leaching rains wash the gypsum through the soil to replace the salt. But do not expect immediate results; it's a slow process.

A List of Crops and Their Tolerance to Salt

Tolerant: Sugar beets, Rape, Kale, Cotton, Barley, Canada Wildrye, Tall Fesuce, Garden Peas, Rhodes, Bermuda, and Western Wheat Grass. **Moderately Tolerant:** Fig, Grape, Flax, Wheat, Oats, Rye, Rice, Sunflower, Corn, Perennial ryegrass, Alfalfa, Sweet Clover, Sudan grass, Cereals for hay, Ryegrass, Birdsfoot trefoil, Orchardgrass, Carrots, Lettuce, Onions and Tomatoes. **Sensitive:** Pear, Peach, Apple, Plum, Vetch, Field beans, Green beans, Red clover, White clover, Alsike clover, Ladino clover, Celery, Cabbage, and Potatoes.

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SOIL TEST REPORT

(For Salt Damaged Fields)

Soil Testing Division, N. C. State Department of Agriculture

Raleigh, N. C.

Suggested by: _____ Date _____

Typed _____ County _____

Checked _____

Copies sent to:

- _____ County Farm Agent
- _____ County ASC Office
- _____ Local Vo. Ag. Teacher

Field Number	Soil Test Results*					Suggested Gypsum and Lime Treatment		
	pH	Calcium	Phosphorus	Potash	% Organic Matter	Soluble Salts ppm	Gypsum lbs./Acre	Lime** Lbs./Acre

* VL, Very Low; L, Low; M, Medium; H, High; VH, Very High

** Broadcast dolomitic limestone containing minimum of 15% Magnesium carbonate.

SUGGESTED FERTILIZATION

Field	Year	Crop	Broadcast		At Planting	Side or Topdress
			Lbs./Acre	Grade		
	19					

You must read carefully the information shown on the other side of this sheet. It will help you understand the nature of salt injury as well as the usefulness of the corrective measures suggested in this report.