

County Home Now Is Raising 40 Per Cent Of Food Needs

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1941 Meat Production Sets Record; Hay Crop Also Reported To Be Unusually Good

Despite the fact that 1941 has been a bad crop year because of the dry season, farms operated by the county have produced a total of 11,416 bales of hay of the "best quality" they have ever produced because of the unusually good season for baling and curling hay, County Manager D. W. Newsom said today in reviewing the crop, stock and cattle situation for the county this year.

The amount of hay produced, while possibly a little less than last year, did not vary much from the 1940 production, Newsom said.

Another bright spot in the picture for the county is that the prospective 1942 meat supply totals about 30,000 pounds, a record high. The county has 95 hogs to be slaughtered about Christmas time for the 1942 meat supply. Then, too, the county has 138 pigs raised this year for supplying the county's needs for meat in 1943.

All in all, the "records for the past two years show the County Home is 40 per cent self-supporting," Newsom said. By that, he explained, the amount of vegetables, chickens, meat, hay, and other items produced by the county is sufficient to take care of 40 per cent of the needs along those lines.

County Home Superintendent R. B. Nichols has general supervision of the various crops and livestock cared for by the county at the County Home and elsewhere in the county, while Mrs. E. T. Mangum, County Home Matron, has charge of canning activities at the County Home.

A total of 27,447 quarts of various kinds of vegetables were canned this year despite the unfavorable season. Last year, about 40,000 quarts were canned, but the weather was much more favorable for growing the crops than 1941.

A break-down of the canned vegetables shows that 10,563 quarts of string beans, 3,975 quarts of squash, 5,991 quarts of tomatoes, 90 quarts of lima beans, 96 quarts of tomato juice, 3,564 quarts of peaches, 1,188 quarts of peach preserves, 462 quarts of pear preserves, 30 quarts

of blackberry preserves, 308 quarts of apple jelly, 94 quarts of apple butter, 200 quarts of pickle cucumbers (460 quarts of chow chow (vegetable mixture combination), and 426 quarts of pickled beets, were put up this year.

These items go towards supplying the food needs of the County Home inmates, employes, nurses, and Work House inmates. The community in all numbers about 300 persons.

The division of the different types of hay produced this year reveals that 650 bales of oats, 862 bales of wheat straw, 1,956 bales of lespedeza hay, and 7,948 bales of soy bean hay were raised.

Six hundred barrels of corn, 694 1-2 bushels of wheat, 174 bushels of barley, and 456 bushels of oats were raised in 1941 on various county tracts or other land loaned to the county by private individuals on the condition that soil-improving crops would be grown there.

Vegetable production during the year, totaled 75 bushels of onion, 350 bushels of sweet potatoes, 85 bushels of Irish potatoes, 7,213 pounds of cabbage, 75 bushels of carrots, 521 pounds of lettuce, and 250 bushels of green peas. As expected, this failed to equal the 1940 production figure because of weather conditions.

Forty-two calves were raised during 1941 by the county, divided as follows: 19 dairy calves, mostly Guernseys; 15 Hertford calves; and eight Black Angus calves. The Hertfords and Black Angus are kept for meat supply purposes.

Stock on hand for the county is comprised of 27 head of dairy cows, 26 head of beef cattle, four mares, two of which were bought in 1941; two mule colts which were acquired this year, eight work mules, one registered Spanish jack (acquired this year), one registered black Aberdeen bull, one registered Hertford bull, and one registered Guernsey bull.

The county also has on hand 110 hens. Four hundred friers were raised this year and 350 pullets were raised to furnish an egg supply for the future.

Among Durham County's unusual cattle are twin full stock Black Angus calves which are now 90 days old.