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Timber Remains Big Hoosier Farm Crop

Every county in Indiana has some forest land. The largest forested areas are in the southern counties where the rugged terrain is not conducive to extensive farming. In the fertile cornbelt areas of northern and central Indiana the forest areas are smaller and more scattered. The proportion of forest in individual counties ranges from as much as 71 per cent of Brown County to as little as 1 per cent of Benton County.

As might be expected in a state as agriculturally developed as Indiana, most of the forest is in farm woodlots. The average Indiana farm acreage is 118 acres, of which 14.6 per cent, or 17.3 acres, is woodland.

More than half of Indiana's commercial forest is in stands of sawtimber. Sawtimber means hardwood trees 11 inches and over, diameter at breast height, and softwood trees 9 inches and over.

About a third of the area is in poletimber stands—trees from 5 inches to sawtimber size. The rest, for the most part, is in small trees such as are found on recently cut forest land.

Forest Trees of Indiana

There are about 134 different species of trees native to Indiana, but only about 48 of these are of commercial importance. Among the commercially valuable trees are some of the most valuable hardwoods growing in the country—oak, walnut and poplar.

Because of the characteristics of the trees and of certain growing conditions—principally climate and soil—trees with similar requirements form communities known as forest types. In Indiana there are three chief forest types and several minor ones.

The most important and the most extensive of these is the oak-hickory type. Growing usually on dry upland areas and on the less fertile soils, it covers 58 per cent of the forest land. Principal species in this type are several kinds of oak and hickory with an occasional pine.

Next most extensive type in Indiana is the elm-ash-cottonwood type, found usually along streams and on poorly drained flats. It covers 24 per cent of the forest area. The principal species composing this type are elm, green ash, cottonwood, sycamore, soft maple and swamp white oak.

About 10 per cent of the forest area is covered by the maple-beech-birch type. Its chief species are hard maple and beech, with an occasional yellow birch. This forest type in many cases has taken over an area following the harvest of forests of white oak, black walnut and yellow poplar.

Forest Products

Wherever high quality hardwood products are demanded in our daily living the products of Indiana forest industries will be found. The fine face veneers of walnut, maple, oak and sweetgum which are produced here are in great demand for furniture. Prime white oak is used in tight cooperage. Crossties of oak from Indiana forests support the tracks of many miles of American railroads. Mines and roofing timbers from Indiana forests are found in the mines of neighboring states as well as in local ones. And of course, much of the fuel used in heating and cooking on Indiana farms is obtained from the wood-lots.

Lumber Production

Indiana's lumber production reached its peak in 1899, when the state's timber harvest yielded 1,036,999,000 board feet—3 per cent of the national production that year. From 1889 to 1900 Indiana led in hardwood lumber production.

Over the past 50 years Indiana's lumber production has averaged a quarter of a billion board feet a year, but for the past 10 years has averaged under 200 million board feet annually.

Volume of Timber

There are nearly 12 billion board feet of standing sawtimber in Indiana forests—enough to build 1 million two-bedroom wood houses. And this is only one third to one half the volume of timber the forest land could support if they were protected from fire and grazing and were managed wisely.

Oaks—red and white—predominate, accounting for two fifths of the total volume of sawtimber.

Other species bring the proportion of hardwoods to 99.5 per cent of the total. Softwoods, principally Virginia pine, comprise only one half of one per cent of the total volume.

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Decatur

R. R. 1

Indiana Farmers Add Little To Wheat Surplus

Indiana farmers contribute little to the country's wheat surpluses, points out a Purdue University agricultural economist.

W. S. Farris says only three-tenths of one percent of the billion bushel Commodity Credit Corporation-owned wheat stocks are soft red winter wheat, Indiana's production consists almost entirely of soft red winter wheat, used for making cakes and pastries. Illinois and Ohio are other major producers of this type wheat.

The economist explains that most of the soft wheat production each year is sold and used. Thus, carryover stocks of this type wheat are not large. For instance, the 1959 soft wheat crop amounted to 168 million bushels, or 15 percent of the total wheat production. As of last Oct. 1 the CCC-owned stocks totaled 3.7 million bushels of soft wheat or 3 percent of the entire CCC-owned stocks. The estimated carryover of this type wheat as of next July 1 will be 21 million bushels, or only 1.5 percent of the total wheat carryover.

Total wheat carryover stocks have risen from 256 million bushels in 1951 to an estimated 1,360 million bushels by the end of the 1960 harvest. Soft red winter wheat, however, has increased only slightly—16 million to 21 million bushels during the same period, Farris asserts.

Indiana winter wheat acreage, planted last fall, is down one percent from 1959. Production prospects appear improved, however, because of favorable fall moisture conditions.

Filling The Space In Outer Space

As man seeks to explore the planets in the age of space, he'll have to keep an eye on his stomach.

Reporting on Air Force and Navy research, Purdue University nutrition specialist Miriam G. Eads outlines some of the problems to be faced by the first eating astronaut.

Travelling alone in a sealed cabin, he will wear a full pressure suit assembly with helmet and gloves. He will be subjected to tremendous gravitational force at take-off, to weightlessness, and to heat, vibration and noise as well as psychological stress.

On these first short voyages, oxygen, water and food must be stored, as restricted body movement due to space, weight and power limitations will prohibit food preparation.

Consider the problem of eating and swallowing without weight. Liquids and semi-solids will be served from squeeze tubes and bite-size solids will be removed one at a time from a covered container and placed in the mouth.

Available data indicate the practicability of a high protein, liquid diet for initial space flights. Such a diet, nutritious and low in calories for an individual engaged in sedentary activity, has been formulated and is now under physiological and psychological evaluation.

Notes On Farm Science Days

Down On The South Forty

Just a few notes on Cuban agriculture. It's primitive, to say the best. Some of this stems from the type of crops, some from the labor available, and some from a lack of proper education and equipment.

Sugar cane is harvested by hand, with a machete. I have no idea whether there is a mechanical cane harvester, but we didn't see any.

The oxen is still one of the necessities for farming in Cuba. They are used to plow, pulling a wooden blade through the soil. They are used to get the crop to market. We saw several ox-carts loaded with cane going into town. They are even used to load the cane into train cars. We watched a team of oxen hoist the cane into the air by means of a pulley, the load was swung over the car by hand, and then the oxen backed up and lowered the load.

Saw some small patches of corn, but it was mighty poor. The principal crops are sugar cane, hemp, bananas and cattle. The cattle for the most part are Brahma. We heard they were a cross breed, but nobody seemed to know what types. Despite their "foreign" look, they make for good tenderloins, as beef is one of the staples of the Cuban diet, along with fish and chicken.

It is felt that Cuba, in years to come, will be an up and coming agricultural producer. The climate is favorable for at least two crops a year, and the soil will grow almost anything. But right now, they can't compare with the fertile, well-managed fields of Adams county.

Better Winter Hog Management

Three factors—shelter, water and feed—aid efficient production of market hogs during winter months.

Dick Hollandbeck, Purdue University extension swine specialist, says each factor must be given consideration if hogs are to make the greatest gains during cold weather.

It is neither necessary nor recommended that hogs be kept in a tightly closed building. They will stay healthier and freer of respiratory diseases if provided dry and draft-free sleeping quarters where there is ample bedding. Ground corn cobs make suitable bedding for sows.

Even during the coldest period

COUNTY AGENT'S CORNER

Notes On Farm Science Days

by Leo N. Seltzert

This column is being written as the author attends Farm Science Days at Purdue University. Of primary interest on Tuesday was the Pesticide Conference. Wayne Lovelly, Agricultural Engineer of Iowa, reported on the pre-emergence granular herbicide work he has pioneered. He reported good results in various types of 2,4-D granules. This has led to use of granules of Alanap, Raxond, Simazine and Altrazine. 1959 trials have indicated that results were essentially the same as with spray, however, the granules will be more costly. Mr. Lovelly suggested that granulars might best be used on a trial basis first.

C. B. Shaffer, director of environmental health, American Cyanamid Company, told the conference there are two areas of hazard in the agricultural chemical field—hazard to man engaged in applying the chemical in the field and potential hazard to consumers from presence of residues on the crop. Dangers to persons engaged in applying chemicals are minimized if they follow the manufacturer's direction.

Then, why not a list of staples near the entrance? Something the housewife could tear off as she picks up a cart, and use as sort of a string around the finger to remind of regular needs. Such a list would be especially helpful if the woman is among the majority who market from memory.

A new study of shopper forgetfulness shows we most often leave the store minus the everyday needs—coffee, milk, bread, butter, oleo, orange juice.

Saul Nesbitt, an industrial designer for 15 years and a specialist in food packaging and marketing, said he queried 96 women in three heavily populated suburban New York and Connecticut counties and found that coffee is the item most often forgotten.

Next were milk and bread, and in homes where there were small children, peanut butter. Other edibles the women were prone to forget included sugar, salt, vinegar, cooking oils, pepper, mustard, ketchup and flavorings.

Non-edibles included light bulbs, laundry starch and bleach, household ammonia, furniture polish, cleaning fluids and all types of paper products.

He also stated that events outside the industry have definite

Annual Meeting Of Credit Union Held Last Week

By Lois M. Folk

Home Demonstration Agent

Young Homemakers

group is un-

der way. The steering committee plans a "Scoop Party" (informational) meeting on February 15 at 7:30 p.m. Also, it is planned that the classes will begin February 29 and last for five weeks on "Money Management". Topics for the series include "What Makes A Good Buy," "A Dollar Down," "Dough in the Distance," and "Get Your Business in Order," "Count Your Blessings," and "Make Money Behave".

The steering committee for this year's lessons consist of: Mrs. Richard Augsburger, Mrs. Richard Marbach, Mrs. Dale Fruechte, Mrs. Jerry Price, Mrs. Leonard Schwartz, Mrs. Earl Sprunger, and Mrs. Darrell Arnold. These lessons are sponsored by the county home demonstration association and will be taught by the home agent.

At present we need names of homemakers under 30 years of age. So, if you are under 30, or if you know some one who is, please send her name and address to the County Extension Office, Decatur, Indiana.

ahead.

In fabrics we will find checks and more checks ranging from minute squares that blur in a distance to bold checkboards. Also it's a polka dot season, they will be found in every description from a cent to a saucer. We will also find abstract prints, often in scarf silks, in clear, strong colors. Watch for a shift in color emphasis with powdered or white-washed neutrals taking the lead, with the chamois, beige and chalky grays too, for blues and for the sweet pea colors, pinks, purples, and reds accenting the neutrals.

Remember, fashion is never right for you, unless it is a color you wear well. So if beige is popular, but it makes you look pale and ill, you had better leave it alone.

If you need a new dressing to spark winter salads, here may be just your answer:

Fruit Dressing

Combine in a saucier pan the juice and grated rind of 1 orange.

1 tablespoon lemon juice

1 cup sugar.

Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until boiling. Boil one minute. Remove from heat and cool. Whipped cream may be folded in for some types of salads.

life of the project or of the security property.

Associations

applying for loans

obtain and pay for the technical aid they need, but the agency's engineers will see that proposed improvements are sound and that cost estimates and plans are complete. After a loan is made, the agency periodically inspects progress to see that funds are used as agreed upon and that construction meets approved standards.

The agency makes loans to farmers' non-profit associations to carry out approved projects for irrigation, drainage, water supply and distribution systems, wells and orchard and crop spraying.

Associations eligible for Farmers' Home Administration loans are those whose credit needs cannot be supplied from other sources, and whose activities are to be jointly beneficial to several families. The main purpose of such an association must be to serve farmers. When an association reaches the point where another lender can handle its credit needs, it will be expected to repay its Farmers' Home Administration loan.

The agency is authorized to lend an association up to \$250,000, repayable over periods up to 40 years depending on the repayment ability of the borrower, or the useful

helping our own members and we never have helped any other organization before."

Many Branches Exist

The TABPA was organized in England shortly after World War II and now has branches scattered over the United States and Canada. Its membership is limited to English girls who marry American or Canadian servicemen overseas and the parents of the brides, who remain in England.

Local FHA office hours are 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily at the Decatur office located in Room 4 of the K. of C. building and 12 noon to 1 p.m. each Monday at the Wells County ASC office in Bluffton. All times are Central Standard.

English War Brides Volunteer Services

By HORTENSE MYERS

United Press International INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—Approximately 50 English "war brides" who have lived in central Indiana long enough to feel at home in their new country, plan to demonstrate their appreciation for America in a practical manner.

The main Indianapolis branch of the Trans-Atlantic Brides and Parents Association offered to supply the Marion County Muscular Dystrophy Foundation and Marion County General Hospital with volunteer helpers. Both organizations now are making plans to accept the offer.

Mrs. Robert Hatfield, secretary of the branch, now lives at Greenwood with her American husband and their 2-year-old daughter, and like the other TABPA members still has occasional waves of homesickness for her native England.

"But we feel we should do something for Americans. They have done so much for us," Mrs. Hatfield said. "We have been busy

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