

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK

IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

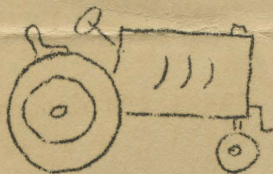
AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE OF TEXAS
AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE COOPERATING

STATE OF TEXAS

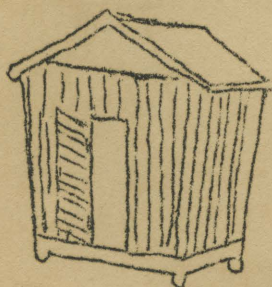
EXTENSION SERVICE
COUNTY AGENT WORK



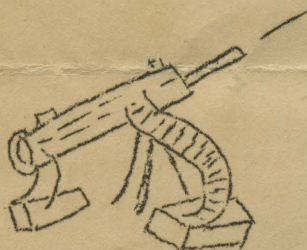
For want of a bolt
A machine was lost



For want of a machine
a crop was lost.



For want of a crop
A soldier was lost.



For want of a soldier
a battle was lost.



For want of a battle
A victory was lost.

Center, Texas,
February 24th.

To Farmers of Shelby County:

Will you help your Government: The little story down the side of this page may have more meaning than we may think for at first thought.

It is the purpose of this letter to ask you to plant peanuts. In the present emergency let us not bother to ask the question, WHY PLANT PEANUTS? But for a short answer we give the following information. We used to import millions of gallons of palm oil from the East Indies and from the Phillipines, tung oil from China, olive oil from Italy and from Spain. Now these places are cut off by the war. The Southern states are being asked to plant 3,500,000 acres of peanuts for oil, and the quota for Shelby County is 9,846 acres or more. Your part of this acreage is from 6% to 10% of your cultivated land, provided you have land that is suited to growing peanuts.

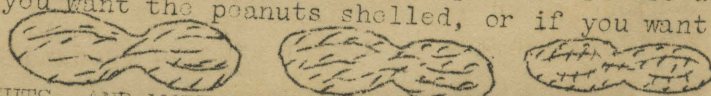
SEED PRICES AND MARKET PRICES.

On the second page of this letter we have endeavored to make some suggestions of the land suited to peanuts and the cultivation and planting. However, the first question you will want to ask will be about the seed and the price that you will get for the threshed peanuts this fall. So here is the answer to your question. The seed will be furnished by the Southwestern Peanut Growers Association through an agreement with the A. A. A. The seed will be delivered to shipping points in Shelby County for 5½ cents per pound. If you prefer to have the peanuts shelled, then you can take 16 pounds of shelled kernels in the place of 30 pounds in the hull.

The Government is guaranteeing that the price of #1 peanuts will be 4.1 cents per pound, or \$82.00 per ton this fall.

You can pay cash for seed when they are received, or you can agree to return peanuts this fall for the seed that you get this spring.

You will find enclosed herewith a card on which you will please indicate how many acres you will plant. Please also indicate if you want the peanuts shelled, or if you want



SO PLANT PEANUTS, AND MORE PEANUTS.

them in the hull. When this card is returned and when they are received you will be notified. RETURN THIS CARD BY FEBRUARY 28th.

Threshing equipment will be your next question. This is being provided for already. The Government has ordered the implement companies to make 250% more peanut threshers or pickers this year than they made in either 1940 or 1941. So the threshers will be here when we need them.

HOW ABOUT THE LABOR SITUATION?

Your next question may be labor. We have no complete answer to this problem, but the W. P. A. has assured the County USDA WAR BOARD that they will cooperate in every way possible. We make this suggestion if you are in need of labor. Go to the U. S. EMPLOYMENT OFFICE in Center and plane your request for labor. Then if you know of a man who at present is working on a WPA project who you feel will make you a good hand, go to him and offer him work at the prevailing farm wages for the county or for your community. If he refuses to do farm work after you have made him a bona-fide offer, report him to the local U. S. EMPLOYMENT OFFICE in Center, and his employment on the W. P. A. project will be immediately terminated. This should help some in needed farm labor.

PRODUCE PEANUTS WHEN SEED ARE PLANTED

Now, just to plant our quota of peanuts in Shelby County is not enough. We must produce peanuts for the Government. Therefore we have the following suggestions to make. Peanuts will produce best when planted between April 15th and May 25th. Plantings made in June do not produce the yields the earlier plantings make. The peanuts should be planted four to eight inches apart in 3 to 3½ foot rows. This planting will require about 45 pounds of peanuts in the hull per acre.

Since the peanuts roots do not spread very far from the row it is best to apply fertilizer in the row or furrow before planting. Mix the fertilizer with the soil. Approximately 150 pounds of 4-12-4 fertilizer should be applied per acre, or a mixture of 600 pounds of 20% phosphate and 100 pounds of muriate of potash, (mixed at home) may be applied at the rate of 150 lbs. per acre on land that produces rather large cotton or corn stalks.

Peanuts should be planted below the level of the ground and not on beds. In this manner dirt can be worked to the vines and cover the grass that may come and also help the little pegging shoots that make peanuts to get into the dirt.

Your Government wants lots of peanuts grown, but it also wants you to save and protect the soil. The best soil for peanuts, as you probably already know is a well drained sandy soil. Sticky, poorly drained soil is not suited to peanuts.

Steep land, that is land with a slope of more than 8 feet per hundred should not be cultivated. There is plenty of idle crop land in the county on which to plant peanuts. We all know that peanuts are a soil depleting crop when they are harvested for nuts and hay. Therefore the land on which peanuts is grown this year should receive one or all of the following conservation measures to maintain soil fertility.

- (1) Crop rotation- peanuts should not be followed by peanuts or sorghum.
- (2) Cultivate on the contour, that is level rows or terraces.
- (3) Cover crops- as soon as the crop of peanuts is harvested sow the land in oats, rye, vetch or burr clover for a winter cover crop.
- (4) Protect crop residues, or trash both during and after harvesting.
- (5) Leave vegetation in draws and washes, don't burn or plow out.
- (6) Terrace, as soon as it is possible to get a proper terrace system planned and constructed in the field.
- (7) Use fibrous rooted and close growing crops of sudan, sorghum or peas. In quite a few cases it will not be possible to terrace your land before this crop of peanuts is grown. If that is the case then plant strips of sorghum or peas about 100 feet apart. This will give the land some protection after the peanuts are harvested. The strips of sorghum or peas should be about 12 feet wide.

Yours truly,

Jo Moosberg

County Agent Shelby County and
Secretary Shelby County USDA WAR BOARD.

Approved this 24th day of
February 1942.

J. A. Holt, Chairman Shelby
County USDA WAR BOARD
Wayne Fallin, Work Unit Leader
Soil Conservation Service.
B. R. Kennedy, County Supervisor
Farm Security Administration
J. T. Massey, Director
Production Credit Association
Martin Syverson, Forest Ranger,
Sabine National Forest.
Brown Chandler, Director
Rural Electrification Administration.
MEMBERS SHELBY COUNTY USDA WAR BOARD.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
Center, Texas

To All Landlords and Operators

READ CAREFULLY

The State Committee has requested of the County Committee that a letter be written to each landlord and operator of a farm in this county calling attention to Section 16, Page 24, of 1942 Texas Handbook, and to advise them that these provisions will be enforced in 1942. "Quote".

(1) Practice: A landlord or operator, either by oral or written lease or operating agreement, or by an oral or written agreement supplementary to such lease or operating agreement, requires by coercion or induces by subterfuge a tenant or sharecropper to agree to pay to him all or a portion of the Government payment which the tenant or sharecropper has received or is to receive for participating in the 1942 program.

(2) Practice: A landlord or operator requires that a tenant or sharecropper pay, in addition to the rental customarily paid in the community for similar land and use, a sum of money or any thing or service of value equivalent to all or a portion of the Government payment which may be, is being, or has been earned by the tenant or sharecropper.

(3) Practice: A landlord or operator knowingly omits the names of one or more of his landlords, tenants, or sharecroppers from an application for payment or other official document required to be filed under the 1942 program, or knowingly shows incorrectly his or their acreage shares of a crop, or share of soil-building practices, or otherwise falsifies the record required to be submitted in respect to a farm, thereby intentionally depriving or attempting to deprive one or more persons of any Government payment to which they are entitled.

(4) Practice: A landlord or operator requires a tenant or sharecropper to execute an assignment, ostensibly covering advances of money, supplies, or services, to make a current crop, but actually for a purpose not permitted by the assignment instructions (ACP-70).

(5) Practice: A landlord or operator forces or causes, by coercion, subterfuge, or in any manner whatsoever, a tenant or sharecropper to abandon a crop prior to harvest for the purpose of obtaining the share of the Government payment that would otherwise be made to the tenant or sharecropper with respect to such crop.

(6) Practice: A person misuses or participates in the misuse of a marketing card with respect to any commodity for which marketing quotas are in effect or fails or refuses to file or knowingly falsifies any report required under the regulations pertaining to marketing quotas for the 1941-42 or 1942-43 marketing year and such misuse or failure to file or falsification of such report results in any erroneous or incomplete record pertaining to any farm in connection with marketing quotas.

AMOUNT TO BE WITHHELD OR REFUNDED: In the case of each of the six practices above the amount to be withheld or refunded is the entire payment which otherwise would be made or has been made to the person with respect to the farm.

Very truly yours,

R. R. Todd

R. R. Todd

Secretary Shelby County ACA