

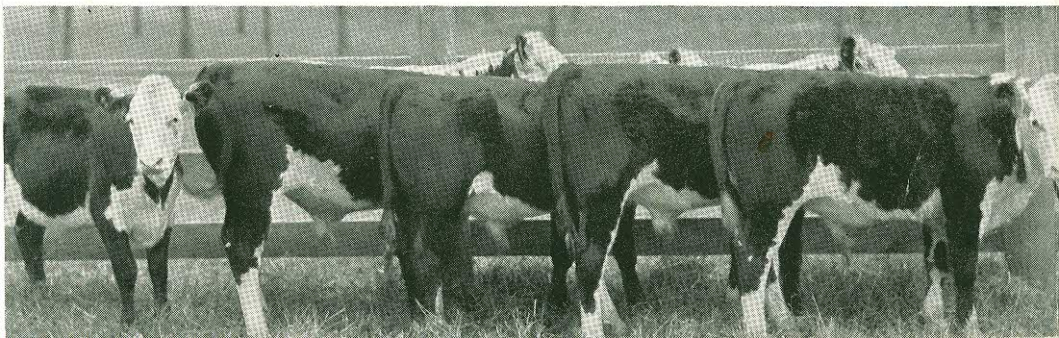
Establishing Improved Pastures In the Coastal Plain of Georgia

GEORGIA COASTAL PLAIN
EXPERIMENT STATION

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NOTE: *This publication is a preliminary circular on establishing pastures in the Coastal Plain of Georgia. A more complete discussion in bulletin form based on investigations conducted cooperatively by the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases of the Bureau of Plant Industry, and the Animal Husbandry Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, will be published at a later date.*

Establishing Improved Pastures in the Coastal Plain of Georgia

A good pasture is the foundation of successful cattle production. With the number of beef cattle in Georgia doubled during the five-year period, 1929 to 1935, as shown by census figures, it is essential that improved pastures be provided to furnish cheap and abundant feed. Improved pastures must go hand in hand with improved breeds of animals if livestock production is to be developed within the State sufficient to meet its requirements.

On practically every farm in Georgia there is some waste land bringing in little or no return that could be converted into an improved pasture. In the Coastal Plain, the area lying south of Columbus, Macon and Augusta, it is estimated there are approximately ten million acres in swamps, branch bottoms, cut-over pine woods and marginal lands. Much of these lands could be utilized for pastures in conjunction with producing timber and naval stores.

The mild climate and consequent low cost of housing, the long growing seasons and wide variety of feed crops that may be grazed without injury to the sandy soils of the Coastal Plain are the natural advantages afforded. Against this are the low grazing value of native grasses and the competition of wild sedges and other native growth of no economic value. Investigations conducted cooperatively by the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases of the Bureau of Plant Industry, and the Animal Husbandry Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, have shown that introduced grasses

Wire grass and other native growth in undeveloped cut-over pine woods often require six to 10 acres to furnish pasturage for one mature animal.



