



TOBACCO BED HAS PLASTIC END OPENED and turned back to show the structure of framework and watering device. Frame is made of 1 1/4 x 1/4 inch lattice with the lateral pieces bowed and stuck into the ground about four to five inches. The ridge pole is the same material. Plants are watered with a perforated hose fastened to the ridge pole with twine. L. F. Photo.

● Tobacco

(Continued from Page 1) about the diameter of a lead pencil

Higher temperature and humidity under the plastic probably accounts for much of the difference, Engle believes. Temperatures during the daylight hours have averaged seven to ten degrees higher under plastic than glass, and the temperatures reached desirable ranges much earlier in the day.

Humidity under the plastic ranges much higher than under glass. Watering does not need

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to be done as often or as heavily. The plants under the plastic have been watered only three times since April 10, and the sprinkler was used only about 15 minutes each time. The muslin covered beds have been soaked six times and for longer periods. The sash covered beds have also been watered six times, but because the sash must be removed, watering was done by hand—a definite disadvantage, Engle believes.

Engle said this week he has had much better results this year, the third for the experi-

ment, mostly because the framework over the bed is better constructed. During the first two years, Engle used plastic tubing as supports for the plastic cover. The plastic was brittle and suffered wind damage.

This year wooden lattice strips were used. The lateral pieces are 1 1/4 x 1/4 inch by eight feet long. "This is about the right length for a six foot bed," Engle said. Thirteen were used for a 50 foot bed.

The wooden strips were treated with a Copper Naph-

(Continued on Page 9)



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