Around The County Farms

By Gerald A. Carlson **Guest Writer**

Intergrated Pest Management: users and non-users on commercial farms make it possible to isolate the effect The IPM group expended

of IPM on pest control costs, yields and net returns. Such comparisons can be made for a given period or over time for a given set of IPM adopters. The examples below are necessarily brief and only serve to illustrate some of the evaluation features. More detailed evaluations are available from the authors.

IPM In Coastal Plains Crops:

In 1979 and 1980, 17 farms corn, soybeans and peanuts evaluation of IPM. Eleven of the farms received IPM services while six others did differences in the groups not and served as a control were related to the new IPM group. An effort was made to select farmers who were productivity, managerial, representative of the area. The control group farmers were selected to be similar to the IPM cooperators. To year period (ASCS records) simplify comparisons, standardized practices was the initiation of weed, disease, nematode, insect and soil fertility monitoring during the IPM study on the IPM farms. Monitoring was intended to improve selection, timing and decisions to use pesticides and fertilizer. control recommendations were also given.

A Coastal Plains Commission grant and Extension Service support helped initiate the program. The intention was that the program would become privately operated after two years. A cooperative business organization was formed to provide the services and the Extension Service kept business records. The control group \$49 for corn (\$180 minus received only business \$131), and \$37 for peanuts record service.

Table 1 shows some of the figures for the two comparison groups. For each of

were lower (about 25 per cent less) for the IPM farmers. The IPM rowers had a lower percentage of Comparisons between all crops treated with nematicides and applied less fungicides on peanuts. slightly more per acre for herbicides. Other variable costs were similar between the comparison groups, though seeding rates and fertilization rates differed

The IPM farm vields and net returns were higher for soybeans and corn, but lower for peanuts. However, part of these differences may be due to factors that could not be controlled in the evaluation period. To adjust with about 5,500 acres of for this, production history on these farmers was kept complete records for evaluated to determine whether the observed pesticide use and yield

> between the two groups. Peanut yields in a fiveprior to the IPM program were about 332 pounds higher for the control group but only 296 pounds higher

> practices or to basic

and operating differences

period. Corn yields were about 3.4 bushels per acre higher for the IPM group for this prior period (ASCS established yield records). With these yield adjustments, assuming equal pre-IPM variable costs, and equal soybean yields, it appears that the IPM practices increased yields, reduced pesticide use and increased net returns for each of the three crops.

Using average 1979-80 prices, gross gains per acre to IPM were \$54 for soybeans (\$153 minus \$99), (\$358 minus \$321).

Extra monitoring and two-year average economic advisory costs of the program should be deducted from these gains. This. the three crops, the per acre example illustrates the pesticide use expenditures importance of collecting

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pre-IPM yield and cost data to verify the comparability of control farms.

These data is based on Intergrated Pest Management Scouting Program operated in Chowan, Perquimans and Pasquotank counties 1979 and 1980.

Engagement Is Announced

Continued From Page 3-A department of

Mathematics. She is currently employed as a software specialist at Burroughs Wellcome Company in Greenville.

Mr. Small is a graduate of John A. Holmes High School and is a part - time employee of Parker-Evans Hardware. He also farms with his father.

The wedding is planned for November 22 at 3 P. M. at the First Baptist Church in Farmville.

The Edenton Society News

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Hatteras; Mr. and Mrs. Tim Midgett, Hatteras; Miss Marilyn Austin, Raleigh; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baum, Mr. John Barnett, Mr. Wayne Barnett, Wanchese, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dickerson, Wilmington, N. C.; Mr. Tom Cross, Raleigh; Dr. Jim Brown, Burlington; Mr. and Mrs. Reggie Griffin, New Bern; Mr. Weldon Lloyd, Henderson, Mr. Jim Capella, Richmond; Mr. Mike Covington, Greenville; Miss Marvena Corbett and Mrs. Ginna Birch, Raleigh; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Foster, Roanoke, Va. and Mr. Curtis Leary, Raleigh; Mr. Trent Ragland and Miss Ann West, Raleigh; Mr. Brian Twiddy, Nags Head; Mr. Jim Partin, Raleigh; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Yates, Apex; Mrs. Steve Kimmel, Greensboro and Mrs. Iris Brown of Eden.

-0-Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Banks of Raleigh were guests of Mrs. J. W. White last weekend



RECEIVES QUILT AS GIFT - Mrs. Hazel Elliott. director of Social Services Department, recently received this quilt from fellow staff members. Each of the 30 squares was made by staff members at Social Services, and was put together by the Advance Quilters' Sew-Ciety. The project was started last January.

Harless Announces New Program

A. B. Harless, Jr. from Chowan County, board member of the American Lung Association of North Carolina, Eastern Region. has announced that the association held a coffee recently at the Governor's Mansion for the kick-off of a new Lung Association program called "Super-

Greeting guests were Mrs. James Hunt, wife of

the governor; Dr. Sarah Morrow, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources; and W. Herbert Hollowell, Jr., of Edenton, president of the American Lung Association of North Carolina.

Also attending reception was five-year-old Casey Weisenberger and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Weisenberger of Greenville. Casey is serving

McGruff Makes Appearance

Department.

McGruff, a six foot, floppy-eared, crime-biting McGruff will have apcrusader who is well on his peared Tuesday and way to becoming the Wednesday at Chowan national symbol for crime County Fairgrounds. The prevention has been Crime Prevention assigned to "take a bite out Educational Exhibit van of crime" in North Carolina. was also displayed. Gov. Jim Hunt said, "I am

proud to announce that The Crime Prevention McGruff has been assigned Division of the N. C. to full-time duties with our Department of Crime Crime Prevention Division. Control and Public Safety am confident that he will joins with the Chowan be a valuable member of our County Sheriff's Departcrime prevention team." ment in presenting McGruff, and encourages McGruff is scheduled to make his appearance in all Edenton residents to do Edenton as the guest of their part to "take a bite out Chowan County Sheriff's of crime."

as the 1981 Christmas Seal Representative of the Eastern Region of the American Lung Association and will aid the organization in promoting the new "Superstuff" program as well as the Christmas Seal Campaign during the coming months. Casey has been treated for asthma since she was six weeks old.

"Superstuff", developed by the American Lung Association, is a new selfhelp program for children with asthma and their parents. It consists of a package of educational materials, carefully prepared and tested. The package includes a colorful spiral bound 86-page book for children packed with games, riddles, puzzles, cutouts, stories and many other enticing child appealing



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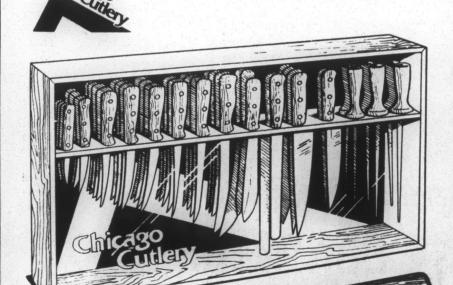
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