

# Tobacco, Peanuts Prove To Be Top Grossers For Farm Community

Attempts to dismantle the tobacco and peanut programs caused deep concern within the state's agricultural community during 1981. It is ironic that even though these crops were subject to the most severe criticism, they are the only commodities that made any real money.

Tobacco, for example, grossed farmers \$1.3-billion when counting the anticipated \$42-million from barley sales. Flue-cured's average price for the 738 million pounds sold was \$1.67 a pound and barley is expected to bring a record average price of \$1.78 for the estimated 23 million pounds produced.

Peanuts, too, treated farmers relatively well considering the continuing high cost of production. The 469,000 tons produced by North Carolina growers grossed them just under \$150-million.

Though bumper yields were seen in the majority of other crops and livestock, supply, both here and throughout the country, exceeded demand causing depressed prices.

As a result of moves in Congress to end the tobacco and peanut programs, the department did exert all its influence to retain these two most successful farm programs. Fortunately for the people of North Carolina, these efforts were productive.

In addition to these actions, the NCDA continued to render all services required by law to the farmers and consumers of the state.

**Marketing**  
The state's first agricultural trade mission to the People's Republic of China was co-sponsored by the NCDA. On the same mission, Japan and Taiwan

agreed to buy more N. C. tobacco.

Sixteen cotton gins were assisted in upgrading equipment and 61 grain firms were aided in developing marketing plans. Grain moisture meters were checked on request and 96 grain grading schools were conducted.

Market news added four markets to its weekly livestock sales report.

Coverage now included 10 major markets in the state. Livestock specialists assisted in grading and selling 61,534 stocker and feeder beef cattle. Twenty-two purebred sales were conducted along with two graded lamb pools in which 448 animals were sold. Seven pools were held in which 59,600 pounds of wool were sold.

Well over a half million feeder pigs were graded and sold by teleauction and over 200,000 market hogs were graded in 760 sales.

Specialists also graded nearly 5,000 beef carcasses and certified 25 million pounds of meat sold to state institutions.

Funding and planning for the horse complexes to be located in Raleigh and Asheville were coordinated

## Yam Commission To Hold Meeting

**RALEIGH** — All sweet potato growers and anyone interested in sweet potatoes are invited to attend the 20th Annual Meeting of the N. C. Yam Commission, Inc. It will be held January 20-21 at the Royal Villa Motor & Convention Center in Raleigh.

Registration will begin at 10 A.M. January 20 with the first session to begin at 1 P.M. President James Bardin of Wilson will preside as the Wednesday afternoon program begins.

Features of the program are national promotion, new television promotion and promotion on yams nationwide. Other features Wednesday afternoon will be reports on the Yam Commission activities, the election of four directors and officers for 1982.

The program ends with a banquet and dance. On January 21st, the theme will be "Producing Quality in 1982," which will cover diseases, new varieties and fertilization.

by the department's horse specialist. The individual also served as chairman of an interagency livestock theft committee and assisted in organization and management of numerous horse shows across the state.

Market development personnel promoted state produced food: products through exhibits at major events.

Millions of pounds of poultry products were graded during the year including eggs, frozen eggs, broilers, turkeys and ducks. Also 14,318 retail outlets were checked for compliance with the state egg law.

Assistance was provided growers in marketing 400,000 bushels of sweet potatoes including a new buyer who purchased 500 loads. Thirty-four contracts were approved for firms contracting for the production of 36,000 acres of fruits and vegetables. Official grade was certified for approximately 669 million pounds of farmer stock peanuts; 318 million pounds of milled peanuts and vegetables and 129 million pounds of fruits and vegetables for processing.

Department engineers assisted 47 firms with improvements and planning new facilities. Two NCDA projects were designed.

**Farmers Markets**  
Receipts at the Western North Carolina Farmers Market in Asheville were up 32 per cent over 1980. Construction of the Garden Supply Center, Office Building and Small Dealers Building is well underway.

Sales continued well at the State Farmers Market in Raleigh with the overall movement of local produce good. All wholesale units were rented and gate fees and receipts were up.

**Statistics**  
Agricultural statistics and farm income by county were issued by the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. In addition, 230 reports on crops and livestock prices and production were published along with special bulletins on poultry and historical crop estimates.

**State Fair**  
Attendance at the N. C. State Fair was the second largest with 643,457. There were 347 non-fair events with an attendance of nearly

300,000. Total attendance for the year was nearly 1.5 million. Major improvements included a new roof on Dorton Arena, parking lot lighting and painting three buildings.

**Research**  
Completed a new swine waste system for the Swine Research Center at the Tidewater Research Station, Plymouth; completed the first bull test in February, 1980 at the Mountain Research Station, Waynesville, with a successful sale of the first test animals held in March. New poultry facilities at the Piedmont Research Station, Salisbury, were dedicated in November.

**Planning**  
More than 15 pieces of legislation were developed for and passed by the General Assembly. The NCDA was equally successful in having the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture pass resolutions calling on Congress to amend the Clean Water Act to prevent interference with farmers' use of land and to reinstate Soil Conservation Service's assistance to land owners. Another recommendation that the U. S. secretary of agriculture establish an energy office in the USDA to insure farmer fuel needs when energy crises develop.

**Museum**  
A \$1-million appropriation for construction of a new facility for the Hampton Mariners Museum was received from the General Assembly.

**Animal Health**  
A new veterinary clinic was put into operation at Roper. It was built by appropriations from the Coastal Plains Regional Commission; maintained pseudorabies surveillance; continued the state's brucellosis-free and tuberculosis-free status for cattle and received planning money from the legislature for an animal disease diagnostic laboratory at Elkin.

**Consumer Standards**  
The gasoline and oil inspection program was subjected to a performance audit which requires implementation of new procedures. In addition, the LP-Gas law and gasoline and oil regulations were revised to reduce bur-

densome requirements. Outdated provisions were removed from the Weights and Measures Act.

**New Division**  
The Plant Industry Division was established to combine compatible functions within the department. The new division is made up of the old Seed and Fertilizer Division and the Plant Protection Section of the former Pesticide and Plant Protection Division. The combined programs include fertilizer, plant protection and seeds.

Extensive efforts were carried out to detect the Mediterranean fruit fly and gypsy moth in the state. Boll weevil eradication was placed on hold until it is decided whether to continue the program. Three additional counties participated in the Japanese beetle community assistance program.

Three-hundred fertilizer companies were registered along with 5,000 brands during fiscal year, 1980-81. Also registered were 25 lime companies with 75 brands. Samples were taken and tested from these products.

Peanut seeds and early varieties of soybeans were low in germination with supplies being barely adequate.

**Food and Drug**  
Pesticides, formally under the Pesticide and Plant Protection Division, was combined with the Food and Drug Protection

Division. Activities were intensified in the control of aflatoxin, a toxic substance found in corn. Emergency funding allowed eleven additional people to be added to the aflatoxin control programs.

A farm testing service came into being in cooperation with N. C. State University. This provides compositional and nutritional recommendations to farmers who grow their own animal feed.

**Agronomics**  
New soil testing methodology, developed in recent years, was incorporated into the routine program.

The division's workload has continued to increase at about 13 per cent per year. These activities include soil testing, plant analysis and nematode assay.

**Structural Pest Control**  
Eleven exterminators were convicted of violating the Structural Pest Control Law. Two received active prison sentences. Convictions were the result of investigation by the Structural Pest Control Division.

Of twelve operators called before the Structural Pest Control Board, one operator's license was revoked.

Over 4,500 properties treated for wood-destroying organisms were inspected. Eighteen percent or 835 of these were found substandard.

**Food Distribution**  
Food distributed to schools, and charitable institutions was valued at over \$34-million. Nearly one million people were served daily. USDA food purchases in North Carolina were valued at \$13.5-million.

**State Farms**  
Food valued at \$2,845,500 produced on the eight state institutional farms, was 100 per cent of the requirements for 8,200 residents of the state hospitals and youth service schools. This included milk, milk products and pork. The farms also produced 95 per cent of egg needs and 35 per cent of beef and vegetables consumed.

The farms continue to cooperate with N. C. State University in research and N. C. Forest Resources Division in operating woodlands.

## Death Claims Mrs. Spruill

Mrs. Fleetie Spruill Spruill, 85, of Norfolk, Va. and formerly of Edenton, N.C., died Jan. 7 after an extended illness at the Holmes Convalescent Center in Virginia Beach, Va.

A homemaker and member of Edenton United Methodist Church, she was the wife of the late Jesse G. Spruill.

She is survived by two sons, Harry Lee Spruill of Hertford, N.C. and Charles D. Spruill of Norfolk, Va.; one daughter, Mrs. Evelyn Atkinson of Norfolk, Va.; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Funeral services were

held at 2 P.M. on Jan. 9 at the Williford-Barham Funeral Chapel by Rev. Ken Spivey and Rev. Richard Blankenhorn. Burial followed at Beaver Hill Cemetery. Pallbearers were Stewart Atkinson, Steve Atkinson, Danny Spruill, Gordon Spruill, Terry Godfrey, and Lynn Perry. The family, which assembled at the funeral home at 12:30 on the day of the funeral requests that in lieu of flowers that donations be made to the Edenton United Methodist Church Building Fund.

Williford-Barham Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## Financial Planning Services

How well is the financial plan or budget you made last year working for you?

If your estimates for living expenses, savings, contributions, and recreation have not been satisfactory, don't be discouraged.

Often the first plan doesn't work. An emergency may have occurred or circumstances may have changed. And like many other families, you may need to shuffle the plan to meet family needs and wants until the end of the year.

To know how well any financial plan fits your family, a systematic check is necessary. You know where your money goes only when you keep some kind of financial record.

Your system need not be

elaborate, but it should show you how you spend your money.


For help in controlling your family's money, you can attend a special program sponsored by the Perquimans County Extension Service and presented by Dr. Thelma Hinson, Family Resource Management Specialist from N. C. State University on Tuesday, at 7:30 P. M., at the Perquimans County Office Building.

What better way to start the new year than to "Update Your Financial Plan"?

In order to reserve a space for you, please call the Extension Office, 426-7697.

Take this step forward to use your money more wisely and gain ideas for budgeting to the greatest advantages.



"Time is precious, but truth is more precious than time." Benjamin Disraeli



**AT LAST - YOU GET A BREAK**

And it's about time for the Internal Revenue Service to do something for folks who want to lay something away for retirement.

According to the latest rules you can save up to \$2,000 annually in a special fund with all taxes deferred until retirement. It's a great way to build up reserve and we suggest you stop in for the latest information as soon as possible.

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## They Can Add Up To A Great Retirement For Everyone.

Used to be, if you were covered by a company pension plan you couldn't participate in a tax-deferred Individual Retirement Account. But new government regulations have done away with that restriction.

Now that IRA is for everyone who works, Peoples Bank wants to make it easier for everyone to take advantage of it. So we're offering four Peoples IRA deposit plans for you to choose from:

- IRA Employer Assistance Plan (payroll deduction)
- IRA Retirement Club (coupon payment plan)
- Direct Deposit from Savings
- Direct Deposit from Checking

With one of these deposit plans working for you, your IRA savings will accumulate rapidly. Here are some examples of how those funds can add up:

- A 25 year old single saving \$25 per month until age 65 will have over 1/4 million dollars at retirement.
- A 30 year old married couple saving \$100 per month until age 65 will have over 1/2 million dollars at retirement.
- Two 35 year olds, both married and working, saving \$167 per month each will have over 1 million dollars at retirement.

The above is based on an assumed 12% interest compounded annually.

Peoples Bank has a variable rate IRA plan — rates do change and the above figures are an assumption only and in no way constitutes a guarantee.

Come by Peoples Bank and pick an IRA deposit plan that's right for you. It'll add up to a great retirement!

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"OLD FRIENDS WITH NEW IDEAS"

