

Farm Review & Forecast



HOME OF THE WEEK—East Jackson St. captured the attention of the judges for the Jaycee sponsored Home and Lawn Beautification project in Rich Square this week. The lawn and home of Dr. and Mrs. B. E. Stephenson was

judged as Home of Week with its neat and attractive appearance. Capturing honorable mention was the residence and lawn of the Perry W. Martins, just across the street from the Stephensons.

First Graded Quality Feeder Pig Sale Slated At Hillsboro

RALEIGH — The first Graded Quality Feeder Pig Sale for North Carolina will be held September 16 at Hillsboro. Bill Wilder, livestock marketing specialist with the N. C. Department of Agriculture's markets division says that the graded quality sales can aid North Carolina in becoming the big feeder pig producing state in the East.

Sponsored by the State, the sale will be held at the Central Carolina Farmers Livestock Market and is patterned after such sales successfully held in Virginia and other states, Wilder says.

He said that both the producer and buyer can benefit from the sales. "Buyers can bring groups of pigs as they are bought to the feeding floor and see 80% or better develop out into top hogs in the grade in which he bought. The producer will get better prices and be able to see quality defined through the grading system."

Other Graded Sales will be held at the Hillsboro location on

October 14, November 11 and monthly thereafter. Grading is being done by Wilder, Dave Spruill, N. C. State University livestock specialist, and on hand for the September sale will be J. E. Poore, field supervisor of graders in Virginia.

- Requirements for the sales are:
1. Only apparently healthy pigs may be unloaded at the sales barn.
 2. Pigs must be delivered at the sales barn between 7 a.m. and 12 noon on sales days. The sale will begin at 2 p.m.
 3. Pigs must be consigned at least 10 days prior to the sale. To be eligible for consignment pigs must be farrowed on the farm of consigner.
 4. All pigs must be vaccinated with MLV and serum by a licensed veterinarian for cholera at least 21 days prior to the sale. Pigs must be properly ear-tagged and accompanied by a health certificate.
 5. Pigs must have been treated for internal parasites with an approved material and be free from external parasites and weigh between 40-130 lbs. All boar pigs must be castrated and healed.
 6. Pigs will be state graded according to U. S. Department of Agriculture Feeder Pig Grades, U. S. 1, U. S. 2, U. S. 3, Medium and Cull. No. 3 and Cull pigs will not be sold.
 7. All pigs will be grouped by weight within 10 lb. weight categories and grade and sold as groups. The bidder may split a pen at purchase to buy at least ten pigs and leave at least 10 pigs per pen. A buyer may not bid on the remaining part of a pen after he has split the pen. Owners will be paid on the average price of the group of pigs containing his animals when pens are split.

NASA has built an artificial moon surface of blast furnace slag and slag dust, in Texas. Astronauts use the area to learn how to get about when they land on the moon.

GARDEN TIME
By M. E. GARDNER N. C. State

There are many fine youth programs in today's agriculture which should result in providing future leadership in a basic industry which is ever changing and becoming more and more complex.

The 4-H program is most likely best known to you. However, there are certain phases of the larger 4-H program which you may not know about. One of these deals with the production and marketing of fruits and vegetables.

I wonder sometimes if we really appreciate just what this training program means to our boys and girls and how many people are involved in it.

The program begins on the county level. The boy or girl is selected and trained by the extension chairman, or his assistants, or the home demonstration agent and her assistants. After this training period on the county level, the boys and girls selected compete with each other by districts - northwest, south, southeast, etc. These district contests are conducted by the extension horticulturist from Raleigh in collaboration with the respective county personnel. The participants are judged using a standard score card.

The winners in the district contests come to Raleigh to participate in an expense-paid statewide contest and for savings bonds.

This is a good program and accomplishes many things. In the first place the spirit of competition is keen. This means that each participant must organize his or her thoughts well and present material in a logical manner. Timing is also important. Perhaps one of the most valuable phases of the program is the opportunity to meet other contestants, see their demonstrations and pick up new ideas.

Right now I cannot think of anything more important than these youth programs in orienting our young people in the direction of useful and productive lives.

It is a good opportunity for all organizations, both inside and outside the field of agriculture, to sponsor programs of real value.

You might speak to your county extension chairman and find out how you, or the organization you represent, might help.

Sudden weather changes can cause sudden chemical changes in your body. Give your heart a helping hand by taking it easy when the temperature soars or plunges, advises the North Carolina Heart Association.

ASC News Notes
By BEN MANN, Office Manager Northampton County ASC Office

ASC Committee Elections - Farmers participating in the community committee elections must return their ballots to the county office or have them post-marked not later than tomorrow, Friday, September 10. Only one ballot can be placed in the return envelope and every voter must sign the certification; otherwise the ballot will not be considered in determining the election of community committeemen. Any eligible voter that did not receive a ballot may request one at the ASC county office.

The County Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 15, for the purpose of determining the eligibility of those casting ballots and also to tabulate the eligible ballots to determine the newly elected committeemen. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Regular Member of the newly elected committeemen will be asked to serve as delegates to a County Convention on Friday, September 17, for the purpose of electing a County Committee. Diversion and price support payments - Payments under the 1965 feed grain and wheat programs and the cotton domestic allotment program are as follows:

Feed grain, 611, \$160,402.53; wheat, 128, \$9,117.18; cotton, 1410, \$191,591.55; total, \$361,111.24.

Farmers that have been notified that their final payments are ready should contact the county office in order that these payments may be made and the farm records completed. There remains only approximately 75 farms on which farm payments have not been completed.

Facility and dryer loans - The county office has received a considerable number of applications for facility and dryer loans during the past several weeks. Any interested and eligible producer should contact the county office if he is interested in securing either a facility or dryer loan. The County Committee is authorized to approve loans to eligible producers through the use of Commodity Credit Corporation funds. The Committee has set guidelines for loan approvals in Northampton County. In that mobile dryer equipment loans are normally for 75 per cent of the out-of-pocket cost and facility loans 85 per cent of the out-of-pocket cost. Both loans carry a 4 per cent interest rate and the first repayment installment is due on the loan twelve months from the date the loan is disbursed.

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NOW IS THE TIME TO CHECK YOUR FIELDS

Four Possible Methods To Be Considered In Determining When To Dig Peanuts

- These four methods with their limitations are as follows.
1. Dig when 75-80% of the sound kernels have reached maximum size. To make this determination, 5 or more representative plants should be carefully dug, the pods removed, and the maturity of each kernel determined. The kernels should be grouped into 4 maturity classifications as follows:
 - Class I—Undersize, sappy
 - Class II—Kernels almost mature but still with white seed coat
 - Class III—Kernels pink, inside of hull turning brown or black
 - Class IV—Pods overmature—kernels with brown seed coat, etc.

2. Ratio of total pegs to pods that have matured pods (Class II and III above.) When the pegs with mature pods comprise 55-60% of the total pegs, maximum maturity has been achieved.
3. Age of plants. These studies and others have indicated that maximum maturity occurs from 140-170 days after planting. Early planted peanuts (April 20-May 5) require 165-170 days while late planted peanuts require 140-145 days.
4. Effective heat units—1500 to 1600 units required for maximum maturity

HARVESTING AND CURING

- WINDROW PEANUT HARVESTING**
1. Check digger setting often to avoid cutting peanuts off vines.
 2. Follow digger after vines wither with windrow attachment. Make sure all dirt is removed and peanuts are put in tight windrows.
 3. Leave peanuts in windrow approximately 5 days or until moisture is about 25 per cent before combining. Turn vines on 4th day before combining.
 4. Bulk peanuts should be placed in bins not more than 4 feet deep. Under no circumstances should the temperature of the air moving through the peanuts be more than 95 degrees. (Temperature exceeding 95 degrees will cause skin slippage and off flavor.) Use from 7 to 10 cubic feet of air per cubic foot of peanuts. Do not pass oil fumes through the peanuts.
 5. Do not cure peanuts in bottom of bin below 9 per cent moisture. Cut the heat off when the upper layer of peanuts in the bin is about 12 per cent. Be sure and check moisture with accurate moisture tester.
 6. Handle peanuts carefully to avoid excessive shelling and cracking.
- THE STACK POLE METHOD**
1. Place stack poles close together to insure proper curing.
 2. If leaves are on the vines allow peanuts to wither before the stacking operation.
 3. Make sure all the dirt is shaken from the peanuts and the peanuts are placed to the center of the stack.
 4. Nail two cross slats about 24 inches from the ground to insure proper ventilation.
 5. Make sure that stacks are capped off to prevent moisture from entering the center of the stack.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR COUNTY AGENTS OFFICE

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Grapes Top September Foods List

RALEIGH — Look for an abundant supply of grapes during September at the grocery stores. And lots of peanut butter, turkeys, and frozen orange juice will be available. These items comprise the plentiful foods list for the month.

A near-record crop of 3 1/2 million tons of grapes will be coming out of California this year. In September, marketings of table grapes - Flame Tokays and Thompson seedless - will be especially heavy. These are ideal for out-of-hand eating - at snack time or as a dessert. They're also excellent in salads. September is Back-to-School Month. And that means peanut butter sandwiches - for school and after school. This year's peanut crop totals 2,205 million pounds, the largest since 1948. For a fall barbecue, select a turkey. A small bird works well on an electric spit (be sure to center the weight) or for over-the-coals grilling, use parts from a larger - and usually less costly - turkey. And be sure to take advantage of the continued listing of frozen orange juice. This year's Florida orange crop was heavy; the pack of frozen concentrated orange juice the second largest on record. Look for plums which are always good for eating out of hand, and may be used to add interest to salads and desserts. A plum salad makes a delightful summertime treat.

Edward Lanier of Conway built a diversion and two grassed waterways last week. Soil Conservation Service Technician H. R. Bryant helped him with the design and layout work. He plans to seed fescue in strips about 100 feet wide on one of his fields this month to start a strip rotation.

Troy Reid of Rich Square says fescue has made a big improvement in some of the land he works. He operates a farm at Lasker that belongs to Edwin P. Brown of Murfreesboro. Two of the fields on the farm were seeded to fescue. He says this land has worked better than any other land on the farm all the year. The grass tractor caused the land to crumble and become mellow even where he expected it to be stiff and cloddy.

Marshall Hoggard of Woodland works a farm in Cutawhiskie Creek Watershed owned by William Futrell of Rich Square. When a conservation plan was developed for the farm he started planting fescue in the rotation on some of the fields. He says this has really paid off. Corn planted this year following fescue did better than any other corn on the farm. The land was easier to work than before the grass was planted. He plans to seed another seven acres to fescue this fall. It will be seeded in October, as soon as the crop now on the land is out of the way.