

# New Spray To Aid Peanut Growers In Near Future

JACKSON - In the very near future, peanut growers will be able to increase their per acre yield from 1,000 to 1,500 pounds by spraying a new chemical on their plants that will cost approximately \$2 per acre, according to Astor Perry, extension agronomy specialist (peanuts) at N. C. State University.

Wednesday while addressing approximately 50 Northampton County farmers at a county-wide peanut growers meeting at the county agricultural building in Jackson.

Perry said the development of a new chemical that acts "like a reverse telescope" will bring higher yields to the county's farmers. The chemical, known

only as an "internode shortener" reduces the size of the plant above the surface and forces increased peanut yield.

"Of course, the spray is still in the experimental stage," Perry said, "but it may be one of the many developments needed to increase our yields to the levels we've been predicting."

Perry told the farm group that

under the state's new five-year agricultural program initiated Monday, a goal of 2,800 pounds-per-acre across the state is outlined.

He added last year's crop in Northampton County averaged 2,700 pounds per acre for 30,000 acres of peanuts in "one of the worst growing seasons in years."

He commented, however, that

despite adverse weather conditions, farmers in the area came out quite well in over-all production by breaking another record.

For the immediate future, Perry said farmers could produce crop yield by blending seed stock. He recommended blending Florigiant with NC-5 or VA-61R for best results.

Other possible combinations included GA 119-20 with NC-2 at a rate of 1/3 GA seed to 2/3 NC-2.

"Growers need to use several varieties in order to improve production and grade," he said. Brodie Harrell, agricultural extension agent for the county, commented NC-2 could be used to good advantage in a blend.

He added, however, that 75 per cent of the NC-2 raised in the county during 1966 graded in the runner group.

The meeting, the first of its kind to be held in the state this year, marks the unofficial beginning of the peanut season. For, although farmers won't be planting for many weeks yet, planning for next year's crop already has

begun. Other speakers at the meeting included Harrell and Joe Sugg, executive secretary of the N. C. Peanut Growers Association.

Harrell reminded area farmers that a cotton growers meeting would be held on Friday. He urged Northampton farmers to attend.

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Hac 1f

"Please stop the ad. He's had several to see about the house and its' rented." To rent, lease, buy or sell, a Home Newspaper want ad will bring results.

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"EAT PEANUTS TODAY" is a good motto for everyone, peanut specialists attending a peanut growers meeting in Jackson remarked. Holding the special bumper sticker are (left) Joe Sugg, executive secretary

of the N. C. Peanut Growers Association, and Astor Perry (right) extension agronomy specialist at N. C. State University. Brodie Harrell, Northampton County Extension agent, looks on.

## Local Dial Service Delayed For Months

RICH SQUARE - Local dial equipment, scheduled for installation here, will be delayed at least several months, according to L. G. Winstead, manager of the Rich Square Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co. facility.

Winstead said the delay is being caused by the strike of 2,200 employees of the Automatic Electric Company's Northlake, Ill., plant which lasted more than 10 weeks.

The strike ended January 25, he said.

"If the demands for service here continue as we have forecasted, it may become necessary to restrict telephone service to lower grades than desired by our customers and applicants," Winstead said.

It was pointed out that the Automatic Electric Company is a primary supplier of central office equipment to Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co. Due to the complexity and specialization involved in manufacturing dial telephone equipment, the company must anticipate its needs at least 12 to 18 months in advance. "This we did and the necessary equipment would have been ready to meet our customers' requests had the Automatic Electric employees not 'struck,'" he continued.

District 8 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, and Local 6 of the Metal Polishers, Buffers, Platers, and Helpers International representing some 2,200 Automatic Electric employees went on strike November 12, 1966, according to Automatic Electric sources.

It was necessary to lay off more than 5,700 workers because of the strike.

Agreements were reached after several proposals to end the work stoppage had been rejected earlier.

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## Northampton And Area News in Brief

**High Bidder**  
JACKSON - R. E. Ford was the apparent high bidder at the resale of the Bethany School on Monday, January 30, according to R. F. Lowry, superintendent of Northampton County Schools. Lowry said Ford's bid of \$500 will remain open for 10 days to permit the making of an upset bid. Anyone desiring to raise the bid may do so in the office of the clerk of Superior Court by February 8, Lowry said.

**Held in Break-In**  
WELDON - A 27-year-old Garysburg man is being lodged in jail in Weldon on charges of breaking, entering and larceny as a result of the Saturday night break-in at the Western Auto Store in Weldon.

Roscoe Davis Jr. was taken into custody by law officers at the Roanoke River bridge north of here only 20 minutes after the alleged break-in.

**Union Approved**  
RICH SQUARE - Employees of Mylecraft Manufacturing Co. in Rich Square voted 155-119 for union representation by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in a National Labor Relations Board election Thursday, according to plant manager Donald Smith. The election, ordered by NLRB, was requested by Mylecraft.

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## Holmes Says County Will Fight On \$48,000 Dam Tax Exemption

JACKSON—Northampton County Manager Melvin Holmes Wednesday stated the county would fight a proposed \$3,000,000 tax exemption for two VEPCO dams which would result in the loss of approximately \$48,000 in tax funds for the county.

Holmes said he was informed by VEPCO officials last week that the company would seek the exemption from the State Stream and Sanitation Commission on the grounds the two dams, located on Gaston Lake and the Roanoke River, have built-in construction features which protect wildlife.

Holmes said the Commission has the authority to grant tax

exemptions to constructions which aid in conservation. He added, however, he did not feel the commission should grant VEPCO's request because no problems of pollution existed before the dams were built.

He said the "wier" dams constructed to prevent pollution of the lake, would not be needed if the dams had never been built. "The structures act only to offset problems that were created when the dams were constructed," he said.

The vier dams, smaller underwater dams built a few hundred yards in front of the main construction, act in preventing pollution by allowing the passage only of surface water thereby

preserving the oxygen supply for wildlife in the lower parts of the lake.

Holmes said even if VEPCO succeeds in gaining an exemption, he did not feel, at present, the exemption would be as large as the \$48,000 the company is seeking.

The two dams provide an estimated 40 per cent of the county's tax resources.

They were constructed at an estimated cost of \$85 million.

## Car Being Sought In Hit-And-Run

WOODLAND - State Trooper Glenn Swanson reported a beige 1960 Chevrolet is being sought by a area Highway Patrolmen. Swanson said the car was involved in a hit and run accident Monday at 1:30 a.m. outside the Woodland city limits.

The trooper stated the car is damaged on the right side near the front and could have traces of blue paint.

Anyone seeing a car that fits the description should call Trooper Swanson at Woodland 2-4444. The trooper also requested anyone who has information on the license number and contact Patrolmen Swanson and Bob Corey.

## Harrington Foresees Liquor-By-Drink Law

By RANDOLPH THOMAS  
LEWISTON - State Senator J. J. "Monk" Harrington says "refinement" of the state's ABC laws by the 1967 General Assembly definitely will include a local option liquor - by - the - drink clause.

Harrington also predicted the measure will be introduced by delegates of the western counties or cities. "If the counties don't ask for it," he said, "the state will have to do it."

He added he does not feel the passage of such a measure will result in more drinking, but probably will result in less individual consumption.

He said the new ABC law will contain provisions "to allow people to do what custom has allowed them to do in the past."

The law also will cover all wet counties in the state, he said. Harrington, who represents 10 counties of the 1st Senatorial District with Sen. George Wood of Camden County, said he feels the local option solution the fairest way to handle the "brown-bagging" question.

"Who's to say County A can't have liquor-by-the-drink just because County B doesn't want it," he described his feelings.

Harrington referred to the barrage of mail he has received from both sides of the liquor argument. "Each of the letters I get has some good points," he said, "but no one is really all right."

"For the time being," he went on, "I am in favor of a local option solution because I see it as the only way for each county to

handle liquor in whatever method they see fit."

On East Carolina College's bid for university status, Harrington commented: "I am all for East Carolina becoming a university. I know it certainly is qualified to become a university any time it wants to under the consolidated system," he added.

Harrington said, however, he will have to get "all the facts" before he casts his vote for senatorial district reorganization.

"I want East Carolina to have everything it wants," he said. "But I just want to be sure it's the right thing" before I cast my vote.

As for a proposed hike in interest rates, he stated emphatically, "I am opposed to it and furthermore, I don't think it has a chance of passing." Harrington said he doesn't feel any more comment on the subject necessary.

Harrington, the only lay member of the court's commission, which at this time is considering methods of implementing the new courts reform system, said the commission will have certain recommendations in the very near future.

He said the recommendations will include changes in the method of jury selection "which will give everyone a chance to serve on a jury" and also a reorganization of the judicial districts.

Harrington said the commission also will include an intermediate appellate court. "The new appellate court is very much in need," he said, "because our present Supreme Court system cannot handle the large amount of cases being sent to it daily."

An aviation enthusiast, Harrington feels the establishment of an "Aviation Commission" by the state is a "good idea." He added (See HARRINGTON, Page 8)

## Takes Own Life Rather Than Return To Viet Nam

GASTON - A young Northampton County soldier, who told his brother he had "rather die than go back to Viet Nam," took his own life at his father's home near Gaston Monday.

Twenty-two-year-old Millard Roberts Jr., who recently had returned from Viet Nam, was pronounced dead on arrival at Roanoke Rapids Hospital from gunshot wounds in the stomach.

Roberts was found by his brother, Richard, shortly after the shooting.

Richard Roberts was quoted by Deputy Sheriff Otis Wheeler as saying he had heard his brother inside his father's house "praying."

Richard said he looked through a window after knocking several times and getting no response, and saw his brother slumped on his bed.

He told officers he entered the room where Millard lay and found a 12-gauge shotgun on the floor. The brother said a string was tied to the trigger and a book attached to the other end of the string.

Officers reported Millard Roberts had been home for a few days from an Army hospital in Georgia where he was undergoing treatment for wounds suffered in combat.

The victim's family told officers he had been "moody" since his arrival home on January 27, and especially so on the night preceding his death.

A suicide note found by the officers read: "I hate to do this to you all. I love you all, but this is something I must do. I have no reason to live."

The note was signed, "Love, Millard Jr."

Coroner Edwards officially ruled the death a suicide.

## White Named To Postmaster Job In Woodland

WOODLAND - Congressman Walter B. Jones announced Friday the Post Office Department has confirmed the appointment of Leslie B. White as acting postmaster at Woodland and recommended the appointment be made permanent.

White has served in the Woodland Post Office 15 years.

The 42-year-old Hertford County native has been a resident of Northampton County for 25 years.

## Inmates Waive Hearing

JACKSON - Two Odom Prison farm inmates Monday waived preliminary hearings on charges of first degree murder arising from the scissors stabbing of a fellow inmate last week, according to Northampton County Sheriff Frank Outland.

Outland said the two men will be bound over for the March 27 term of Northampton County Superior Court.

According to Major Fred Ross, commander of the maximum security farm near here, charges were brought against Herman Hall, 20, of Asheville and George Bevins, 21, of Portsmouth.

The two men, both white, are charged with the fatal stabbing of Roosevelt Adams of Winston-Salem, a Negro, following a cell block fight.

Guards, who witnessed the incident, said all of the men were armed.



AN EYE ON THE FUTURE—The small community of Seaboard is leading Northampton County in meeting the "challenge of the Sixties." Recently, concerned citizens in the county, realizing the threat of loss of their greatest asset—their young people—decided to take action. Recreational and industrial development provided the only answer. The community now is forming an Industrial Development Committee which



will attempt to attract new industry to the area. Also in the works is a private community swimming pool. Residents already are in the process of applying for a charter for the pool and are considering several sites. More Northampton communities should follow Seaboard's lead.