

New Plant Fad Flourishing

By HELEN HOWARD
Staff Writer

Women throughout the nation have joined the plant fad in recent years. Home decorations include a hanging basket and potted plants used in various points.

While a green thumb is believed necessary for the care of these fragile plants, a new growing system is flourishing.

Women in the Warren County area have had a chance in recent weeks to view the Luwasa Plantsystem. The new system is explained in a home-party plan. At least 10 home-parties have been held around the area recently.

Mrs. Toni Mesick of Raleigh is a Deco consultant for the area. The idea is similar to Stanley or Tupperware. However, plants are available at the home-party on a cash-and-carry basis.

Swiss horticultural scientists developed the new system about 16 years ago. The sister company, Green Thumb Co., brought the scientists' concept to the United States. Later the idea was purchased by Ralston Purina. Deco-plants Corporation derived from the checker-board family.

The hydroponics chemical growing system has been used in hospitals, doctors' offices and restaurants for some time. Now the idea is spreading to the American housewife. The system takes the guesswork out of when and how much water. Best of all, it eliminates problems for those not fortunate enough to own a green thumb.

The Deco consultant explains three unique features for the new system: living stones, liquid nutrient and a window in the container.

The living stones are man-made expanded clay aggregate which supply clean stable support for the plant and a constant flow of nutrient to the root system.

Mrs. Mesick advises, "The stones never wear out. They can be willed to your grandchildren."

The stones can be washed and reused again and again and therefore are more practical than soil.

The nutrient is also important. The formula designed by the Swiss scientists calls for one teaspoon to two quarts of water or two teaspoons to a gallon of water. The nutrient is mixed with the water each time watering is required.

This system eliminates overwatering plants and adding fertilizer. Most of the plants only need water every 10 to 21 days.

And it is easy to tell when the plant needs water. With the system you do not have to feel the soil or catch the eye of a drooping plant. The new system has a water line in a window on the container. When the water line is low, you fill it.

Mrs. Mesick said the only time you water the plant is when the window is empty. There is an exception, however. If you are going on vacation, you may fill the window before you leave and the plants will take care of themselves while you are gone.

As with soil-planted plants, light is an important factor. The consultant explains the light requirements of each plant she sells. Consumers are also given literature on light requirements of all plants.



Aileen Marlin of Warrenton is one of many Warren County plant lovers who are enjoying the ease which Deco plantsystems give to the indoor gardener.

The literature states: "One fairly reliable rule of thumb is based on leaf color; the more green the leaf, the darker the location the plant will tolerate."

This means the greener leaf requires less light. The more creamy the leaf, the more light the plant needs. There is exception to every rule and Mrs. Mesick tells the consumer which bright, green plants require good lighting.

Another help in green thumb gardening is the stones. With ordinary potting soil, disease and bug problems exist. Leeching is often necessary. Consumers of soil-potted plants may notice small white balls on top of the soil. This has been determined to be a salt chemical build up, usually caused by the salt content of the water.

With the Deco-plants, a consumer needs only to wash to stones and the salt is removed.

Mrs. Mesick expressed the views of the corporation. "We feel that these systems will be all that is used in homes in the next few years."

She added, "Anyone who has ever seen a Deco-plant will come back for more."

The plants are grown near the equator. They are strictly indoor plants for North Carolina consumers since the climate here is cooler.

From the equator to the United States, the plants are expected to be nationwide very soon. Deco-plant centers are established throughout North Carolina at present.

What will happen to the soil-potted plants? You can salvage your own plants and transplant them to the new system through processes demonstrated. The nutrient is recommended to be used with soil at the consumers' own risk.

The new system of plants requires no transplanting. The stones never decompose or become hard packed and the plants never get pot bound because the roots come out of the bottom of the container and may be cut back.

Mrs. Mesick demonstrates her product to civic groups, garden clubs and in homes.

With the fad of plants adding to the warmth of a room, the new growing system may be in Warren County homes in the near future.



At least 150,000 species of flowering plant are known.

Delivery Points Designated

Delivery points have been designated by Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation to handle growers' carryover tobacco in the N. C. Eastern Belt, the N. C. Middle Belt and the Old Belt of N. C. and Virginia.

Carryover tobacco is defined as tobacco produced in excess of 110 per cent of the producer's 1977 quota.

Tom Watson, ASCS supervisor in Warren County, estimated that only 10 or 12 producers in the county would be affected by excessive tobacco poundage following Monday's close of the Warrenton Tobacco Market.

The majority of those farmers will probably take their tobacco to Fuquay-Varina, the closest site listed in the delivery points announced this week by Fred Bond, Stabilization general manager.

In Fuquay-Varina, Tobacco Growers Services, Inc. is designated as open for scheduling and receiving tobacco from Nov. 28-Dec. 2.

Other points designated by the general manager are Austin Carolina Tobacco Co., Kinston; Smothers Tobacco Warehouse, Reidsville; and Commonwealth Tobacco Company, Kenbridge, Va.

Producers who plan to deliver tobacco to one of the above points should obtain a marketing card from the Warren County ASCS office prior to delivery.

Deliveries should then be scheduled by telephoning Stabilization's representative at any of the designated points, beginning Monday, Nov. 28, between 9 a. m. and 4 p. m. in Fuquay-Varina, the number is 919-552-2231. The Kinston number is 919-523-8086.

All tobacco should be delivered in standard tobacco sheets which will be exchanged when the delivery is made.

County supervisor Watson said an official government tobacco inspector would grade, weigh and then store the tobacco brought in for a nominal fee, not expected to exceed one cent per pound.

The tobacco will be offered for sale as soon as possible after July 1, 1978. Tobacco which does not sell for a satisfactory price will be tendered to Commodity Credit Corporation for loan under the 1978 program.

Proceeds from sales or loans advanced, less expenses incurred for storage, fumigation and insurance during the carryover period, will be distributed to participating growers after July 1, 1978.

All participants must be members of Stabilization and will be asked to sign an agreement making Stabilization the agent for handling, servicing and sale of tobacco.

Watson said the number of growers expected to be involved in the carryover program is more than last year due to the poorer crop yield this season.

A large portion of tobacco sales in the Warrenton market have gone to Stabilization this year, he added.



Agriculturally Speaking

By L. B. HARDAGE
County Extension Chairman

All farmers and homeowners are invited to attend the new Central Carolina Farm and Home Trade Show in Smithfield on Thursday, Dec. 1 and Friday, Dec. 2 at the Carolina Farmers Cooperative Warehouse, according to L. B. Hardage, county extension chairman.

Enterprise Women Have Program

LITTLETON - Helping handicapped at Christmas was discussed as an upcoming project for the Baptist Women of Enterprise Baptist Church which met recently.

Meeting at the home of Mrs. M. J. Umphlett on Roanoke Avenue, the group heard a program, "Christ in You," given by Mrs. Lula S. Kidd.

Mrs. S. B. Bobbitt, leader, reported on a meeting of the Cullom Baptist Association.

Refreshments were served by the hostess to other members, including Mrs. F. E. Bobbitt, Mrs. A. C. King, Mrs. H. H. Shearin, Mrs. J. B. Stansbury, Mrs. George McMahan, Mrs. E. C. Reid Sr., Mrs. Douglas Reid, Mrs. R. A. King and two new members, Mrs. E. C. Reid Jr. and Mrs. James Briggs.

Houston Returns Home From Navy

Navy Chief Hull Maintenance Technician Robert E. Houston, whose wife Judy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Edwards of Rt. 2, Henderson, has returned from an extended deployment in the Mediterranean Sea.

He is serving as a crewmember aboard the aircraft carrier USS Independence, homeported in Norfolk, Va. While deployed, his ship operated as a unit of the U. S. Sixth Fleet.

Houston joined the Navy in September 1965.

Grower's were invited to meet in Raleigh last Friday for the 1978 Flue Cured Tobacco Quota Meeting in which quotas for the upcoming year were discussed.

Final quota determinations will be announced Dec. 1 by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Spices and Herbs
Spices are parts of plants, such as the dried seeds, buds, fruit or flower parts, or bark of roots of plants, usually of tropical origin. Herbs are from the leafy parts of the temperate-zone plants.

The show opens at 11 a. m. and runs until 9 p. m. each day. Admission is free. Special entertainment will include the National Hollering Champion at 1:30 p. m. on Thursday and Ray Wilkinson, television farm editor and humorist on Friday.

The purpose of the show is to give farmers and homeowners an opportunity to see the very latest in farm machinery, services, and supplies. All major brands of bulk barns, harvesters, tractors, cultivating equipment, livestock equipment, farm chemicals and other items will be displayed. Low energy housing supplies and home appliances will also be featured.

The ladies will especially enjoy seeing a special Holiday Crafts Show conducted by extension homemakers.

An advantage offered by a Trade Show of this type, Hardage said, is that it gives farmers an opportunity to do a lot of "shopping around" in comparing quality and prices of equipment offered by all the major manufacturers in just a short period of time and with little travel involved.

The purchase of needed farm equipment before Jan.

1 may also enable farmers to take advantage of the 10 per cent investment credit on their income taxes for 1977.

The Carolina Farm and Home Trade Show is a community project that is being sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Service, Young Farmers Committee, Johnston County Agri-business Council, Smithfield-Selma Chamber of Commerce and Smithfield Tobacco Market.

The public is invited and urged to attend.

HERE'S THE STIHL 015.



HERE'S THE BEST PLACE AROUND TO GET IT.



NORFLEET'S
SAWS, MOWERS & HARDWARE
535 West Ridgeway Street
Warrenton, N. C. 27589

Buy Now Get Free Interest Til 8-1-78



International 715 Combines

Balanced capacity means you'll speed your harvest while saving more corn and soybeans. Low-angle corn heads handle down or tall corn with equal ease. Aggressive stalk rolls and corn-saver auger control keep ears low in auger to reduce shelling and ear losses. Hinged gatherer shields swing out of the way for easy access to chains.

- 2, 3, 4-row corn heads for wide or narrow rows.
- Stripper plates efficiently snap ears, minimize bounce, let less trash enter combine.
- Gas or diesel engines, up to 107 hp.
- Big grain tanks—up to 96 bushels.
- Grain heads from 10 to 20 ft., optional flexible floating cutterbar saves extra bushels of beans.

Let's arrange a demonstration. Finance plans available.

NORTH STATE EQUIPMENT CO.
U. S. 158 BYPASS
— 438-5147 —
HENDERSON, N. C.

BULK LIME FOR SPREADING



CALL 257-1115

Kerr-McGee FARM CENTER

E. Macon St. • Warrenton

TIME FOR WINTER



IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK

TIME TO:

- Install Storm Doors & Windows
- Put a new roof on your house
- Insulate that ceiling or walls
- Make those small repairs before cold weather

FALKNER BUILDING SUPPLY
COURT ST. ENTRANCE
PHONE 438-5107
Henderson

Hutchinson Returns From Naval Duty

Navy Boatswain's Mate First Class Daniel C. Hutchinson, whose wife, Nina is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Joyner of Route 2, Box 174E, Littleton, recently returned from an extended deployment in the Mediterranean Sea.

He is serving as a Crewmember aboard the amphibious transport dock USS Nashville, homeported in Norfolk, Va. While deployed, his ship operated as a unit of the U. S. Sixth Fleet.

Hutchinson joined the Navy in June, 1968.

Tobacco Tobacco

Yeargin's Warehouse Will Have A Clean Up Tobacco Sale, Monday, Nov. 21, 1977

Yeargin's Warehouse
Oxford, N. C.



Try The

Smith-Douglas Gro-Power Package

- ★ Free Soil Samples
- ★ Plant Food Recommendations
- ★ Dependable Services

Smith-Douglas, Ridgeway

Phone 456-2929 Ridgeway, N. C.