

Drought to have lasting effect on N.C. agriculture

By KAREN DUNN
Staff Writer

Although the summer drought seems to be ending in North Carolina, its effects will be felt by farmers and grocery consumers for at least the next year, agricultural officials and retailers say.

"We've been dry since the first of May until last week," said Karen McAdams, livestock agent with the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service of Orange County. "There were several instances where people didn't

have enough water in their ponds to water their cattle, so they were pumping water in from wells.

"Some areas got two inches of rain in the last two weeks, so that helped them out a little. But a lot of cattle had to be sold to slaughter because they had no grazing. . . . Right now they're in pretty good shape, but it helps to have rain periodically throughout the year."

Mike Mozingo, corporation communications manager for Food Lion, Inc. in Salisbury, said he expects

lower meat prices this year because farmers had to slaughter their cattle. That could mean higher meat prices in 1989 because so many were killed this year, he said.

Consumers should expect higher poultry prices. "The demand is strong and the supply is down," Mozingo said.

Corn, soybean and tobacco crops were also hit hard, McAdams said. "The first (consumer price) increases will be in flour and corn-

meal," said Mozingo. "Later this year we may even see increases in prices of salad dressings and maybe even soft drinks because they are sweetened with corn syrup.

"If you like pasta, then you're going to pay for it, too. Oat supplies are down due to drought and demand, and margarine prices will be up because of bad soybean crops," Mozingo added.

Some relief is available for those farmers hardest hit by the drought. "There are two possibilities. There

is a program to assist livestock owners who were having to disperse their animals due to lack of feed if they qualify for assistance," said Donald Roberts, Orange County director of the Agricultural Stability Conservation Service. "These are primarily dairy people. Most beef people have enough grass in their pastures."

Another aid program helps farmers who have suffered at least a 35 percent loss over normal-rainfall years, he said.

The last weeks of summer should

bring continued relief from drought conditions.

"The National Weather Service believes that we will have above-normal precipitation this month," said Mike Kaplan, chief meteorologist with WTVD-11 News in Durham. "Normally 3.25 inches is normal for September and we have already picked up 2.5, so we're doing good. In the last two weeks there has been a dramatic easing of drought conditions. Tropical Storm Chris helped a lot."

AIDS education programs may not be reaching minorities

By KARI BARLOW
Staff Writer

With AIDS awareness and AIDS-related services on the rise in the nation, some AIDS educators said this week that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) lack an effective strategy in battling the virus among minorities.

"There needs to be a lot more done for the black community and the Hispanic community," said Yaa

Abofraa, AIDS outreach worker for the National Black Women's Health Project. "You have got to go out into the community and talk one on one with people. I think that's the main thing lacking at the CDC."

The CDC recently solicited a consultant to evaluate its role in AIDS minority outreach.

"I think the idea was to get an independent, outside look," said Gayle Lloyd, public affairs spokes-

woman for the CDC. The final analysis was condensed from 16 pages to two and presented at a recent AIDS conference in Washington, D.C.

While Lloyd found the conference helpful, minority groups said it was almost useless.

"I think it was a bigger waste of time than the one in Atlanta last year," said Fred McRee, founder and director of AIDS Awareness in the

Black Community. "If you had gone there as a novice, you would have come away less informed than when you got there if you knew nothing about AIDS."

In North Carolina, blacks make up 22 percent of the population but constitute 44.5 percent of AIDS victims in the state, said Jill Duvall, executive director of the Lesbian & Gay Health Project in Durham.

In Winston-Salem, the CDC-

funded East Winston AIDS Project has been targeted specifically to the black community, said James Rapp, executive director of the AIDS Task Force of Winston-Salem. Money for the project is channeled through the U.S. Conference of Mayors, a non-profit organization based in Washington, he said.

"I'd say they (the CDC) were very helpful," Rapp said. "It's not a direct assistance thing. We would much rather deal with a much smaller program (like the conference) than deal directly with the CDC."

But McRee said the CDC is not doing enough in funding and communicating with these community-based organizations. McRee issued a joint proposal with the Newhaven

County Health Department to the CDC for funding but is waiting for a final decision due by the end of the year.

"I don't think the CDC is doing anything," he said. "They have been recalcitrant in letting the black community know that they are disproportionately affected. I think it is insensitivity and not caring."

"The black community in 1988 is where the gay community was in 1981, in terms of knowledge. The CDC has not made any overt effort to educate that community," he said.

Lloyd said the CDC is addressing the problem daily and is willing to make changes in its programs, although no specific plans have been made.

U.S. losing high-tech lead, group says

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — The belief that America's economic standing in the world will be rescued by emerging high-technology industries was questioned Wednesday by a prestigious study group which said the country is fast losing its dominance in many of these fields.

The Council on Competitiveness, contending that the country has been far too complacent in the face of growing foreign competition, recommended a major effort on the part of government, industry and schools to reverse the trend.

"We cannot afford any further erosion in our once-commanding technological lead," said the report of the council, comprised of 151 top

officers of industry, labor and higher education. "Because technology is a driving force behind productivity improvements, export strength and a high standard of living, the stakes are enormous," it said.

In releasing the report, John Young, chairman of the council and president of Hewlett-Packard Co., said he wanted to challenge the comforting illusion that high-technology industries would provide the "economic panacea we all need" to offset job losses in traditional smokestack industries.

"In 1987, our trade deficit with Japan in electronics was almost as large as it was for automobiles. So Silicon Valley is not so far removed from Detroit," he said.

The report said that U.S. companies' market share had shrunk so dramatically over the past two decades that the country suffered a trade deficit in high-technology goods for the first time ever in 1986.

Among the council's recommendations:

- The president's national science adviser should be elevated to Cabinet rank with the power to develop a presidential strategy for the development of science and technology;
- The federal government, which spends as much on research and development as all of American industry combined, should concentrate more on commercialization. The report said the current priorities of

defense, space, energy and health were focused too narrowly;

- Federal spending to support university research should be increased, with \$10 billion needed over the next 10 years to upgrade university research facilities, which have seen their federal funding decline by 95 percent in real dollars since 1970.

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Grand jury

be delivered in person. Federal agents staked out McKinley's house for two days before delivering the subpoena to him when he left his house Saturday morning, McKinley said.

"The marshals followed me around

and I was pulled off the road by three cars," he said, so the subpoena could be delivered.

"I think — due to the fact that I don't know of anybody else who met him who has been subpoenaed — it

is a case of individual harassment," McKinley said. "I am sure that because of my previous actions they think there is a connection. It is incredible."

from page 1

Club

dancing.

Memberships will cost \$5 until the club opens and \$10 after, McCormick said. A three-day waiting period for memberships will be required after the club opens.

Cover charges for members and guests will depend upon the evening's special.

"We hope that Players will be one of the nicest and most innovative clubs in town once we are done," he

said. "We are counting on people coming in and taking a look because once they do, we are confident they will want to come back."

from page 1

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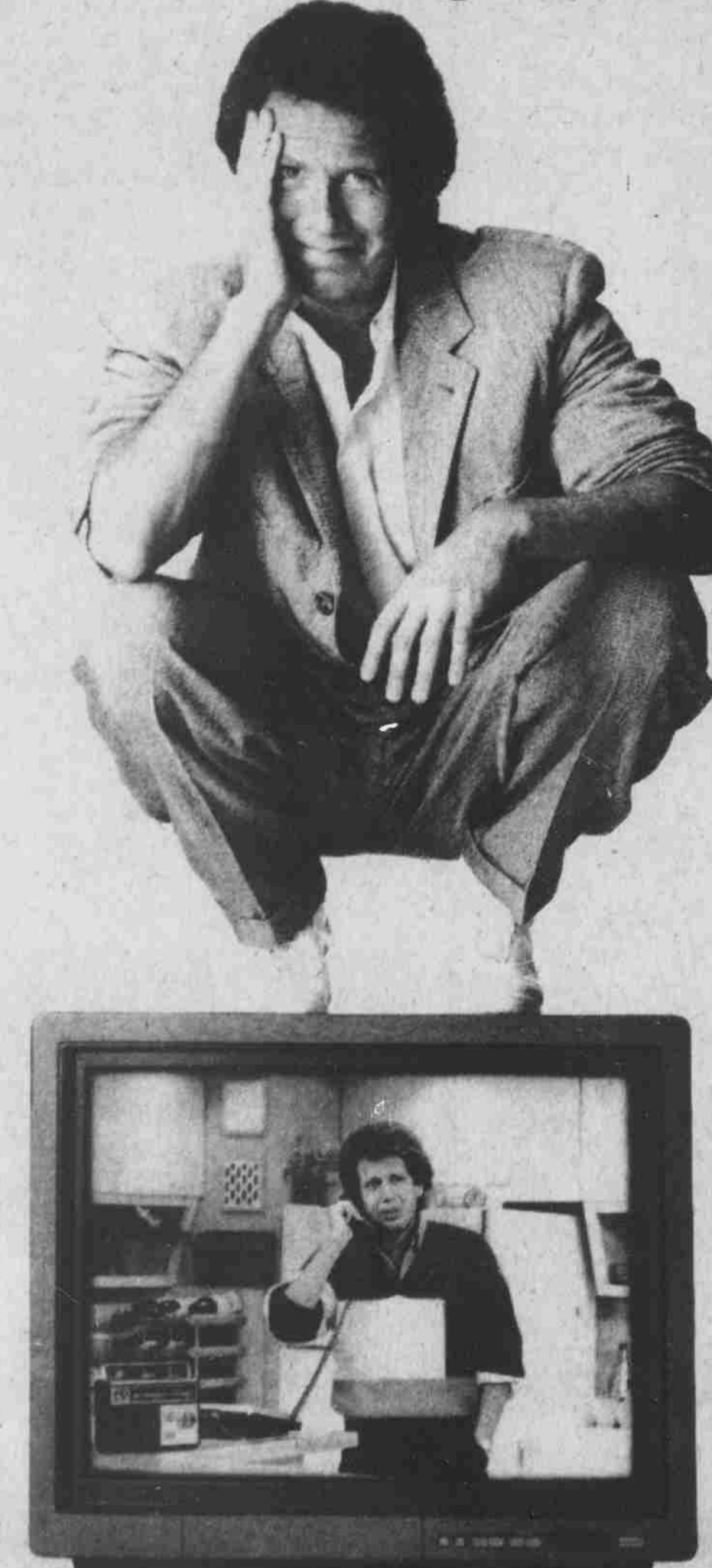
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