

Garden



RABBIT SHOW HERE -- The Cape Fear Rabbit Breeders Association's Second annual Rabbit Show in Raeford attracted some 400 entries to the new National Guard Armory Saturday. Here are some of the visitors with some of the entries.

Accent On Agriculture

Business volume of farmer cooperatives in this country reached a record high of \$71.5 billion in 1981, 8 percent above 1980.

This rise in volume is attributed primarily to larger quantities of farm products marketed by cooperatives.

Cooperatives have enabled farmers to reduce their costs of production. They have also helped farmers market food products in the quality, uniformity, and the volume that is required by the consuming public.

Cooperatives help farmers bridge the gap between where food is produced and where it is eaten, between the form of raw farm products and the form of processed food we eat.

Working through cooperatives, farmers are able to take on more functions related to farm production and food distribution and processing. This ability is extremely important to farmers -- and to consumers.

By helping to support and maintain a family farm system of agriculture, the cooperative form

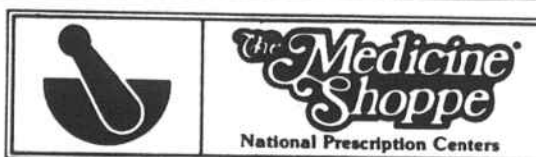
of organization is performing a great public service. Co-ops form a basis for achievement of greater equity and more balance between small farmers and large corporate enterprises in the markets for farm products and the markets for farm production supplies.

Farm cooperatives over the years have become inseparable from the family farm. Because cooperatives are owned and controlled by farmers, the benefits flow back to rural America to farmers and are plowed into the production of more food.



HUNT'S OPEN HOUSE -- James Albert Hunt, a Hoke County businessman and county commissioner, was host December 5 at Open House for his J.A. Hunt's Enterprises in the South Hoke community. Standing third from the left in front of the new Hunt building under construction is State Insurance Commissioner John Ingram, whom Hunt introduced to the crowd of visitors as "an unofficial candidate for governor in 1984." Addressing the crowd is District Judge Joseph E. Dupree of Raeford. Hoke County officials and community leaders were among those attending the event. Hunt Enterprises is composed of trucking, paving, bonding, auto and gasoline sales, a grocery, a restaurant, and rentals and a funeral home and insurance agency are to be developed. Hunt also has extensive rental properties and farming interests.

Christmas Parade
Saturday 2 P.M.



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Farm Focus

by Richard Melton, Extension Livestock Agent
Benks Wannemaker, Extension Field Crops Agent

INDIVIDUAL HORSE IDENTIFICATIONS

So far this year there has been a great deal of publicity about suspected horse thefts and the resulting charges and counter-charges.

In fact, one person in North Carolina has been sentenced in a theft-related case.

The theft of a horse, whether a pure pet, pleasure animal, expensive breeding animal, or show animal, can cause many problems.

The emotional loss from the theft of a pet can be just as severe as the economic loss from the theft of an expensive breeder or show horse.

One way you can minimize the chances of such a loss occurring to you or a friend is to make sure the horse is properly identified.

Most horse owners believe they can properly identify their horse, after all, they can recognize it. Also, they may have a few snapshots of the horse or even registration papers issued by a breed association. However, if you had

to go to court to prove that a horse was yours, could you do it?

A study done in 1972 showed that 25% of the thoroughbreds registered through the Jockey Club did not match their papers.

A veterinarian in Washington also found that 15 to 20% of the horse certificates he checked in that state did not match the horse they belonged to.

Proper identification can not only help you regain your horse if it is stolen, but it can also help in several different areas.

Changes of ownership could be more effective as well. Finally, it would be easier to obtain loans and settle insurance claims, also.

How can you properly identify your horse? There are forms available through the Agricultural Extension Office to aid in compiling identification information.

Outline drawings from photographs including full face and both sides with all four legs showing should be used. Emphasis should be put on properly placing scars, brands, cowlicks, or other

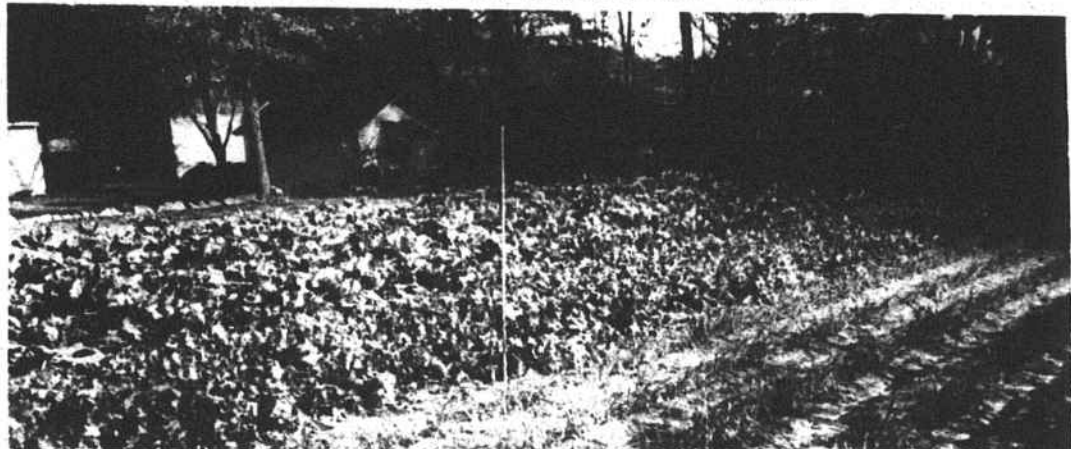
distinguishing marks correctly on the drawings.

Also, measure and draw life-size on graph paper the chestnuts found on the inside of the horse's legs. However, remember chestnuts can be surgically altered. Prepare an accurate verbal description also. That way, if it comes to it you could accurately describe your horse over the phone to a non-horseman who has never seen it.

Photographs also have their place in your records. Make sure you select proper film lighting and background so as to show the horse's conformation, markings, coloration and head shape.

You can also identify a horse by adding distinguishing marks from hot brands, surgical implants, tattoos, or freeze marks.

Any of these can aid you in properly identifying your horse or horses. Good identification information can save you a great deal of grief and/or expense, as well as, your horse's life if you ever do need to identify it. Plan now to properly identify your horse before you have to do it to save the animal.



FALL GARDEN -- This garden on West Stewart Street was wearing the look of fall when this picture was taken recently.

Hoke Agricultural Extension News

by Willie Featherstone, Jr., Agricultural Extension Agent

Sharing of experience in the production, harvesting and marketing of fresh fruits and vegetables among growers and with university experts can be a most profitable way to spend a couple of days.

And the 1983 North Carolina Roadside Market and Pick-Your-Own Operators Meeting in Greensboro will offer many opportunities to learn from others.

Among the many topics and

features of the 12 Annual Meeting are:

...Experts will discuss how to protect strawberry blossoms from freeze injury;

...Experts will discuss the latest information on thornless blackberry production and marketing techniques;

...Special concurrent discussions of strawberry production problems, new vegetable crops for Pick Your Own, and grower-led discussions of Pick Your Own and Roadside Market problems and opportunities;

...Pesticide Applicator Training. Completing the conference will be numerous commercial exhibitors representing all phases of the fruit and vegetable industries.

Plan now to attend this annual meeting of Roadside Markets and Pick Your Own operators on January 26-27, 1983 at the Holiday

Inn Four Seasons in Greensboro, N.C.

The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. on January 26. Please contact the Hoke County Agricultural Extension office for pre-registration forms.

The North Carolina Soybean Producers Association will hold its sixteenth Annual Meeting at 9:45 a.m. January 21, 1983 in the Royal Villa Motor Inn, Raleigh, N.C. The program this year will emphasize management. Speakers will address such subjects as how to minimize risks of selling grain to bankrupt grain elevators, credit management, financial liquidity, forward contracting, and an update on production practices.

For more information contact your local County Extension Office.

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