



**Winners**  
These J.W. Turlington students were winners in the special Social Studies Fair held at the school in April. The students are back row from left: Matthew Warren, Brian McBryde, Ryan Clark, Kevin Sheppard, Andrea Lupo, PinRu Zoda, Katherine Kellermann,

Gracie Jones, Rodney Williams, Joe Needham, Chad Liner, Jeffery Strother and Jamie Cunningham. Front row (left to right): Jennie Rugg, Josh Witherspoon, Aarion Campbell, William Warren, Thomas Walsh and Ryan Brooks.

## Turlington holds special fair

J.W. Turlington School featured a special Fair, April 22 - April 26, to highlight April's countywide Social Studies Month.

A wide variety of projects were presented: posters, historical inventions, relief maps and numerous creative displays.

Projects were so numerous a special room was requested and set

aside to present these outstanding projects for viewing by the entire student body.

J.W. Turlington's Social Studies Club members served as hosts for the many classes who viewed the projects.

Nineteen children's work were chosen as most outstanding.

Countywide winners from Turlington include: 1st Place, Division 1-6 grades Jennie Rugg; Blue Ribbon winners Division 1-6 grade Kathleen Kellermann, Josh Witherspoon and Chad Liner and Jeffery Strother co-winners. Overall classroom winner - Mrs. Strickland and Mrs. Page's Homeroom Class.

## Rain helps Hoke County crops

By Ed Miller

The rain that visited Hoke County last week may have saved up to 25% of this year's small grain crop, a spokesman for the Hoke County Extension service said.

About half of the wheat, barley, rye and oats grown in Hoke County this year has already been lost, but losses were expected to exceed 75% if rain had not come when it did, Hoke County Agricultural Extension Agent Willie Featherstone said.

Last year, a gross total of \$566,000 was sold in small grain from Hoke County, said Featherstone.

This year, only about \$240,000 is expected to be made on the crops, he said.

"The drought has been most critical on the small grains," Featherstone said.

According to the extension agent, Hoke County, on the average, produces lower numbers of bushels of grain per acre than other areas of the state anyway.

Last year, Hoke County farmers averaged 30 bushels per acre of small grain, while the state average was about 40 bushels per acre, he said.

Featherstone is estimating the average yield per acre this year in the county to be about 15 bushels.

It could be less in parts of the county where no rain fell, he said.

According to Featherstone, there are factors farmers should consider before harvesting or plowing under their small grain crops.

For those farmers thinking of disking under their grain, a record should be made at the local Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) office.

In the case that Hoke County is declared a disaster area from the drought, the ASCS office will have

a record of losses, said Featherstone.

Farmers may also wish to consult with the extension service to see if they have made enough grain to warrant harvesting, he said.

The service will provide formulas for estimating yields per acre before harvesting.

According to Featherstone, a farmer will need about five bushels per acre to just break even on harvesting costs.

The extension agent said this season may be a tough one for soy bean farmers if they were depending on small grain harvests to offset herbicide and fertilizer costs.

"The low grain yield will have some effect on cash flows for some farmers later," said the agent.

Only about seven farmers in the county have small grain federal crop insurance, said Featherstone.

The insured farmers represent about 1,300 to 1,500 acres of the county, he said.

"There are at least 6,000 acres of small grain in the county," he added.

There is some encouraging news in the agricultural outlook, said Featherstone.

The drought has not caused much damage to tobacco plants, said Featherstone.

The warm weather and the fact that most farmers irrigate their tobacco beds has actually helped the small plants.

"It has been a good season for bedding," he said.

The plants are getting too big for the beds now and must be transplanted, said Featherstone.

"We're ahead of ourselves on transplanting."



**Final RIF party**

These Scurlock School second grade students enjoy their final "Reading Is Fundamental" party on April 23. Mrs. Janet Plummer worked with students to present a special version of the Dr. Seuss story, "The Sneetches," at the RIF party. After their presentation each second grader selected a RIF book to take home and keep as their very own.

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