

PHOTO BY WANDA OGDEN

### Azaleas Herald Spring

Hundreds of azaleas in assorted colors nearly fill the back lawn of the well-established landscape of Florence and Bob Cramer, 36 Swamp Fox Drive, Calabash, selected by Carolina Shores Garden Club as its April Yard of the Month. In addition to a border of white azaleas, dogwoods and red buds add to the springtime show. In other garden beds, roses and flowering perennials await their turn to bloom.

### NBHS WINS BIG

## Gidley Elected State DECA President

The North Brunswick High School DECA Chapter returned from the North Carolina DECA Career Development Conference March 4-6 with a state president as well as numerous awards.

J.D. Gidley was elected to serve as 1993-94 North Carolina State DECA president, said marketing instructor Norman Melton. He said North Brunswick's chapter has had either a state vice president, president or both during three of the past four years.



GIDLEY

By winning or placing in the top five in their individual events, Gidley and Zachary Miller will represent the state at the National DECA Career Development Conference in Orlando, Fla., in May. Gidley finished in the top five in apparel and accessories—master employee, while Miller placed first in the state for the entrepreneurship written event, based on a 40-page typed business plan. At the state level the chapter earned a Chapter Three Star Activities Award, one of only 38 chapters so recognized.

Thirteen of the 15 students attending the conference earned a proficiency award, based on scores from two role play events and a 100-question test.

Earning State Achievement Awards were Sonya Lofton, Steven Brigman and Chis Rice, marketing fundamentals; Sharod James, Malika Robbins, Miller, Brigman and Rice, marketing mathematics; DeWayne Burroughs, Sharlene Bordeaux, Samantha Squires, Brigman and Rice, free enterprise/economics.

Gidley, Squires and Anne Gore completed the silver level of the Merit Award Program for their independent study in apparel and accessories.

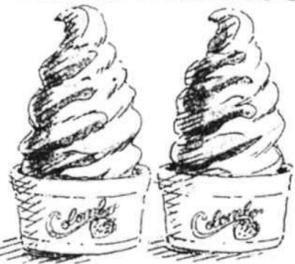
Receiving proficiency awards were Angie Gidley, Jason Edwards, Brandy Townsend, Christine Williams, Lofton, Rice, James, Burroughs, Brigman, Robbins, Bordeaux, Squires and J.D. Gidley. Categories of competition entered by one or more members included hospitality and tourism marketing, advertising and visual merchandising, full service restaurant management; retail merchandising—master employee; food marketing—supervisory and master employee; apparel and accessories—master employee and supervisory.

"Our chapter has consistently earned a local, district, regional, state and national reputation as an outstanding chapter," said Melton.

"Our chapter has successfully placed students in national conference competition since 1990."

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D S C O U N T Y B L I N D S

## Bagworm Infestations Can Be Controlled

**Dear Plant Doctor:** A lot of my Blue Pacific juniper is dying. Please tell me what to do about it. I have enclosed a sample taken from the plant bed. Please advise.

**Answer:** The mild winter has allowed many insects to continue their destructive habits. Your juniper is eaten up with one of the three species of bagworm (*Thyridopterix enhemeraeformis*). These insects feed on at least a 128 different host plants in the southeastern United States. Normally the female moth lays 500 to 1,000 eggs in a silken bag attached to the plant during the autumn of the year. The eggs hatch during warm weather and the larva immediately construct a small silken bag of their own and begin feeding.

The bag is a "mobile home" to the larva and as the insect grows so does the bag. The larva pupates in the bag and an adult moth will emerge in seven to 10 days depending on temperature. Adults mate and the process starts over.

You must understand the life cycle of this critter before any treatment can be effective. A non-chemical control alternative is to remove all bags from your plant and burn them.

Hand removal coupled with the use of a bacterial insecticide, like Dipel or Biotrol, will control most bagworm infestations. Malathion,

### THE PLANT DOCTOR

C. BRUCE WILLIAMS  
Extension Area  
Turf Specialist



Sevin, Dursban, and Orthene are also suitable for bagworm control if the products are used in the early spring as young bagworms start to feed. Make sure the product you use is labeled for bagworm control. Follow all label instructions and safety precautions.

**Dear Plant Doctor:** On our second visit to Wilmington, I purchased some cotton seeds. I understand cotton produces beautiful flowers. Would cotton grow in a northern garden (near New York City)? I understand in the Carolinas the seed is planted much, much earlier than would be possible up here. Any advice you can give me on this would be greatly appreciated! Thank you.

**Answer:** Upland cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum*) is the most common species of cotton raised for fiber. A woody perennial tropical

member of the Malvaceae or Mallow family, cotton is grown as an annual in the southern temperate climates. Cotton, shrub Althea, hollyhock, and okra are botanically related. The common ancestry can be easily observed in the unique and characteristic structure of the flower.

You should have no trouble growing cotton in southern New York if seed are started indoors or are protected from frost in early May. Soils in your area should be adequately warm for outdoor planting in late May or June. Your cotton will probably flower late in the summer or early fall but not produce mature cotton bolls. Cultivate and fertilize your cotton plants as you would tomatoes.

Send your gardening questions and comments to The Plant Doctor, P.O. Box 109, Bolivia, N.C. 28422.

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For those ground beef fans who are seeking an alternative to beef, try ground turkey and ground pork. Ground turkey and ground pork are excellent substitutes for ground beef.



Prices in this ad good Wednesday, April 14 thru Tuesday, April 20, 1993.

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