



King's Trail Winners

Carol and Mary Peters are September "Yard of the Month" designees for the King's Trail section of Sea Trail Plantation. Their yard is on a rolling hillside overlooking the gold course with neatly landscaped azalea and flower beds.



Heges Honored For Yard

The Holden Beach Beautification Club has selected the yard of Lucille and Ron Hege of 158 Sailfish Drive as yard of the month for September. Around the house and bordering a fence on either side is a mixture of vinca, sedum, double hibiscus, crape myrtle, marigolds and portulaca.

Dogwoods Have Few Leaf Diseases

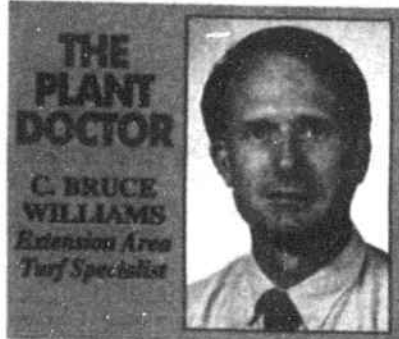
Dear Plant Doctor: I am enclosing several leaves from my 3-year-old dogwood trees. These leaves are beginning to have black spots and are curling up. Any help or suggestions which you can give me would be appreciated.—Aberdeen

ANSWER: I could not diagnose the problem with your dogwood. Leaves in the plastic bag were in an advanced state of decay. Hope the following information will help you diagnose the problem.

The eastern Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) is a native understory tree common from the mountains to the seashore in eastern North America. Dogwoods are susceptible to relatively few leaf, stem and flower disease problems.

Spot anthracnose (*Elsinoe corni*) and Septoria leaf spot produce small circular purplish lesions on the leaves but rarely cause long-term decline or death of the infected tree. However, repeated or severe infections will defoliate and weaken the tree. Both of these superficial leaf fungi can be controlled with routine applications of fungicides (e.g. Mancozeb 80, Banner, Daconil 2787, or Clearys 3336F) beginning in early spring as new leaves unfold.

Dogwood Anthracnose caused by the fungus, *Discula sp.*, is not to be confused with the spot anthracnose disease. Dogwood anthracnose has caused widespread death of dogwoods in North Carolina since its



THE PLANT DOCTOR
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Extension Area
Turf Specialist

discovery in western North Carolina in 1987. Leaves and stems of infected trees are blighted and the entire tree will often die in two or three years.

The good news is that environmental conditions in the coastal plain of North Carolina are not conducive to the development of this deadly disease. To my knowledge, this disease has not been reported east of Interstate 95 or in the Sandhills area of North Carolina.

The two problems I commonly observe on dogwoods are leaf scorch and "string trimmer" disease. Leaf scorch is common on newly planted trees or trees that are not provided with sufficient moisture. Leaf scorch causes the lower half of the leaf and leaf margins to become brown and crispy.

"String trimmer" disease is caused by string trimmers that cut through the tender bark at the base of the tree. Trees weakened by

"string trimmer" disease often exhibit all sorts of fungal leaf spots, leaf scorch, nutrient deficiencies, poor vigor or other problems related to girdling.

I am sending you two excellent publications, "Growing and Maintaining Healthy Dogwoods-Forestry Report R8-FR14" and "A Killer of Dogwood: Dogwood Anthracnose FR R8-PR10" that will help you diagnose your dogwood disease problem.

Dear Plant Doctor: I am having trouble with non-bearing raspberry bushes. For the past several years I have had good canes but little fruit. These plants are at least 12 years old. Most years I cut the canes back in fall to about 24 inches.

Last fall I tried pulling all the canes and relying on the spreader roots to sprout this year. Again I have no blossoms. This year I even put in five new plants from a nursery.

I have followed the NCDA soil analysis for adding nutrients and lime (soil pH is 6.6). Your advice and comments would be appreciated.—Carthage

ANSWER: Carthage and most of eastern North Carolina is too hot for most cultivars of raspberries. Blackberries and blueberries do fine, but forget about raspberries.

Pull up your raspberries and plant blackberries. Try the blackberry cultivars Shawnee, Cherokee, Cheyenne, Dirsen thornless, or Hull thornless for a high-quality eating berry.

Black raspberry types (e.g. cultivars Allen, Bristol or Cumberland) are available through some nurseries and offer greater heat-tolerance than the red types, but will still not yield like blackberries.

I am sending you "Grapes and Berries for the Garden-AG15" published by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service and N.C. State University. This publication details all that is needed for a great crop of berries!

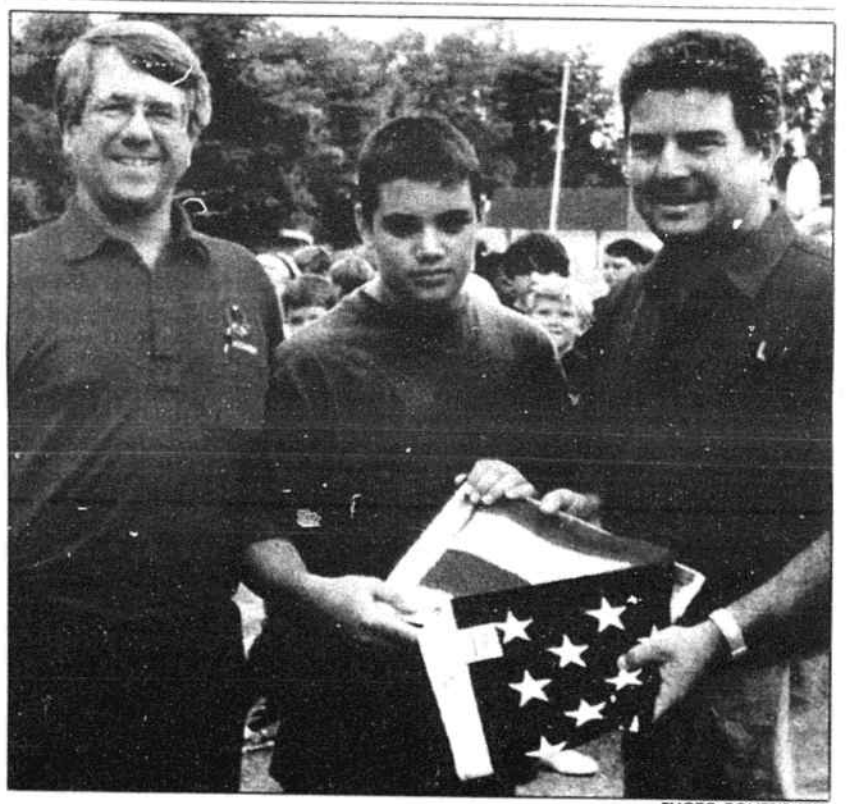
Dear Plant Doctor: I have pecan trees in my yard. Some of the trees have fruit on them like the one I have enclosed. They are spotted back and look like they a mildew on them.

Can you tell me the problem?
—Wilmington

ANSWER: You have pecan scab. This disease attacks both pecan leaves and the hulls. Routine applications of Cyprex 65 WP, Topsin M, Du-Ter, Rubigan, or Orbit fungicides will control scab if applications begin at bud break in the spring. However, pesticide application is not often practical or desirable for backyard or hobby plantings. Good cultural practices, soil fertility, and pruning are the "secret" to growing disease-free pecans.

North Carolina State University just published a new publication "Growing Pecans in North Carolina-AG81," that is superb. I will send you a copy.

Send your gardening questions and comments to the Plant Doctor, P.O. Box 109, Bolivia NC 28422. Please send a SASE if requesting information or a reply.



School Receives Flag

Student Dow Williamson (center) accepts an American flag presented to The Cary School in Shallotte last week by field representatives Jimmy Marshall and Larry Heustess of the Shallotte Lodge, Woodmen of the World.

Citizens Group Plans 'Joy Night'

The Brunswick County Citizens Association will present a "Joy Night" of songs Saturday, Oct. 1, at 7 p.m.

The program will take place at New Hope Freewill Baptist Church in Leland, with the Rev. Ivey Simmons as host pastor.

Choirs or groups interested in participating should call the Rev. John O. Randolph, 253-6699, or Edie Gause, 579-6288 by Sept. 24.

Brunswick County Citizens Association presents three scholarships each year to high school or college students.

Spurs Sponsor Ride-A-Thon

The Silver Spurs 4-H Horse Club will sponsor a benefit trail ride on Saturday, Oct. 1, to raise money for the Christina Price fund.

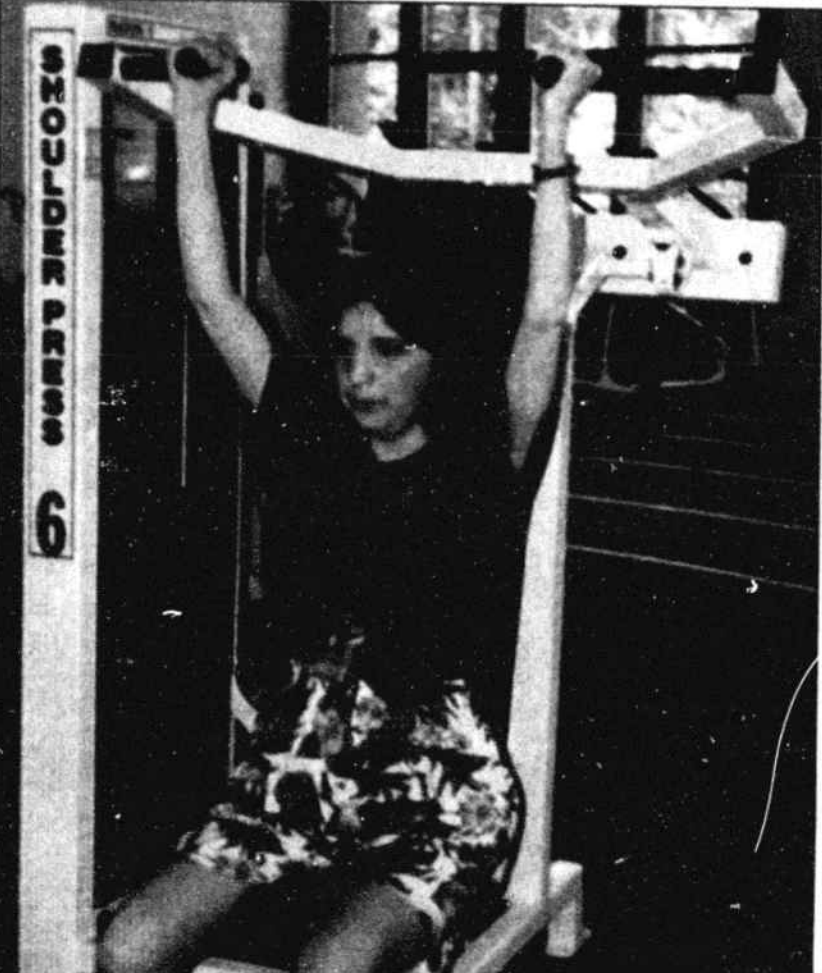
Price, a Brunswick County youth, was injured in an automobile accident last spring.

About 18 riders and their parents with ride approximately 10 miles down Gilbert Road in Bolivia, beginning at 9 a.m. Afterward, Tommy Robbins will host a cookout for the club.

Anyone interested in sponsoring a 4-H member or wanting more information about the ride should call Benjie Carlson at 253-6348 or 754-

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Recovering From Transplant

Thirty-one-year-old Natalie Somerset of Shallotte does strengthening exercises as part of her recovery therapy after undergoing a double lung transplant at Duke University Medical Center on July 29. She returned from the hospital after a 14-day stay. Somerset, who suffers from cystic fibrosis, had only hours to live when she received the news that donor lungs were available, according to her mother, who added, "She is recovering beautifully." Somerset is the daughter of Franklin and Virginia Gore Somerset of Shallotte.

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