



Shrub lespedeza seeded in open area in woods. Shrub lespedeza seed is excellent food for quail.



Sericea lespedeza furnishes grazing for some animals and cover for small animals and quail.



Fescue grass seeded on field ditch. Good cover and nesting area for quail.

'74 Good Bumper Year

Most North Carolina farmers seem to be aware that 1974 will be a good year for bumper food and feed crop production, including livestock. But many retain a keen interest in making provision for birds and game on their land. Fortunately, areas of intensive agricultural production can also be productive for wildlife. The practice of "monoculture"—large acreages devoted to corn or other row crops, or to intensively managed pasture—generally lacks the diversity needed to provide habitat and food for most wildlife

species. In fact, large areas of overgrazed pasture have been termed "wildlife deserts." But with only some planning and management a land owner can easily provide excellent food and shelter for song birds and small game. Field borders—special plantings at the edge of cultivated areas—and odd corners of fields can not only provide the needed wildlife area, but also control erosion and make the field much more attractive to the eye. Field borders also provide a good turn row for farm equipment. Pasture itself can provide good food for wildlife, provided that over-grazing is avoided. However, cover for nesting and for escape from predators, together with protection from the elements, is often missing from pastures. This cover may be provided by plantings or by natural growth, protested

TOPLESS
Now at some notions counters you can buy a topless thimble. Tailors have used this type of thimble for years, says Harriet Tutterow, extension clothing specialist, North Carolina State University. Now home seamstresses can buy a brass rust-proof thimble that is open ended. It comes in sizes 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

by fencing. In addition, judicious mowing is needed as the farm operator keeps his valued wildlife in mind. Field borders, controlled mowing, and hedgerow plantings all help enhance wildlife without causing significant reduction in production of pasture grass and row crops. When is the best time to make plans for crops-plus-wildlife? Right now, before spring planting time arrives. Two points to consider are that (1) planning assistance is available from your local Soil Conservation Service office, and (2) an application can be made to obtain free wildlife planting materials from the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission.

The Wildlife Commission is now accepting applications for plants and seeds to be distributed prior to spring planting time. Assistance from Soil Conservation Service is, of course, always available. Among conservation practices beneficial to wildlife, SCS lists several: field borders, upland and also wetland wildlife habitat management, hedge row plantings, strip-cropping, field windbreaks, stream improvement for more fish, and fishpond management. In addition, any practice which reduces erosion, keeps sediment out of streams, and helps prevent depletion of soil fertility also provides direct benefits to upland birds, game and fish.

Bad Jobs Ahead

Recent rain, snow and ice storms over North Carolina will bring unusually dangerous conditions in trenching and excavation jobs during the weeks immediately ahead, State Labor Commissioner Billy Creel warned today.

"Melting snow and ice, following closely upon recent rains, will increase greatly the probability of cave-ins on excavation projects," Creel pointed out. "The ground will become soggy and shifting. For this reason, supervisors and workmen on these jobs should take every possible precaution and adhere strictly to safe trenching practices."

Creel said the Federal OSHA safety standards governing trenching and other excavation jobs are now being used in North Carolina. These standards spell out exactly how trenching jobs must be made safe by proper shoring and sloping practices, he added.

STRICT ENFORCEMENT

"These Federal Safety standards are being, and will continue to be, strictly enforced by the N.C. Department of Labor," Commissioner Creel stated. "Failure to comply with these standards on trenching jobs is a serious violation and will result in mandatory penalties of up to \$1,000."

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

All property in Perquimans County must be listed, both Real and Personal, with the tax lister during the month of January. This includes churches; all civic organizations and volunteer Fire departments. All property that has up until this time been exempt must be listed and an exemption will have to be given by the tax supervisor after the listing period has been completed.

CARSON D. SPIVEY, SR.
TAX SUPERVISOR



Literary Musings

By PROF. ROBERT G. MULDER

Brighten the Corner Where You Are

Conversion to the Christian religion often does strange things to an individual. Several years ago I witnessed a complete transformation of a residential city block as a result of a revival in a small Baptist church.

Pell Street was never what one would call ugly; however, there was no beauty there either. Every house seemed cut from the same pattern, each lawn had its share of bald spots, and shrubs were as old and retired as the occupants of the homes.

These residents of Pell Street were good people, they were neighborly; occasionally they attended church, though walking the three blocks seemed too much for many of the elderly residents.

Uncle Jack Rabon had lived on the corner of Pell and Main almost all his life. It was here that his children had grown up and in this same house that his life companion of forty years had passed away. His grown children were all married with families of their own, and visits to Uncle Jack's were often anticipated but always rare. Usually the old man sat on his front porch in the swing day after day and observed the busy traffic of the growing city. It was on the front porch that the young minister found him one day.

"We're having a new year's revival this week, Uncle Jack, and we want you to come."

The elderly man attended the revival and was the first to respond when the invitation was given. Though he had been a church member for years, the revival experience with Jesus was different and renewing. It filled a long-time void in the man's life.

In the service the choir had sung the old hymn "Brighten the Corner Where You Are." It had been many years since Jack had heard the hymn, and as he left the church the words lingered with him. That's what I'll do, he thought, brighten the corner of Pell Street.

Spring pushed away the ice and cold of winter early that year. Uncle Jack had a thick row of jonquils adorning each side of the walk leading to his front

steps. The bald spots in the lawn were reseeded and fresh properly tended grass gave the yard a totally new appearance.

It was not long before the starved shrubs were replaced and other seasonal flower beds decked the front of the retired man's home. Uncle Jack no longer sat for long intervals on his porch letting the busy city pass him by; he worked harder than he had in years and he felt proud of his accomplishments.

Neighbors on Pell Street wandered down to see the transformation going on at the corner. When they asked about the "change" which had come over him, Uncle Jack witnessed to them. He told them about the revival and the choir's song, even singing a line or two as his memory supported him.

The man himself was his best sermon. Always he invited the neighbors to join him in church on Sunday. Without their even asking, Uncle Jack freely gave his neighbors cuttings from his new shrubs and extra flower plants and seeds he didn't need.

Gradually the desire to fix up one's lawn like the man on the corner caught on in epidemic proportions. It was nothing to pass down the street and see new green thumbs at work, often under Uncle Jack's expert supervision.

Soon Pell Street was completely transformed to a lovely showcase of beauty. People wondered at the change of attitude which had produced such loveliness.

Only residents of the street knew the secret behind the transformation. Not only had yards and shrubs been cleaned up and multicolored flowers added and houses painted, lives had been transformed in the process. Beauty had gotten them to church, and lives were made more beautiful as a result.

Years later when the city received national recognition for its attractiveness, few people knew just how it all started. Hardly any knew of the song "Brighten the Corner Where You Are" and only a very few of the residents of Pell Street remembered that the recognition started with one man, one song, and one Christ.

NOTICE

TO

PEOPLE OF PERQUIMANS COUNTY

LIST YOUR TAXES

AT THE COURTHOUSE

IN PERQUIMANS COUNTY

List every day except Wednesdays & Holidays during the month of January, 1974 from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Failure to list will subject you to a penalty of ten (10) per cent of total taxes due.

CARSON D. SPIVEY, Sr.
Tax Supervisor

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