



SOURCE OF MONEY—Carlton Perry (left), with help from the N.C. Extension Service and Livestock Specialist

Jack Parker, is one of many Albemarle area farmers who have turned to hogs as their No. 1 source of income.

Source Of Income

By WOODY UPCHURCH
N.C. State University

EDENTON — One reason North Carolina has emerged as a major pork producer in recent years and, at times, led the nation in rate of expansion, has been the rapid buildup of hog numbers in the northeastern coastal area around the Albemarle Sound.

Farmer income from hogs in the 10-county area jumped by nearly \$11 million last year alone. Since the Agricultural Committee of the Albemarle Development Association and the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service has been placing special emphasis on pork opportunities, beginning about 1965, income from hogs has grown from \$8 million to over \$29 million.

Large numbers of farmers have put in hog operations, either as a source of supplemental

income on crops farms or as the sole farming enterprise. For some, like Carlton Perry, it has meant a complete switch and a much improved financial situation.

Perry, who farmed between 400 and 500 acres of crops with his father on mostly rented land, gave it all up four years ago and started producing feeder pigs. He says he has doubled his income.

Another Chowan County family, the George Jones, got into the hog farrowing and feeding business when the first expansion push began in the 1960's. Currently, they're running 300 sows and investing in the future, as illustrated by the recent construction of a \$15,000-plus hog confinement unit.

"It has been a case of an opportunity just waiting to be seized upon to help an area meet a serious need," commented Jack Parker, North Carolina State University extension livestock specialist.

Parker, headquartered in Edenton, is assigned to the area made up of Chowan, Currituck, Camden, Gates, Dare, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington counties.

The need of this area, Parker explained, was a source of income to supplement that farmers had traditionally received from peanuts, tobacco, grain, soybeans and, in some counties, cotton.

"The growth potential of two of the major crops, tobacco and peanuts, was limited primarily because these are alloted crops," the specialist said. "Hogs presented the best choice, although a number of farmers have turned to truck crops with good success." Parker, whose presence

here can be traced to the work of the development association and the Extension Service's commitment to help improve rural economic conditions, believes the true hog production potential of the region is only about half realized.

"We are still producing more grain than we are consuming, and this makes us almost unique in the state and the entire South. Most sections have to import grain to feed livestock. We're still shipping a lot of our corn outside the state," Parker pointed out.

Another specific advantage of the area is its closeness to markets, such as the large market at Smithfield, Va.

Parker believes the 10 counties could double their present hog output without running the risk of flooding the market. One of the best opportunities is in feeder pig production — breeding sows and producing pigs to sell to farmers who specialize in feeding pigs to slaughter size. Many pigs currently are being imported into the area from as far away as Alabama.

To encourage more feeder pig production and to provide a convenient marketing outlet, the Albemarle Cooperative Association was formed almost two years ago and

now has about 180 farmer stockholders.

The co-op has built a feeder pig barn near Edenton, with financial assistance from the N.C. Rural Fund for Development. In the first 10 months of operation, sales totaled \$600,000. Roy Harrell, field man for the co-op, and Gene Nixon, sales manager, predict that sales this year will top \$1 million.

"We still have farmers in the area searching for new income opportunities," Parker said.

"But I can't think of anything a farmer can do in this area that has as much income-generating potential as hog production. The market is going to go up and down as it has always done.

Walker Hears Court Cases

Judge Wilton Walker presided at the Wednesday session of Perquimans County District Court and heard the following cases.

Prince Allen Cole, charged with driving without a chauffeur's license, received a 30-day sentence suspended upon payment of a fine of \$25.00 and costs.

Carey Yates Parrish, Jr. was taxed with costs when found guilty of not having registration plates attached on trailer.

Sheila Ann Ward, charged with failure to abide by restrictions on operator's license, was given a fine of \$25.00 and costs.

Louis Haywood Keith, charged with driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor, received a 90-day sentence suspended upon payment of a fine of \$125.00 and costs, and ordered not to operate a motor vehicle in the State of North Carolina until license are restored by the Dept. of Motor Vehicles.

Thomas Fleetwood Hopkins, charged with driving under the influence, was given a 90-day sentence suspended upon payment of a fine of \$125.00 and costs. An appeal was noted and Bond was continued.

Neil Spruill was found guilty of damaging property and given a 30-day sentence suspended upon payment of a fine of \$10.00 and costs and \$15.00 for use of Edward Cahoon. An appeal was noted and Bond was set at \$100.00.

Larry Mallory, charged

with larceny, received a 6 months sentence suspended for 2 years with the following conditions - 1. pay a fine of \$100.00 and costs; 2. pay the Clerk of Superior Court the amount of \$60.00 for use of Wendell Outlets, Inc.; 3. be of good behavior for a period of 2 years. An appeal was noted and Bond was continued.

Wendell White, charged with resisting officer and damage to personal property, received a 6 months sentence suspended for 3 years with the following conditions - 1. pay fine of \$50.00 and costs; 2. pay \$25.00 restitution for damages to Sheriff's car; 3. be placed on probation for 3 years and not to consume any alcohol or controlled substance - 6 months at expiration of sentence pay costs and abide by terms of probation entered in case.

Wilton Wilson was found guilty of not having an operator's license and given a 30-day sentence suspended upon payment of a fine of \$25.00 and costs.

Prayer for judgment was continued for 12 months in

the case of Arthur Harrison, who was charged with using profanity in a public place, on the condition that the defendant will not bother Jesse White or his wife;

Alice Mallette was found not guilty of not having an operator's license;

Troy Allen Taylor was taxed with a fine of \$10.00 and costs on a speeding charge;

Allen Cornelius Miller, charged with driving under

WEEK-END AT NAGS HEAD

Cmdr. and Mrs. Edward Griffin and family spent the week-end at the Newbold Cottage at Nags Head.

NORFOLK GUESTS

Mrs. D.A. Carver and daughter, Angela, of Norfolk, Va. were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Julian White and Mrs. W.M. Divers on Saturday.

the influence (3rd offense) and driving with license revoked, received a sentence of 12 months suspended for 5 years on the DUI charged, and a sentence of 6 months at the expiration of sentence imposed on 1st count suspension 1. pay a fine of \$200.00 and costs, 2. abide by all terms of suspended sentence imposed in count No. 1. An appeal was noted in the case and the \$1,000.00 Bond was continued.

N.J. GUESTS

Mr. and Mrs. Alvah Monds and family of Pine Beach, N.J. are guests of Mr. and Mrs. G.R. Tucker and Mr. and Mrs. R.S. Monds.

N.J. GUESTS

Mrs. Karl Wiedemann and sons of Cherry Hill, N.J. are spending a few days this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H.C. Stokes.

RETURNS FROM FLA.

Mrs. J.H. Bagley has returned from a visit with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Pickhardt, at New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

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NOTICE TO VOTERS

The Perquimans County Board of Elections has appointed the following registrars for the second primary for the office of District Court Judge.

for

Perquimans County - Tues., June 4, 1974

POLLS OPEN

6:30 A.M. 'TIL 7:30 P.M.

Polling places listed below:

BETHEL: Mrs. Delsie Ward

C.R. Wards BP Ser. Station

NICANOR: Mrs. Evie B. Dale

Community Building

BELVIDERE: Mrs. Zenovia White

Community Building

PARKVILLE: Mrs. Evelyn Ann Smith

Community Bldg. (Winfall)

NEW HOPE: Mrs. Ben Chambers

Community Building

EAST HERTFORD: Mrs. Betty B. Hare

Perquimans Co. Courthouse

WEST HERTFORD: Mrs. Archie Lane, Jr.

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Perquimans County Board of Elections

W.L. Tilley, Chairman

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