

GARDEN TIME

Every now and then my editor comes up with a good idea. Most of the time he just needs me. Now he wants to know why I never mention wood ashes in my column as a fertilizer and soil conditioner. The power of suggestion may be his own naive method of getting his questions answered.

Come to think of it, though, his idea may be a good one because I had to do a mite of research, all of which was confusing, as the analyses vary so much. So this will be mostly about about.

Wood ashes contain about 45% calcium carbonate (a form of lime), about 5-10% potash and about 2% phosphorus. You can see that they do have some fertilizer value because two of the major plant food elements (P&K) are present; only nitrogen (N) is absent. This element can be easily supplied as a side dressing. The kind of wood used in the fireplace, whether hard or soft, will also affect the analysis.

In addition to the potash, phosphorus and lime, there are also present some of the minor or trace elements such as iron, manganese and others.

Wood ashes should be collected and stored in a dry place until ready for use. If they are piled outside and exposed to the weather they will lose much of their nutrient value due to leaching by rainwater. If you do not have

Resurrection Services Set

Rev. Charles Easley, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran church, will deliver the message at the annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Christmas Eve at 9 p.m. at Resurrection Lutheran church.

The program will be a musical presentation by the choir.

sufficient volume to save for soil application, they should be spread over the compost pile, as collected.

We should consider wood ashes as a supplement to rather than a substitute for the regular fertilizer program. This waste from the burning process is especially good for the root and bulb crops, fruit trees and grapevines. It may also be used in the annual and perennial flower beds. I would go easy on azaleas, camellias, rhododendrons and blueberries because of the relatively high calcium content, which may raise the soil pH too high. These plants like an acid soil reaction.

How much to use? About one good shovelful per square yard of soil area. Mix well with the soil or work in as you would fertilize.

If you want to do a little experimenting try this in your vegetable garden or flower bed. Use only wood ashes and top or side dress with nitrate of soda according to the needs of the plants you select.

Scoggins' Rites Conducted

BOSTIC — Beauford C. Scoggins, 35, of Rt. 2, died Sunday. Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday from the Casar Baptist Church; with the Rev. Howard Keller and the Rev. Thomas Gossett officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Son of Samuel J. Scoggins and the late Mary Lizzie Strickland Scoggins, he was the widower of Mrs. Mamie Queen Scoggins and a member of Casar Baptist church.

Survivors include his father; two sons, David and Thomas A. Scoggins, both of the home; four brothers, Paul Scoggins of Kings Mountain, Clarence Scoggins, of Morganton, Marvin Scoggins, of Baltimore, Md. and Hollie Scoggins of Henrietta; three half brothers, Bobby Scoggins of Kings Mountain, Harold R. Scoggins of Morganton and Airman Grover S. Scoggins of Texas; three sisters, Mrs. Barcas Hutchins of Rt. 2, Forest City and Mrs. Carl King of Baltimore, Md.; three half sisters, Mrs. Wayne Melton of Durham, Mrs. Roger Robertson of Ellenboro and Miss Vivian Scoggins of Kings Mountain.

He was a native of Rutherford County.

Christmas Eve Service Held

St. Matthew's Lutheran church will hold its traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight service December 24th at 11 p.m.

Special music will be by the Combined Choirs, under direction of Mrs. L. E. Hinant, organist. Rev. Charles Easley, pastor, will use the sermon topic, "Always Winter But Never Christmas."

Brooks Named Guard Officer

RALEIGH — The appointment of Robert A. Brooks as a 2d lieutenant in the North Carolina Army National Guard has been announced by Governor Scott.

2d Lt. Brooks was born in Shelby where he presently resides. He is a student at North Carolina State University.

Lieutenant Brooks is a graduate of Crest high school, Boiling Springs, N. C. He graduated from the U. S. Army Infantry Officer Candidate School, Ft. Benning, Ga., in September of this year.

Lieutenant Brooks began his military career in June 1965, when he enlisted in the North Carolina Army National Guard with Company E (IP), 105th Engineer Battalion in Shelby. He is presently assigned to Company E (-), 105th Engineer Battalion in Kings Mountain.

Busy Months For Crew, Squad

Cleveland County Rescue Squad, Inc. reported a busy two months of activities during October and November. Second Lt. Charles Peterson reported.

During the month of October squad members made a total of 47 trips, traveled 1846 miles and were on duty 951 hours. In addition, they answered calls to 10 wreck scenes, directed traffic at one fire, made one blood relay and made 10 out-of-town trips.

In November volunteers took a total of 47 trips, traveled 798 miles and were on duty a total of 802 hours. They answered 11 wreck calls, made nine out-of-town trips, directed traffic for the Kings Mountain hospital open house and had an ambulance in attendance at the Charlotte Christmas parade.

Gospel Sing Set Sunday

A Gospel Sing featuring the Psalmsmen Quartet and the Commanders Quartet will be held Sunday afternoon beginning at 2 p.m. at the Kings Mountain Community Center.

Tickets will be on sale at the door at \$1.50 for adults and \$1 for children.

Leigh Rites Are Conducted

Funeral rites for Joseph Theodore Leigh, 62, of Gastonia, brother of Rev. George Leigh and Mrs. Beulah Nance, both of Kings Mountain, were held Monday at 3 p.m. from Gastonia's Myrtle Methodist church.

Rev. Sylvester Higgins officiated at the final rites, and interment was in Hollywood cemetery.

Mr. Leigh died Wednesday at 7 p.m. after being struck by a truck as he walked along West Airline Avenue.

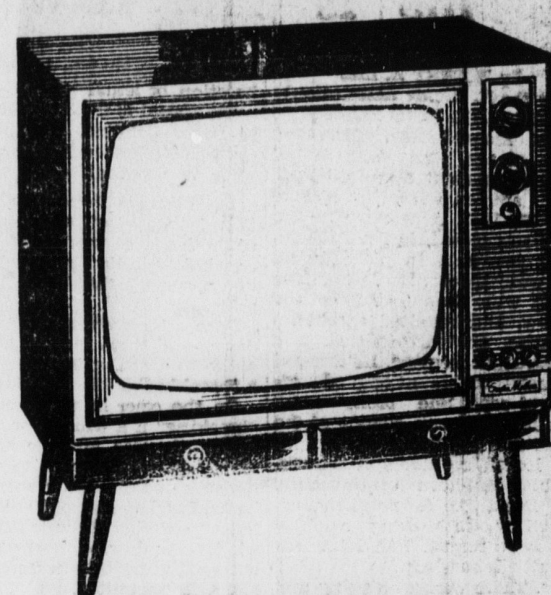
He is survived by his wife; four sons; two additional brothers and another sister, Mrs. Mary Lail of Shelby.

Westover Play Set Wednesday

"The Characters of Christmas Meet Christ" will be presented on Wednesday, December 23, at Westover Baptist church.

Members of the Beginners', Primary and Junior Sunday School classes will present the play.

Gifts will be distributed around a Christmas tree in the church fellowship hall and Santa Claus will pay a visit.



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