

Around Chowan County Farms

Garden Tour: On June 28 I made a tour of gardens being grown by families in the community development program in Edenton and the nearby area. Earl Jones, of the Multi-Service Center, had requested that I join him in this tour of gardens resulting from a home food production program instigated last spring. We visited about 15 gardens. In general the gardens looked very good to excellent. Some crops had been harvested and the rows replanted to succeeding crops. In most of the gardens it appeared that insects had been controlled pretty well but in many gardens there was an infestation of Mexican bean beetle and other insects taking their toll. I noticed some nematode injury to crops in a few gardens. In some areas it was very apparent that the soil is in need of lime or is deficient in some other plant food element.

In each instance where the gardener was present, I pointed out the vegetable production hazards and suggested control measures. I also advised Mr. Jones that it would be very important to have a soil sample taken of each garden and send this in for soil analysis so that we can determine any need for calcium or other elements. I want to congratulate these home gardeners on the fine job they are doing in living at home and boarding at the same place. I also congratulate Mr. Jones for the excellent work he is doing in encouraging this.

Peanut Information: Extension Peanut Specialist Astor Perry sez: "The growth rate of peanuts, as measured by the number of nodes on the main stem and cotyledonary laterals, has been considerably faster this year than last year. By July 20, we were 7-10 days ahead with 90 per cent of the pegs that will end up as mature fruit already formed and in the ground. If the predictions of the weather forecasting services hold up for the next three months, we are headed for an excellent peanut growing season. We are on target for Target 2. "The 16th annual Peanut Field Day will be conducted at the Peanut Belt Research Station on September 10. The feature attraction this year will be peanut harvesting equipment. We will invite all of the manufacturers of peanut windrow inverter equipment to demonstrate their machines. Most of them are quite different from the inverter built and sold in this area last year. We are hopeful that at least five different makes will be on hand. Combines will also be featured as well as regular digging and windrow equipment."

Top peanut producers in North Carolina continue their leafspot control applications through the month of August and into September. Many of our fields are planted to Florigiant, NC-5 and other running type plants which are now meeting across the middles. Some growers are concerned about tractor wheels damaging the vines in the middle and questioning whether the vine damage will be sufficient to offset the leafspot control. In my opinion and from past experience, I don't believe there will be very much damaging of vines providing the application is made when the vines are dry. The smaller tired tractor will do less damage than

the large tired. I don't know what lies ahead of us, but I do know that a late infestation of leafspot can do right much damage sometimes. I think each grower will have to make his own determination now as to whether to continue going through the field applying copper-sulfur or other fungicides. Watch peanuts carefully for any infestation of insects.

Soybeans: Next Monday will be August 19 and next week is the time we may expect insect infestation in soybean fields to begin appearing, building up and causing damage. Insect damage to bloom and young pods is more serious than damage done by eating the leaves.

Each field should be carefully examined each four to seven days. This may be easily done by taking a white piece of cloth about three feet wide and four feet long as a sheet to use. At several different spots scattered over each field spread the sheet lengthwise between the plants across the middle. Vigorously shake the half of the vines on each side of the middle so that the insects will fall on the cloth. Quickly count the bugs and worms that fall. Put the record down from each spot showing the number of worms separate from the number of beetles. When finished with the field add these and divide by the number of plots. If you have an average of more than two or three beetles and worms, you better proceed with an insecticide application.

We have a good soybean crop in prospect now. If insects are properly controlled most of the bloom will become fruit and we should have a good yield.

Our goal this year is an average of at least 35 bushels per acre and we would like to see it go to 40.

Cotton Insect Control: During the past week our survey of cotton insects shows a build up in most of the fields. Even in two fields where a good insecticide application schedule has been followed, we found 5 per cent weevil punctured squares. This is possible because the weevils are migrating from field to field now. The new generation has hatched out and is laying eggs. We will begin to find some boll weevil damage.

The cabbage looper worms have infested some fields and as yet no chemical we have used seems to control him. This week we will try two or three new chemicals on a small basis in cooperation with an insecticide company. Due to the extremely dry hot weather the virus disease that normally attacks the cabbage looper has not had sufficient moisture to develop and the insect seems to have had a free rein. We have not observed any damage to the cotton plant other than severe eating of the leaves.

Mass Schedule At St. Ann's

Father Joseph J. Lash, pastor of St. Ann's Catholic Church, announces the following schedule of masses:

Thursday, 8 P. M. (Holy Day of Obligation); Friday, 7 A. M.; Saturday, 8 A. M.; Sunday, 8 A. M.; Monday, 7 A. M.; Tuesday, 7 P. M. At Saint Joan of Arc in Plymouth: Thursday, 7 A. M.; Sunday, 10:30 A. M. At All Souls' in Columbia: Thursday, 6 P. M. (Feast of the Assumption).

Teachers Enroll In ECU Institute

GREENVILLE — Julia Stanaland Brake, 207 West Second Street, Edenton, was among 40 high school chemistry teachers from 18 North Carolina counties and seven other states to enroll in a six-week summer institute at East Carolina University.

The institute is sponsored and financed by the National Science Foundation as part of a nationwide program for the improvement of high school chemistry instruction. It continues through August 23.

Holmes Heads New FM Station

Jasper L. (Jay) Holmes, Jr., a native of Edenton, has been named general manager of the new stereo FM radio station in Kingston—WRNS.

Jack Rider, president, and J. B. Ham, secretary-treasurer, said Holmes has over 10 years experience in all phases of the broadcast industry, including news.

Coverage of the station will be approximately one-third of North Carolina, including Chowan County. Country and western music and localized news will be featured on the station, to broadcast 95.1 MC with 100,000 watts total power.

"WRNS will be a sophisticated town and country music station that will get and hold an audience," Hamm said. Promotional plans include the first annual WRNS Country and Western Music Festival, a free top-stars show for area fans; recorded messages from the stars for air use, contests and giveaways.

Playground Opened Here

The Albemarle Street Extended Community Group had its annual grand opening of the playground July 26.

Refreshments were sold. All proceeds went to the playground in the community.

The members of the Community Action Program and Elks Oak Leaf Lodge No. 1583 participated in the activities.

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