

# Report On Agriculture From Around The Chowan County Farms

By Murray L. Goodwin  
Agri. Ext. Agent

Rains of Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning were a real blessing. I hope they reached all corners of the area, and I have heard nothing to the contrary. Anna and I went visiting July 4 in the flat lands bordering the Chesapeake

Bay and Yorktown. They have not suffered for a lack of rain in this area this year, and the crops are beautiful but later than ours. The only vegetables we saw were in family gardens and two or three large fields of tomatoes. They must be contract tomatoes. Peanuts

We assume you are applying chemicals to control leafspot on peanuts and leaf diseases on cantaloupes and watermelons. Showers will increase the need to control leafspot and leaf diseases. Boron

To reduce concealed damage, apply 1/2 lb. of actual Boron per acre between July 14 and August 15. Apply as a foliar spray. A good source is Solubar. It's also about time to apply Boron to cotton. For cotton apply 2 lb. of elemental

Boron per acre as a foliar spray at early bloom (now) and repeat two weeks later. One time is okay, if there are showers.

Incidentally the first cotton bloom that we know was on Elton Jordan farm.

**Weed Control Field Day**  
The Weed Control Field Day at Lewiston was well attended by farmers and agents. They showed several test using Poast over Top. It controls grass pretty well, but has not been released yet!

The discussion concerning the application of weed control agents was interesting.

They had a lot of different exhibits. A group of tests we saw was the applicator of herbicides to cotton, peanuts, soybeans, and corn regardless of whether it was recommended or not. All

cotton was lost, due to windy cold spring. Lasso and Dual Pre PI did not damage peanuts, soybeans or corn very much but gave excellent control of grass and weeds.

Evik Post applied gave good control of weeds and grass but also killed peanuts and soybeans. It was pointed at one of the stops that Evik should not be applied, only after corn was 15" high.

Blazer, "the Champion from Philadelphia", when applied over Top gives good control of grass and excellent control of broadleaf weeds. Blazer severely damages corn and hurts peanuts and soybeans some.

We are sorry that cotton was lost in the test.

We went on part of the two day weed control tour, we will try to discuss this next week.

New Sweet Corn Variety  
Asgrow seed company gave us a little Silver Chief seed corn last spring.

Marvin Evans planted part of it and we have been checking the corn for the last month. Marvin had some trouble getting the seed up. He said the grains were so large that his regular plates do not pick the grains up too well. Anyway, he planted the corn over using Cole Planters, and he got a good stand.

The corn was planted along side Comet, but we don't know about the earliness compared with Comet. Ears are long and have good diameter size. The appearance is excellent. Marvin says, "Silver Chief eats just as good or better than "Quick Silver or Comet." We ate some and the taste is excellent, hard to beat! The ear length may be a problem although Marvin doesn't think so. We hope to check this out.

Watermelons and Cantaloupes  
As we begin our watermelon and cantaloupe

harvest season, I would like to urge farmers to do their best to market a quality product. We stopped at a

road-side stand near Yorktown and the cantaloupes were so green that I doubt if they will ever

ripen. I think we do a better job of putting a good cantaloupe on the market, than we do watermelons.

## Problems In Family-Owned Businesses

Emotions often interfere in management decisions of small, family-owned firms, according to Larry Cherry, Charlotte district director of the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

This letter was recently received by the SBA:

"I run a small family business, with close relatives working together. I find that emotions often interfere with business decisions. What advice can you offer?"

Common problems faced

by family-owned businesses, Cherry said, include:

- A question of who controls daily operations.

- A high turnover rate among non-family employees.

- Little growth because some of the relatives are unwilling to plow profits back into the business.

trying and recurring management task, Cherry said.

Take the area of skills and abilities. One relative might say about another: "He was lazy as a kid, and he's still lazy." Or a disgruntled wife says about an aunt: "What does she know about the business? She's only here because of her father's money."

"It is good to be merry at meals." English Proverb

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