

Around The Farms: Lack Of Rain Proves Damaging To Many Crops

By Murray L. Goodwin
 Agri. Ext. Agent
 This past weekend Anna and I went to High Point for the funeral and burial of Sonny Smithson. It was a beautiful place in the shade

on the side of a hill. The service was well attended and beautifully carried out. From there we went to Hickory and Anna's family reunion. As we traveled the 700 miles I had my eyes on

the countryside. Beyond Williamston it gets drier and by the time you get to Rocky Mount, it is very dry in most places. The corn crop is definitely hurt in most places along

the road. The N. C. Department of Agriculture estimates that the North Carolina crop will average 75 bushels to the acre. I suspect that the average yield will be lowered when

the next estimate comes out about August 12. Cantaloupe Patch in Rowan County

We came across a pretty Burpee cantaloupe patch in Rowan County. We stopped for about a half hour. Mr. Coyer had his crop on black plastic and was irrigating the field. He was getting 60 cents a piece at the super market.

Sampson County We had heard much about watermelons in Sampson County -- 550 acres. It would appear that they had not had any rain in a month in some places. As we stopped for information Glenn Perry stopped. He is going to parole officer's school at Salmeburg. Most of the watermelon fields we saw were severely damaged from dry weather.

Cantaloupe Field Test Our cantaloupe field test with Carroll Bass on the Lester Harrell Farm is in the process of being har-

vested. Again we have been lucky with the weather. This test is on dark sandy soil and a rainy season might have ruined the test completely.

Our data is incomplete but some things are evident. The melons are probably the largest we have ever had. Eight to 12 pound melons are commonplace. We haven't had any rotten bottoms at all. There has been some severe splitting around the scar.

In the final analysis we predict Saticoy, Harper and Super Market will show up with the characteristics we need.

New Cantaloupes Magnum may hold some promise for us if our buyers become serious about wanting a small cantaloupe. This melon had an average weight of 4.9 pounds; has an excellent net; and has a good taste. It would appear to be a good melon.

Carnival looks like Super Market but is late, about

like Saticoy. Super Star is a pretty cantaloupe, is large, eats fairly well and has a large scar. Most varieties with large scar will have trouble in hauling. Super Star was later this year than last year for us.

Alaska appears to have no promise for us! Classic has small scar, eats good, is early, and has good size. We don't know if it will haul.

Cantaloupe Disease We have had an unusual thing insofar as disease is concerned in watermelons and cantaloupes. In the past we have observed that cantaloupes have been more susceptible than watermelons to leaf diseases. Not so in Carroll Bass field this year.

This field had Verona (black round melon), Crimson Sweet, and cantaloupe variety test joining. The Verona melons became heavily infected with leaf diseases about a month ago. Crimson Sweet has the

trouble but to a lesser degree. But not a single cantaloupe variety has the trouble to any degree to speak of. We have no explanation for this.

Watermelon Variety Test Both of our watermelon variety tests are looking good at this time. We will make the first harvest in Mike and John Pippin's test Friday. This test was exposed to severe wind damage in May.

The other test is being conducted by Bobby and Emmett Winborne. The field is right along the road on the same side of the road as Bobby's house. We invite you watermelon farmers to stop and look at the test. After a rough start this test has come on strong and looks very good at this time.

We are anxious to see how the new hybrid Madera yields. It looks like Crimson Sweet. Sugar Lee and Dixie Lee both look good in both tests.

Jaw Growth Blamed For Children's Crooked Teeth

PINE MOUNTAIN, Ga. — Protruding front teeth — the familiar "Bucky Beaver" look — are a common sight in orthodontists' offices. Most parents assume their children's teeth just came in crooked. They care more about how long (and how much) it will take to straighten them than how they got that way.

Alameda, CA, told the Georgia orthodontists at their annual scientific meeting that, typically, the upper jaw grows normally while the lower is retarded. This thrusts the upper arch forward, producing the familiar protrusive look. Dr. Scholz said that treatment of most protrusion problems should involve stimulating lower jaw growth instead of retarding the upper jaw. He said that a removable oral appliance may reduce the time a child has to wear braces to correct a "Bucky Beaver" problem. The appliance make the child's jaw muscles work

overtime. That stimulates bone growth in the lower jaw. Dr. Scholz said the device — called a Frankel appliance — has to be carefully made and fitted for each individual. Early diagnosis is important. The American Association of Orthodontists recommends that children

visit a general dentist first at age 3 and be seen by an orthodontic specialist at age 7. "There's a lot more to a perfect bite than straight teeth," Dr. Scholz noted. He urged parents to be aware of jaw growth deficiency and consult with an orthodontist early.



Most students believe the Spaniards brought the banana to the West Indies where it has remained as the region became the world's greatest producer of this fruit.

Landownership Forum Is Set

On Saturday, August 8, 1981, the Agricultural Extension Program at N. C. A&T State University in cooperation with legal Services of the Coastal Plains, Assemblies of Hertford, Bertie, Halifax, Gates and Northampton Counties; National Association of Landowners; NAACP and Mount Olive Baptist Church will sponsor a Landownership Forum from 1 P. M. to 3 P. M. at the Mount Olive Baptist Church in Lewiston, North Carolina, (located on Windsor Highway in Bertie County.)

minority groups and on strategies for retention of landownership. For more information, please contact: Rev. James Felton, Training Center, P. O. Box 395, Rich Square, N. C. 539-2216 work; or 358-5151 - Home. Clyde E. Chesney, Agricultural Extension Program, P.O. Box 21928, N. C. A&T State University, Greensboro, N. C. 27420, phone (919) 379-7957 or 7691. Frank Adams, Legal Services of the Coastal Plains, 326 E. Main Street, P. O. Box 564, Ahoskie, N. C. 27910, phone (919) 332-5124.

SHOP MON. - WED. 9 A.M. - 9 P.M.
 THURS. - SAT. 9 A.M. - 10 P.M.
 SUNDAY 12 P.M. - 7 P.M.

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