

# Gardening with safety tips

Bill Skelton

SPECIAL TO THE POST

The gardening season is upon us, and with it comes not only red, ripe tomatoes and glorious flowers, but pesky pest problems, too!

If you garden, you too will have pest problems, and you may use pesticides as a last resort to control them. The question is "How do you use pesticides wisely and safely?"

How do you tell? Here is some information and safety tips on the proper use of pesticides.

Just what is a pest? There are five main groups of pests: insects plus spiders; mites; and ticks; snails and slugs; pest animals; weeds; and plant disease agents. While all of these are indeed pests, they can be altogether different, requiring totally different control methods.

The first step in controlling a pest is to correctly identify it. Many calls to the extension office are about insects that don't even feed on plants. These, of course, you don't need to control. Others, however, do feed on plants and you move on to step two.

Step two, whether to control. Once a pest has been identified you have to determine if it is causing more dam-



age than is acceptable. If it is worthy of control, what type of control do you use? Often there are methods of control that do not use pesticides.

Methods such as exclusion, cultivation, sanitation, or release of beneficial insects are just a few. If these are available they should be considered. If you must use a pesticide, select it carefully.

In selecting a pesticide you should consider all that will effectively control the pest.

You may have a choice of several. If you need help, ask.

When using pesticides you can prevent harm to yourself and the environment by following safety precautions and using common sense. Here are the minimum safety steps you should take. At the time of

cautions needed

- \* if the formulation and amount of active ingredient are right for your job

- \* if you have the right equipment to apply the pesticide

- \* if you have the right protective clothing

- \* how much pesticide you need.

Before you apply the pesticide read the label again to find out:

- \* the protective equipment needed to handle the pesticide

- \* the specific warnings and precautions
- \* what it can be mixed with

- \* how to mix it
- \* how much to use
- \* safety measures

- \* when to apply to control the pest and to avoid illegal residues
- \* how to apply

purchase read the label of the pesticide you intend to buy to find out:

- \* restrictions on use
- \* if this is the correct material for your problem

- \* if the product can be used safely under your conditions

- \* environmental pre-

See PESTICIDES Page 6C



DeVera Cole  
Realtor

*"I go above and beyond for your Real Estate needs"*

An Independently Owned and Operated Member of Coldwell Banker Residential Affiliates, Inc.

**Thinking of Buying or Selling A Home? For professional and Reliable Assistance Call:**



**Coldwell Banker Flouhouse, Realtors**

1001 E. W.T. Harris Blvd. St. E  
Charlotte, NC 28213

**548-9700 Bus.  
623-6532 pager**

**BREWINGTON'S HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING CO.**

2332 Beatties Ford Road  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216

**Free Estimates on installation Commercial and Residential**

**We Install and Service**

• Financing Available •

**(704)392-4680**

**Fax (704)392-9630**

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!  
704-376-0496**



**Hit Op' N Tak**

*"Out on a Limb"*

Complete Exterior & Interior Landscaping  
Water and Container Gardening

2707 Hinsdale St.  
Charlotte, NC 28210

Co-Owners  
George A. Cox  
Perry Lymberis

Home Phone: 552-5331  
Pager: 515-0663



Tim Beamer

**Beamer Pest Control**

*"Spring and Summer Special"*

**10% Off all Services**

*Control:*

- Termites • Crickets
- Ants • Spiders • Roaches • Bees
- Wasps • Fleas • and Rodents

Charlotte  
**(704) 545-3838**

Monroe  
**(704) 283-0435**

**(704)561-6089/pager**

**Doors of Beauty & Fine Craftsmanship**

HMI Security/Storm Doors and Steel Entry Doors

**SAFE GUARD™**

Our Standard Quality Features  
Make Our Doors The Best Buy In Home Security  
Security/Storm Doors  
Over 100 Designs  
10 Colors

- PROTECT YOU FAMILY AND POSSESSIONS •
- SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY •



- 100% Financing
- No Money Down
- Low Monthly Payments

FREE Installation with Door Purchase  
FREE in Home Estimates  
Visit Our Showroom



**CHARLOTTE SASH & DOOR, INC.**

216 Fairwood Ave.  
Charlotte, NC 28203  
**376-8800**



**NARI**

