

### Hints From The County Extension Chairman

By - JERRY PURSER

#### Lawn Care

1. The lawn bulletin, Carolina Lawns, has been revised and printed. It is available now at the Extension Service Office. This publication has been expanded to deal with home lawns (as before), institutional lawns (school, hospital, other public building sites, etc.), industrial lawns, parks, and other lawn areas. It is intended to apply to lawns from an intensive or extensive, high-quality or medium-quality standpoint. Study the publication with these features in mind.

2. Do not fertilize cool-season grasses any more until fall. Also, do not water well established cool-season grasses during summer. Forcing these grasses during hot weather will stimulate diseases and encourage invasion of crabgrass as well as other weedy species.

#### Trellised Tomato Notes

1. Trellises — A non-sagging, erect trellis will simplify management of the crop and minimize damage to the plants later on. Erect the trellis as soon as feasible after transplanting. Set

posts no more than 20 feet apart and stretch a tight top wire. Stiff knees between posts may be required. For verticle (wrapping) strings, twine of 70 pounds or more knot strength should be used. Synthetic twine is good. In general, binder twine or cotton cord will not last the season.

2. Mulching — Apply straw or other mulch as soon as feasible. A good mulch will help to control weeds, conserve and stabilize moisture, eliminate cultivation, and make field work cleaner and easier.

3. Trellising and pruning — Pruning of laterals or suckers should commence early. Suckers take strength from the main plant and should be removed before they are 3 to 4 inches long. Trellis early to prevent plants from getting down on the ground where there is danger of damage to the plant when straightening.

4. Sidedressing — If sidedressing has not started, 50 lbs. N/A (150 lb. NH4NO3) should be applied to early set tomatoes as soon as possible or about three weeks after setting.

### God's Call to Faith

GOD PLEADS WITH HIS PEOPLE NOT TO TURN TO A GODLESS NATION FOR HELP IN A NATIONAL CRISIS

Scripture—Isaiah 30: 31; 32:15-18; 37:5-7.

By R. H. RAMSEY

ISAIAH'S ministry of more than forty years lasted through the reigns of four kings, beginning about 740 B.C. In the year that King Uzziah died, Uzziah's son, Jotham, was a good king, but by that time idolatry was so entrenched he failed to root it out. Ahaz succeeded Jotham, but he was an indifferent king and when Israel and Syria joined forces against Judah, he panicked and formed an alliance with Tiglath-Pileser of Assyria, despite Isaiah's plea that God would deal with the enemies of Judah.

About 705 B.C., Sennacherib became king of Assyria and some of the conquered Palestinian countries, backed by Egypt, revolted against him. By this time Hezekiah was king in Jerusalem and though he was inclined to put his trust in the Lord there was apparently a strong pro-Egyptian bloc in Judah which influenced him to join the rebels. Naturally, Sennacherib lost no time in moving

is accompanied by mercy and compassion toward those who trust Him and wait for His help instead of seeking help through alliances with godless persons or nations.

Chapter 31 is a reiteration of Chapter 30's warning of the utter worthlessness of seeking Egyptian help. Judah needed help, but it would not be found in the flesh and blood of Egyptian armies and horses. Deliverance lay in seeking the Lord and His will for God was the only one who could and would defend Jerusalem.

Isaiah followed up this exhortation with a pleading to return to the Lord whose leadership they have refused and whose wisdom they have neglected. Neither wealth, knowledge nor military might could assure an era of peace and security. Unless justice and righteousness exist in men's hearts and souls, they cannot exist in society. And no amount of power, wealth, education or technology can instill these virtues

#### GOLDEN TEXT

"For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not."—Isaiah 30:15.

to put down the rebellion. It was a national crisis for Judah.

Under these circumstances, Isaiah advised Hezekiah, as he had advised his father, to trust in the Lord despite the fact that the nation had forsaken the Lord and justly deserved what was coming to her. But the king and the people had more faith in Egypt's horses and chariots than they did in the promises of the Lord, so Hezekiah formed an alliance with Egypt. In the eyes of Isaiah, this was rebellion against the Lord, for in their lack of faith they were actually contemptuous of God and His will.

Such misplaced trust and faith could only result in defeat. Isaiah warned, and the Lord would wait for that defeat. When the people finally saw the folly of their ways and returned to Him, He would be exalted and, in His mercy, He would help them. The Lord is a God of justice, but His justice

in men's hearts. Only God can bring about the changes in human hearts which will make these blessings possible.

The time finally came when Hezekiah realized that only God could deliver Judah, and he turned to Isaiah for help. Isaiah responded with what is probably the most brilliant of his predictive prophecies. God will punish Sennacherib for his loud vauntings and proud boasting. He will instill in him a craven fear which will cause him to abandon his siege of Jerusalem and return to his own country where he will be assassinated.

Events turned out exactly as Isaiah had prophesied, for Sennacherib retreated after a plague decimated his armies and while worshipping idols in Ninevah, he was slain by his sons. All of this could have been purely circumstantial had not God revealed it to Isaiah and brought it about in response to Hezekiah's prayers.



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