

Agriculturally Speaking

By L. C. COOPER
County Extension Chairman

Many of our pork producers are averaging nine to ten pigs weaned per sow and yet at today's pork prices producers are losing money.

The best answer to end this losing proposition is an increase in live pork prices.

We have several other alternatives to help bridge the gap. The first is to save the pigs - wean early, sell light weight hogs, increase feed efficiency, cull poor milking sows. All of these factors account for a more thrifty, fast-growing, feed-efficient pig.

Weaning early - the grower must reduce stress. These stresses include removal from the sow, new physical surroundings, new friends mix with other pigs, change in the diet and feed, castration and vaccination. It is also at the three week stage that the pig has lost most of its passive immunity obtained from the sow's colostrum and its ability to build antibodies against specified organisms is not fully developed.

Ways to reduce stress be sure the pigs eat well prior to weaning by creep feeding at about two weeks of age, supplementing the sow's milk. Leave the pigs in the farrowing crate two to three days, after removal of the sow. Castrate at five weeks if not three days, after birth. Place the pigs in as uniform weight groups as possible when moved to the cages. You can co-mingle also by removing partitions between two or three farrowing crates one week before weaning.

Carefully check all cages at least two to three times daily. Be sure pigs are accustomed to the waterer. Little things such as letting the water nipple drip the first two to three days. Keep the environment near 80 degrees the day they go into the cages. Any swine producers, early weaning or not, could benefit by decreasing stress at weaning. Also, any swine producers can cut his losses and increase his profits and-or pig income by saving more pigs.



Students Who Completed Basic First Aid Training Course At North Warren

NW Students Complete Program

By GLENN WOOLARD
Twenty-nine students completed the Basic First Aid Program given at North Warren Middle School over the past three weeks (April 17-May 5). The program consisted of six classes covering the areas of broken bones, burns, choking, shock, bleeding, animal bites and stings, poisoning, epilepsy, diabetes, and special safety precautions. The course was sponsored by the Warren County 4-H and Youth Program, a part of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service.

Mrs. Lynn Pearce, Mrs. Vivian Lloyd, Monte Allen, Gene Medlin and Bennie Wilson taught the classes. All of these instructors are EMT's with over 120 hours of training in emergency care. Mrs. Pearce is a special education instructor at North Warren. Mrs. Lloyd is director of nurses at Warren General Hospital. Monte Allen is a health and physical education instructor at North Warren. Gene Medlin is the automotive mechanics instructor at Norlina High School. Bennie Wilson is the respiratory therapist at Warren General Hospital. The hospital's administrator, George Fleming, and the North Warren principal, Willie T. Ramey, III, donated the time of their respective employees for this service to the community.

The six 1 1/2-hour classes consisted of lectures, demonstrations, and practices. The boys and girls were able to practice the techniques by one being the rescuer and another being the patient. All youths completing five out of six classes were presented 4-H Certificates of Achievement.

The fourth, fifth and sixth graders at North Warren Middle School who completed the Basic First Aid course were as follows: Bryant Alston, Cassandra Alston, Loretta Alston, Laurie Barker, Denny Burrows, Lisa Collier, Keith Cooper, James Douglas, Keith Douglas, Marie Downey, Rodney French, Jennifer Henderson, Clyde Hendricks, Jacqueline Jones, Samona Kersey, Teresa Ann Laws, Rita Norwood, Allen Overby, Mark Clifton Perry, Michael Perry, Susan Pullen, Tracy Seward, David Sledge, Douglas Taylor, Harold Vaughan, Jr., Paul Wilkins, Bryant Williams, Charles Medlin, and Ricky Grissom.

We thank the parents for their willingness to let the boys and girls stay after school for the classes. We extend our appreciation to Willie Ramey, III, the principal at North Warren, for this cooperation and support. We also extend a special appreciation to all the instructors for volunteer-

ing their expertise and time.

Another Basic First Aid course started on Monday, May 5, at Mariam Boyd Elementary School and on Tuesday, May 6, at Vaughan Elementary School. The classes open to all fourth, fifth and

sixth graders will be conducted from 2:30 p. m. to 4 p. m. Parents are responsible for picking up the students at 4 p. m.

The instructors at Mariam Boyd will be Bennie Wilson, Mrs. Linda Wilson, Mrs. Gertie DeLand, and Den-

nis Paschall. The instructors at Vaughan will be Palmer Newsome, Eddie Newsome, and M. C. Little. All of these instructors are EMT's.

For more details, contact Glenn Woolard, assistant extension agent, 4-H, at 257-3640.



Participants In Drapery Making Workshop

Drapery Making Series Is Over

The last in a series of classes in drapery making was held Thursday, May 1, in the Agricultural Extension Office Building.

Draperies being a very popular way of treating windows, participants in the workshop were pleased for the opportunity to acquire skills in this money saving project. It can also be a way to add to the family's income for those interested and desiring to continue their efforts in window treatments.

Ladies participating in the workshop found it to be an enjoyable and profitable experience.

The meeting which took place at the Warren County courthouse at 7:30 p. m. was called to order by the president, Jan Jordan. Devotion consisting of a scripture and the Lord's Prayer was given

by Brenda Cheek, secretary-treasurer. The floor was then opened for its business session.

4-H County Council Meets

The Warren County 4-H County Council voted at its April 28 meeting to select their choice for district officers. The four chosen were for president, from Wake County, Scotty Walker; for vice president, from Wilson County, Lisa Langley; for secretary - treasurer, from Warren County, Jan Jordan; and for reporter, from Wilson County, Erick Blalock. These will be the candidates that Warren County will vote for during the district retreat at Betsy Jeff Penn 4-H Center on May 9-11.

The following business was discussed. The trip to King's Dominion in which 78 4-Hers and parents attended. The upcoming county activity day on May 17. The new business brought before the council was the Bike-A-Thon on May 3, the Bloodmobile at the Lion's Den in Warrenton on May 7, and the North Central District retreat also was discussed.

The educational program was entitled "How to Give A Good Demonstration." This presentation was prepared by 4-Hers and it showed how to improve a demonstration and what not to do. The meeting was adjourned with the 4-H motto.

Those taking advantage of this experience were Mrs. Ruby Jones and Mrs. Mamie Kersey of Norlina; and Mrs. J. B. Wilson and Mrs. J. B. Russell of the Cool Spring Community.

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Agronomist's Corner

Cutworms May Be Problem To Farmers

By RUSSELL KING
Asso. Extension Agent
The way things are shaping up this season, tobacco may go into many fields very soon after field preparation. This could lead to more widespread cutworm problems than usual. Adding to this concern is the fact that I have already had several reports of cutworms in plantbeds.

If cutworms are threatening to prevent production of an adequate number of transplants or if 5 percent or more of plants in the field are being cut or injured, chemical control is justified.

I have observed several cases of weather fleck in tobacco plantbeds this week. Weather fleck is recognized by small flecks or spots on the upper surface of the leaf. These spots are first brown in color and then turn white.

Weather fleck has been observed on tobacco for several years. Outbreaks usually occur during or following light to heavy rainfall and periods ideal

for rapid growth. Evidence strongly indicates that fleck is caused by ozone, a natural component of the atmosphere. With proper wind and air pressure, ozone may be carried downward from the upper atmosphere resulting in increased concentration in the plant growing area.

Soil moisture, rainfall and temperature are probably the most important environmental factors that influence outbreaks. Fleck often appears when temperature and soil moisture are most suitable for rapid growth of tobacco. During these periods, stomates on plants remain open for a longer period of time, offering more exposure to ozone damage. Few lesions develop during dry periods.

There is no complete method of control for weather fleck. Losses can be reduced by variety selection, but all varieties are susceptible. For more information contact us at the Warren County Agricultural Extension Service.

Best Better Club Meets

By SHARON JEFFERSON
The Best Better 4-H Club held its regular meeting at Mariam Boyd School on Thursday of last week. Twenty-five 4-H members and seven adults were present.

The meeting was called to order by President Zelda Patrick at 7:30 p.m. After the pledges, the devotion was led by Clarissa Mayfield. The roll call and minutes were by Secretary Ivan Barnes.

Mrs. Barnes gave final instructions on safety to the bike-a-thon participants for May 3.

The members were very busy during the educational period, planning demonstrations

for the May 17 county Demonstration Day. Among events discussed were 4-H summer camp, District Demonstration Day and the club's summer trip.

On May 25 the Best Better 4-H Club will board a bus here in Warrenton at 1 p.m. heading for the Sports World in Rocky Mount. An evening of roller skating is planned with a picnic lunch arranged by Mrs. Arrington.

A new member, 15-year-old Susan Scott, was welcomed into the club.

Refreshments were served by Angelan and Carol Lewis after the meeting was closed with the 4-H motto.

Workshop Scheduled

By G. W. KOONCE
Extension Agent, 4-H

A summer workshop has been scheduled August 11-16 to give teenagers an opportunity to learn about marine resources, ecology of the coastal region and marine-related careers.

The 1980 Marine Environment Workshop will be held at the Bogue Banks Marine Resources Center with lodging and other activities at Mitchell 4-H Camp, Swansboro.

Rising high school juniors and seniors and high school graduates who have not entered college are eligible to attend. Those who have attended previous marine environment workshops are not eligible.

The workshop program includes marsh habitat studies, ocean beach

investigations, oceanographic activities, boat trips, laboratory experiences and aquarium studies.

The workshop is sponsored by the North Carolina Marine Resources Centers, the North Carolina Sea Grant Program and the 4-H organization, but attendance is not limited to 4-H members.

The cost for the workshop, including meals, lodging, insurance, equipment fees and field trips, is \$125. Participants must arrange their own transportation.

Applications can be obtained by calling or writing to the Warren County 4-H Office, 101 South Main Street, Warrenton, phone 257-3640.

The deadline for applications is July 1.

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New 4-H Club Is Formed

By G. W. KOONCE
Extension Agent, 4-H

A new 4-H club under the leadership of Mrs. Mary M. Kearney, Mrs. Elizabeth Davis and Mrs. Frances Dowtin is to be organized in the Afton Community.

Organization of the proposed club is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, at South Warren Elementary School at 7:30 p. m. Youths of Afton between the ages of 9 and 19 and their parents are invited to attend and become a part of the organization.

The club is being organized to give the youths of Afton a better opportunity to participate in 4-H programs and activities. The club to be organized is open to all people without regard to race, color, sex or national origin.

Cool Problem
President Carter thinks he has to make tough decisions on energy? He should try living in a two bedroom house with one air-conditioner.

B.H.B.

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