

# Eye Appeal High, So Are Demands

Gloxinia takes a little more tender loving care than most plants, but it's worth the effort. Hardly any houseplant can match this one for showy eye appeal.

Here are some helpful hints from Agricultural Extension Service specialists at North Carolina State University that may help make your experience with gloxinias a successful one:

Selection of soil is important. Plants do best in a soil mixture that contains at least 50 percent organic matter. One successful potting medium includes by volume, one part soil, two parts peat moss and one part perlite.

Most gloxinias are started from tubers. Tubers that measure one and one-half inches across should be potted in five-inch pots. Larger tubers should be potted in larger containers with the concave side up.

The tuber is set in place and just enough of the mix is added to

### Courthouse Squares



barely cover it. The final step is watering to the point of saturation. Now plant the pot in a warm location, ideally over bottom heat.

Newly potted plants may require watering every three to four days. More mature plants may require watering more frequently. Never allow the soil to become dry and hard.

After the plants start leaf growth, fertilization should begin. Use a high analysis liquid fertilizer such as 20-20-20. Follow manufacturer's recommendations. Fertilize established plants every five to six weeks when actively growing. Over-fertilization results in stunted plants, burned or dried leaf margins and wilted or even dead plants.

Gloxinias should be grown in a temperature range of 65 to 70 degrees.

Place gloxinias near a south or west window during the winter. Too little light causes "leggy" plants. Plants should be protected from direct sunlight after May 1.

Gloxinia plants should be given a short rest in the fall. As soon as the leaves die, repot tubers for the rest period. Potted tubers can be kept in a dark place until the new growth appears. Water the soil enough to prevent the plant from wilting. The rest period varies from several weeks to two months. When regrowth begins, the entire cycle is repeated.



Warren County 4-Hers who participated in the North Central District 4-H Day held Saturday at the Agricultural Extension Office in Tarboro are shown above, left to right. They are Ivan Alston, Sharon Jefferson, Chrissandra Henderson, Clarissa Mayfield, Reginald Pierce, Jackie Mayfield, Wanda Seward, Michele Durham, Lynnette Barnes and

Valerie Sims. The theme of the evening was communications, including interpersonal communication, cultural arts, radio, TV, news writing and being ambassadors for 4-H. The next district retreat will be held at Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Camp near Reidsville on April 12-14.

(Extension Photo by Woolard)

## Save On Winter Heating Costs

Give your house a quick once-over before it gets too cold and look for cracks and joints where winter can seep in. Plug these with caulk. It is an effective way to keep heating costs down, according to Agricultural Extension Service specialists at North Carolina State University.

Caulking should be used where two different materials or two parts of the house meet, the specialists explain. Such areas would include the joints between window frames and siding, spacing between window sills and siding, cracks between porches and the main body of the house, and cracks where chimney or masonry meets the siding.

Estimating the number of cartridges of caulking compound you will need is not easy, since the amount will vary with the size of cracks to be filled. But rough estimates are a

half cartridge per window or door, four cartridges for the foundation sill and two cartridges for a two-story chimney.

It doesn't take much skill to apply caulking. But before starting you will need to clean the area to be caulked. Remove paint buildup, dirt or old caulking materials with a caulking solvent, a putty knife or large screwdriver.

Drawing a good bead of caulk may take a little practice but whatever you do, make sure the bead overlaps both sides for a tight seal.

You can fill extra wide cracks with oakum, glass fiber insulation strips or similar materials. In those places where you can't quite fill the gaps, finish the job with caulk.

Caulking compounds come in rope form, also. You can fill extra long cracks easily this way.

Just unwind the caulking compound and force it into the cracks with your fingers.

There are three basic types of caulking materials. Those with an oil or resin base, those with a latex, butyl or polyvinyl base and those of the elastomeric group.

The oil or resin base caulking materials are readily available. They have a life expectancy of 5 to 10 years. Oil or resin base caulking materials will bond to most surfaces. They have a tendency to shrink, become brittle and fall out.

The second type of caulking materials are the latex, butyl or polyvinyl based compounds.

They are more durable and expensive than oil or resin base types. This group has good resistance to weathering and should last roughly 10 years.

A third type of caulking material, the elastomeric caulks, are the more durable and the most expensive. This group includes silicones, polysulfides and polyurethanes. They offer excellent weather resistance and could last 20 years or more.

Some caulking compounds are tinted to match various house stains. However, most people still use caulks that are white, light gray or tan.

# Want Ads

### LOST

LOST: SMALL BLUE tackle box at Nocarva Marina. Reward. Call 257-1932 after 3 p. m.

Oct. 17, 24-c.

### FREE

GIVE AWAY: 2 KITTENS and one cat. Need a new home, 257-2269.

Oct. 24-c.

### OPPORTUNITY

#### NOTICE

Warren County Department of Social Services will accept applications for the position of Eligibility Specialist I through November 7, 1984. Worker in this position interviews individuals seeking assistance from the public assistance, medical assistance or food stamp programs, maintains the caseload and performs reviews.

### THOUGHT FOR FOOD

by GOULD CROOK

#### Honey Muffins

- 1/4 cup margarine
- 1/2 cup honey or sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup cooked Riceland Rice
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 1 tbsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda

Beat margarine and honey (or sugar) until light. Add eggs and rice and continue beating 2 to 3 minutes. Add milk and dry ingredients that have been sifted together. Stir with spoon only until well blended. Fill greased muffin pan 2/3 full. Bake at 400° for 20 minutes, or until done. Remove from pan at once. Yields 1 dozen muffins.

If homemade pickles are shriveled, too much salt, sugar or vinegar may have been used at the beginning of the pickling process. Stick to standardized recipes for best results.

Minimum education and experience: High School graduation and three years clerical or para-professional experience; or graduation from high school and two years experience within a social services eligibility program; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Appointment is made from a competitive service register of persons tested by the state personnel systems. Information and applications can be secured from the local office at 538 W. Ridge-way St., Warrenton, N. C. Warren County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Oct. 24, 31-c.

NEED TO LOSE weight? Learn about a no-nonsense, healthy weight-control program that really works! Let us show you how to lose weight and maintain the loss. Call Mrs. Perry at 257-2120 or Miss Patsy Alston at 257-3052.

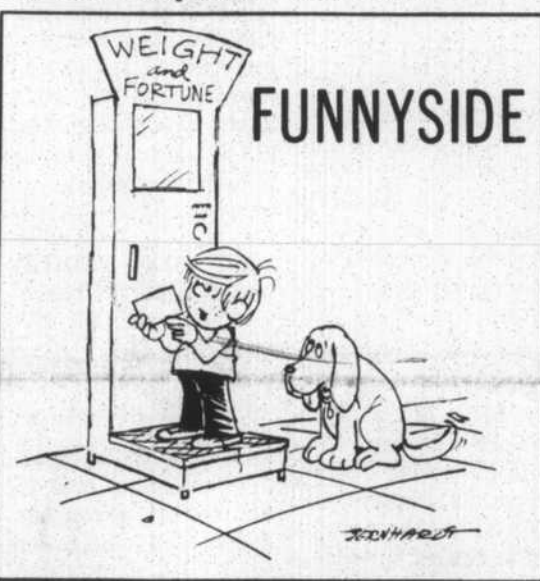
Sept. 26-4c.

WARREN COUNTY ambulance EMT must possess a valid N. C. driver's license and must be an N. C. certified EMT. Applications may be obtained at the ambulance office at 201 East Macon Street at the Warren County Jail, Warrenton, N. C. Warren County is an equal opportunity employer.

Oct. 24, 31-c.

HOME HEALTH nurse, MedVisit, Inc. has a full time position for a registered nurse to work in Vance, Granville and Warren County. Excellent benefits. Day time position with some calls. Apply at MedVisit, Inc., Ruin Creek Rd., Henderson, N. C. 1-800-682-6670.

Oct. 24, 31-c.



"An old love will emerge from the past to haunt you."

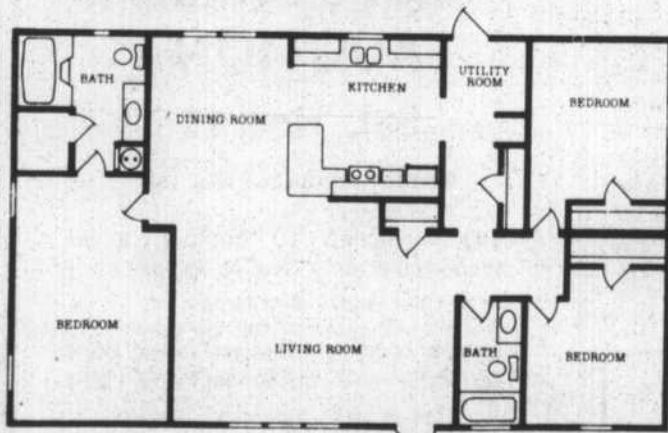
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# PROOF YOU'RE NOT POWERLESS TO CONTROL YOUR POWER BILL.



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