

Progress at Perdue Farms' primary breeder hatchery now under construction at Manson is approximately two weeks behind schedule because of inclement weather, but a company spokesman said com-

pletion is expected in April. Weather should not be a factor in construction from this point on, the spokesman said, because most of the outside work is completed. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

## Air Of Optimism Expressed As '87 Awaits Growers

By MARY C. HARRIS  
Staff Writer

There's an air of optimism among the county's farmers as plans take shape for the 1987 crop year, County Extension Chairman Russell King said this week.

At this time last year, there was still a great degree of uncertainty, particularly in the tobacco program, King noted, but preparation is well under way across the county for a new crop year.

All things considered, King said the cut in tobacco quota this year will amount to approximately three percent. "This figure is confusing," he pointed out, "because some growers sold more or less than their quota last year and some didn't plant at all."

King sees the cessation of the lease transfer program as the biggest adjustment facing tobacco farmers. Without the lease transfer provision, six options are available to tobacco growers, he listed:

- (1) The farmer may plant the tobacco on his farm;
- (2) The farmer may combine a number of farms under one number and farm as one unit with one set equipment and with one person as manager;
- (3) The farmer may take no action this year and plant double in 1988;
- (4) The farmer may do nothing in 1987, plant his quota in 1988 and then plant as little as one pound in 1989;
- (5) The farmer may sell his quota;
- (6) The farmer may do nothing and lose his quota.

King said more management will be required of farmers as they attempt to combine farms into one unit, but he is encouraged by the apparent optimism among tobacco growers.

"Last year at this time few plant beds had been gassed," he remembered, "but that is not the case this year."

King predicted a decline in the amount of timber to be marketed

in Warren County in 1987. There was a flooding of the market with timber and pulpwood in 1986, King noted, mainly because people anticipated major changes in the tax laws for 1987.

Soybean production will probably not see any major change. "There may be a few more soybeans planted through double cropping, but we do not expect any significant difference," King explained. The dry weather last season caused cancellation of double-cropping plans for a number of growers.

King predicted a slight reduction in dairying in the county. Swine, he said, appears about the same, with possibly a slight decline, and beef production may increase slightly.

Local poultry production showed a steady increase in 1986 and the extension chairman said he expects the trend to continue in the new year. The increase he attributed to the location of Perdue Farms in Warren County.

The forecast for cucumber and cantaloupe production is about the same as for last year, King added.

All in all, farmers are beginning work toward the new season with an upbeat outlook, the extension chairman observed.

### Annual Event Is Scheduled

The 122nd Celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation will be held Thursday, Jan. 1, at 1 p.m. at Warrenton Baptist Church, the Rev. Paul G. Davis announced last week. The Rev. Walter Yarborough is pastor of Warrenton Baptist Church.

The theme of the celebration will be "Today's Challenges for Tomorrow's World," he said. F. Wellington Scott, co-ordinating principal Yokosuka of Yokohama, Japan, will be guest speaker. Mrs. Bernadine Ballance, attorney, will discuss opportunities for youth of today. (Continued on page 11)

## Report Of Grove Hill Plane Crash Proves To Be Without Foundation

A number of Warren County's emergency personnel responded early Sunday morning to a report of a possible plane crash in the Grove Hill community.

Emergency Management Coordinator Gary Robenolt said a resident of the Grove Hill com-

munity reportedly heard a small airplane pass at low altitude over his home about 1:45 a.m. and a short time later heard a noise which he surmised could have been a plane crash.

Robenolt said he received a call regarding the incident from the

sheriff's department and upon arriving at Grove Hill was met by two firemen from the Areola rural department and one from the Warrenton rural company, along with a policeman from Warrenton. A sheriff's deputy arrived later, he said.

A search of the area turned up nothing out of the ordinary, Robenolt reported.

"We called the Federal Aeronautics Administration to inquire of missing or overdue aircraft," he said. "They had no knowledge of anything."

Other residents of the neighborhood were questioned and no one else reported having heard anything unusual.

Robenolt said he and the sheriff went back on Monday to look around the area but were unable to find anything suggestive of a plane crash. "We'll be ready to go back if anything indicates we should," he added.

### Fires Reported

Firemen from the Warrenton Rural Fire Department responded to five minor fires in three days this week, according to Captain Walter Gardner.

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## Committee Spots Are Filled Here

Regulations have changed the structure of the committee system beginning in 1987. The county is now divided into three Local Administrative Areas. Community committeemen will be elected for a three-year term. Consequently, a county committee member from each respective area will be elected for the same term.

Since the present county committee is represented by one member from each administrative area, an initial adjustment period must be established to coordinate the election of the county committee with the county committee from each area.

Listed below are the committee persons and alternates by chairperson, vice chairperson, regular member, first alternate and second alternate who have been elected to serve:

—In Local Administrative Area I (Nutbush, Smith Creek and Warrenton communities), A. P. Holtzman, Jr., Calvin Seaman, Charles W. Lynch, James O. Green and Franklin Rivers (two-year term).

—In Local Administrative Area II (Hawtree, Judkins, River and Sixpound communities), Dennis H. Stegall, Harry M. Leete, Robert H. Frazier, D. S. Isles and Alex Henderson (one-year term).

—In local Administrative Area III (Fishing Creek, Fork, Sandy Creek and Shocco communities), William L. Fuller, Jr., Gillis Alston, Raeford Pernell, Edward Conn and Otha L. Hayes, Jr. (three-year term).

At the County Convention, delegates from LAA III reelected Charles Hobgood to a three-year term on the County Committee. Raeford Pernell and William L. Fuller were also elected as first alternate and second alternate, respectively. LAA II delegates elected Harry M. Leete as first alternate and Dennis H. Stegall as second alternate. LAA I delegates elected A. P. Holtzman, Jr. as first alternate and Calvin Seaman as second alternate.

All local administrative area committeemen and county committeemen will begin new terms Jan. 1, 1987.

## Enforcement Upcoming For Law On Seat Belts

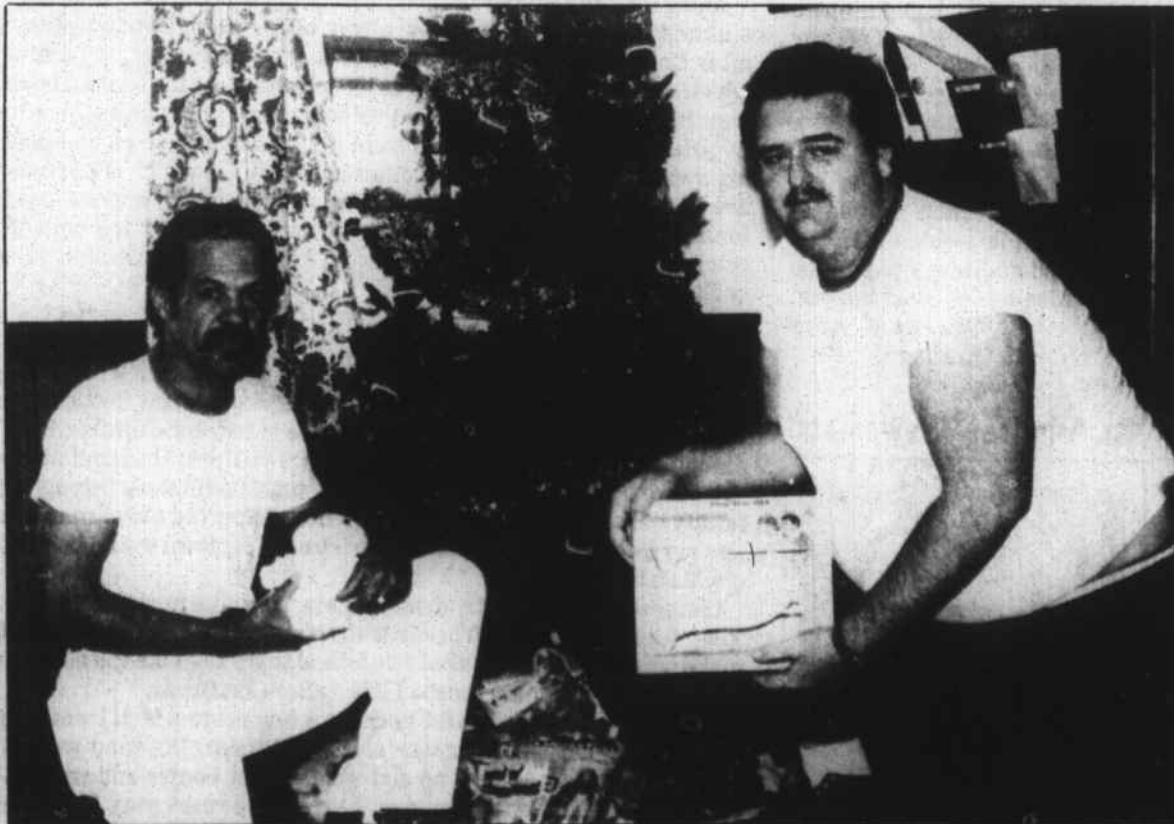
New Year's Day will signal the end of another year, and it will herald the beginning of active enforcement of the state's "Seat Belt Law."

This portion of the N. C. Governor's Highway Safety Program came into effect Oct. 1, 1985. Among its requirements are the stipulations that all front-seat occupants of cars manufactured after 1966 wear lap/shoulder seatbelts; that all children under three years of age be placed in safety seats or booster seats; and that all children between the ages of three and six ride in a safety seat or booster seat, or be protected by lap/shoulder belts. Although in effect for well over one year, tickets and violations

will be issued effective Jan. 1, 1987.

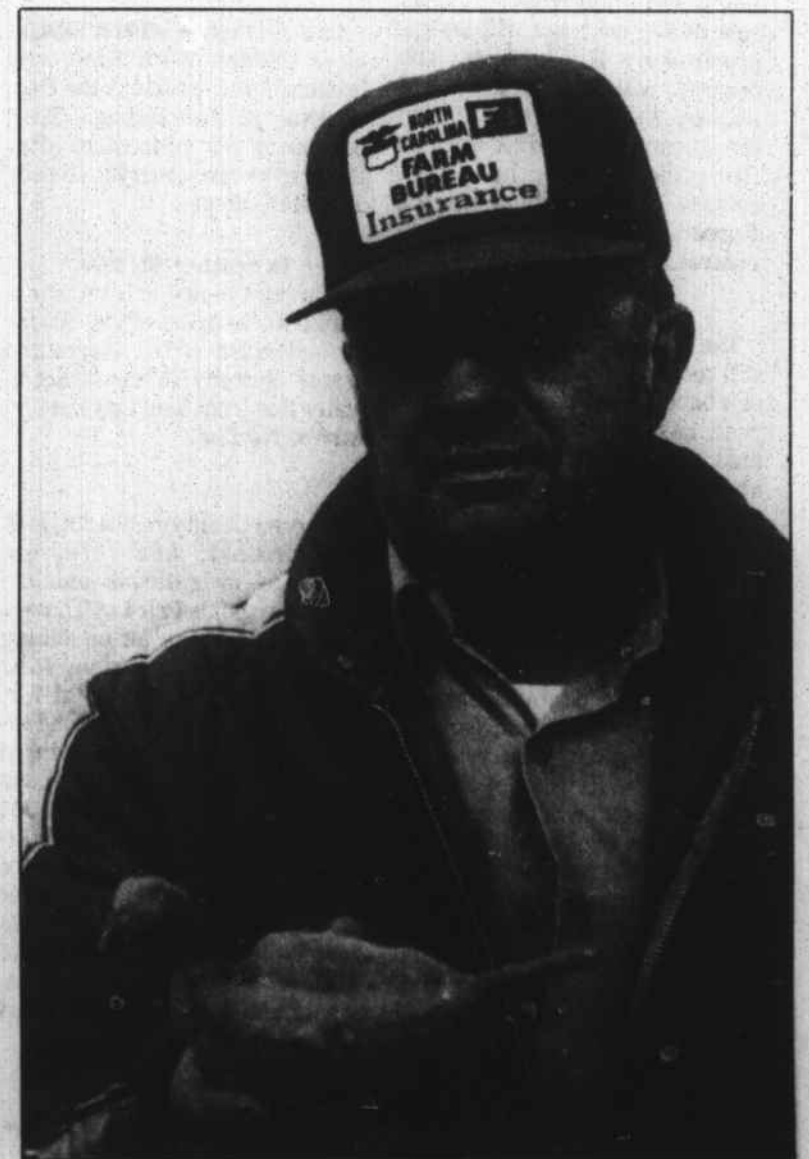
According to Sgt. A. Z. Wright, Henderson-based highway patrolman, infractions will result in a \$25 fine. "There will be no wholesale arrests, but we plan to be fair and issue citations," he said. "This is a very good law and it will save some lives," he continued. According to Patrolman W. P. Blanks, tickets have been issued already for violators of the child-protection portion of the law.

According to Sgt. Henderson, points will not be applied toward driver's licenses. "It remains to be seen what insurance companies will do," he added.



Members of the In Service Club at the Warren County unit of the N.C. Department of Correction, Bennie Glenn, president, (left) and Tim Stroud, vice-president, are pictured as they prepare toys

for distribution among unfortunate children in Warren County. The club raised funds to purchase the toys. (Staff Photo by Mary C. Harris)



Richard Holtzmann of Ridgeway has been growing sweet potatoes for more than 30 years but he has never before grown one like the one pictured above which he harvested this season. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)