



CHECK PRESENTATION—John Killian, left, chairman of the Warren Soil and Water Conservation District, presents a check to N.H. Bolton, one of the first five farmers to complete practices installed by local SCS personnel. Witnessing the check exchange is Larry West, center, program technician. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

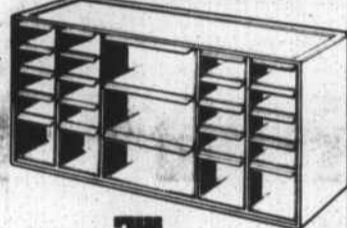
Santa Comes Early For Warren Farmers

Santa Claus came early for several farmers who this week received reimbursement checks from the N. C. Agricultural Cost-Share Program for installing conservation practices to help reduce erosion and improve water quality. Some 48 Warren producers will soon be in receipt of reimbursement checks for taking part in a program for which Warren County became eligible in August.

"We hope that during the next sign-up period, to be announced at a later date, we can help more of our local farmers and livestock producers through this on-going program," District Technician Bruce Perkinson said. Those farmers and livestock producers wanting more information about the Cost-Share Program should contact the Soil Conservation Service in Warrenton or call 257-3836, Perkinson said.

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Agriculturally Speaking

By **RUSSELL C. KING**
County Extension Director



Cold weather has arrived, and many potted plants are now being grown inside as house plants.

When you grow plants indoors, you need to provide a slow rate of growth. It is important to remember that environmental conditions, such as light and humidity, are low. To keep plants growing at a slower rate, fertilizer levels become extremely important.

In most cases, over fertilizing is the problem. Very seldom does under fertilizing exist. To help avoid over fertilizing, I suggest using a water soluble fertilizer on your house plants. Water soluble fertilizer comes as a dry powder or concentrated liquid and is mixed in water for dilution purposes.

Slow release and organic fertilizers are also good for house plants. Slow release fertilizers release nutrients slowly. This helps to prevent over fertilizing gives plants nutrients over a period of months. Organic fertilizers also release nutrients more slowly than water soluble fertilizers, however, some organic fertilizers have an odor which is objectionable for indoor use. It is important to note also that slow release and organic fertilizers are more expensive than water soluble fertilizers.

Again it is important to remember that you want plants to grow at a slow rate during the winter. Many plants begin a winter dormant period during which they require little or no fertilizer. Even plants which do not become dormant require little or no fertilizer. The greatest response to fertilizer applications occurs during spring and summer while the plants are in active growth.

Symptoms of over fertilizing can vary and depend on the particular nutrient involved. Symptoms can include stunting, leaf scorch, dead edges on leaves, leaf yellowing, reddening or purpling.

For more information concerning growing house plants, call me at the Warren County Agricultural Extension Office, 257-3640.

Educational Scholarships Established As A Tribute

Educational scholarships are available for high school graduates and adults wishing to update their education. These scholarships are available through funds established by the North Carolina Association of Extension Home Economists and the North Carolina Extension Homemakers Association.

These scholarships were established as a tribute to three pioneers in home economics extension work: Jane S. McKimmon, Estelle T. Smith and Dazelle F. Lowe.

The Jane S. McKimmon and Dazelle F. Lowe Scholarships are designed to assist students in obtaining a college education in any field of study, with priority given to a degree in home economics.

The Estelle T. Smith Health Scholarship is designed to assist students who desire to enter the field of nursing and allied health sciences.

Eight scholarships are given in the state each year to young high school graduates. Two additional scholarships are available for adults wishing to upgrade their education to enter the work force or improve their career opportunities.

All applicants must be residents of North Carolina and attending North Carolina schools of higher education beyond high school level.

Scholarships are available each year with the amount of scholarship depending upon the amount of interest available on the funds.

Applications must be completed by January 10, 1990 and submitted to the County Extension Office.

To obtain applications, contact: Miss Emily Ballinger, Home Economics Extension Agent, 101 South Main Street, Warrenton, N.C. 27589.

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