

Demonstration

Club Meetings For Week Are Announced

Meetings of home demonstration clubs in the county for the coming week have been announced by Mrs. Florence S. Sherrill, county home demonstration agent. They are as follows:

Today (Thursday): Otto Club at the home of Mrs. Roy Henry at 2 p. m.

Friday: Mulberry Club with Mrs. Janice Anderson at 7:30 p. m.

Tuesday: Carson Chapel Club at the Carson Chapel Church at 2 p. m. Mrs. Jacob Vogel and Mrs. Leona W. Moore, hostesses.

Wednesday: Iotia Club at the school at 1:30 p. m.; Nantahala

Club at the home of Mrs. Ralph Solesbee at 7:30 p. m.

Thursday: Holly Springs Club at the community house at 1:30 p. m.

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

Q. When is the best time to use methyl bromide gas in tobacco plant beds?

A. In the fall or spring—any time outside temperature is 50 or 60 degrees or higher, according to R. R. Bennett, tobacco specialist for the State College Extension Service.

Mr. Bennett says that the methyl bromide gas treatment, when properly applied, has proved effective in controlling grass and weeds in tobacco plant beds. It also helps control nematodes.

In 1950, demonstrations with

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methyl bromide were conducted in plant bed soils in 32 tobacco counties in North Carolina. Prior to that time, the treatment had been tested by the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, and 24 demonstrations were conducted in 10 counties in 1949.

Results prove that the treatment is "very effective," according to Mr. Bennett.

Methyl bromide gas penetrates the soil best when the soil is not too wet, he points out. An air-tight cover of plastic or tough kraft paper can be bought in suitable widths for the purpose of confining the gas in the plant bed.

Methyl bromide is a poison, but tear gas is mixed with it as a warning agent, Mr. Bennett notes.

For details on using the gas, see your local county agent.

North Carolina State College poultry scientists have found that adding dirt to the diet of turkeys reduces the incidence of swollen hocks.



This Week With Macon County Agents

By Mrs. Florence S. Sherrill
At the December meeting of the Nantahala Home Demonstration Club, 21 women attended the Christmas party. Such good reports were given of the home nursing course being taught by Mrs. Marian Wilson to the women and the girls of the community that the agent requested a news article. The following was written by Miss Esther Seay, teacher and member of the Nantahala club:

Under the direction and leadership of Mrs. Wilson, the home demonstration women are holding their home nursing course. The course is well attended and many practical and helpful things are being learned. This course is also being taught in the afternoon for the high school girls. At present 14 girls are enrolled.

We feel that the Nantahala community has moved another step forward in organizing the girl and boy scout troops. To Warren Deyerman and Mrs. Wilson go our vote of thanks for the work they are doing with our boys and girls.

Our big project of the year is still in the infant stage. We club women want a health clinic for the Nantahala area, since we are too far from the nearby towns to obtain the immediate services of doctors; yet we need medical aid and advice. We think this is a worthy goal, toward which we shall work. Do you agree?

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1952 Big Year For Grassland

Farming In Macon, Harper Says

It was another big year for grassland farming in 1952 for cooperators of the Macon Soil Conservation District, according to W. L. Harper, work unit conservationist.

Development of improved pasture has continued to hold a high place in the long list of conservation practices and farmers are applying to their land a coordinated program designed to use every acre within its capabilities and to treat every acre according to its

needs for protection and improvement, the conservationist explained.

During the first 11 months of 1952, Mr. Harper said, farmers cooperating with the district treated 141 acres of land, bringing the total improved pastures to 171 acres. In other words, he continued, the amount treated during the 11-month period represented 82 per cent of the total to date.

Probably the greatest lesson learned during the extremely dry year, he said, was the importance of having an adequate acreage of drought resistant perennial crops. The deep rooted plants are not seriously handicapped in growth by dry weather.

It is expected that such crops will be increased during 1953, Mr. Harper explained.

Sheridan Peek, who lives near Union Church on the Georgia Road, has had a few acres of sericia lespedeza for the past several years and has used it for both hay and pasture with good results, the conservationist pointed out by way of illustration. Even the recent drought failed to dampen Mr. Peek's enthusiasm for the plant, since his yields of hay held up when others failed.

Fred Hannah, of the Patton Community, last spring set about eight acres of extremely steep land for pasture and secured a fall survival. He plans to continue to expand his acreage each year and hopes to get it started on about 50 acres for pasture use, Mr. Harper said.

On cropland where good rotations had been established, increasing the organic matter content and water holding capacity of the soil, the conservationist explained that crops suffered much less from the extended drought than on acres that had not been properly treated.

Practices Help Farm Production

The soil and water conservation practices which the farmers of Macon County have carried out under the Agricultural Conservation Program have helped to increase the productivity of the land so that farm production can keep pace with the increase in population, according to J. H. Enloe, Jr., chairman of the county Production Marketing Administration.

Through this program, backed by the efforts of educational agencies, conservation has been brought to the attention of the individual farmers in all agricultural counties and communities in the county, the chairman said. The assistance provided by the program has enabled farmers to carry out needed conservation practices.

How well farmers have built up their land to make increased yields possible is indicated by the fact that the average person in 1952 had 12 per cent more food than he had before World War II, Mr. Enloe explained. Not only did the average person eat more, but his diet consisted of more seducing and healthful foods. Furthermore, he continued, farm production is up more than 40 per cent above the average for 1935-39.

These facts, Mr. Enloe said, are indications that the nation's conservation programs, which have been undertaken by farmers in this county, are effective in helping farmers keep their farms in condition to meet the growing demands of an increasing population.

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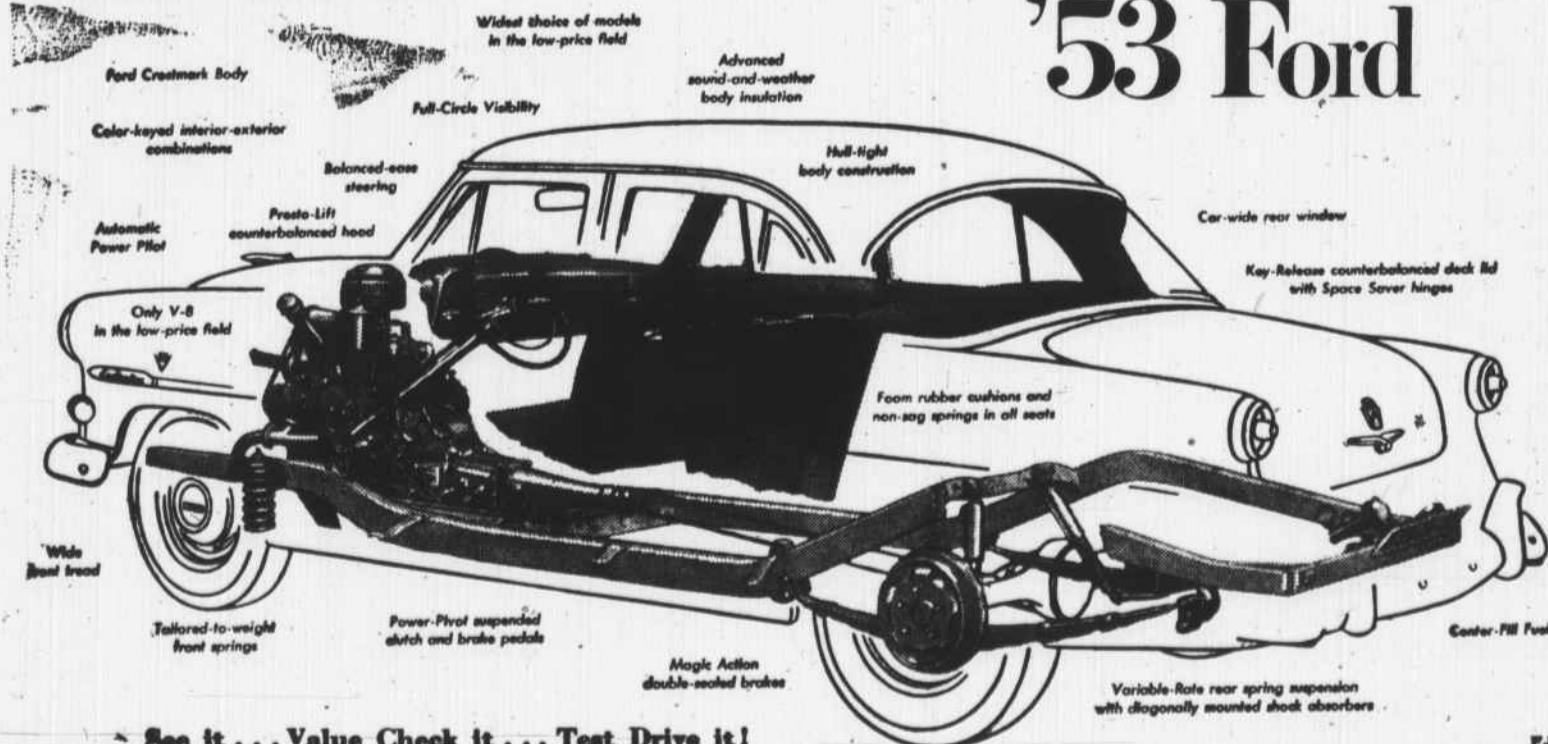
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