

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY

The Mountaineer's

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Farm Review and Forecast

Pageant To Show Growth Of Home Demonstration

Thursday evening, June 10, will be the time for paying tribute to home demonstration in North Carolina — the adult education movement for farm women that's been 40 years "a-growin'".

William Neal Reynolds Coliseum at State College will be the scene of the unweaving of the home demonstration story. A two-act pageant entitled "Green A' Growin'" written by Mrs. Emily Selden and Mike Healey of Chapel Hill will be put on by the home demonstration women of North Carolina.

Counties in charge of the various scenes are Sampson, Madison, Johnston, Mecklenburg, Anson, Pamlico, Durham and Currituck. There will be glimpses into early farm homes, visits to canning club day, to community picnics, to early curb markets, to dressmaking clinics, and to county council meetings as the home demonstration story unfolds. Included in the pageant will be both the humorous sidelights and the more serious episodes that have contributed to the advancement of home demonstration work in North Carolina.

Also playing an important part in the pageant will be the State Home Demonstration Chorus, directed by Dr. Arnold Hoffman, public school music supervisor. Serving as narrator for "Green A' Growin'" will be Mrs. Effie Vines Gordon, pioneer home demonstration agent in Nash County.

"Green A' Growin'" will close the 1954 Farm and Home Week Program in Raleigh.

North Carolina farmers planted 16,000 less acres of peanuts in 1953 than a year earlier.

North Carolina soils need about 4,000,000 tons of lime for top production; another 1,000,000 tons will be required annually.

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

QUESTION: Can tea be grown successfully in North Carolina?

ANSWER: The tea plant can be grown in North Carolina but the state is certainly on the edge of its survival range. It will probably survive, but not grow very well. In general one might say that where camellias grow, tea can grow also. The prospects of marketing North Carolina grown tea would seem to be slim. Attempting to grow tea in an area where it is not ideally suited, and then trying to market it in competition with cheaply produced Oriental teas would not be practical.

QUESTION: Is the nitrogen content of the soil directly related to yields of corn?

ANSWER: Yes, Southern soils are generally low in nitrogen. Many researchers have found that nitrogen is the first limiting factor in corn production.

QUESTION: What is a pre-emergence treatment in regard to treating corn with a chemical weed killer?

ANSWER: A pre-emergence treatment is a spray applied to the soil after the corn is planted and before it emerges. This treatment may be considered as "insurance" that weeds will not over-grow seedling corn, particularly in bottomland during a wet season. At recommended rates, the chemical 2,4-D will not control established perennial grasses such as Johnson grass, Bermuda grass and quackgrass. While present in the soil 2,4-D will destroy most germinating seeds, including crabgrass.

QUESTION: Does grain sorghum do well in a drought?

ANSWER: It has an inherent ability to withstand drought. The plants become almost dormant during periods when water is scarce and start growing again when supplied with water. This one feature has allowed the grain sorghums to compete favorably with other summer crops during dry weather. The sorghums may be used as a catch crop following failure of early seeded crops. The grain is generally compared with corn in feeding qualities. It is expected that in a few years North Carolina farmers will plant nearly 100,000 acres annually.

QUESTION: Just what does the term pH mean?

ANSWER: This term is used to

Farm-Home Program Announced

Haywood County extension agents today announced the Farm and Home Week program to be presented at N. C. State College, June 7-10.

Home Agent Mary Cornwell and County Agent Wayne Franklin said that more than ever before, this the 46th annual convention of farmers and homemakers, deals with subjects of vast and immediate concern to all rural people.

They expressed hope that a large number of Haywood County people would accept the invitation to take part in Farm and Home Week discussions of such timely problems as agricultural policy formation, price supports, dairying from the standpoint of producer, consumer, and processor, to enjoy the increased recreation facilities offered this year in Raleigh.

A daily schedule of Farm and Home Week events follows:

Monday, June 7

Evening opening exercises and recreation. William Neal Reynolds Coliseum. Remarks by D. W. Colvard, dean, School of Agriculture; Mrs. Charles Graham, Linwood, resident, N. C. Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs; and W. A. Connell, Warrenton, president, Farmers Convention.

Tuesday, June 8

Classes for homemakers: The Challenge program, Williams Hall, address by L. Y. Ballentine, "commissioner of agriculture; presentation of local programs and discussion of problems by leaders from Ashe, Forsyth, Orange, Rockingham, Stokes and Wilson Counties. Address by E. Y. Floyd, secretary, State Board of Farm Organizations and Agencies.

Presentation of Awards in "Town

express the degree of acidity of soils. An arbitrary scale was established running from 0 to 14. A pH of 7.0 is neutral—soils with a pH of 7.0 are neither acid nor alkaline. Thus a soil with a pH of 6.9 is only very slightly acid and one with a pH of 7.1 is very slightly alkaline. Also a soil with a pH of 6.4 is more acidic than a soil with a pH of 6.8. The same is true on the alkaline side of the scale. A soil with a pH of 7.8 is more alkaline than one with a pH of 7.4.

QUESTION: How can I tell just how much 2,4-D is in the can I buy?

ANSWER: It is on the label and is usually referred to as "pounds of 2,4-D acid equivalent." Certain necessary materials must be added to the pure 2,4-D to increase its range of uses. Some of these materials allow it to be used in water and others increase its ability to "wet" and stick to surfaces. The actual amount of 2,4-D in the can is indicated by such a phrase as this: "This product contains the equivalent of 4 pounds of 2,4-D acid per gallon."

THE OLD HOME TOWN



Five Per Cent DDT Ideal For Dusting Corn

By ROBERT SCHMIDT

Some of you sweet corn growers may be looking forward to the satisfaction and joy that will be yours when you sink your teeth in the first tender ears.

Perhaps the corn ear worms are also looking forward to that time — and they usually get there first. However, they can be effectively controlled with very little trouble.

For small gardens it is probably sufficient and easiest to dust the silks of the corn with 5 per cent DDT. The dust should be applied directly to the silks when about three-fourths of the silks are showing and again when a few of them begin to turn brown.

The moth lays the eggs on the silks and when they hatch out the small corn ear worm feeds there before he eats into the ear itself. For large plantings a power sprayer should be used and a DDT-mineral oil emulsion is recommended by our entomologists. This spray has been found to be very effective for the control of the ear worm.

There is a special self-propelled sprayer designed for spraying six rows of corn at a time. This has been used successfully by commercial growers in Florida and Virginia.

And while we are on the subject of insect control let us not forget the ever-present Mexican bean beetle. Don't let the beetles seriously damage the bean plants before you do something about it. As soon as you see some of the beetles—they are large brown or yellow lady bird beetles with six-teen spots on their wing covers—

or as soon as you notice that some of the bean leaves have been eaten so that they resemble a piece of lace, it is time to get busy. The best control in the home garden is a 1 per cent rotenone dust. Since the beetle feeds on the undersides of the bean leaves the dust must be applied to the undersides of the leaves to be effective. Rotenone is not toxic to humans and therefore may be used without danger even after the bean pods have formed.

Meeting of State Cotton Promotion Committee, T. B. Upchurch, Raeford, chairman, Meeting open to public.

Evening, Home Demonstration Pageant, "Green A-Growin'" Col-

There'll Be A Milk Treat At Farm and Home Week

Want to know how to prepare glamorous summer meals, to make tempting desserts—all in a cool kitchen this summer? Then there's an "extra" at Farm and Home Week this year that you won't want to miss.

It's the big Dairy Foods Exposition to be held as a part of June Dairy Month. Though it's being planned principally for homemakers in the Raleigh area, women from all over the state attending the Farm and Home Week program are invited to take advantage of what the exposition offers.

Guest demonstrator at the exposition will be Mrs. Miriam Kelley, marketing and consumer information specialist with Kentucky Extension Service. Rita Dubois and

Tobacco Damaged By Weevil

Vegetable weevils do severe damage to tobacco in many areas of North Carolina in the past few days, according to H. Eldon Scott, extension agent, N. C. State College.

Scott said that in more than half of the tobacco damaged. Other reports indicate heavy infestation of eight to 12 weevils per plant.

The weevils are about inch long, dull greenish color, with a pale greenish marking on the back. The third of the wing covers are slug-like and yellow.

The entomologist requests that growers watch their tobacco for a few days, and usually the activity of destructive pests is not hot weather.

Infestations may be checked or brought under following this program:

1. Treat plants with DDT before they are planted.
2. If small numbers are present, DDT may be newly set plants.
3. If the infestation is parathion or aldrin spray should be used. Parathion kills the weevils somewhat than DDT. Therefore, it is recommended where weevils are already present.

Gov. Umstead To Present Church Betterment Awards

One of the highlights of the 46th annual Farm and Home Week at N. C. State College, June 7-10, will be the presentation by Gov. William B. Umstead of awards in the 1953 Town and Country Church Development Program.

The governor will present cash awards and certificates to the 10 rural churches in the state making the most progress during the period April 1, 1953 to April 1, 1954. The first place church will be named "Rural Church of the Year" in North Carolina and will compete with winners from 12 other Southern states for the title, "Rural Church of the Year in the South".

L. R. Harrill, state 4-H Club leader and chairman of the program in North Carolina, said a total of \$950 in cash, plus valuable certificates of merit will be presented in the special exercises.

Last year Pitt County's tiny Red Oak Christian Church won the North Carolina contest and \$500. In all, more than 200 churches participated in that contest.

The Town and Country Church Development Program is sponsored jointly by Emory University, Atlanta, and the Sears-Roebuck Foundation, in an effort to promote progress and development of the thousands of rural churches in the South. Winning churches are selected on the basis of "which

did the most with what they had." The presentation ceremony will take place at 11 a. m., June 8, in William Neal Reynolds Coliseum on the State College campus.

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Mr. J. C. Lynd, Dixie-Home Stores, will be at the Oak Park Motor Inn, Waynesville, N. C. on Wednesday, June 2, for interviews, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 9 P. M.

Flowers Sell By Weight

ITHACA, N. Y. (AP)—Flowers it isn't the color that determines the weight, say the experts.

Arthur Leach of Cornell University, has a machine that grades flowers by weight. Patterned after the grader, the gadget has dozen flowers on board.

The machine makes standard grades—special, extra, first—which means to the grower it's not to be er. Previously each grower had the blooms according to individual system and had to regrade to standard.

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