

Farm Items

By Agricultural Agents

Many garden growers are beginning to experience trouble with tomato plants. The bottom leaves begin to turn yellow, curl up and eventually turn brown. Also some brown spots are found on newer leaf growth. This is one of the early blight diseases that attacks tomatoes when you have showers and it dries off shortly thereafter. Growers that want to save the plants should start a spray program on a ten day interval. Materials to use include Benlate 50 W, Dyrene 50 W, Brans 75 W or Maneb TZN 80 W. Good coverage of the leaf area is essential for control. These materials protect the new growth and will not cure the disease.

Large numbers of farmers in Hoke County have been having problems with weather fleck or ozone damage. It is caused by a high concentration of ozone in the air and is most often found when weather conditions are warm, hazy, overcast skies or from air pollution from heavily industrialized areas. The symptoms first appear as very small black spots, pinhead size or smaller. Within three days the spots become brown and then turn white. In some infestations one half or more of the leaves may be affected. Also in severe infestations the entire leaf becomes dried and worthless. When weather conditions are right for fleck to appear it

is usually worse on plants which are showing the effects of deficient or excessive quantities of nitrogen. No varieties have resistance to weather fleck but some show more tolerance than others.

Researchers in the Dept. of Biological and Agricultural Engineering have developed a new cross-flow curing system which could further increase the efficiency of handling and curing tobacco.

The key to the system is a new container design which enables horizontal cross-flow air movement, for lifthandling and stacking to increase capacity within the curing structure. The large containers held five to ten times the capacity of bulk racks and may be filled on a mechanical harvester or by hand. Containers can be stacked three or four high in the barn. A curing chamber 16 ft. long having two rows of containers stacked 12 feet high could cure up to 12 acres of tobacco per season. The cross flow system is designed for greater economy in curing. By maintaining the air flow distance through the tobacco at four feet or less, curing time is reduced and leaf quality enhanced. Preliminary estimates indicate that fuel savings could potentially be as high as 40 per cent. Some of these techniques may also be applicable to current bulk curing systems.



SALES AWARD—Ronald Baucum (on right) accepts his award from B. C. Moore manager Dan Powers for achieving the largest overall percentage increase in the North Carolina district during the store's recent sale. Baucum, manager of the menswear department, received the manager of the week award.

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BAPTIST YOUTH — Mrs. Shelley Foster greets three Vacation Bible School students. Pictured on the left is Carol Ann McGee, Melynee Morgan, in the bus, and Jeffrey Kolb. The First Baptist Church school will run through this week.



FLAG-DAY—Bobby Gurrie, president of local camp 118, Woodmen of the World, presented Mayor Pro Tem Graham Clark with a flag Monday in observance of Flag Day.

Want To Study Art? It's Easy In Library

By Jim Reese

Ever wonder why Van Gogh cut off his ear? Or which artist introduced Andrew Wyeth to egg tempera?

The answers to these questions can be found at your Hoke County Library. Every library in the Sandhill Regional Library System has an abundant variety of resources for those who want to study art. Anyone who says he can't draw a straight line should read "Anyone Can Paint," by Arthur Zindenberg, and see just how simple it is to start a hobby that is relaxing and rewarding at any age.

If craft work is your thing, and you would like to turn it into a money-making operation, then you should read Marquerite Ickis's, "Handicrafts For Pleasure and Profit." Should you need a book the library doesn't have, every effort will be made to obtain a copy from a member library or from the State Library.

The County Libraries have a copy of "Norman Rockwell, Illustrator," by Arthur L. Guptill, and it's bound to bring back memories for those who enjoyed Rockwell's covers for the *Saturday Evening Post*. The book spans thirty years and 240 issues of *Post* covers that he illustrated, not excluding all the other work Mr. Rockwell did during the period. Young and old alike should find the book interesting in that it documents a period of time that Americans have come to love and remember as the "Good Ole Days."

The libraries also have a variety of film-strips on the masters of art, and some include narrative recordings to follow the film strip.

When a smallpox epidemic decimated London in the 18th century, persons living near the coffee-roasting plants escaped the disease, and physicians attributed this to the coffee's "protective" fumes. Subsequently, coffee was used in sickrooms as a disinfectant, the National Geographic Society says.

For those with a noticeable hole in the wall, or just a blank space to fill, the county libraries have framed reproductions of great works of art that can be checked out for six-week periods. Reproductions of various sizes representing a variety of art periods are available throughout the system. You might even find the self-portrait that Van Gogh painted right after he cut off his ear!

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