

# Garden/Farm



## Farm Focus

by Richard Mellon  
Extension Livestock Agent  
Banks Wannamaker  
Extension Field Crops Agent

### FARM SAFETY

Every year about this time we start hearing stories about people getting hurt harvesting crops. The wide diversity of mechanical harvesters used can cause some confusion at times.

However, if we would all use some common sense and just be careful this fall harvest season could be our safest yet. There are several rules you should always follow when using mechanical harvesting equipment. One that is very important is to always know how to correctly operate and maintain complex farm machinery. Study your owner's or operator's manual carefully.

Keep all shielding in place. The shield was put there for a reason. Sure shields and covers can get in the way sometimes while a machine is being worked on.

However, they should always be replaced if worn or broken and kept on the equipment for maximum protection.

A common factor in most harvesting accidents is a PTO left running. Always remember to cut the machine off before putting your hands anywhere near moving parts.

In past days when machines had hand-cranked or hard starting engines you might could understand why an operator was reluctant to turn a machine off. With today's equipment, however, that is not a problem.

Also, it seems PTO's have a tendency to just jump into gear if the machine is left running. So, remember and cut it off to start with.

Another factor related to farm accidents is a lapse in attention by equipment operators. Work breaks

with refreshments can help break the monotony of a long work day. Keeping a close watch for obstacles and low power lines can also go into this category.

Two final factors to remember come in children and clothing. First, a farm implement is no place to baby sit. Don't allow children or non-workers to ride on equipment while it is in operation. Second, always wear appropriate clothing for the job and conditions. Good shoes and well-fitting clothing can help a great deal in preventing farm accidents.

Just remember, accidents happen often enough, don't do anything to help them along this farm season.

### PECAN INSECTS

Several Hoke County residents have noticed the activities of pecan twig girdlers. These insects are active from the middle of September through the middle of October. The female pecan twig girdler usually causes the most problems.

She in effect girdles the limbs and twigs. When she girdles the twig she also lays 10-20 eggs on it. The twig then falls to the ground with the eggs hatching in 2-3 weeks. The larvae then crawl around on the ground and burrow into it for the winter. The next September those larvae emerge as adult beetles starting the cycle over.

The best known control for the beetle is cleaning up any girdled twigs around pecan trees and burning them. The purpose to that would be to kill the eggs before they hatch. One particular limitation is that the beetle can also use hickory trees as a host. Therefore, control of the beetle might be hard if there are any woods close to your pecan trees.



**VEGETABLES FOR THE NEEDY** -- Members of the Sandhills Youth Center "I Can" Alumni Association gathered produce from the Center's garden they cultivate and gave it to the Hoke County Department of Social Services to give to needy families of the county. They harvested enough to fill 50 large bags. In the garden are, L.R. Sammy Green, J.P. Smith, Sr., Center program director, Joe Nash, president of the "I Can" Alumni Association, and Tom Olsen, the Center's rehabilitation director. Two other Center residents -- Sam Chappell and Ricky Blackwelder -- also helped prepare and deliver the produce to the Social Services Department but they were in the Center kitchen when this picture was taken the day of the delivery, October 6, helping set up the produce for loading. They later joined the others for the trip to the Social Services Department in Raeford. The Center residents gave a load of produce from the garden last spring also to the needy. The gardening is carried out with the technical help of the Hoke County Agricultural Extension Service. "I Can" is a motivational training course given for residents of the Center periodically during each year.

### HELPING PEOPLE TO LIVE WITH



Ellen Willis  
Home Economics Extension Agent

#### Schedule

Thursday, October 21, 1982, 7:30 p.m. - Area Meeting - Mildouson, Phillipi and North Raeford Extension Homemakers Clubs.

#### Hint

Plants love the humid atmosphere in the bathroom if there is enough light.

#### FIREPLACE

A fireplace may look cozy, but most of the time it won't provide much warm air to your house. In fact, most fireplaces suck out more warm air than they radiate back in. Even though they make a room

feel warm while they're burning -- most of the heat from the fire goes up the chimney.

And the fire is using warm air inside the room to burn. But there are a couple of types of fireplaces on the market that actually do help heat your home and, therefore, reduce fuel costs.

If you have an existing fireplace, you can install glass doors in front of the fire to keep indoor air from going out.

## Hoke Agricultural Extension News

by Willie Featherstone, Jr.  
County Extension Chairman

### FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forest management is an excellent investment. Returns of up to 40% annual compound interest can be earned depending on soil quality, tree species, stand conditions, local markets, and availability of financial timber management incentives.

These financial incentives include cost-share programs such as the N.C. Forest Development Program and the federally funded Forestry Incentives Program. These programs currently reimburse up to 60% of the total cost of reforestation and certain other timber management practices.

Federal tax laws also favor the timber growth. A 10% investment credit and 7 year write off of reforestation expenses is particularly attractive. In addition, income from the sale of standing timber owned for more than 12 months should qualify as long-term capital gains for federal tax purposes. The long-term capital gain exclusion allows 60% of the gain to be excluded from taxable income. Timber may be held for investment or for use in a trade or business and still qualify for capital gains treatment if sold properly.

Property tax relief is also available to owners of managed timberland. To qualify, the land must be individually owned, soundly managed, 20 acres or larger unless part

of a farm, and be the owners residence or owned for 4 years before application is made for forestry present use property tax relief. The county tax assessor can provide information on Hoke County's prevailing forestry present use rates.

Pending timber shortages which will increase the value of timber combined with the financial incentives available make forest management one of the best long-term investments for landowners. Owners of forest land cannot afford not to manage their timberland. For more information on these and other financial incentives, contact Willie Featherstone at the Hoke County Extension office.

### Extension Aims

#### New Tax Laws

Thursday, October 21, 7:30 p.m. the Extension Homemakers Family Resource Management County and Club Program of Work Chairman are sponsoring a discussion on The New Tax Laws and also insurance.

See you at the Lester Building, Thursday, October 21, 7:30 p.m.

**VOTE  
DEMOCRATIC  
Nov. 2nd**

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