

Garden/Farm



HOME GROWN -- This garden patch by the railroad tracks near Arabia is growing cabbage and other vegetables. Growing at home saves on groceries in these times of high prices, and many people who have the land for it are doing it. The average garden can save a family of four \$800 per year.

Farm Focus

by Richard Melton, Extension Livestock Agent
Banks Wannemaker, Extension Field Crops Agent

FALL IS FOR PLANTING TREES, SHRUBS, LAWNS, BULBS

In selecting bulbs to plant this fall, the first rule is: Don't skimp! Six of a kind is the minimum for a worthwhile cluster. 12 is better, and 24 is better yet.

Plant for mass color and capitalize on effect. Select both early and late blooming varieties to extend the blooming period as long as possible. Consider interplanting varieties of the same color but different blooming dates to accomplish this.

ROOT PRUNE NOW FOR TRANSPLANTING IN WINTER

Young trees and shrubs you intend to move this winter should be root-pruned now. Force a spade into the ground all the way around the plant about 18 inches from the trunk.

This procedure cuts the roots and induces new feeder roots to

form closer to the plant. With partially formed new feeder roots, plants suffer less during the process of transplanting. Keep all root-pruned plants well watered until transplanting time in December or January.

BLOSSOM END ROT

This may seem to be an odd time to mention this tomato problem, but now's the time to deal with it.

Blossom end rot is caused by a calcium deficiency in the soil. Calcium is supplied to the soil by applying recommended amounts of needed lime. And, of course, the best way to find out if and how much lime you need is to **soil sample**. Do this soon so you don't have any blossom end rot problem next year.

NEW BULLETIN:

Your Extension Service has located an interesting bulletin entitled "Estimating Yield of a Soybean Field Before Harvest,"

which is published by Iowa State University. Anyone desiring this information please contact our office.

SAFETY FIRST THIS FALL

Rushing to harvest a crop may be the only way to save it, but be sure that you are not rushing headlong into an accident.

There are two major types of harvest accidents -- those involving machinery and those involving flowing grain. Machinery hazards involve both moving machinery and power take off and auger dangers.

A common accident, which has already occurred with one of our farmers in Hoke County this year, involves a combine or other harvester that is plugged. Be positive that the machine is completely shut off when working in or around your equipment. You can always turn the machine back on, but you can't replace an arm, hand, or a life.

BUYING FIREWOOD

With cooler evenings here, a lot of people are thinking about purchasing firewood for the winter. Purchased firewood can be much cheaper than oil or electric heating.

The legal measure of sale for firewood in North Carolina is a cord. This is equivalent to a stack of wood 4 ft. by 4 ft. by 8 ft., or 128 cu. ft. This volume includes both wood and air space.

Some people sell by a face cord, which is 4 ft. by 8 ft. by the length of the wood. A pick-up load is usually about 1/2 cord, however, a truck might hold as little as 1/4 cord or as much as 3/4 cord.

You can easily measure your stacked firewood to see if you have what you paid for. The delivered price for a cord of split hardwood usually ranges between \$80 and \$90.

Hardwoods such as oak and hickory are more dense than pines; you get more heat from a cord of

hardwood.

However, pine can be burned satisfactorily in a fireplace or stove, and is worth using if the price is right.

A cord of oak contains about 24 million BTU's, whereas a cord of pine contains 20 million BTU's.

Another thing that affects the heat you get from the wood is its moisture content. If wood is wet you use some of the heat content to dry the wood. Buying seasoned wood is recommended, or drying split wood for at least 3 months before burning it.

If you don't have access to any woodland, you can save money by buying firewood in 5 to 16 foot lengths and cutting and splitting it yourself. A growing number of loggers in the area will deliver this way.

Your local Agricultural Extension Service has additional information on selecting and burning firewood. Please come by or call us at 875-3461.

SMOKE DETECTOR

Just because you've installed a smoke detector doesn't mean it warns your family of fire in the house. Smoke detectors take regular testing to be sure they'll do the job if necessary.

One way to check the detector is to hold a candle six inches under it. For some detectors, you let the flame burn; for others, you put out the flame and let the smoke drift toward the detector. Check directions that came with your detector for exact instructions.

Within 20 seconds, the alarm should sound. Put the flame out -- or fan the smoke away -- so stop the alarm.

This method of checking is more dependable than pressing the "test button" found on many older smoke detectors. The button may only activate the warning buzzer and not tell you if the detector is working.

HELPING PEOPLE TO LIVE WITH CHANGE

CHANGE

Ellen Mills
Home Economics Extension Agent

Schedule

Thursday, November 11, 1982, 2:30 p.m. - Allendale-Antioch Extension Homemakers Club Meeting.

Hint

For best flavor with canned vegetables, boil liquid until reduced by half, add vegetables, and heat quickly. Do not boil again.

WOMEN AND PENSION PLANS

Generally, women don't receive as much in pension benefits as men. The reasons: women in the labor force are more likely to work part-time, are more likely to be working for a small company, and are more likely to be in low paying jobs.

Women in employer-paid pension plans usually end up getting

about half as much as men because of shorter service and lower earnings. And inflation can eat up those benefits in short order. Women counting on spouse's pension plan may have some surprised, too.

Women may be left without any pension income if the husband dies before reaching retirement age or if he failed to choose the survivor annuity option at retirement. Pension plans usually don't cover divorced wives either.

BEST DRY CLEANING RESULTS

Having your clothes dry cleaned by a professional may be well worth the money on occasion. This service is helpful when you want a professionally pressed look; or have limited time for clothing care; or when a stain is on a garment that can't be washed.

Keep in mind that you get best results by taking clothes to the cleaners promptly when they become soiled or stained. Aged stains are more difficult and sometimes impossible to remove.

Tell the cleaner the fiber content of the garment -- and what the stain is, if you know. But don't expect miracles. Smoke damage, for example, may hide burn holes that will appear after cleaning takes the soot away. And in this case, the cleaner is not at fault. So when you need stains removed; want a professionally pressed look; or don't want to bother with cleaning clothes yourself -- try the services of a professional dry cleaner.

FIBER, COLOR AFFECTS CARPET'S WARMTH

To keep that basement family room -- or any cement-floored room

cozy and comfortable this winter, choose a carpet that looks, feels, and actually is warm. Some carpet fibers -- wool and acrylic especially, are good insulators and so make a warm carpet.

Nylon fiber does little to insure against cold. As you might expect, a thicker, more dense carpet has greater insulating value. Deep shag or pile construction will be warmer than a level loop weave. And a pad is important too, to insulate against cold.

Psychologically, you will feel several degrees warmer in a room carpeted in shades of red, rust, orange, yellow, gold or brown. These "warm" colors are excellent choices for basements as well as above-ground rooms with a northern exposure. So, keep thermal comfort in mind when shopping for carpet, particularly if it's for a cement-floored room or a room on the north side of your house.

Musical Comedy Being Played At Bordeaux

The Bordeaux Dinner Theatre of Fayetteville opened a family musical comedy, "Once Upon A Matress," Saturday.

The show will run through December 19, Wednesday through Sunday evenings with a matinee on November 28.

A gourmet buffet dinner is served before each evening performance.

Reservations may be made by telephoning 323-1114, any day, between noon and 6 p.m.

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Boston, Massachusetts	9.74	Columbia, South Carolina	6.16
Newark, New Jersey	9.10	Syracuse, New York	6.10
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	8.79	Pensacola, Florida	6.00
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	8.39	Birmingham, Alabama	5.90
Hartford, Connecticut	8.36	CP&L	5.73
Cleveland, Ohio	7.72	Gulfport, Mississippi	5.67
St. Petersburg, Florida	7.28	Wheeling, West Virginia	5.46
Tampa, Florida	6.79	Fairmont, West Virginia	5.41
Miami, Florida	6.74	Atlanta, Georgia	5.31
Savannah, Georgia	6.74	Cincinnati, Ohio	5.27
Washington, DC	6.52	Charlotte, North Carolina	5.01
Baltimore, Maryland	6.48	Roanoke, Virginia	4.98

Like the cost of almost everything else, the price you pay for electricity has gone up the past few years.

But it could have been a lot worse.

In fact, a survey of the average cost of residential service ranked CP&L 21st lowest out of 28 Eastern cities.

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