

## Hoke Soil & Water Conservation District

If you have turn rows adjacent to ditches, roads, and woods that aren't planted your farm needs field borders.

Many tobacco and cotton farmers in Hoke County need 15-20 foot turn rows for their equipment that are usually disced and left exposed to erosion.

As if the erosion of topsoil from row drainage and turn rows themselves wasn't enough damage, this soil sediment usually winds up in field ditches. With equipment costs constantly going up for cleaning out ditches or even discing the turn rows, this can be a very costly practice after a period of time.

Besides the cover that umbrellas the turn rows from the tiny "bonds," field borders help filter sediment from row drainage. Other advantages include firmer travel ways, help prevent "maring" in wet seasons, food and cover for wildlife, and looking neat to the eye.

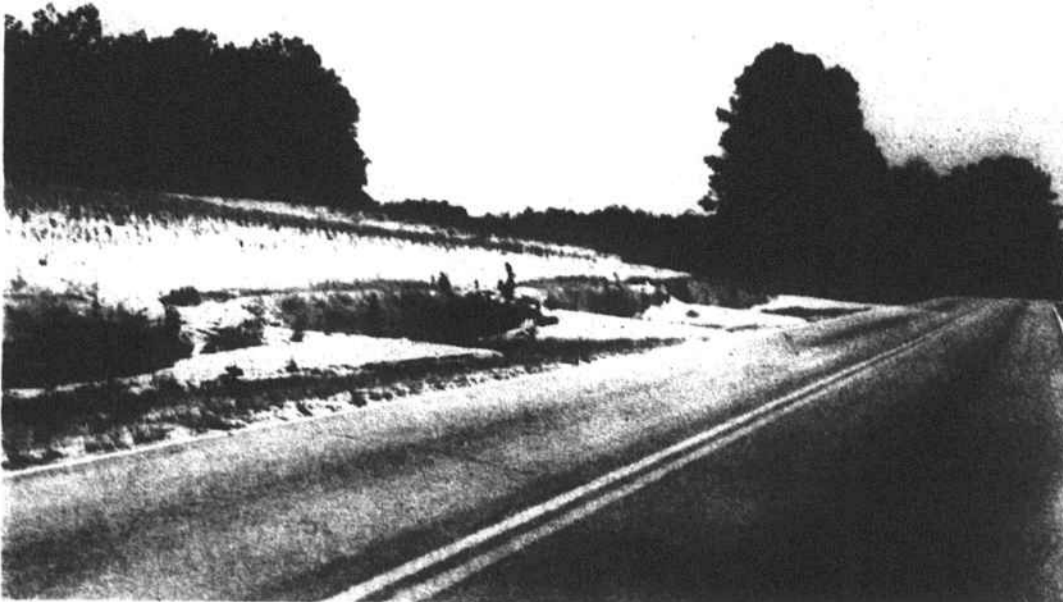
To establish field borders, first you should contact your county SCS Conservationist to help you with seed selection for soil types and minor grading if needed.

Often in the case of spoil spreading from ditch construction, some grade work will be needed to guard against the spoil silting in the ditch. Then, you should contact

the ASCS office for cost-share help. They will pay a good percentage of the costs for grading, liming, fertilizing, and seeding of field borders.

The best time for field border establishment is September through November. Area should be limed (2 ton/ac.), fertilized (10-10-10 1,000 lb./ac.), and disced thoroughly, seeding according to recommendations, and mulched with straw (80 bales/ac.)

There will be some maintenance such as fertilizing occasionally on sandy soils and moving to prevent weeds, but the benefits far outweigh the costs. Here again our saying "Conservation Pays" holds true.



**EROSION** -- Sand deposits along this road ditch, which were formed by the erosion from one rainstorm, are a result of a lack of control measures.

## Bill Cameron Tapped For Leadership Program

Hoke County Board of Education Chairman William W. (Bill) Cameron, Rt. 3, Raeford, is one of 25 young farmers from five southern states selected for a pilot, two-year leadership development program at North Carolina State

University.

The program will be conducted by NCSU's Agricultural Extension Service with the aid of a \$250,000 grant from Philip Morris U.S.A.

Cameron is scheduled to attend 11 three-day seminars at NCSU and make study tours to Richmond Va., Washington and Brazil.

His first seminar will be Feb. 21-24. Topics to be covered on this occasion will include meeting procedures, problem solving, group interaction, critical thinking, principles of speech and southern literature. Cameron will also look at population changes in rural communities and simulate situations in which he has to allocate limited tax dollars to a variety of community needs.

Dr. W.D. Toussaint, director of the program, said its purpose is to give emerging rural leaders in the South an opportunity to broaden their knowledge of government,

economics, sociology, world affairs and the arts.

Cameron produces wheat, corn, soybeans and rye in addition to tobacco. He also has hogs and beef cattle.

Cameron was elected to the Hoke County Board of Education in 1978 and has served as its chairman since 1980. He is a former director of the Farm Bureau and a former secretary-treasurer of the Young Farmers Club.

He is a graduate of Hoke High School and the University of Tennessee.

Dr. Toussaint said nearly 100 farmers applied for one of the fellowships to participate in the leadership development program.

"We had a superb group of applicants," he said. "I was amazed at the diversity of their agricultural enterprises and their involvement in agricultural and community affairs."

## Farm Focus

by Richard Melton  
Extension Livestock Agent

### SAFETY WITH FARM ANIMALS

Animals have played a major role in agriculture through the centuries. They have served as beasts of burden, food sources, and even companions in some cases.

Many farmers have gotten their start in farming or been able to continue farming by producing hogs or the "mortgage lifters", as they were once called. Yet, very few people have ever viewed farm animals as being potentially dangerous.

Every year, however, they are involved in thousands of farm injuries, some of which are even fatal. Adhering to safe practices would eliminate most of these dangers.

Having and using adequate restraining and handling facilities is one practice which you should use. Don't try to "man handle" an animal with a great deal more muscle and bulk than you have. Also, you can be very surprised at how fast a large animal can move. So don't take chances, use the right equipment in good repair to work your farm animals.

Another important practice to

follow when working animals is to be calm and deliberate. Speak gently to them while you work them. Don't startle or abuse them. Many times if you do you will have a bigger problem on your hands than just working them.

A third practice to follow is to stay away from scared or angry animals. Sometimes you may happen on an animal acting strangely. Stay away from it whether it is your pet dog or some cuddly looking rabbit. You should always approach sick animals or ones with young very carefully also.

Proper training is another safe practice. Always know how to use any tools you will need. Don't allow your help to work any animal until they will know what they will be doing. Also, keep bystanders and children back at a safe distance.

There are just a few tips to help you next time you have to handle a horse, cow, or some other farm animal. Don't take for granted that everything will go right. Accidents do happen, but they don't have to. Not if you take the time to think about your job and do it right.

## FmHA Urging 'Crop Swap'

Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) State Director, Larry W. Godwin, is directing FmHA District Directors and County Supervisors throughout the state to encourage North Carolina farmers to seriously consider participating in the new Payment In Kind (PIK) or "crop swap" program.

Godwin, who just returned from a Department of Agriculture briefing in Washington, said he is "thoroughly convinced that the PIK program can go a long way toward solving surplus grain problems and easing the cost-price squeeze, while at the same time, holding down federal spending."

The meeting in Washington, Godwin said, was called by Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block. It included comments by the Secretary and detailed briefing by Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) Administrator Everett Rank and FmHA Administrator Charles W. Shuman, among others. ASCS committee members from North Carolina also attended the meeting.

"There is no doubt in my

mind," Godwin said, "that this innovative PIK Program can be of great benefit to North Carolina's farmers.

It can help reduce the need for operating capital, reduce interest costs, and hold production to a more realistic level this year and, if necessary, next year.

It can help relieve cash flow problems for many farmers and in the long run improve the general agricultural economy."

"I sincerely hope that every farmer will study the details of the new program with an open mind and determine its benefits before the end of the sign-up period, March 11," Godwin said.

## Rose Parish Named To UNC Dean's List

Rose Marie Parish of Rt. 1, Red Springs, has been named to the Dean's List at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for the fall semester.

She is the daughter of Vera Parish.

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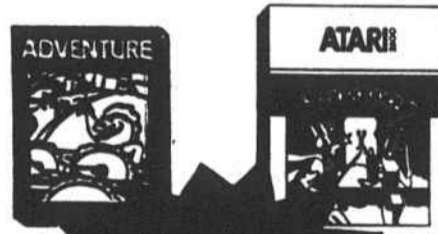


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