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Poultry Losses Not As Bad As In Past

Economic conditions are causing Duplin County poultry and swine producers more problems than the hot weather.

While the intense heat and humidity have caused some bird losses, the loss has been nothing like that of a few years ago because of housing improvements, Snodie Wilson, agricultural agent, said last week.

Wilson added, "We're losing some birds around the county, but it doesn't seem to be real bad. When you figure we have 6 to 7 million chickens and 3 to 3.5 million turkeys on feed, and you lose 15,000 in a week, that's not terribly bad when you consider the total number out there."

Keith Hinson with Watson Poultry of Rose Hill, said Friday was the worst day for heat and said his growers may have lost as many as 1,200 broilers. "But that's nothing like it used to be."

He noted the use of fogging systems and fans reduces potential losses considerably.

Joel Coleman of Carroll's Foods of Warsaw said the company lost 2,000 birds to heat last week. Most are now more accustomed to it and are not having an alarming problem right now.

"Economics is our worst problem," Coleman said. "Chicken and turkey prices are fluctuating wildly. Broilers dropped 7 cents in the last week. We have the same amount of birds as last year but the price isn't there. Apparently the housewives are eating less poultry. Pork has been at relatively low prices and may have cut into poultry consumption."

Coleman said the big chain stores are holding off on turkey orders. Normally, they place orders now for November and December, he added. He noted they may be

watching the government production reports, but added, "We can read them too, but we don't cut back production."

Hinson said broilers were 46½ cents a pound in New York last week. "We need 50 cents. Broilers went from 39 cents six weeks ago to 54 last week and now back down to 46½."

Hinson said the embargo on exports to Russia dumped a large number of broilers originally destined for Russia on the U.S. market and the market still hasn't recovered.

Wendell Murphy of Rose Hill, a swine producer, said the heat has not affected his operation as much as in prior years due to housing improvements and extensive use of foggers to spray moisture in the air to cool the animals and fans.

"We're operating in the black and it feels good. We were in the red so long it

feels good to break even. Housewives, though, are only buying pork as long as it's at bargain prices. The interest rate's just got to come down. The high rate is not only affecting the pocketbooks, it's affecting people's attitudes, making them cut back," Murphy emphasized.

"It will take a year to get things right in the swine business. Got 15 percent fewer, but demand's not strong," he said.

Wilson, along with the producers, said the heat increases production costs as the hogs and birds fail to eat properly and do not gain weight as they should. The heat also makes them more susceptible to disease.

When the thermometer hits 90 degrees, feed consumption drops and about all a bird can do is maintain weight, Wilson added. Last week's temperatures ranged from 90 to 95 degrees.



A BARBECUE SUPPER IN THE PINES was one of the featured events on opening night of the 1981 LIBERTY CART on Friday, July 17. The supper began at 6:30 p.m. and was provided by Sidney Blizzard of Beulaville. According to Director Rich Boyd, an estimated 945 persons attended the premier production with three senior citizens tour groups who attended on the governor's complimentary ticket program. Several dignitaries in the audience who were recognized prior to the performance included: Bill Bates - associate director of North Carolina Theater of the Arts; Randolph Umberger - playwright;

Benjamin Keaton - composer-arranger; most of the Duplin County Commissioners, Representative Doug Clark, Congressman Charlie Whitley, Judge Henry Stevens, and several other judiciary members from Duplin and surrounding counties. All of THE LIBERTY CART board members and James G. Kenan of Atlanta and Thomas Kenan of Chapel Hill were also present. Pre-show entertainment was provided by the Piney Forks String Band of Eden. THE LIBERTY CART will have performances Thursday thru Sunday evenings through August 23.

Warsaw Delays Action On Sewerage Bids

The Warsaw town board delayed action on bids for a waste water treatment plant until later this month because of the absence of Charles Joyner Jr., consulting engineer for the project.

The total of low bids for the project was \$1,980,270. When the engineering firm fee of about \$100,000 and the attorney fee of \$10,000 are added, the total would top the available \$2 million for the project by about \$100,000, according to board calculations. The engineering firm is McDavid Associates of Goldsboro and the

attorney, E.C. Thompson III of Warsaw.

Lowest general contract bid was \$1,758,000 from Miller Construction Co. of Wilmington. Low bid on the electrical work was \$222,270 from Roanoke Electric Co.

Funding for the project will come from an EPA grant of \$1.5 million, a state grant of \$250,000 and \$250,000 from a \$400,000 bond issue approved by Warsaw voters two years ago, according to Alfred Herring, town clerk.

The remaining \$150,000 of the bond issue was designated for a large sewerline

main for about one-fourth of the town, and sewer lines to serve an annexed area. Warsaw must pay 100 percent of this cost. The sum is believed insufficient for the planned work.

The cost estimates were made several years ago for EPA, and inflation has increased costs more than anticipated, officials said.

Town maintenance supervisor, Thurmon Gaster, asked if a stand-by generator estimated to cost \$45,000 and if a \$50,000 laboratory, required by the state, could be eliminated. Elimination of

the two would cut the total cost by \$100,000, but would only cut Warsaw's share of the cost by \$12,500, still leaving Warsaw short of local funds for the total project.

The board approved \$3,213 to purchase a motor for the sewer plant. Sand had destroyed the old motor. The town has been having problems with sand seeping into the sewer lines and getting into the treatment plant equipment, severely damaging some of it.

Roy Barwick was reappointed to the town ABC board for a two-year term.

Rose Hill Approves Home Rehabilitation Contracts

The Rose Hill town board approved rehabilitation contracts on five homes in the Yellowcreek area of northwestern Rose Hill.

The work will be part of a \$318,000 Department of Housing and Urban Development home and utilities improvement.

Approved were contracts of \$5,996 on the Emma Newkirk home, \$7,891 on the Ruth Alderman home, \$7,691 on the Clara Bethune home, \$6,673 on the Eva Newkirk home and \$14,499 on the Perley Sloan home. However, the Sloan home con-

tract exceeds the HUD allowance by \$2,499. Sloan will borrow the difference from a local bank.

The work is expected to start this week. Thirty-five more homes are scheduled for improvements, but the board plans to let the contracts over a period of time to avoid tying up a large number of contractors at one time.

The board hired the law firm of Wells, Blossom and Burrows on a fee of \$55 to per hour for legal work in connection with the HUD project. Low bidder was Bruce Robinson of Wallace at

\$35 per hour. Commissioner Clayton Herring Jr. said that although the Robinson bid was lower, the fact the other law firm has been handling the town's legal affairs gives it a familiarity that should enable it to do the work in much less time than one unfamiliar with the details.

Bids for a new town maintenance building will be advertised for opening at noon July 27. The board received only two bids from its initial advertisement. State law requires at least three bids for a construction project on the first call.

When a second bid call must be issued because of insufficient bids, a board may let a contract even if only one bid is submitted.

The board will open bids on the proposed Rose Hill water system project at 2 p.m. Aug. 6.

The board decided to send letters to all residents informing them the garbage collection service would not enter any business to pick up garbage and that all garbage must be in appropriate containers placed in designated collection spots. Garbage is picked up twice a week.

GED Education Fees Dropped, Continuing Ed. Fees Increased

Fees for courses taken by individuals leading to a high school diploma or its equivalent have been dropped within North Carolina's community college system.

James Sprunt Technical College, a member of the community college system, tests approximately 100 each year who are seeking high school diplomas, said Joe Tillman, counselor. According to Tillman, the fee to take the general education development tests (GED) for the equivalent of a high school diploma remains at \$5. However, individuals often need preparation for the GED and the fee for this assistance, originally \$5 per course, will

no longer be charged, he said. Preparation for the GED is offered through the JSTC learning lab by means of self-instruction with guidance and assistance from lab instructors and through continuing education extension courses.

The community college system also announces an increase in continuing education course fees. The new per course fee is \$8 for all extension classes offered in the community college system. However, the fee does not apply to courses taken by individuals pursuing a high school diploma. The new rate became effective July 13, said Joe Jones,

director of the JSTC continuing education department. More than 300 continuing education courses are offered throughout Duplin County each year. Jones

said. And these courses include a variety of educational opportunities ranging from oil painting to real estate.

Phillips said they will place advertisements in journals and check with other school boards.

Guy has been assistant superintendent in charge of personnel. Guy has not indicated whether he will seek the superintendent's position permanently.

Guy School Chief

The Duplin County Board of Education confirmed appointment of L.S. Guy as interim superintendent to succeed C. H. Yelverton, who died last week.

The board named Graham Phillips and Patricia Broadrick to seek and review applications for a superin-

[Editor's Note. The above was written for future publication in the Dictionary of North Carolina Biography by John B. Flowers of Durham, a research historian for the N.C. Division of Archives and History in Raleigh. He is a native of Mount Olive and author of two books and a score of scholarly articles on North Carolina history.]

Jessie Grimes, (6 Feb. ca. 1781 - 15 Mar. 1866) jurist, signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence, was born in Duplin County, the son of Sampson and Bethsheba Winder Grimes, of a family traditionally accepted to have descended from Robert Grimes of Lower Norfolk County, Virginia, who arrived in America by 1647. Jesse Grimes left home in 1817 and went to Washington County, Alabama. He moved to Texas in 1827 and located temporarily on the San Jacinto River in what is now Harris County, about ten miles above its junction with Buffalo Bayou. In the fall of 1827, he settled on the league of land to which he received title from the Mexican government in 1831. The settlement in which he located early became known as Grimes Prairie and is in present-day Grimes County.

On March 21, 1829, the Ayuntamiento of San Felipe de Austin elected Grimes first lieutenant of the First Company, Battalion of Austin. He was elected "sindico procurador," precinct of Viesca, Jurisdiction of Austin, Department of Bexar, on December 13, 1830, and on December 11, 1831, one of "regidores" of the Ayuntamiento. The First Convention of

Texas at San Felipe in October, 1832, created a central Committee of Safety and Vigilance with sub-committees for the various districts. Grimes was not a member of the Convention, but on October 5, he was put on the sub-committee as one of the representatives from the District of Viesca. On the following day he was appointed treasurer of the district.

On November 5, 1835, Grimes was seated by the Consultation at San Felipe as a delegate from Washington Municipality. By that body he was elected, on November 14, a member of the General Council of the Provisional Government of Texas.

James Hass, elected judge of the municipality, reported to the Convention at Washington on March 1, that in the election held February 1, 1836, Grimes and three others had been elected to represent Washington Municipality. The number of votes polled was not stated. These gentlemen were all seated on March 1.

While Grimes was attending the convention, his 18-year-old son, Alfred Calvin Grimes, fell at the Alamo on March 6, 1836, and thus earned a hero's place in the annals of Texas.

On June 3, 1836, Grimes enrolled a company of volunteers "for a tour of three months service in the Texas Army, East Side of the Brazos River, Washington County."

When Lamar was collecting material for a history of Texas he intended to write, he obtained an account of the Convention from Judge Grimes, written sometime in the year 1838.

Duplin Native A Founder Of Republic Of Texas: His Son Died At Alamo

Grimes was a member of the Senate of the First Congress of the Republic, October 3, 1836 to September 25, 1837, from the District composed of Washington County. He was a member of the House of Representatives in the Sixth and Seventh Congresses from Montgomery County, November 1, 1841, to December 8, 1843. Robert M. Williamson's seat in the Senate was declared vacant January 4, 1844, and Judge Grimes succeeded him January 22, representing the district composed of Washington, Montgomery and Brazos Counties in the Eighth Congress. He was re-elected to the Ninth and final Congress, which ended June 28, 1845. He represented the Ninth District, composed of Montgomery County, in the Senate of the First and Second Legislatures, February 14, 1846, to November 5, 1849, and he was in the Senate of the Third Legislature from the Thirteenth District, composed of Montgomery, Walker and Grimes Counties, November 5, 1849 to November 3, 1851, and was likewise a Senator in the Fourth Legislature, November 3, 1851 to November 7, 1853. He was not a member of the Fifth Legislature, but was a member of the Senate of the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Legislatures, November 5, 1855, to November 4, 1861.

In the Act of the Legislature of April 6, 1846, which created Grimes County, Texas, it is not stated for whom it was named, though a Texas historian in 1879 stated it was named in honor of Judge Jesse Grimes, which seems obvious. Judge Grimes was first

married to Martha Smith, who was born in Alabama, August 4, 1789, and died in that state in 1824. Children of this union were Robert Henry, who married Elizabeth Highsmith; Harrie Elizabeth; Albert Calvin, born December 20, 1817; Rufus; Lucinda, who died in childhood; Jacob; Mary Jane, who died in childhood; William Ward, who died in childhood; and Martha Ann, twin of William Ward Grimes.

In 1826, Judge Grimes was married to a young widow, Mrs. Rosanna Ward Britton, who had married at the age of sixteen and whose husband had drowned shortly after their marriage. She was a daughter of Francis and Mary Ward. Their children were Gordon, who died in early childhood; Harvey; Leonard, who died in childhood; Helen, who married Robert Love; Emily, who was twice married, first to John Bowen, and after his death to George Gannaway; and Nancy Grimes, who married Charles H. Ehlinger.

The year of Judge Grimes' birth on his gravestone, 1788, is obviously in error by several years, as he is mentioned in the will of his grandfather, Hugh Grimes, written in Duplin County, North Carolina, on April 2, 1781. Both Judge and Mrs. Grimes, who was born October 31, 1803, and died December 6, 1871, were buried in the John McGinty cemetery about ten miles east of Navosota. The cemetery was eventually abandoned. The State of Texas had the remains of Judge and Mrs. Grimes exhumed and on October 17, 1929, reinterred in the State Cemetery at Austin.