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Effects Of Blight

Cherokee Extension Chairman Jack Earley holds a corn leaf in a Martin's Creek field hit by the blight, which shows up first as the elongated splashes on the green leaf. The leaf

behind it has already withered and turned brown due to the blight; the immature ear of corn is also showing the blight spots and will not fully develop. (Staff Photo)

Blight Hits 90 Per Cent Of Corn

Southern Leaf Blight of corn has hit in both Cherokee and Clay counties, Extension agents saying 90 per cent of the crop in the two counties is affected. "It's pretty well universal over the county - I'd say 90 per cent of the corn is affected with it," says Clay County Extension Chairman P. W. England. He said in order to utilize the damaged crop as silage, some Clay dairymen are already cutting corn. They would ordinarily not have cut until late in September, he added.

The blight "has been diagnosed in all sections of Cherokee County", according to Extension Chairman Jack Earley, "with approximately 90 per cent of the corn crop affected in varying degrees." Earley said corn hit by the blight can still be used for silage and harvesting can be delayed until the point when only 25 per cent of the leaf area is still green.

Both Earley and England said if the blight hits a field early, destroying the leaves on the stalk, the ears will not fully develop and yields will be reduced.

"The ears just don't fill out because they don't get the nutrients from the leaves, which have died due to the blight," England explained. "Coupled

with the dry weather we had, it means we are going to be short on our corn crop - I don't know exactly how much. "Most of our people will cut down on the number of animals they're keeping", he continued. "They will be using milo and other crops to feed with, wheat and oats and even soybeans."

Earley suggested that if a corn field hit by blight seems too bad to harvest, some farmers could profit by turning in beef cows or larger pigs on the field to eat the corn.

He warned, however, that the animals should be watched closely during the first week of feeding in a blighted field as a secondary fungus infection that can be poisonous sometimes occurs.

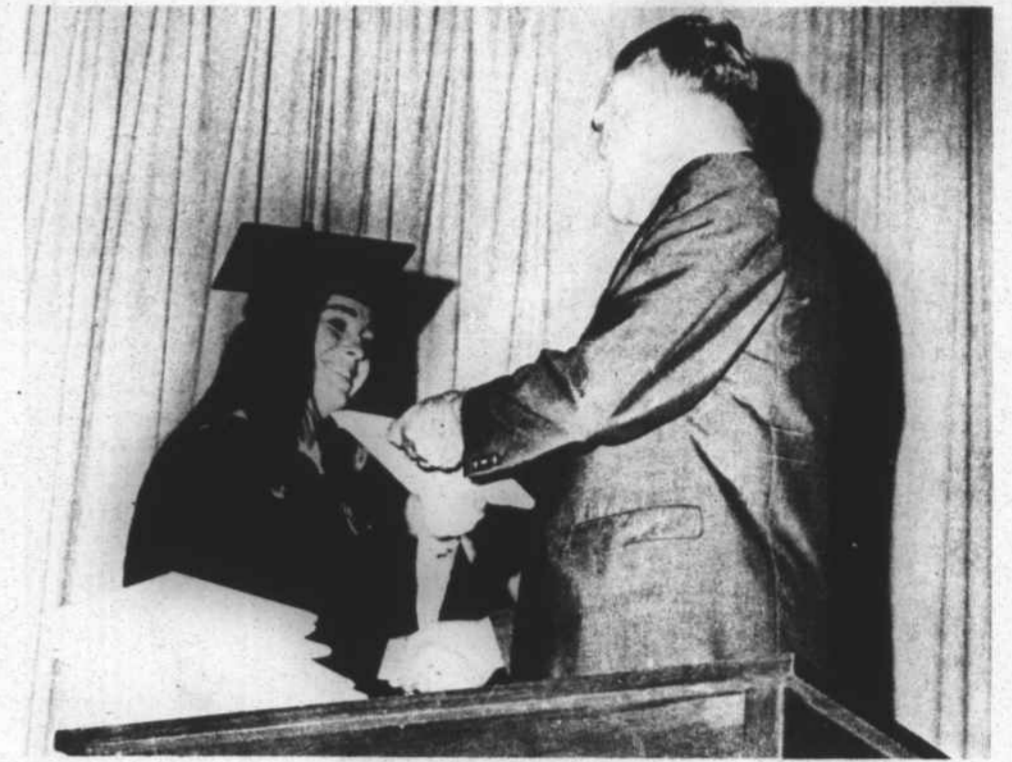
According to a fact sheet released by N.C. State University in Raleigh, the blight is caused by a new race of fungus which can travel on the wind for several miles. Once it hits a corn plant it can completely dry up the leaves in 12 to 14 days.

Companies which produce seed for the nation's corn crop have moved men and equipment to other countries and hope to have blight-resistant seed corn

ready for next year's planting.

Corn stocks nationally are the lowest they have been in years and economists

expect the shortage of corn to mean higher costs of producing pork, poultry, eggs, milk and beef.



Wins Degree

Claudia Schuyler of Murphy is shown receiving a degree in secretarial science from Tri-Tech President Holland McSwain in graduation ceremonies held last week at Peachtree Elementary School. (Staff Photo)

Tri-Tech Graduates 87 At Peachtree

Tri-County Technical Institute held graduation exercises for 87 students at Peachtree Elementary School on Thursday night of last week.

The speaker was Dr. Amos Abrams, editor emeritus of North Carolina Education magazine. Dr. Abrams emphasized the "second chance" of technical schools, offering those who need them a chance to learn skills that are not offered in the public school system and thereby find suitable employment.

Holland McSwain, Tri-Tech president, presented diplomas to the following for completion of one-year courses.

Auto Body Repair - Kendall R. Adams, David C. Moss, Carl M. Thomas.

Auto Mechanics - Jerry D. Hunsucker, Jackie F. Nichols, Tommy E. Phillips, Lane Thomason, Harold D. Stiles.

Brick & Block Masonry - Delmar Doran, Jackie Ellis, Jessie Ellis, Dean Haigler, Lynn A. Holloway, Dan Lovingsood, Michael E. McGaha, Dwight R. Moss, Ab E. Radford, Frank M. Roper, Herman A. Stewart.

Cosmetology - Cheri Ann Baker, Jessie Irene Brickey, Hilda Louise Crisp, Debbie Ann Green, Margaret Ann Hall, Mildred D. Jordan, Ruth A. Murphy, Wanda Christine Ware.

Welding - Kenneth Blankenship, Billy English, Sheridan Hall, Dock B. McGaha, Jr., Boyce M. McLeymore, Richard Eugene

Pickens, Vincent Stewart, Teddy Jack Stiles, Roger D. West, Gary T. Wood.

Associate Degrees in Applied Science were given the following for completion of the two-year course in executive secretarial science - Paggy Joe Gibson, Frances Jean Lee, Bobbie Gay Mason, Sandra Lea McClure, Brenda Sue Parker, Judy Gail Parker, Patterson, Claudia Alice Schuyler, Patricia A. Swanson Elliot, Lula Jean Tola.

Certificates in Law Enforcement Training went to: Samuel Paul Bowers, Charles Ray Davidson, David E. Gregory, C.C. Howard, Frank Ledford, Bruce David Martin, Carl William McLean, Thomas Wilson Palmer, Larry Willis Sellers, Odis Harvey Sitton, William Lloyd Stroud, Paul Edward White.

The following received GED certificates, which are the equivalent of a high school diploma:

William H. Anderson, Vera Lee Buckner, Genevieve Cable, Marilyn A. Chastain, Carol Linda Coffey, Ruth H. Cook, Verna S. Davis, Janice B. Ely, Jerome F. Hampton, Carolyn J. Hembree, Carmen M. Holloway, Walter G. Hughes, Jerdie Mae Johnson,

Lois G. Jones, Ralph J. Nichols, Helen Louise Orr, Betty Lou Rowland, Elizabeth Evans Shields, Jewel Dean Shields, Brenda Sue Shook, Sandra L. Shook, Lily P. Sims, Anna B. Welch, Peggy Lee Welch, Judy C. White, Christine H. Worley.



Ray Sims

Democrats Name Sims Candidate

The Democratic Executive Committee of Cherokee County in a meeting Saturday night selected Ray Sims as the party's candidate for county commissioner in District 2.

The Democratic county convention back in June picked J.N. Boling of Murphy as the candidate for District 2 which includes, Murphy, Oregata, Hanging Dog and Grape Creek.

Boling, however, aid due to health reasons he would be unable to run or serve.

And Sims, a commissioner for the past four years, had not announced for the board of commissioners but was seeking the party's nomination as sheriff. Blain Stalcup won that nomination easily on the first ballot and Sims, as a resident of District 3, Peachtree and the western precincts, was later offered from the floor of the convention as a District 3 nominee.

The District 3 nomination also eluded him as Fred Sneed got the nod to run against incumbent Republican commissioner Jack Simmonds of Wolf Creek.

Democratic County Chairman Gary Kilpatrick said this week that Sims is now living in the Tomolia section and has accepted the call of the Executive Committee. He will oppose Jack Lovingsood, the GOP candidate in District 2.

Sims is a teacher at Hivasssee Dam School and a veteran of the Korean War. He is a member of the First Baptist Church of Murphy and served as a Boy Scout leader for several years.

Library Gets Hike In Grants

The Nantahala Regional Library was notified this week that its grant money has been increased.

Martha Palmer, regional librarian, said the official notice came from the N.C. State Library in Raleigh and is due to a raise in funds supplied by the three counties, which are then matched at a higher rate with federal money.

The Cherokee, Graham and Clay county commissioners this summer included in their budgets an increase for the library system of from 50 cents

to 75 cents per capita, based on the 1960 population figures.

Mrs. Palmer said the increase by the counties, which caused an increase in federal grants, showed up in the library's budget for 1970-71, which is \$61,781 up \$17,043 from last year's figure.

She said the increase in

funds will be used to expand the amount spent for books and periodicals and raise salaries of library personnel. It will also go for the bookmobile replacement fund, the building fund and for providing a special collection of books on Cherokee Indian history plus improving the service to the branch libraries.

Moonshine Liquor Seized In 2 Raids

Two Cherokee County men were arrested last week in raids by county and federal officers and charged with possession of untaxed moonshine liquor.

Cherokee Deputy Sheriffs Dude Radford and Virgil Hogsed and federal revenue agents Kolen Flack and Newton Plemmons of Bryson City made the raids.

Deputy Radford said the officers on Thursday went to the house trailer of Johnny

Jeff Brooks Named Atkinson Chairman

Republican Congressional candidate Luke Atkinson has announced the appointment of Jeff Brooks of Andrews as campaign manager of the Atkinson for Congress Campaign in Cherokee County.

In this capacity he will coordinate all phases of the Atkinson campaign in

Graham at Suit and confiscated four gallons of "white" liquor, charging him with possession.

On Saturday they raided the Wolf Creek home of J.N. McCann, finding a half-gallon of liquor and also a large rattlesnake, which the officers admitted dampened their enthusiasm for further searching.

Both men were booked for trial in federal court in Bryson City in November.

Cherokee County. Brooks is president and owner of Reece Motor Company in Andrews and has been with the company for the past 33 years. He is active in the Masons and the Shriners, and is past president of the Andrews Rotary Club.

Brooks is on the executive board of the Cherokee County Republican Party.

Atkinson commented on his choice, "Jeff's Business experience and good standing in the community make him greatly qualified to perform the duties required of a manager."

Patrol Car Flips, Officers Hurt

Two law enforcement officers were injured late Tuesday afternoon when their car, involved in a chase, left the road and overturned.

State Highway Patrolman Patt Miller, who was driving, suffered a head injury and is at Providence Hospital. Cherokee Deputy Sheriff Dude Radford got cuts and bruises and a whiplash neck injury but was allowed to go home.

Dr. Walter Mauney, the attending physician, said Trooper Miller "is very much

improved. He was in critical condition Tuesday night but today (Wednesday) is not on the critical list."

Dr. Mauney said the trooper has a concussion, apparently suffered when his head came in contact with the roof of the car when it overturned. He added that Miller may also have two cracked ribs.

Deputy Radford said the accident occurred on the gravel Wehuty Road in the Liberty section near the Tennessee state line as the two officers, in

Miller's patrol interceptor, pursued Jimmy Eller, 34, of Route 4, Murphy.

The deputy said there are three warrants out for Eller, charging him with trespassing, non-support and assault and the two officers were looking for him. They met him on the highway, turned around and were in pursuit with sirens and blue light flashing when a front tire apparently blew out.

"I heard a pop," Radford said, which he assumed was the tire blowing, just before their

car ran off the road in a right-hand curve and overturned. The wreck occurred about 3:45 Tuesday afternoon and the deputy estimated that they were about 150 to 200 feet behind Eller's vehicle.

Miller was knocked out and unconscious for several minutes, Deputy Radford said. Both men were wearing safety belts and shoulder harness.

Sheriff Claude Anderson and several other county and state officers went to the area in an effort to arrest Eller Tuesday night but were unable to apprehend him.

Miller's patrol car was heavily damaged and was towed in by Steve Dockery's wrecking service.



Visiting Experts

Shown judging the garden vegetables at the Cherokee County Agricultural Fair are, left to right, Carlos Russell, Towns County, Ga., agent; Ronald Atkinson, area farm management agent

from Georgia; Emmett Jordan, Fannin County, Ga. agent; R. C. Dikeman, former New York agriculture teacher. (Staff Photo)

Top Fair Prize Won By Texana

The judges toured the exhibit hall at the Cherokee County Agricultural Fair on Tuesday afternoon and awarded the top money prize to Texana Community Development Club.

The Texana exhibit, which won \$75, shows life in that community, with the new water

system towering over all.

The \$50 second prize went to the Marble Community Development Club for its exhibit.

In the Home Demonstration competition, the exhibit by Tomolia won the \$50 first prize money, Hayesville won second prize of \$25 and Martin's Creek won third prize of \$15.

In the 4-H exhibits, Pleasant Valley won the \$50 top prize, Peachtree Junior 4-H Club was the second prize winner of \$25 and Tomolia was third, winning \$15.

The local Future Farmers of America had the only entry in the Youth Club section and their exhibit was declared the winner of first prize, \$50.

The exhibit hall is open and there are rides and games by Georgia Amusements, the Fair to run through Saturday night.

The Fair last year was closed due to a near-brawl on the midway and Murphy Police Chief Pete Stalcup said this week he will assign uniformed officers to patrol the grounds until the Fair closes.

Facing Larceny Charge

Wesley Whitner, 40, of Route 5, Murphy was arrested last week on a charge of larceny by breaking and entering.

The arresting officer, Cherokee Deputy Sheriff Dude Radford, said Whitner is charged with breaking into the house of his grandmother, Mollie Whitener, and larceny of \$8.

Whitner is to be tried in Cherokee District Court on Sept. 8.



Top Exhibit

Judges at the Cherokee County Agricultural Fair are shown awarding the blue ribbon to the Texana exhibit. Left to right are O.G. Garland, area Extension agent; Ronald Atkinson,

farm management agent from Georgia; Mrs. Joe E. Terrell, Extension specialist from Asheville; Mrs. Steve Brogdon, a Fair worker who served as scorekeeper for the judges. (Staff Photo)