

**Perquimans Gardening**  
By Jean Winslow



Flower seeds from unopened packages labeled for 1979 can be used in the summer of 1980 if you store them properly.

Do not open the packet, and keep it in a jar where it is cool. HORTICULTURE MAGAZINE suggests this test for viability: put 10 seeds between moistened paper towels, and keep warm, about 70 degrees and moist. After a few days, check for germination. If signs of seedlings show in about two weeks, the seed is viable. Figure on your percentage of germination after this period. If, say, 5 of the 10 seeds germinated, double your thickness of sowing.

This is a good time to root cuttings of plants for bedding this spring. I have had a great deal of success this February with begonias and geraniums. Anyway, they look as if they are still alive.

I use a rooting compound like Rotoone, and make a hole in a flat of sand with a pencil, thrusting the stem in about

one-half an inch and carefully packing the sand around the base, trying not to dislodge the rooting compound.

Wait a couple of weeks, then check for rooting by gently applying an upward pressure. If roots are evident, wait another week at least before taking all the way out.

Lift the cutting gently with an old tablespoon or something about that size and transfer to a soil mixture of leaf mold or peat moss and potting soil. Place in the sun. Keep plants pinched back and rotate so they will grow evenly on all sides.

One of the great favorites in the area for base planting outside is the juniper family. Chinese junipers grow in a tall, conical shape and creeping junipers are of horizontal growth and are great as ground covers.

Junipers like full sun and a less-than-rich soil, but cannot handle "wet feet." They are fast growers. Phitzer junipers always grow larger than the five feet the book says, so

allow plenty of space. Hetzi, that big bluish one you see, can get out of bounds, so count on a spread of about 12 feet for each plant. Horizontal junipers have a spread of four or five feet, and range in height from the Blue Pacific and Creeping Blue Rug of maybe 6 inches to approximately 12 inches for the reliable Shore juniper. Ask your nurseryman if you are not sure.

Beware of bagworms, in junipers as you would all evergreens. The deodara cedar on the courthouse lawn in Hertford was killed by bagworms, and they are now working on the other.

On a large tree like that, a professional sprayer would apply some insecticide such as diazinon, malathion, or lead arsenate as the larvae emerge in spring, and then would spray again 10 days later to get anything crawling around the branches.

In a home planting, the bugs are easily picked off by hand and destroyed. But do try to be

observant and check before the plant gets sick.

Tip: prune junipers every year to keep in bounds, as they do not like to be heavily pruned but every four or five years.

As we leave February, the month of purification, confession of sin, error and shortcoming in the old pagan rites, we notice the "thaws" have more authority now since the sun's angle is beginning to give more heat.

So, as the soil warms just a little bit more, search and ye shall find crocuses, snowdrops, and winter aconites looking up at you. The squirrels will ignore you, as they are busy mating, and will scurry around your feet before they know you are there. Blue jays will change their tune to a more melodic two-note call (a blue jay melodic?), sparrows start to twitter after the winter's silence, and the nuthatches sound downright happy.

Come on March, I'm ready for you!

**Market summary**

A total of 10,089 feeder pigs were sold on 14 state graded sales during week of Feb. 18, according to the Market News Service of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Prices were mostly \$1.25 to \$6.50 higher per hundred. U.S. 1-2 pigs weighing 40-50 pounds averaged \$62.44 per hundred pounds with No. 3s \$50.06; 50-60 pound 1-2s averaged \$56.75, No. 3s \$46.45; 60-70 pound 1-2s \$47.86, No. 3s \$41.84; 70-80 pound 1-2s \$42.84 per hundred pounds with No. 3s \$37.16.

At weekly livestock auctions held within the state the week of Feb. 18, prices for slaughter cows were \$1 to \$5 lower per hundred weight and feeder calves \$2 to \$5 weaker. Utility and Commercial cows brought \$47 to \$54.50; Few Good slaughter steers above 800 pounds \$63 to \$65.50. Medium frame Number One muscle steers 400-500 pounds brought \$87 to \$99 per hundred pounds and same grade heifers 400-500 pounds sold \$72 to \$84. Thick muscle feeder cows sold from \$48.50 to \$60.50. Baby calves under 3 weeks of age brought \$55 to \$132.50 per head. Market hogs 200-240 pounds brought mostly \$33 to \$37.60 per hundred weight and 300-600 pound sows \$29.50 to \$35.60.

Corn prices were 3 to 6 cents lower and soybeans 21-25 cents lower through Thursday, February 21, as compared to the same period of the previous week. No. 2 yellow shelled corn ranged mostly \$2.77 to \$2.90 in the Eastern part of the state and \$2.88 to \$2.91 in the Piedmont. No. 1 yellow soybeans ranged mostly \$6.24 to \$6.45 in the East and \$6.10 to \$6.19 in the Piedmont.

Sweet potato prices were steady this week with demand moderate. Fifty pound cartons of cured US No. 1s on February 21 were quoted at \$5.75 to \$6.50, some \$7 and a few \$5.50.

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**27-Miscellaneous For Sale**

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**31-Business Opportunities**

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**LEGALS**

**NOTICE OF RESALE OF REAL PROPERTY**

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF an Order of the Superior Court of Perquimans County, made in a special proceeding entitled, "Patricia Anderson, petitioner vs. J. W. Proctor, respondent", the undersigned commissioners will on the 12th day of March, 1980, at 12:00 o'clock noon, at the Courthouse door in Perquimans County, North Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash, but subject to the confirmation by the Court, a certain tract or parcel of land in Bethel Township, Perquimans County, North Carolina, and more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pipe in the Northwest margin of Harvey Neck Road at a point 50 feet, measured North the said margin from an iron pipe in the Skinner Estate line, and running thence North 109° 00' West 236.5 feet to an iron pipe; thence North 66° 30' East 144.1 feet to an iron pipe; thence South 29° 00' West 153 feet to an iron pipe in the said Northwest margin of Harvey Neck Road; thence South 80° 00' West 150 feet to the BEGINNING, as shown by survey and map thereof made by David Cox, Jr., Surveyor, March 7, 1967.

The opening bid shall be \$15,800.00, said amount being the amount of the upset bid filed with the Clerk of Superior Court on the 14th day of January, 1980. A deposit of ten per cent (10) of the highest bid will be required of the highest bidder at the time of resale, remainder payable, if the bid is not raised in ten (10) days, at the expiration of said ten days and upon the delivery of the deed. This sale is made subject to all taxes and other encumbrances of record.

This 25th day of February, 1980.  
Jack H. Derrick, Commissioner  
Russell E. Twilford, Commissioner  
John V. Matthews, Jr., Commissioners  
Feb. 28, March 6

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of William Forrest Cale, deceased, late of Perquimans County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate

**LEGALS**

of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Route 1, Box 542, Tyner, NC on or before the 8th day of August, 1980 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 4th day of February, 1980.  
Eunice C. Cale, Executrix  
William Forrest Cale, Dec'd.  
Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 6

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF PARSONS ENTERPRISES, INC.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Articles of Dissolution of Parsons Enterprises, Inc., a North Carolina Corporation, were filed in the office of Secretary of State of North Carolina on the 14th day of February, 1979, and that all creditors of and claimants against the corporation are required to present their respective claims and demands immediately in writing to the corporation so that it can proceed to collect its assets, convey and dispose of its property, pay, satisfy and discharge its liabilities and obligations and do all other acts required to liquidate its business and affairs.

This 22nd day of January, 1980.  
PARSONS ENTERPRISES, INC.  
Earnhardt & Busby, P.A.  
P. O. Box 445  
Edenton, NC 27932  
Telephone (919) 482-4441  
Feb. 21, 28, March 6, 13

**NOTICE OF RESALE**

Under and by virtue of an order of resale upon an advance bid made by the Superior Court of Perquimans County in the special proceedings entitled, W. Corbin Dozier, et al, vs. Martha Dozier Lindley, et al, the undersigned commissioner will, on the 13th day of March 1980, at 12:00 a.m., at the courthouse door in Hertford, North Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder for

**LEGALS**

cash upon an opening bid of \$5,300.00, that certain tract or parcel of land situated in Perquimans County, North Carolina, described as follows:

Designated as No. 213 South Church Street and further described as follows: BEGINNING at the corner of William Mardre lot (now Robert A. White) on Church Street and running an easterly course along said Mardre (now White) lot 125 feet; thence a southerly course 50 feet to a street aid off running at right angle with Church Street; thence along said street to said Church Street 125 feet; thence along said Church Street 50 feet to the place of BEGINNING, and being the lot conveyed by deed dated May 20, 1908, from E. V. Perry and wife, Susie S. Perry to J. L. Dozier and recorded in Book 8, page 97, Public Registry, Perquimans County.

This sale will be made subject to all outstanding and unpaid taxes, if any, and any encumbrances, liens and matters of record, if any. A deposit of 10 percent of his bid will be required of the successful bidder.

This 21st day of February, 1980.  
Walter G. Edwards, Commissioner  
Harriette L. Dail  
Asst. Clerk Superior Court  
Feb. 28, March 6

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

Having qualified as Executrix of the estate of Asa Talmage Lewis, deceased, late of Perquimans County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at P.O. Box 515, Hertford, N.C. on or before the 28th day of August, 1980 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 19th day of February, 1980.  
Jacqueline R. Lewis  
Executrix of Asa Talmage Lewis, Dec'd.  
Feb. 28, March 6, 13, 20

**Fertilizer monitored for safety**

RALEIGH—The North Carolina fertilizer supply is the most closely monitored of any state in the nation. The result is that purchases of 8-8-8 fertilizer are assured of getting eight percent nitrogen, eight percent phosphate and eight percent potash, the three prime plant food ingredients by the Seed and Fertilizer Division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

Headed by James Stevens, the fertilizer section has 12 inspectors across the state, taking spot samples from all forms of plant food from about 10 percent of the tonnage sold. These samples are tested by the department's analytical laboratory under the Food and Drug Division. If they do not meet minimum ingredient standards, the manufacturing company is penalized.

According to Stevens, North Carolina consumes two million tons of fertilizer annually. The state is the 10th largest user in the nation. Obviously, the vast majority is used by farmers, but homeownes, businesses and recreational facilities buy much of this tonnage.

"We wish we never found deficiencies," Stevens said. "We are not out to get anyone, but if the product is short, we want to find it. If a company consistently has a high percentage of deficient product and takes no steps to correct the problem, it is possible we would rescind their registration. Fortunately, most fertilizer firms want to sell good material."

Stevens cited an example: "Several years ago a firm moved into the state and set up six plants. During their first year in business 70 percent of their samples were deficient. We had to warn them that if they did not improve the next year, we would lift their registration. They

called me in for advice. I visited all six plants and saw some problems immediately. They made the manufacturing corrections and the following year penalties dropped to 20 percent. The third year it was down to 13 percent. The point is, we don't want to hurt, we want to help."

Stevens noted that the Smith-Douglass situation in 1979 was one of the most bazaar of his career. This involved fertilizer contaminated with a weed killer which injured some 9,000 acres of tobacco with millions of dollars in damage. Following settlements to affected farmers and an investigation which showed no negligence on the part of Smith-Douglass, charges against them were dropped.

"We still don't know how the fertilizer became contaminated," Stevens admitted. "This is the first time there has ever been major contamination of fertilizer in America."

"Unfortunately, it could happen again and there is no real good way to guard against it," he declared. "Still we are exploring every method to reduce the possibility."

Some have suggested additional sampling but North Carolina consistently takes more samples than any state in the Union. Moreover, sampling is done to test for plant food content. To look for some substance that would injure plants, it would be necessary to know what to look for. Stevens explained that hundreds of tests for all sorts of chemicals could be run but unless there was some clue as to the exact foreign material, it would not show up.

Samples are pulled in accordance with methods developed by the Association of Official Analytical

Chemists. With bag goods, a probe is inserted at a specified point at the corner of the bag. The bag must be lying flat so there is no separation of large and small pellets. The probe is closed and inserted back down, then opened so that it fills uniformly. Then it is closed and removed. Twenty bags, in each 25 ton lot, are sampled. This yields about a gallon of fertilizer which is placed in a rifle, a device to aid in the uniformity of the combined samples. From this a pint is extracted and sent to the lab in Raleigh. Here the analysis is run.

Bulk fertilizer is sampled similarly but as it is in a pile. The four corners of the pile are probed; four in the center and two more midway from the center to the edges—a total of ten. The material is then handled in the same way as bagged material.

"The reason for probing at the various locations is that with both bagged and bulk fertilizer, the larger pellets tend to move to the outside with the finer remaining in the center," Stevens explained. "If we didn't sample in this way the analysis would not be accurate."

Liquid fertilizer is equally scrutinized. The best sampling comes directly from the mixing vats. Two samples are pulled, an original and a duplicate. This is done primarily as a backup in case the original is damaged. Also, if the analysis is peculiar, the second is tested.

The second best method is to

take the sample as the fertilizer is being pumped from one vat to another. If this is impractical, samples may be drawn from storage tanks.

"By and large, fertilizer manufactured and sold in North Carolina is a very good product," Stevens said. "This is evidenced by the excellence of our crops. Yet, errors are made. It is the responsibility of the fertilizer section to keep them to a minimum by doing all that is legally within our power to insure the best quality. Our job is to provide service to the industry and protect the interest of consumers of their product."

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