

Agriculture

Local crop banquets held

The Perquimans County Extension Service announced the dates for four local crop banquets and seminars.

The county Peanut Production Awards Banquet will be held at the extension office on February 8 at 7 p.m.

The county Soybean Production Banquet will be held February 11 at 7 p.m. at the ARPDC auditorium.

The county Corn Production Banquet will be held February 16 at 7 p.m. in the ARPDC auditorium.

A seminar on the Principles of Soil Fertilization will be held February 10 at 1:30 p.m. at the extension office.

For more information on these events, call Extension Chairman Bill Jester at 426-5428.

Full moon on the 8th.

Go out and look at your chrysanthemums. The brown part should be cut off now, leaving room for new spring growth. Every two to three years mums should be divided to insure healthy, vigorous blooms.

Last week I wrote of new lettuce seeds on the market. While looking through a magazine, I was impressed with an ad put out by the Baco folks, which was an explanation of types of lettuce. Here's a synopsis:

•Iceberg: has a firm head which is the most crunchy on the market;

•Curly endive: (chicory) has curly, narrow leaves with a bitter taste that

should be incorporated with a different lettuce in salads;

•Boston: (butterhead) described as being as smooth as, er, butter. Be sure to use a light dressing with this one.

•Romaine: long, coarse leaves with a pungent taste that is readily identifiable;

•Bibb: has small, delicate leaves, very expensive at the vegetable counter. This one should be served with the leaves whole.

Now let's go back to some new entries in the spring catalogues.

•Parsnip — Jung's "White Sugar" is reported to be a highly improved type that is very stocky in shape with white fine texture, free from stringiness.

•Onion — Thompson and Morgan is advertising a red onion called Carmen F1 which has red flesh all the way through instead of white flesh with red rings.

"Hybrid Spartan Sleeper" from Jung is just about the best keeper on the market, storing well for 8 to 10



Perquimans Gardening

By Jean Winslow

months — if you store it right in the first place, that is.

•Pepper — Herbst's "Italian Sweet" is long with thin walls, growing to 7 inches in length, great for frying. "Big stuffer" does its job perfectly.

Agway's "Surefire" surely is, from its early green period until it develops into a mature red piece of dynamite.

•Tomato — Ball's "Champion" is touted as being a great tomato for the home garden. It is early, highly resistant to verticillium, fusarium, tobacco mosaic and nematodes. This year it will be available only as started plants.

"Roadside Red" is an in-

determinate early yielder by Agway that "looks promising." I don't know what that means, though, so we'll go on to something else.

•Squash — Goldsmith's "Buccaneer" is a new zucchini which grows on open bushes providing easy harvesting.

Flying in from Hastings comes "Peter Pan," a green-tinted squash for home gardens that should be harvested when fruits are three inches or less. Good raw, too. Their "Pink Banana Jumbo," on the other hand, is a blooming giant (30 inches long) which they swear makes a better pie than pumpkin. We'll see.

•Turnip — Wanna try a mini? Thompson and Morgan says to sow its "Tokyo Cross F1 Hybrid" from February on and get teeny tasty turnips in just one month. Tangy, too.

•Radish — "Sparkler White Tip" from Hastings never hollows, and we all know how important that is. Who wants to stand around stuffing radishes, just to make them look good on a relish tray?

After all, you can make a bigger impression with a 15 pounder from Burgess called "Sakurajima", maybe because it's as big as a Japanese wrestler.



Headed for Raleigh

Ben Berry (left) of Peoples Bank in Hertford presents Earl Ray Godfrey, Jr. with a check to cover Godfrey's expenses while taking the Modern Farming Short Course at North Carolina

State University. With them is county Agricultural Extension Chairman Bill Jester. Godfrey was nominated by a committee of local farmers and businessmen to take the course, with the bank covering the cost.

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