

County Extension Chairman welcomes Spring

Spring is the season for self analysis and planting seeds

W.R. JESTER, III

County Extension Chairman

Spring is here. Spring has come to us as wet as she can be and hopefully we can soon take our raincoats off and enjoy the spring. Spring brings forth a renewal in people's hearts as well as the beautiful flowers bursting thru the ground. Spring is a time for sowing seed.

The first week of spring is also designated a good seed week. Buy your seeds from a reputable dealer and you will be guaranteed seed of good quality. Most farmers know that certified soybean seed gives them better results than noncertified seed. Saving your seed can be an expensive proposition especially if they are carrying certain diseases and weed seeds. The certified seed program conducted by the state screens out the bad seed.

I was informed by Tommy Lynn Riddick the ASCS Executive Director that all the whole base bids have been

accepted and that a total of 45 percent of the corn acreage base which is approximately 30,000 acres will be in the RAP and PIK program this year. This will certainly have a detrimental affect on some of our fertilizer and seed corn people. The program will help farmers by putting cash in their hands and reducing the production in 1983.

Private surveys indicate that more than 80 percent of all farmers in the U.S. are participating in the acreage reduction program. Some estimates are for the corn acreage to be reduced nationwide by about 30 percent. The announcement that whole base bids would be accepted up to 45 percent of a counties base added to the bullish nature of the corn market. If there is a delay in planting due to wet fields, look for corn prices to continue to increase. We will know more after March 22 when the USDA releases the PIK sign-up report. You can bet that the market will react one

way or the other to the results of the sign-up.

Many farmers in Perquimans County I am sure are wondering at this time whether or not we are going to see any peanut contracts in 1983. Well, I am not too sure that we will, but then again I am not sure that we will not. I have heard of contracts being signed for exporting in Georgia for \$350 per ton. I have a feeling that if there is going to be any export contracts offered they probably will be offered just before the reporting deadline of April 15. That brings me to the point of reminding you that if you do sign an export contract, it needs to be in the ASCS office by April 15.

Let's talk a little about peanut diseases. One of the worst diseases in Perquimans County is black root rot. Recently the Extension Service and the Peanut Growers Association have devoted significantly amounts of resources trying to find a control for this stubborn disease. Dr. Jack Bailey, Extension Plant Pathologist, has come up with a system of managing CBR in our fields.

This system involves using culture practices, a resistant variety and chemical treatment in various combinations, depending on the severity of the disease. The culture practices we can use to help control CBR are as follows: (1) long rotation-use the longest possible rotation

utilizing non legumes as an example corn, cotton and wheat. (2) Weather debris-do not plow down infested peanut residue after harvest, leaving it exposed to drying and cold. (3) Work the soil; till the soil thoroughly to disburse the fungus throughout the field. This reduces its ability to attack the peanut plant.

Coupled with the above practices, growers should consider the resistant variety NC8C. The resistance in NC8C is not complete. It is only partial and can only be effective where the disease incidence is light. Under heavier infestation the resistant variety must be coupled with the use of a good fumigant, either Vapam or Terr-O-Cide.

The Extension recommended as follows for control of CBR: (1) Use 4 gallons per acre of Terr-O-Cide 54-45 in conjunction with the peanut variety NC8C, (2) Use Vapam at a rate of 10 gallons per acre when used with the peanut variety NC8C, (3) Use 20 gallons per acre of Vapam when planted with any of the susceptible varieties Florigiant, GK3, NC6 or Keel 29. Don't plant NC7 or VA 81B because of their high level susceptibility to CBR. The rates given above are based on a 36 inch row spacing.

A grower must consider the cost of the treatment when deciding whether

or not he needs to treat. The question he must answer is will these treatment cost return me more per acre than the amount that I will lose due to the disease if I don't treat. Several things will be conducive to treatment, first would be a field with a high yield potential and a severe infestation. In this case a grower could expect a significant return on his treatment investment. Contact me for further information on CBR control. Anyone who would like to

cooperate in a control test should contact my office immediately.

I was told the other day that Poas and Fusilade will be registered for 1983. The memo came thru on Fusilade indicating that it had been registered for experimental label for treatment on 10,000 acres of soybean and cotton in 32 different states, N.C. being one. These post-emergence grass herbicides will be playing an increasingly important part in your weed control program in the future.

TIMBER TIPS

It's Tax Time Again. Here are some breaks on Federal Income Taxes for owners of woodland:

1. Site preparation and reforestation costs (up to \$10,000) qualify for a 10% investment credit and a 7 year write-off.
2. Timber held over 1 year before sale qualifies for long term capital gains tax treatment.
3. All costs of forest management are tax deductible.

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BEYOND THE WEEDS
by Jean Winslow

•Palm Sunday comes on the 27th, followed by a full moon on the 28th, followed by the first day of Passover on the 29th.
•Here is my annual chart of planting companions. Please clip and save for future references as it is easy to forget from year to year, what goes with what, and what won't!

Yes

ASPARAGUS — tomatoes, parsley, basil.
BASIL — tomatoes.
BEANS — potatoes (repel potato beetles), cucumbers, cabbage, cauliflower, summer savory.
BUSH BEANS — beets, sunflowers (provide partial shade, attract bees), cucumbers, corn, summer savory.
BROCCOLI — mustard, turnip (trap crops for harlequin beetles).
BEETS — bush beans, onions, kohlrabi.
BORAGE — squash, strawberries, tomatoes (deters tomato worm, improves flavor).
CABBAGE FAMILY — potatoes, dill, beets, tomatoes, celery (the latter two repel white cabbage butterfly).
CARROTS — peas, onions (repel white cabbage butterfly), lettuce, radishes.
CELERY — leeks, cabbage cauliflower.
CHERVIL — radishes.
CHIVES — At the base of fruit trees (discourage insects from climbing trunk).
PEAS — Radishes, carrots, cucumbers, sweet corn, beans, turnips, squash.

PERUVIAN GROUND CHERRY — in the greenhouse (repels whiteflies).
PETUNIAS — beans.
PLUM TREES — horseradish around base.
POTATOES — beans, corn, eggplants (trap crop for potato beetles) limas, marigolds.
PUMPKINS — corn.
CORN — tomatoes, beans, squash, pumpkins, potatoes, peas.
CUCUMBERS — sunflowers, cabbage, corn, beans, radishes (repel cucumber beetle).
DILL — cabbage, carrots.
EGGPLANTS — green beans.
GARLIC — roses, raspberries (deters Japanese beetles), herbs.
HORSERADISH — potatoes (deters potato beetle), around base of plum trees (discourages curculios).
KOHLRABI — beets, onions.
LAMBS' QUARTERS — corn.
LEEKs — carrots, onions, celery.
LETTUCE — strawberries, carrots, radishes, beets.
MARIGOLDS — tomatoes (combat nematodes, repel Mexican bean beetles).
MINT — cabbage family, tomatoes.
NASTURTIUMS — Broccoli (repel aphids), squash, (repel squash bugs), cucumbers (repel aphids, other pests).
ONIONS — beets, carrots, lettuce (inhibits slugs), strawberries, tomatoes, beans (deter ants).
PARSLEY — asparagus, tomatoes.
RADISH — peas, nasturtiums, cucumbers, squash, lettuce.
ROSEMARY — Cabbage, carrots, beans (deters insects in these vegetables).

RUE — roses, raspberries.
SAGE — rosemary, cabbage, beans.
SPINACH — strawberries.
SQUASH — nasturtiums, corn.
STRAWBERRIES — bush beans, lettuce, spinach, borage.
SUMMER SAVORY — onions, beans.
SUNFLOWERS — cucumbers.
TANSY — anywhere (repels insects).
THYME — cabbage.
TOMATOES — parsley, cabbage, borage.
TURNIPS — peas.
YARROW — herbs.

No

BEETS — pole beans, mustard.
CABBAGE FAMILY — strawberries.
CUCUMBERS — potatoes (increase potato blight).
CURRENTS — white pine (these are alternate hosts to white pine blister rust).
DILL — carrots, tomatoes.
EGGPLANT — potatoes.
FENNEL — anything: plant alone, it's worth it.
GARLIC — peas, beans, peppers.
PEAS — onions, garlic.
PEPPERS — onions.
RUE — basil.
SUNFLOWERS — potatoes.
SLUGS — marigolds.
TOMATOES — kohlrabi, black walnut trees, potatoes.