

AGRICULTURE

Tips to keep your lawn and garden in shape for fall

Check Chrysanthemums for aphids and spray with malathion. Remove spent flowers, as seed production wears the plants down. Besides, self-sown seedlings rarely reflect the color of their parent, and the result is usually a dull magenta color.

spoon sugar, and 1/4 teaspoon household bleach to 1 quart water.

If you fancy hostas, send \$37.50 to Holiday Seeds, 4276 Durham Circle, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083. You will receive 50 seedlings in late September for you shade garden. That is a good deal.

Seashore gardeners can plant American Beach grass any time between October 1 and April 30. Set roots 8 inches deep, water well. Broom sedge, Sea Oats, Sea coast Blue stem, Veld grass, and Weeping Love grass may also be planted now.

Start building and erecting shelters to protect exposed specimens from cold winter wind.

Check stored vegetables periodically. Immediately remedy any "bad apples" from the barrel.

Pick up a bag of 5-10-10. Save to put on ice-covered walks and driveways. It is as effective as rock salt, easier on your carpets, and will feed plants come spring thaw.

Put in some more radishes, loose leaf lettuce.

Beans intended for drying should be allowed to mature the plant. When ready, shell and spread beans on a tray, heat in a 175 degree oven. This will kill insect eggs. Flower and Garden Magazine suggests storing dried beans in sterilized jars, with a dried hot pepper inserted to repel pests.

Order a few perennial tulips now to plant for spring bloom. I did out of curiosity. Here's what horticulturist Dr. Augustus De Hertogh at N.C. State wrote me:

"As far as I know, they have selected cultivars that have a high tendency to successfully replace the mother bulb, given good drainage and an adequate fertilizer program. They tend to be Darwin tulips."

They sound worth the planting effort.



Avant Gardener reports an excellent cut flower preservative developed in California: 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice, 1 table-

Farmers asked for nominations

"Farmers are asked to nominate candidates of their choice by October 28 to be on the ASC Community Committee Ballot", says Tommy Riddick, County Executive Director.

The ASC Community committee election will be conducted from November 22 to December 2 by mail ballot. The 6 ASC communities in our county are: Belvidere, Bethel, Hertford, Nicenor, New Hope, Parkville.

ASC committees are responsible for managing federal farm programs on the local level. To meet the needs of individual producers, ASC committee members must be concerned and responsible individuals, Riddick said. In order to be valid, petitions must be limited to one nominee each, must include written certification that the nominee is willing to serve if elected, must be received in the county ASCS office by the October 28 deadline.

Farmers may circulate or sign nominating petitions for as many candidates as they choose. Anyone wishing to nominate a farmer for ASC committee election may contact the county ASCS office for full details, including eligibility requirements for office holders.

Farmers should petition for and elect those individuals they feel would do a good job as a member of the ASC committee. The election in the administration of farm programs, Riddick said.

Riddick further explained that the county ASCS office welcomes

all valid petitions. The opportunity to nominate, vote, and be elected to office is guaranteed to all farmers regardless to race, religion, sex or age, color, handicap, or national origin.

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COTTON CONTEST WINNER—Local farmer Charles Matthews was the winner of a recent contest sponsored by Ward and Nixon Cotton Gin to find the plant with the highest number of harvestable bolls. Matthews, who presented a plant with 130 bolls, is shown receiving a \$100.00 U.S. Savings Bond from Charles Ward. (Photo by Jane Williams.)

Economic difficulties require farmer's caution

Difficult economic times demand greater caution on the part of grain farmers in marketing their 1985 crop, according to W.B. Jenkins, president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation.

"To avoid any problems," he said, "the prudent grain producer should investigate the financial condition of the buyer before selling or storing and insist on accurate grades and weights for all grain delivered."

"Federal legislation was passed last year amending the bankruptcy code to provide added protection for farmers, but producers should still use good business practices when

dealing with grain elevators and buyers," Jenkins said. "Many grain buyers have been suffering the same income problems facing farmers."

According to the Farm Bureau president, producers can take steps to reduce their risks. For grain to be stored, he said that producers should receive scale tickets, but should require a warehouse receipt. "A warehouse receipt should provide farmers with the greatest protection if his grain is stored with the warehouse. However, if the buyer refuses to issue a warehouse receipt, the producer must require that the scale ticket be

marked 'storage' or 'sold' or other appropriate intent for each load delivered.

"When grain is delivered for sale," Jenkins said, "the person delivering the grain should require prompt payment at delivery." Checks rendered as payment should be cashed as soon as possible. If the producer accepts a deferred payment, contract or a delayed pricing contract, he should ask for a security agreement to protect his interest.

Jenkins concluded that there are some measures a producer can take to protect his interest in his grain, but there is no substitute for caution.

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