

Agriculture

County wheat yield contest gets underway

By STANLEY WINSLOW
CO. EXT. CHAIRMAN
Wheat Yield Contest: Everyone has been expecting low yields due to the extremely dry spring we have experienced. I am sure that there will be some low yields; however, I have already been told of yields in the 60-70 bushel range. If you find

you have a field of wheat at this yield level and wish to enter the contest, block off at least one acre and call the Extension Office (426-5428). Jeff or I will be glad to measure it for you. If we are not available, John Meyers, Soil Conservationist, may be able to assist (426-5545).

Soybean Weed Control: The dry weather has certainly complicated our weed control situation. In many cases pre-emergence herbicides have not worked. The extreme stress both soybeans and weeds are under, makes you wonder about the effectiveness of post emergence chemicals. To compound the problem there are about six new soybean herbicides on the market, 3 of which are labeled for post-emergence use. These new herbicides will be good tools to have in our weed control arsenal; however, don't lose sight of the cost per acre and don't forget the old standbys just because there is a new kid on the block.

Economics is your number one consideration. Scout your fields thoroughly and treat for the weeds or grass present in each individual cut of ground. I have already seen fields infested with only grass or only broadleaf weed, and fields infested by both. Don't make a blanket treatment

unless it is really needed.

Dry Weather Post Emergence Weed Control Tips: With the extended drought, we all know that the weeds are under stress and very tough as a result. This is not the year to cut rates of chemical or to use low volumes of water. Following are suggestions for dry weather use of Blazer. These same suggestions will also apply to Basagran, Tackle, Classic and Scepter.

Use the full rate for optimum control
Add one pint per acre of 80 percent non-ionic surfactant
Use 40 gallons water per acre

and 50-60 psi to insure weed coverage

Apply when weeds are small (2-4 leaves)

Following these suggestions will help insure that you get your money's worth out of your herbicides.

Hazardous Chemicals Right To Know Act: Many of you have questions as to how it affects a farming operation. This Act applies to employers who normally use or store 55 gallons or 500 pounds or more of any hazardous chemical.

The law has certain exemptions.

The one which applies to farming reads as follows: "Any farming operation is exempt which employs 10 or fewer full-time employees, except that if any hazardous chemical in an amount in excess of 55 gallons or 500 pounds, whichever is greater, is normally stores chemicals in amounts in excess of 55 gallons or 500 pounds for more than 30 days, it is subject to this law."

Note: Use of Brand names in this letter does not imply endorsement of the products mentioned or criticism of products not mentioned.



JEFF TURLINGTON

Turlington to attend leadership camp

Jeff Turlington of Hertford has been selected by Southern States Cooperative to attend the Cooperative Leadership Camp organized by the Cooperative Council of N.C.

Jeff will be participating in the Leadership Camp at the R.J. Peeler FFA Camp at White Lake, June 9-13.

He is among more than 60 youth from across North Carolina who are being sponsored by their local cooperative to learn how cooperatives work and to enjoy the fun and fellowship of a week at camp.

The camp agenda includes organizing the campers' own cooperative, election of a board of directors, hiring a general manager, adoption of by-laws and distribution of net savings according to purchases from the cooperative.

The youth will participate in informal seminars conducted by agricultural leaders who will explain marketing, purchasing and service cooperatives.

"These young people are proven leaders who are already interested in co-ops" said F. Carlyle Teague, Executive President of the Cooperative Council of N.C. "By the time camp is over, they will have a much better understanding of the whole economic system. We're also sure they'll enjoy this fine campground with plenty of fun and swimming on the schedule."

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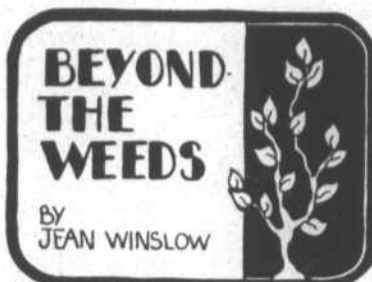
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BY JEAN WINSLOW

The symbol pH expresses acidity or alkalinity, standing for hydrogen ion concentration in the soil. On a scale of 0 to 14, soils registering a pH of 7.0 are neutral. Those above this are alkaline, those below are acid. Most plants grow well a pH of 6.0 to 6.5, but some have definite needs, such as acid-loving azaleas and rhododendrons.

Soil testing kits are available to the home gardener. If a major problem is suspected, however, consult your extension agent.

Control English ivy with amitrol or Weedazol, if you must resort to chemicals. Roundup may be used to eradicate weeds in established ivy beds.

Gerberas are susceptible to crown rot, which is caused by planting too deeply. Make sure the crown is exposed.

Gerberas prefer a rich soil, and regular feedings with a balanced fertilizer.

Peonies also suffer from being planted too deep, and will fail to flower. Lift the plant and reset so that buds growing from the root are no more than two inches deep.

Chrysanthemums tend to get long and leggy. Pinch off stem ends now to encourage bushiness.

Geraniums fail to flower if they get too much fertilizer and/or shade.

Avoid rust spots on zennias by watering early in the day. Plants must be thoroughly dry before dark.

Mulch petunia beds to prevent spattering of mud on leaves and flowers. Cut back any older stems which have become unglamorous.

Make sure iris have adequate moisture, as they are now developing strong rhizome systems after having flowered. Rhizomes are underground stems enlarged by food storage. Give them a boost with a little cow manure tea.

Remove dead foliage from tulips and daffodils. Lift the bulbs now if you wish to plant them elsewhere.

Dead-head annuals every day to promote vigorous blooms and enhance their appearance.

Save old nylon hose to cover sunflower heads, which prevents birds from getting all the seeds. Be a sport, though, and leave one or two exposed for your favorite cardinal, thrasher, or nuthatch family.

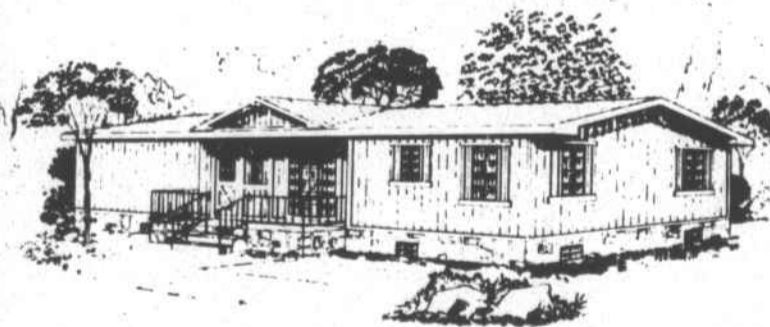


There's such a thing as dognip—a weed called Stinking Goose Foot that smells awful to humans but enticing to canines.

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ATTENTION CLUB PRESIDENTS

In our county there are a great many clubs, associations and groups. Each of these in one way or another offers a service to our community. The people in these groups are our neighbors and we'd like to know about them.

The first issue of our paper each month will contain a CLUB PAGE.

Each Club is asked to submit a Photo and Brief Description of each of their members, one at a time.

This page will be used to introduce the clubs and their members to the community. We'd also like to share the history of each club in the county. (Minutes of the club should be submitted to our editor for inclusion elsewhere in the paper.)

All material for the Club page should reach our office by the 4th Wednesday in each month.

For More Information Call:

The Perquimans Weekly

426-5728
119 W. Grubb St.
Hertford, N.C.