# Agriculture



Members of the Agriculture III class at Perquimans ject. County High School pose with

the recently completed pro-

# Agricultural Class sells utility trailer

The Agriculture III class at Perquimans High School built the 5'x16' utility trailer this past school year. These hands-on projects are designed to give the students a working knowledge of the projects chosen. The students apply the practical knowledge that they study in class to building

these projects. This trailer was recently sold and the money will be used to support future handson projects.

The Agriculture program would like to thank Mr. Pat Harrell, Mr. William Byrum, and the Board of Education for making these hands-on projects possible.

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#### NOTICE

ALBEMARLE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT SURGICAL ASSOCIATES, P.A.

**ANNOUNCES** 

Dr. H. J. MacDonald, Jr. will be leaving the association on June 15, 1986. Dr. William M. Crutchfield will continue the practice of E.N.T. Surgery, Head & Neck Surgery, and E.N.T. Allergy with expanded hours to include:

**EVENING HOURS ON WEDNESDAY, EFFECTIVE** June 18, 1986

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A Reality...

## McLymore to conduct safety program

By STANLEY WINSLOW CO. EXT. CHAIRMAN

Grain Bin Safety And Rescue Program: Mr. Robert McLymore, Extension Farm Safety Specialist, has consented to return to Perquimans County to conduct a second Farm Safety Program. This time we will be learning about Grain Bin Safety. This program is designed primarily for Volunteer Firemen and Rescue Squad Personnel; but individual farmers are invited to attend also. Emphasis will be placed on rescuing someone who is trapped inside a grain

This session will be held on Wednesday, July 9th beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Ed Nixon's shop and bins. Following the training at the bins we will move to the Hertford Volunteer Fire Department for a slide program and discussion. This session should be worth two hours training for volunteer firemen. Please plan to attend this important session. Call the Extension Office by July 7th to register.

Leafspot: The rains which we are all so thankful for, signal the need to begin our leafspot spray program on peanuts. With night time temperatures above 70 degrees F and high humidity, leafspot can develop very rapidly. Begin your spray programs with your most effective fungicides. Establishing a good base of control now will minimize the sprays you must make later. Need for future sprays can be determined by weather conditions. As long as you maintain less than 20 percent of the peasnut leaflets showing leafspot your spray program is doing its' job.

Sclerotinia: To date, we have not found sclerotinia, however, you should be scouting fields with a history of this disease at least once a week. Early detection and treatment is the most effective program of control.

**Growth Regulator For Cotton:** Cotton will be growing very rapidly with the good moisture we now have. It will be important for you not to wait too long to apply PIX if it is needed. PIX should be

applied if one of the following tall with only 5-6 blooms per 25 conditions are met:

1. Cotton is 24 inches tall with no

2. Cotton is 24 inches to 28 inches

feet of row

PIX will hold down excessive height and result in an earlier uniform crop of cotton. This will

help reduce the worm problems you will encounter later in the season.

Please call if you have ques-

### Pork producers urged to vote

Pork producers will find a prepared letter involving the statewide pork producers election in this article.

"Area pork producers have the opportunity to participate in a U.S. Department of Agriculture sponsored statewide election, July 7-11, to help select individuals for appointment to an industry-wide body that will administer a promotion, research and consumer information order for

All pork producers in the state are encouraged to vote in the elections. Candidates receiving the highest number of votes in each State will be eligible for appointment by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the State's alloted positions on the National Pork Producers Delegate Body.

The Delegate Body, consisting of approximately 165 producers, including two or more members representing each of the 50 states and four importers, will be responsible for administering all aspects of the pork order.

Voters in Perquimans County will take place at the Extension Office, on Edenton Road Street. The office will be open for voting each day from 8 a.m. 'til 5:00 p.m. Pork producers can vote in any county in their home State after signing a voter registration list certifying that they are pork producers in that State. Pork producers are urged to vote in person at the county Extension Office. If that is not possible, an absentee voting packet containing a ballot and registration form may be obtained from Jim **Eptein, National Pork Producers** Election, P.O. Box 23762, Washington, D.C. 20026-3762; telephone (202) 475-5407. Absentee ballots must be postmarked by July 11, and received at the above address no later than July

Voters will be tallied at 9:00 a.m. on July 15 at the local county office of USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. The public is invited to be present at this official counting, and the results will be forwarded to the Secretary for consideration."

#### Kiwi: The new status fruit

Kwis are in, definitely in. One of the new status fruits, their combined taste of banana, pineapple and strawberry has neuvelle cuisine chefs busy using them in everything from seviches to sorbets.



Several new varieties have been developed, making kiwi production possible here in our area. The actinidia deliciosa found most often in marketsfuzzy, brown, over-grown ping pong-ball-may be cultivated as far as Tidewater if the vine is properly hardened off to withstand ten degree weather.

Basic culture for kiwis is fairly simple. At least two vines, one male, one female, are needed for production. Pollination occurs mostly from gentle winds that waft pollen to female flowers.

Plant kiwis in full sun. Soil should be well-drained and slightly acid in a location away from strong winds. Use slow-release fertilizer at planting time. As the vine grows, mulch up to four or six inches with hay, straw, grass cuttings or compost. This eliminates at least 75 percent of obnoxious weeds, besides nourishing the vine. A regular feeding of fish emulsion once a month during active growth is highly beneficial.

While kiwis tolerate some drought, irrigation during fruiting will assure an ample harvest. After fruiting in September, prepare the vine for winter by witholding fertilizer and cut down watering. Organic Gardening writer Jeff

Cox says you can reap 100 or more fruits from a vine if you prune properly when the vine is dormant. Cut vines back to 12 large canes on one-year wool Each cane should have 15 to 20 nodes with a bud on each node. The first eight to ten buds will produce fruiting shoots, but other buds are needed to produce food manufacturing leaves. Dr. Kay Ryugo, University of California kiwi expert, recommends pruning the vine to a single trunk and several cordons, or arms. These may be trained on a strong trellis or onto a set of overhead wires or lumber. Kiwi vines make an excellent covering for arbors and patios, much the same as grapes or wisterias. A vigorous vine can grow as much as 25 feet a year. Flowers are large, pale yellow, with five petals surrounding a circle of gold stamens.

Many kiwis purchased in markets are slightly unripe and have a tart taste. Home growers can avoid this, of course, by picking when the fruit is slightly soft. Ripe kiwis will keep eight to ten

weeks in moderate refrigeration. They are usually peeled before

Kiwis are Chinese in origin, and are often referred to as Chinese gooseberries. They truly flourish in New Zealand, however, where they are an important export item. All New Zealand varieties were developed from Actinidia chinensis, which was imported in the early 1900's from the Yangtze Valley.

A new hardy kiwi (Actinidia arguta) has been developed that withstands temperatures of 25 degrees below zero. This type is sweeter than a regular kiwi, khas fuzz-less skin, and is highly resistant to insect damage. The flower is white with vivid scarlet petioles, blooming in late May with a delicate lily-of-the-valley fragrance. While smaller in size, it is an excellent source of vitamin C and fiber. I am having good luck right now with two of these in a well-composted section of a small garden border in Nags Head. They were pruchased from Gurney's, Yankton, South Dakota 57079, \$19.95 a pair postpaid. No fruit yet, but so far so good.

Kiwi fruit makes an excellent meat tenderizer. When rubbed over an expensive cut of beef, an enzyme called actinidin is released which will greatly enhance the meat's flavor.

Originally the leaves and vines were more important than the fruit. It was a standard herbal for reducing fever, promoting regularity, and increasing circulation. Nursing mothers counted on the tisane, or fresh leaf tea, to stimulate lactation and suppress inflammations. Blooms were pressed for perfume, leaves were given to animals for fodder, and roots were mashed and used as healing poultices for boils, sprains, and bruises.

But the best part is the fruit! Enjoy a fruit pizza made by alternating kiwi slices with strawberries on a cookie crust, and cover with jelly glaze.

The Silver Palate cookbook suggest kiwis as a topping for rich custards, or a garnish for fruit mousses.



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