## griculture

1986 has been a difficult year for By STANLEY J. WINSLOW

1986 Corn Yield Contest: 1986 has been a difficult season for farmers in our area. We began the season with a record drought and now are facing harvest time with the lowest prices in 10 years. It is hard to be enthusiastic when faced with these obstacles. Despite these many adversities, our farmers here in Perquimans County are still one of the most optomistic and enthusiastic group of people I have ever worked with. I am proud to be working with such a fine group of

I hope that each of you will take time to enter your best fields in the County Corn Yield Contest this year. I realize that yields on the average will be much lower than last yearbut there will be some extra good yields also. These need to be measured and verified. The Corn Contest Committee will consist of the same

people as last year: Stan Winslow and Jeff Copeland, Perquimans Extension Office, 426-5428; Edgar Roberson, Albemarle Fertilizer, 426-5224; John Meyers, Soil Conservation, 426-5545; and Tommy L. Riddick, ASCS, 426-5802. Please call any one of us to enter your corn in the contest. We would appreciate your calling us a day ahead of when you plan to pick. This will enable us to schedule our measuring and help you to sure someone can measure when you are ready. We are looking forward to measuring some good yields. Begin thinking about measuring soyvery good bean yields this year.

Peanut Diseases: Be on the alert for both southern stem rot and sclerotinia. The rainfall and heavy dews are creating ideal conditions for both diseases. Don't be caught by a late

## It's time to look to fall

Time to look ahead to fall-a: least the weather will be cooler, if nothing

Plant for the fall garden: radiccio, endive, broccoli raab (turnip seeds), leaf lettuce, spinach, winter squash, shallots, radishes, leeks, turnips, kale, kohrabi, seed potatoes, onion sets, and arugula. When you finish with those, plant pod-peas, carrots, beets, Chinese cabbage, and parsley.

When you finish with those, check to see if bean beetles are going to be much of a problem. If not, set out cabbage seedlings late in the month, shading young plants from the sun for at least two weeks.

You're not finished. You forgot to plant any potato sprouts you have left over. And broccoli, Burssels sprout, cauliflower and carrot seeds for transplanting later.

Prune okra about one-third to induce further branching and increase

Stay ahead of summer weeds. If you allow them to set seed, they will greet you with a vengence come next spring.

Keep water sprouts trimmed from fruit trees

Spray fall webworms in nut trees with Bacillus thuringiensis

Prune blackberry canes that bore fruit this year. New canes may be tipped to encourage branching.

Tips for Drying Fruits and Vegeta-A good way to dry cockscomb, yarrow, statice, strawflowers, hydrangeas and many other flowers is the oldest way, says extension specialist Sandra Dellinger. Hang the plant material upside down in a dark, dry storage room, closet or attic. The room should be warmer than temperatures outside and as dark as possible to help plant materials retain their color. Do not use a damp basement. Strip off the leaves and spread paper on the floor to catch any seeds which drop. Some people prefer to hang the flower heads upside down in brown paper bag because it will

light. Vegetables such as peppers may be dried by taking up the whole plant and hanging it upside down. Another method is to pick peppers and spread on screening until dry. When harvesting hot peppers, coat your hands with cooking oil or butter. Wash hands weith plain soap and water afterwards-no more rubber gloves and burning skin.

catch any seeds and help block out

Okra and peppers are two of the few vegetables that do not require beans also. We should have some

blanching before drying. Most veggies should be blanched to inactivate enzymes which cause loss in color, nutrients, and texture.

Garlic leaves trun yellow an lie flat when ready to harvest.

If the weather is dry, remove mulch from garlic patch, and carefully loosen soil, allowing it to dry thoroughly. Before rain comes, take up bulbs and lay in a well-ventilated area, such as a screen in a garage. Prune roots to one inch when the bulb dries out. Store in a cool, dry place, just as you would onions.

When vegetables are dry enough to store they are crisp and brittle. Fruits are considered dry when their texture is leathery and pliable. Judging dryness can sometimes be tricky. Vegetables need a lower water content than fruits to remain stable, according to Nadine Pope, nutritionist at NCSU. Fruits have a higher sugar content which "ties up" water that spoilage organisms need to

Best quality dried food will keep for three to six months at room temperature.

season disease outbreak.

Peanut Field Day: This years Peanut Field Day will be held on September 4th, at the Peanut Belt Research Station in Lewiston, N.C. As always, the Field Day will begin with a meeting of the N.C. Peanut Growers Association at 10:00 a.m. Following the sponsored lunch, there will be a tour of the various plots on the Station. Open throughout the day will be

Equipment Exhibits, Peanut Maturity Demonstrations, Peanut Leafspot Monitoring Equipment and a Demonstration a on Managing the Peanut Farm as an Enterprise.

I plan to attend and will leave Hertford at 8:30 a.m. If you wish to ride, please call the day before so I can make the necessary arrangements. If we have several people going, I may ask one of you to drive also.



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Cards Thanks Words are so inadequate to express my deep feeling of

anks and appreciation to each of you for every act of kindness and concern, shown in so many ways, to me and my family during my stay in the hospital and since my return home. The many prayers, thoughts, cards, visits, food, phone calls and gifts will never be forgotten, and remain with us as a source of encouragement.

A special thanks to each member of the Winfall Fire Department and all who contributed in any way toward the benefit supper in my behalf. May God richly bless you, dear friends, as He has blessed me.

> With Deepest Gratitude Josiah Smith

The family of Lillie H. Hunter would like to thank each of you for the many kind deeds you expressed at the time of her death. For the visits, flowers, food, cards, and donations made in her memory and for prayers made for us.

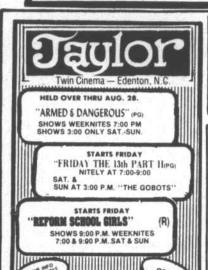
> The Family Of Lillie H. Hunter

I would like to thank all my friends, relatives, and various church organizations for remembering me with prayers, cards, flowers, visits, calls and food, during my recent hospitalization and since my return home.

I sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness and kind-Sincerely,

Howard Williams, Sr.

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## ATTENTION

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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY will have a business page on the second Thursday of each month. Businesses may submit articles and information about their business to our office between 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Monday-Friday.

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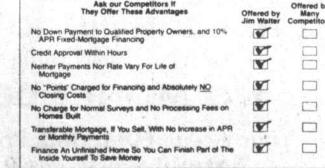
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