

Agriculture

Tips on what to plant in your garden

Plant per person, per year:

Bush lima beans, 1/2 lb.; pole lima beans, 1/2 lb.; eggplant, 2 plants—new varieties include Park Seed's 'Early Bird,' good for containers, and 'Ghostbuster,' with white, long, oval fruits;

Tender herbs, borage, nasturtium, chamomile, fennel, anise, and basil—new varieties are 'Purple Ruffles' and 'Green Ruffles';

Okra, 1/2 packet; southern peas, 1/2 lb.; hot peppers, 2 plants; sweet peppers 4 plants—new varieties include Park's 'Whopper Improved,' good for stuffing and should be allowed to turn red for its sweetness, and 'Midal' from Pine Tree Garden, which is a beautiful cream color when immature;

Sweet potatoes, 25 plants; summer squash, 1/2 packet—new varieties are Jun's 'Delicata,' which tastes rather like a sweet potato, and Agway's 'Mellow Gold,' ready in 45 days;

Spaghetti squash, 1/2 packet—new variety is 'Oragetti,' from Petoseed, that is bright orange and ready in 80 days; zucchini, 1/2 packet—new varieties are Park's 'Spineless,' good and the highly productive 'Viceroy' form Petoseed.

Variety of Flowers for Mother's Day

Flowers are traditional for Mother's Day, but, unlike Christmas with its poinsettias, and Easter with its lilies, variety is the rule. "The assortment of flowers available for Mother's Day is tremendous," says Dr. Roy Larson, professor of floriculture at North Carolina State University, "and almost all potted flowers are grown within North Carolina."

Hydrangeas, glloxinias, geraniums, caladiums, fuchsias, miniature roses, and African violets are some of the most popular plants florists report selling for Mother's Day. Here are some hints for lucky recipients.

Hydrangeas: keep in high light (east or south window) at temperatures of 60 to 85 degrees. Keep the potting



mixture moist and maintain average humidity. Fertilize with liquid fertilizer monthly during growing period. If you wish, set the plant in the garden and it will become a part of your landscape. Or, if you wish, plant pot and all out in the garden in the fall, and bring in in January. It will bloom again.

Gloxinias: provide medium light, 65 to 85 degree temperature, allow the surface of the potting mixture to dry out between waterings, and maintain average humidity. Water with room temperature water, as cold water will cause yellow spots on the leaves. Repot tubers each year. If leaves become distorted, check for cyclamen mites, and treat with an appropriate miticide.

Geraniums: high light is necessary, with temperatures of 60 to 80 degrees. Allow the surface of the potting mixture to dry out between waterings, and maintain average humidity. Lightly fertilize monthly. Each spring, cut stems back to 6 to 8 inches to encourage new growth. Geraniums may also be permanently planted in the garden.

Caladiums: provide high light, 65 to 85 degree temperature, keep the potting mixture moist but not saturated, all times. Provide high humidity, by placing on a tray of moist pebbles. Fertilize with liquid fertilizer every two to three months. When growth stops, allow soil to dry out and growth to die. Let rest three or four months, start watering again

and tuber will sprout. Handle carefully, as caladium leaves are very fragile.

Fuchsia: provide high light, 60 to 85 degree temperature, allow surface of pot to dry out between waterings, and provide average humidity. Fertilize monthly. Repot every two years in highly organic potting soil. If buds start dropping, raise humidity. Fuchsias are not overly fond of dry heat, and should be protected in the summer.

Miniature roses: provide very high light, 60 to 75 degree temperature, high humidity and fertilize once a month. Spider mites are a major problem when daytime temperature warm up. Foliage develops a yellowish cast, with visible webbing. Among the better sprays for spider mites is Kelthane, but I find that Safer's Insecticidal Soap will be just as effective without the chemical odor. There is also a systemic insecticide, Dexol, which will control mites and white flies. Follow directions carefully. Remove old rose blooms as they fade. Plants may be put in the garden permanently.

African violets: probably the most loved flowering plant in America today, Afries are extremely well suited to indoor culture. Provide medium light for growth, high light for flowering—twelve hours a day will result in improved flowering. Because of this, many gardeners grow African violet under artificial lights. Keep potting mixture moist at all times, provide temperatures of 65 to 80 degrees, in average humidity. Apply fertilizer monthly, and water with room-temperature water to avoid yellow spots on the leaves. No flowers mean not enough light; dropping flower buds mean inadequate moisture. There is a whole cult surrounding the raising of the beauties. Join the African Violet Society of America, Inc., POB 3609, Beaumont, Texas 77704, and you will see what I mean.



Pictured above are all the county youngsters who participated in the Albemarle Area Livestock Show and Sale.

Tax freedom day quickly approaches

It took the average American taxpayer from January 1 until May 4 of this year to pay off combined federal, state and local taxes.

Each year, economists with the Tax Foundation, Inc., a private, non-partisan research group, calculate when Tax Freedom Day will fall—the date the average worker's taxes would be paid if all earnings from January 1 were applied directly to the tax bill.

Tax Freedom Day this year is two days later than in 1986. The reasons given include higher excise taxes on gasoline and cigarettes, higher payroll tax for Social Security and greater state and local tax burdens.

On a daily basis, the Foundation estimated the average American spends two hours and 43 minutes of each eight-hour work day earning enough money to pay his or her taxes. That's the same as 1981, but four minutes longer than last year. Federal taxes this year claim one hour and 46 minutes of daily earnings; state and local taxes, 57 min-



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All Other Days 7:00 PM

STARTS FRIDAY
When The Curtain Goes Up The Terror Begins...
"CREEPTOWN II" (R)
Matinee Sunday 3:00 P.M.

OPEN 6:45

Perquimans County extension news

By STANLEY J. WINSLOW

I would like to personally congratulate all the Perquimans County Youth who participated in the 1987 Albemarle Livestock Show Sale. Paraphrasing Mr. Ralph Blalock who was the steer judge this year; "Each one of you is a winner. The fact that you cared enough and worked hard enough just to be a part of the show makes you a very special individual."

Each of our special youth was duly recognized at the Annual Awards Banquet which was held last Thursday evening. This event is the culmination of months of hard work which went into preparing for the show. The pride of a job well done was evident in each youth (and their parents) as they came forward to claim their trophies. I share this pride and want to extend my special congratulations to:

Brian Rayburn-Reserve Champion Lamb; Becky Rayburn-Third Place,

Senior Lamb Showmanship; Christy Layden-Third Place, Junior Lamb Showmanship; Linda Layden-Grand Champion Pig; Lynn Trueblood-Reserve Champion Pig; Jason and Leah Harrell for Second and Third Place respectively in Senior Swine Showmanship; Tiffany Nixon-Grand Championship Steer; Jeff Williams-Reserve Champion Steer; Leah Harrell-Third Place Steer; Tiffany Nixon-Second Place, Senior Steer Showmanship and Suann Lane-Third Place Senior Steer Showmanship and Suann Lane-Third Place Senior Steer Showmanship. To these ten youth, I extend my sincerest congratulations for a job well done. It took much preparation before the show. It also took alertness and skill in the show ring to let the judge see your animal at its best. Each of you did the advance work and met the challenge of the show ring with skill and confidence. In short, you did an excellent job. To the thirty youth who did not take top

honors this year, I watched each of you during the show. You handled both yourselves and your animals well. Everyone of you is a "winner" in the truest sense of the word. Remember that the individuals who won this year have watched others collect "prizes" in the years past. Keep working hard and one day you may find yourself collecting a Grand Champion or a Showmanship Trophy.

Finally, to the parents—your love and support of your children comes shining through during each livestock show. Your kids are very lucky to have you. Keep up the good work. The kids can't do it without you.

Once again, congratulations to all our Perquimans County Livestock Show Participants. You truly are winners.

Sponsorships and-or donations would be greatly appreciated for next year's team.

FFA safety team competes in contest

The Perquimans High FFA Hunter Team completed their competition this year on Saturday, April 25th at the State Championships in Kinston, N.C.

The team had competed on two previous levels, the Federation; where the team placed second out of five teams and the District in which they placed 4th out of 13 teams. This

qualified them to be able to compete at the State Championships.

The team placed 28th out of 69 teams at the championships. Matt Williams shot a perfect score of 20 for 20 in skeet, then went on to place second overall in the Doubles competition. This gave Matt the Reserve Championship in skeet shooting by placing 2nd out of 279 skeet shooters.

The team consisted of Matt Williams, Neil Young, Bobby White, Jonnie White, Robert Spence, Jeff Turlington, Ed Layne, and Wayne Long. The coaches for the team were Jack Staley and Harrell Thach.

Sponsorships and-or donations would be greatly appreciated for next year's team.

Perquimans County delegates attend district homemaker's activity day

Thirty Perquimans County delegates attended the 1987 Extension Homemakers District Activity Day in Bertie County. The theme of the day was "Changing Times." Mrs. Clara Schofield was elected Vice Chairman of the Housing and House

Furnishing Committee and Mrs. Marie Juvelis was elected to the Safety Committee as Vice Chairman for 1988. Mrs. Anne White is current district Safety Chairman and Mrs. Nancy Madre is serving as appointed treasurer. We are indeed proud of

these ladies for representing Perquimans County in these leadership roles.

Mrs. Emily Harrell won first place in the Cultural Arts contest with her Armenian Needle Lace.

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Friday Evening Schedule

- FFA Chicken Dinner \$3.50 a plate 4:00-7:00 PM
- Chorus Concert 6:30 - 7:30 PM
- Band Concert 8:00 - 9:00 PM
- Building Closed - 9:30 PM
- Art Exhibits Crafts
- Community Citizens Display
- Demonstrations
- School Performances
- Woodworking