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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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35 Cents

High corn yields expected despite extended August rains

By TRACY E. GERLACH
The Daily Advance

Perquimans County corn growers are breathing a little easier this week, relieved that the summer's heavy rains happened after most of the corn was already mature and Hurricane Andrew stayed in the south.

While heavy rains last month caused problems for some of the other crops, especially peanuts, corn is expected to produce a higher yield this year than last, Cooperative Extension Director Lewis Smith said.

"We're well above what we normally have," Smith said. "There was reasonable good moisture - we didn't go through prolonged drought periods as we have in past years."

Corn yields were estimated at 92 bushels per acre last year, Smith said. This year, the county could see as much as 110-115 bushels per acre, he said.

"That may be conservative," Smith said. "It looks like a whole lot better year yield wise."

The bigger problem facing corn growers this year will be the prices they will get on the crop, which may be the lowest they've been in five years, Smith said.

Most corn growers will begin harvesting the crops next week, allowing a longer period for the corn stalks to dry, Smith said. A few, however, will start this week.

Corn crops were spared from damage after last month's heavy rains because most of the crops were already mature. Most of the extended rain occurred after the critical growing periods for corn, which fall in May and June.

The only problem extended



Gene Perry finishes harvesting a cut of corn high, even though August brought soggy Monday just off Center Hill Highway. According to County Cooperative Extension Director Lewis Smith, corn yields are expected to be high, even though August brought soggy weather to Perquimans. Peanuts and cotton, Smith said, might not fare as well. (Photo by Susan Harris.)

periods of rain may cause for mature corn plants stalk rot, Smith said. Stalk rot causes plants to break before they are harvested.

"If the hurricane had come through, it would have put our corn crop on the ground," Smith said.

Peanut farmers weren't as

lucky last month. The extended rain caused a number of peanut diseases to show up or worsen in the plants, Smith said.

"It caused peanut diseases to just explode in most fields," he said.

Although some of the diseases can be treated, Smith said there will likely be a decrease in

peanut yields this year.

Perquimans County has more than 3200 acres of peanuts.

"For some farmers, it's their only cash crop with corn and soybean prices this year," he said.

Recognition for a job well done

Three cited for service

From Staff Reports

Three Perquimans County residents known for giving of themselves, got a little back Tuesday.

Vera R. Murrill, John T. Biggers and Mack E. Nixon each received the 1992 Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service at a reception Tuesday.

Murrill, a 3rd grade teacher with Edenton-Chowan Schools, was nominated for the category of education and literacy. She is a member of the north Carolina Association of Educators and the National Education Association Parent Teacher's Association.

As a den leader of Cub Scout den 155, and a member of Saunders Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Murrill takes on some of the major problems facing youth today — drug use and teenage pregnancy. She talks to youth in local churches.

She also organized a youth choir and volunteers to help the handicapped.

Winning the award has shown Murrill that her efforts have been fruitful.

"It was a chance of a lifetime that someone would think that much of me," she said.

Biggers, who retired as superintendent of Perquimans County Schools after 17 years of service, was



also honored for education and literacy volunteerism.

He serves on the American Cancer Society Board of Directors.

As a member of the Lions Club, he solicited white cane funds for the blind, collected used eye glasses and delivered them to the N.C. Lions Foundation, delivered radios to the sight impaired, split and delivered fire wood for the Lions Club and delivered brooms and light bulbs to the sight impaired.

Biggers assisted Social Services in delivering food to the elderly and financially deserving families in the county and delivered meals-on-wheels to shut-ins and the elderly.

He helps the Perquimans

County Restoration Association show the Newbold-White House and helped the Ruritan Club prepare and deliver barbecue meals to raise funds for a family with large hospital bills.

He helps with the Special Olympics and volunteers to transport patients to doctors and hospitals.

"It is estimated that he serves as much as 10 hours per week in volunteer service," the Hertford Lions Club wrote in his nominating form.

Among his many offices throughout the community, Biggers is Treasurer and a former president of the Hertford Lions Club.

Nixon was nominated for his role as chairman of the building committee of the Elizabeth City Chapter of Habitat for Humanity and his involvement in the site selection and construction of the chapter's



first home.

Sonja W. Hibbard, chapter president, nominated Nixon for the award.

He also serves as Chairman of the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners.

"Once a site was chosen, he organized a group of untrained volunteers to work side

by side with professional building tradespeople at the construction site," Hibbard said in the nomination statement. "The chapter set aside 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on consecutive Saturdays for the construction work and Mr. Nixon was present at all times - often before and after volunteers were at the site."

Habitat for Humanity International is a ecumenical Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action.



Winning stance

U.S. Senator Terry Sanford, who is campaigning for the November general election, swept through the Albemarle Friday, stopping in Hertford to meet with Democratic supporters at the Senior Citizens Center. Sanford (second from left) is pictured with county commissioner Leo Higgins, former Democratic Party Chairman Julian 'Little Man' Broughton, county commissioner-elect Shirley Yates and Hertford Town Manager W.D. 'Bill' Cox. (Photo by Susan Harris.)

Trash reduction goals too high

By TRACY E. GERLACH
The Daily Advance

A lack of places to market recyclables is keeping Perquimans County from meeting a state mandate to reduce its landfill waste by 25 percent by July of 1993, County Manager N. Paul Gregory said.

"There's no way," Gregory said. "Nor will any other county in North Carolina meet it."

The county opened its first recycling center this year in New Hope. One other has opened and three others will be operating by the end of the year. Even with newspaper, glass, aluminum, tires and appliances removed from the waste stream, the county will not meet the goal.

Items like plastic soda containers, and tin cans are not being recycled here because there is no where get rid of them. The closest market for plastic containers is in Pennsylvania, he said.

White goods and tires are not put in the landfill, but under state regulations, cannot be counted as a reduction in waste, Gregory said.

Only two things will enable Perquimans County to reduce its waste by 25 percent, Gregory

said. There must be a place to market the recyclables and manufacturers need to begin packaging their products differently.

County leaders are banking on discussions of changes to the state and federal guidelines. The percentage reduction required may be changed, or there may be an extension, he said.

"It's got to go that way," Gregory said. "Legislators are going to have to work with us on this one. We've done what we can do."

Dexter Matthews, Solid Waste Section chief for the state's Division of Solid Waste, said the 1993 goal is "just that."

The only mandates local governments are facing were to implement a recycling program by July of 1991 and to develop a comprehensive solid waste management plan once the state has developed guidelines for the plans. That plan will outline how the county will meet the 25 percent reduction, he said.

"Once the rules are completed, local governments will be given time to develop and submit the plan to the state," Matthews said. "If it is not submitted and approved, it could be a violation."

Perquimans to open third recycling center

By TRACY E. GERLACH
The Daily Advance

The third of Perquimans County's five recycling centers will open within the next two weeks, giving residents of the western portion of the county and the Town of Hertford a convenient place to get rid of their trash.

The new center is located on Center Hill Highway. Centers in New Hope and U.S. Highway 17 North are already operational.

In addition to aluminum, glass, newspaper, yard waste and white goods, the new site will accept corrugated cardboard.

A fourth center on U.S. Highway 17 South will most likely be open by October, County Manager N. Paul Gregory said. The last center to be constructed will be in Belvidere.

As each of the centers are opened, green dumpsters which were available for residents to dump their trash are removed, Gregory said. Each of the recycling centers is equipped with a trash compactor as well as recycling bins for residents to dump their household waste, he said.

While the public has re-

Recycling: How to do it and where to leave it

From Staff Reports

The following is a list of items that can be recycled at all sites. All lids should be removed. Labels do not have to be removed.

Corrugated cardboard, but not cardboard from shoe boxes, cereal boxes, will be accepted at the Center Hill Highway site. All boxes should be broken down.

Waste Oil from conventional combustion engines, will be accepted at the two sites on Highway 17 North and South.

White goods, meaning old household appliances, are accepted at all sites. White goods from commercial operations or appliance dealers will not be accepted.

Rinsed clear, brown and

clables outside the fenced in sites when they are closed.

Inspection of the trash revealed the names and addresses of the dumper, Gregory said, and he has written letters explaining the center's operating hours.

"Later on I'll ask the board for a penalty if people continue to do this," he said. "It's like going to the store. You don't break into the store because it's not open yet."

Each of the centers is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. They are also open from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

By closing the centers one day out of the week, the county was able to save \$20,000 - half the cost of building the fifth center, Gregory said.

None of the sites accept plastics at this time, because there is no market for the county to sell the recycled product, Gregory said. All of the sites, however, have been built large enough to accommodate new recycled products as markets become available, he said.

sponded well to the centers so some problems with residents far, Gregory said there have been leaving bags of trash and recy-