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Early Birds Plant Sites

The "early birds" among North Carolina tobacco growers have already prepared plant bed sites for the 1973 crop. These growers, the experts believe, are most likely to have the best supply of plants and be able to transplant on time.

The total plant supply available next spring isn't the key point in starting early with plant bed preparation, notes Dr. Bill Collins, North Carolina State University tobacco specialist.

"We usually have enough plants to go around," he said, "but many growers often overlook the fact that a late start and inadequate planning many times result in late transplanting."

Fall is the best time to get things started. The weather is better than it will be later into the winter, the demands on available labor is usually less, soil is easier to prepare and the custom operator who may be hired to fumigate the bed site is not as busy.

With the availability of plastic covered beds can be left until seeding time without much risk of being contaminated by weeds, insects or disease organisms.

Dr. Collins pointed out that methyl bromide is the most effective plant bed treatment. The bed site should be thoroughly prepared before the gas is applied. This includes removing crop residue, breaking the bed and disking several times, then smoothing it out to remove all clods.

But the first task, and one of the most important, is selecting the plant bed site itself. "Locating the bed site has a lot to do with whether plants come along when field conditions are ready for transplanting," Collins said.

Coarse, well drained soil is needed. The site should be slightly sloped to the south. "Even a very slight southern exposure will result in much earlier plants," the NCSU specialist said. "This is very important."

Windbreaks around the bed can be important, also. Cold, drying winds in March can cause plant loss "and be a real problem."

Two other factors that should be taken into consideration in selecting a plant bed site are water supply and convenience.

Collins believes growers should provide themselves with extra "insurance" by locating the plant bed near a source of irrigation water. "The need for irrigating is often overlooked during the winter period when it is usually wet, but irrigation is desirable during most seasons," the specialist said.

Locating the plant bed for convenience means putting it in a place where the grower can keep an eye on it from day to day. He needs to see the bed frequently to be sure the bed cover is intact, for example, or to be sure no insect problem is building up.

Gospel Sing Set Saturday

Peoples Mission on Barrette Road 2238 just off Highway 74, east of Buffalo Fish Camp is sponsoring a Gospel Sing Saturday night at 7:15 p. m.

Featured groups will be the Pioneers quartet, the Lankford Family, the Gospel Way quartet and the Burke Family Singers.

Claude R. Oakes, director, said Peoples Mission sponsors a gospel singing program each Saturday night in the month.

Don't Discard Old Furniture

RALEIGH — It's a shame to throw away old furniture without first exploring the possibilities of renovating it.

For old furniture is often pleasing in design and well-made, observes Mrs. Edith McGlamery, extension house furnishings specialist, North Carolina State University.

As an added bonus, there are several satisfactions you may gain from being a furniture "do-it-yourselfer."

One benefit is creativity. The little things you do to the house yourself make it individual—distinctly yours. Renovated, restyled or refinished furniture gives you the chance to see your own plans and ideas come to life.

Another is education. You can learn new skills while contributing to the beauty and livability of your home.

Another benefit is economic. By refinishing and resting old or discarded furniture, you can save dollars that could go a long way toward buying fabrics, paint and accessories for beautifying your home.

A fourth benefit is recreation. Reworking old furniture can be an interesting hobby, a family project or a way to earn extra money.

Another benefit is the preservation of family tradition and heritage. You can restore family heirlooms that have had a great deal of sentimental value attached to them.

Voice Verified By Computer

VOICES VERIFIED BY
A COMPUTER

Kings Mountain residents presenting a credit card may someday be able to prove their identity through a computer's memory of their voice.

R. B. Moore, local telephone manager, announced that scientists at Bell Labs have granted a patent for a system of automatic speaker verification. A voice sample of a person is recorded using several repetitions of the same phrase. The characteristics, including resonant frequencies, voice pitch and intensity are combined and then stored in a computer's memory along with measurements of variability in the several utterances.

Moore said that in operation, which so far has been experimental, an applicant gives his name through a microphone or telephone to the computer and repeats the recorded phrase. The computer then compares it with the original voice sample and decides whether they are sufficiently close to establish that the speaker is the same.

Moore said that much experimental work remains to be done before the process is practical but that someday in the future, the invention may be used by holders of telephone credit cards as well as serve credit-card companies retail stores and banks.

Beware: This PCO Operator

Be on the watch for a fly-by-night Pest Control Operator, promising to control Southern Pine beetles with a systemic insecticide.

According to H. W. Dameron, County Extension Chairman, and D. W. Ivester, County Forester, there is no insecticide program that is approved or effective in the control of the Southern Pine beetle.

It has been reported that an 1972 Ford wagon with Indiana license plates, is operating in North Carolina. Mr. Dameron said that and landowner in Cleveland County receiving a proposal for controlling Southern Pine beetles should contact him or Mr. Ivester before making any commitments.

The only effective control program is to clean-out the infested area. Landowners who need assistance in determining what trees to cut should contact the County Forester's Office or the County Extension Office.

Letter To Editor

Dear Sir,
This is to help people that have disillusion of mind. My boy that is now with me is my son. The girl that is married is my daughter. The man I raised was given to me when he was a two-year-old baby. He is my nephew. Any other thing spoken concerning me and him as far as relationship would be mother and son.

Eliza M. Wright
Kings Mountain

Airman Lewis Completes Basic

SAN ANTONIO — Airman James R. Lewis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lewis of Rt. 1, Kings Mountain, N. C., has been assigned to Keesler AFB, Miss., after completing Air Force basic training.

During his six weeks at the

Air Training Command's Lackland AFB, Tex., he studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special instruction in human relations.

The airman has been assigned to the Technical Training Center at Keesler for specialized training in the administrative field.

Airman Lewis is a 1972 graduate of Kings Mountain high school.

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