Peanut Yield Contest

The peanut yield contest will be based on all the peanuts a farmer produced. Applicants need to enter the county in which they live regardless of the percentage of peanuts they produce in that county. Participation in the contest is voluntary. You need a minimum of 25 acres to be eligible. Producers interested in the contest need to supply a summary including: farm number, planted acres, total production per farm number, yield per farm number and supporting documents of production (1007, warehouse receipts). This year a “Management Practices” form is also required, and is included in this newsletter. **The deadline for entry is January 6.**
Cotton Yield Contest

Chowan County farmers who produce 50 or more acres of cotton are eligible to enter the 2009 Chowan County Cotton Yield Contest. To enter, growers must bring their official producer cotton bale list plus gin summary (no handwritten receipts will be accepted) and provide all FSA numbers where cotton was grown. Yields must include all acreage grown, including out of county acreage. Chowan must be the home or control county. The entry must be from the person doing the work or directly supervising hired employees to carry out management practices necessary for the welfare of the crop. Entries should be turned in to the Chowan County Ag Center by Friday, January 30.

Agricultural Advisory Board

The Chowan County Voluntary Agricultural District Ordinance was adopted by the County Commissioners during their September meeting. The next step is to form the Agricultural Advisory Board, which oversees the program. This Board requires a minimal time commitment.

To be eligible, nominees must be actively engaged in farming or own qualifying farmland in Chowan County. Application forms are available at the County Manager’s office, Cooperative Extension and the Natural Resource Conservation Service office on the Chowan County or Chowan Extension website. Nominations should be submitted to the Extension Office. For more information call 482-6585.

4-H Livestock Show

The 2010 Chowan County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale will be held Tuesday, April 20 at the American Legion Fairgrounds. Please call the Extension Office for more information or a registration packet. The deadline to register is February 19.

Bertie County Corn and Cotton On-Farm Tests

I have included the results of Bertie County’s corn and cotton on-farm tests and an excerpt from the Bertie County Farmline. “There were seven corn variety tests conducted in 2009. Hot and dry weather during much of June had a detrimental affect on corn yields particularly at two test sites, which were not irrigated. The Peanut Research Station and Brinkley’s were irrigated. When viewing varieties in an individual test be sure to compare how the varieties performed to the adjacent check variety and not directly to each other variety at the test site. This will be a better indicator of the actual yield potential of the variety in question since yields can be impacted greatly by changing field conditions at the test site. I would caution growers not to make major changes in varieties planted form just one-year worth of yield data. Use this information to add varieties, which show promise on a small scale to your farming operation. You should select varieties that regularly produce above average yields over two to three season.”
Visit Chowan County’s Extension Website to view the 2009 Chowan County Soybean Variety Trial Results.
Upcoming Events

Growers are invited to attend the following meetings. Meeting marked with an * include a sponsored meal. Pre-registration is required for all meetings. Please mark your calendar and call the Chowan County Ag Center at 482-6585 to let us know you are coming.

January 6       Deadline to enter Peanut Yield Contest
TBA            *Peanut Marketing with Dell Cotton, PGCMA
January 28     *Soybean Production Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chowan County Ag Center
January 30     Deadline to enter Cotton Yield Contest
February 1     *Tri-County Peanut Production Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department
February 2     Crop Budgets meeting, 9:00 a.m., Chowan County Ag Center
February 3     Soil, Nematode & Plant Analysis Sampling and Interpretation, 3:00 p.m., Chowan Co. Ag Center
February 3     *Tri-County Cotton Production Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Gates County
February 9     *Northeastern Regional Pork Conference, 9:30 a.m., Nixon’s Catering
February 16    *Albemarle Area Beef Cattlemen’s Conference, 9:30 a.m. , Nixon’s Catering
February 19    Deadline to register for Chowan County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale