

Many Hear Of Rice Research Effort, Econo-Rice Program

One Of 7 Information Sessions Held At RHS Last Wednesday

Details of Texas' newest rice research organization, Texas Rice Research Foundation, and a new research program entitled ECONO-RICE were revealed to nearly two hundred area rice producers, landowners and other interested persons in a meeting at Rice High School on Wednesday evening of last week. The meeting was one of seven which had been scheduled to bring details on ECONO-RICE, (Economic Rice Production) and the new Texas Rice Research Foundation.

Dr. Jim Stansel, scientist in charge of rice research at the western rice belt Texas A&M Station just west of the city, showed slide film discussing the needs and objectives of the new research foundation and the new accelerated rice research program.

"Texas rice farmers have higher production costs than those in the other rice growing areas, and this is pricing Texas rice out of the market," said Stansel. "The immediate concern is to reduce the unit costs for rice production, and this is where ECONO-RICE comes in. Rice farmers will need to use energy, water and other resources more efficiently if they expect to stay in business."

Costs Escalating
Research indicates that the cost of growing rice in 1981 came to about \$13 per hundredweight, but the selling price for the crop is only \$9 to \$11.25 per hundredweight, making it a money-losing situation.

A major part of the effort will be to try to cut three to four years off the 10 years it normally takes to develop a new variety of rice, said Stansel. The total research



effort will involve some 25 scientists, principally at Texas A&M University's Agricultural Research and Extension Center near Beaumont, plus its western division near Eagle Lake.

Rice Breeding In P.R.
Rice breeding programs will be stepped up as a part of this new effort to help farmers who are in the worst financial situation in years. According to Stansel, a major effort will be made to cut three to four years of the 10 years normally needed to develop a new variety of rice. Using winter growing facilities in Puerto Rico will allow researchers to escalate breeding work.

The Texas effort will follow California, which has had a five-cent checkoff for a few years, and Louisiana, which went to three cents last year.

Dr. Stansel also explained that 45% of the ECONO-RICE program will be devoted to production management research such as taking advantage of the long growing season in rice with increased emphasis on second and possibly third crop production. Another 40% of the effort will be in the increased genetic diversity and variability in the rice breeding program; and the remaining 15% in improving post-harvest management procedures such as improved varietal resistance to protect stored grain.

Accelerated 5 Yr. Program

Plans are to compact a ten-year rice research program into five years with the goal of increasing yields by 1,000 pounds per acre (16%) and holding or lowering production costs to \$11 per hundredweight by 1986. Assuming an average inflation rate of 10 percent per year, if present production trends are not changed, cost of producing an acre of rice in 1986 will be \$21 per hundredweight, noted Dr. Stansel. He said there is a 75% probability of attaining goals of lower rice production costs.

Program Cost
The rice scientist told the large gathering last week that funding for rice research

in Texas from all sources, including ECONO-RICE, is less than one percent of the gross rough rice sales while other industries put 10 percent or more of their gross sales into research and development.

"The benefit-cost ratio for rice research is very favorable," concluded Stansel. "Present efforts return \$17 for each \$1 invested. The ECONO-RICE program can return \$31 for each \$1 invested."

\$2.9 Million Budget
While the Texas rice research budget is \$2.9 million, the ECONO-RICE program will require \$861,000 in 1982 and up to \$1.4 million by 1986 to reach the economic goals. The addition of ECONO-RICE will add 29% to the rice research program in Texas, the remainder of the program coming from TAES, 27%; USDA, 19%; private grants, 6%; and TRIA, 19%.

In summarizing the effort, Dr. Stansel noted, "ECONO-RICE is critical to the economic survival of the Texas rice industry. The economic problems of rice production have been recognized. Limitations in research programs have been identified. ECONO-RICE is proposed as the solution to these problems. Full support by producers and other segments of the industry is essential. The challenge is large. It is the future of the Texas rice industry."



TRRF Functions Explained

Dr. Stansel also discussed the formation of the Texas Rice Research Foundation (TRRF) which developed because of ever-increasing costs of growing rice in Texas; the inability to consistently exceed the yield per acre plateau which the industry has reached; continued reduction in overall rice quality; and diminishing natural resources of energy, water and land.

TRRF is a producer organization designed to raise funds to finance programs of expanded research such as those set out in the ECONO-RICE program. The foundation will be administered by one director from each of twelve districts. Parts of Colorado County are in two districts, one in part with Lavaca County and the other part with a portion of Wharton County. Trustees already named include Robert Bauer of Nemo, president of the Texas Rice Improvement Association; Dale Hunt of Garwood, president of American Rice, Inc.; and David Winterman of Eagle Lake, member-at-large.

Membership and pledge cards were passed out at last week's meeting offering rice producers an opportunity to join in this research program and to pledge a \$5 per hundredweight contribution from their 1982 rice crop.

According to Dr. Stansel, response to date has been

Bids For Court-House Roof Repairs Due Mar. 8

In order to comply with time requirements of the Texas Historical Commission, the date for opening bids for roof repairs at the county courthouse has been changed from 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 26th to the regular session of the court at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 8th, announced County Judge Lester J. Cranek.

The work is planned on the north east and west roof sections where leaks developed following the high winds which hit the area late last Spring.

The Texas Historical Commission has approved a \$15,000 grant for the project provided the county provides \$30,000 to match the state grant.

Sheridan WMU Organizes Golden Citizen Program

The WMU of the First Baptist Church of Sheridan are proud to announce a newly formed golden citizen program for those 65 and older called "Friendship Fellowship."

The newly formed organization invites those 65 and older, and their spouse or a friend, to join them this month on Thursday, February 25th at 11:30 a.m. for a home-cooked meal and games afterward. The social will be held in the new fellowship hall behind the First Baptist Church. Organizers also invite anyone else to come and join to make this a most enjoyable occasion for all.

For more information or a ride to the church, please contact: Mrs. Monica Williams, 234-3136; Mrs. Rocky Jahn, 234-3057; or Mrs. Gilbert Hollub, 234-3157.

Parents Reaching Out To Meet In Columbus Thurs.

Parents Reaching Out (PRO), a local group of parents who have children with special needs, is having its monthly meeting. It will be this Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the Waldvogel House at 624 Preston Street in Columbus.

Guest speaker will be Vic Scott, Special Education Director for this area. All parents and interested professionals are encouraged to attend.

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Others On Program
Also appearing on the program last week was W. N. (Bill) Lehrer of Garwood who served on an advisory committee to help develop the new Farm Bill and he explained provisions of the Bill and how it would affect the rice industry.

Dale Hunt, president of American Rice, Inc. (ARI), one of the state's leading rice and soybean marketing organizations, reported on ARI and on marketing opportunities for the forthcoming rice season.

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United Buyers Are Big FFA Supporters

The United Buyers group of individuals and businesses who pooled funds for the purchase of calves and hogs at the 1982 show and sale, contributed a total of \$29,942.86.

The United Buyers purchased four calves and one hog, and raised prices received on nine steers from \$1.00 to \$1.10 per pound. Total expenditures amounted to \$29,942.86.

Members of the United Buyers for 1982 as listed on a roster at the sale last Saturday included: the J. H. Clippens, Ed Lee Schneider, L. J. Schilling, Kenneth Baumgartner, C. W. DeShazo, W. A. Hofers, Guy Beane, Jr., Monroe Ripper, Tony Schneiders, Billy Hefners, Frank Poppa, Jr., Edwin Balusek, Greg Lobpridge, Howard Lobpridge, Howard L. Lobpridge, Bill Carpenters, Fred Graham, and the Johnny Franks.

Also, the Johnny Franks, Edward Korenek, R. M. Roberts, Joe Wendel, Billy Ray Krenka, Raymond Korenek, Clarence Zbrankes, Larry Dulans, Alfred Prihodas, Bill Chavis, Lawrence Shimek, Albert Bitters, Bill Gohlken, Ed Ramsey, Herbert Poppa, Meth Hoffmann, Jr., Albert Botards, Frank Kudlakos.

Also, Colorado County Federal Savings and Loan Assn., Eagle Lake Rice Assn., Clifton Dardens, Herman Engstroms, W. Pierce Asthurs, Jr., Laddie L. Krenkes, Delmar Krenkes, J. P. Krenkes, SHR Farms, Rutledge Farm & Ranch, Arlin Millers, Mark L. Wied, Alois Bitters, Lawrence Pavlus, James Brunes, Harry Engstroms, Bob Cooks, R. E. Liddle, Jr., Garwood Gil Co., Lawrence Bergers, E. L. Wied and Raymond Driks.

During 1981, the state share of mixed drink taxes totaled \$88.7 million. City-county rates totaled \$36.3 million.

Colorado County received \$970.20 in revenue from \$46,408 in mixed drink sales. The City of Columbus received \$463.34 from sales totaling \$3,989.93.

Austin County received \$641.26 in revenue from the 15% tax and San Felipe, \$67.31.

Fayette County netted \$3,505.76; Flatonia, \$276.16; and La Grange, \$473.16. Lavaca County received \$1,207.36; Moulton, \$932.49; and Hallettsville, \$274.85.

Wharton County's revenue amounted to \$4,568.89; Wharton also received \$2,329.51 and El Campo, \$1,086.63.

Houses Of Stone
Zimbabwe, the new name for what was Rhodesia, goes back to the medieval state of the Shonas, the ethnic group that today comprises 77 percent of the independent nation's population. Meaning "venerated houses" or "houses of stone," Zimbabwe refers to the massive ruins of the one Great Zimbabwe, a center of trade for the Shonas from A.D. 1100 to 1450.

The chapter vice-president also reported on sales from the Rice FFA Chapter in the Houston commercial steer show. Mahalle reported that one of the chapter's former members, David Shimek, from the Houston Show and Rhodesia Local members will be seeking to capture top honors in the commercial steer show for the seventh time in the past eight years. Last year the Rice FFA members swept all four of the top places in the competition.

Roberts reported that the stock to be sold in the Rice County show is of exceptional quality this year. He also noted that bleachers have been added at the show barn and other improvements made to make the 1982 sale one of the best ever.

The vocational agriculture instructor and chapter advisor added that the local sales "could not be a success without the support of business men and individuals such as you." He extended thanks in behalf of the chapter advisors, Troy Krenke, Willie Fitzgerald and Robert Roberts, and the FFA members for their outstanding support in the past and in the future. The FFA program is designed to instill in its members leadership roles so that they can step in leadership roles in the

community."

To Sponsor Girls' State, Members of the Rotary Club voted to sponsor once again another entry from the Rice School District in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls' State program to be held this summer in Seguin.

Roberts added his appreciation for this outstanding Girls' State program which gives young ladies the opportunity to demonstrate leadership in a patriotic atmosphere.

The club will sponsor a young lady from Rice High School at Girls' State in conjunction with the El Campo American Legion Auxiliary.

In preparation for our change to a Discount Western Wear Priesmeyer's

In Garwood is having a

Clearance Sale 35% off on most items in the store

Big Savings on brand name merchandise

Ladies' Hosiery, Linerie, Blouses, Slacks and Shoes
Infants and Children's Dresses, Blouses and Jeans
Baby Gift Items
Men's Slacks and Shirts
Dankin Leotards and Tights
One group Gifts and Sheets, Blankets and Bedspreads

Regular Prices in effect on gift items.
Western Wear, Hats & Red Wing Boots at special discount prices
Wrangler Jeans \$12.98 Levi's \$13.98

Cash, Visa and MasterCard only
Sorry - no gift wrap on sale items

Colorado County Gets \$970.20 In Mixed Drinks Taxes

State Comptroller Bob Bullock reported Tuesday that the more than one and a quarter billion dollars worth of mixed drinks Texas bought during 1981 netted \$125 million in tax revenue for state and local governments last year.

Bullock made the observation in returning more than \$10 million in local share rebates of the 10 percent gross receipts tax on mixed drinks to 382 Texas cities and 209 counties for the fourth quarter of 1981.

The state will pocket more than \$24.3 million from mixed drink taxes from the October, November and December period.

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1/2 Price Sale On Fall & Winter Shoes F-I-N-A-L

ALSO \$5 OFF on Discontinued Nikes

Men's sizes 6-13; Women's sizes 5-10; Children's - Broken sizes

K & L Fashion Shoes

1512 Hwy. 71 S. - Columbus - Ph. 732-6529
Store Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon. - Sat.
Visa & MasterCard

Regular Prices in effect on gift items.
Western Wear, Hats & Red Wing Boots at special discount prices
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Mrs. Frank Davidson Passes Away

Mrs. Frank (Bertha) Davidson, beloved resident of the Eagle Lake community for the past sixty-five years, passed away peacefully at her home at approximately 6 a.m. last Friday, February 12th, bringing sadness to her relatives and friends throughout the community.

She was born Dec. 29th, 1891 in White Hall, Illinois, the daughter of Charles Davis and Clara Stout Davis. She was united in marriage with Frank Davidson, Sr. in Wharton Jan. 18, 1909 and the family came to Eagle Lake in 1916 and had resided here since. Her husband, county surveyor for many years, preceded her in death on April 12th, 1974. She was also preceded in death by two brothers, Hardin and Carl Davis.

Mrs. Davidson was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church and was active in many church organizations and other church work. She was loved by all who came to know her for her kind and gentle disposition and her willingness to help her friends whenever needed.

Survivors are three daughters, Clara May Nash of Eagle Lake, Bertha Maurine Hall of Hearne, and Mary Elizabeth Kay of Richardson; also three sons, J. K. Davidson and Frank Norman Davidson of Eagle Lake and Sam Norris Davidson of Corpus Christi. Also surviving are eighteen grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

Last rites for Mrs. Davidson were held from the chapel of the Mill-Bauer Funeral Home at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14th with the Rev. J. Melburn Sibley, pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiating. Her body was placed in a final resting place in the Masonic Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers were Paul and Orville Powers, Walter Lee Bauer, Robert Griffith, Robert Samuel Martin, Charles L. Spalinger, Fulton M. Dromgoole and T. T. (Tommy) Pilkington.

Mrs. Sibley rendered laudatory hymns on the organ. Mill-Bauer Funeral Home of Eagle Lake was in charge of arrangements.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family in their great loss.

Gospel Music Extravaganza At WCJC Feb. 24th
The public is invited to enjoy the annual Gospel Music Extravaganza presented for quotas to be in effect.

The number of farmers voting was up from the 27,859 voting in the 1980 referendum, with 89.2 percent in favor of quotas, Rank said.

USDA no longer limits the number of acres of peanuts that can be planted or the number of pounds that can be sold. Anyone can grow peanuts anywhere and in any amount. However, only peanuts produced within a farm quota are eligible for government loans at the quota loan rate.

A group of ladies have been quilting a king size quilt at the home of Mrs. A. G. Faykus for a fund-raising project for the Catholic Daughter Convention this year.

Fewer Low Income Seeking Free Tax Help
The number of low income and elderly taxpayers in the southern part of Texas seeking free tax return help has dropped by 50 percent, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

"By January 31 last year, over 4,000 people had visited our volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) sites," says the IRS Sally Sassen, "but so far this year we've only got records of about 2,000."

Anyone may receive this by calling IRS in Austin, 412-1814 and newslers in Texas toll free 1-800-492-4830.

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Garwood Water District To Elect 2 Directors

Colorado County Water Control & Improvement District No. 2 at Garwood met on Feb. 4th to officially call an election for the purpose of naming two directors to the board for two year terms on Saturday, April 3rd.

Terms of two board members expire on April 3rd. They include Sandra Huvaz and Frankie Beak, Jr. Sandra has announced for re-election but Beak has moved from the district and will have to be replaced.

Anyone in the water district may apply for these positions. The deadline for filing will be midnight March 3rd. Applications may be obtained from Harry D. Lobpridge, manager of the district.

Voting will be done April 3rd at the Water District Office in Garwood.

Terms of directors Delmar Krenke, Janie Kristyuk and Tom Rohwer carry over this year.

GARWOOD AND NADA NEWS
Mrs. J. F. Struska 758-3352

Methodist Women Meet
The Women of the Garwood Lehr Memorial United Methodist Church met at the home of Mrs. R. W. Shoop at 3:00 p.m. last Wednesday with Mrs. Beulah Shoop as hostess.

The meeting opened with prayer by the speaker, Ted Wiese of Altair. Mr. Wiese spoke on the Bible. Among the things he mentioned was that those who wrote the Bible were inspired by God and he showed how things prophesied in the Old Testament came true in the New Testament.

After Mr. Wiese's most interesting and informative talk on the Bible, the group went into a business meeting with the president, Mrs. Lawrence Berger, presiding. Roll call and minutes were read by Mrs. Guy Conner, treasurers' report by Mrs. Louis Miller and card report by Mrs. R. A. Shoop. It was decided to have a cake sale February 20th. Then hearts were drawn for prayer partners. A prayer by Mr. Wiese adjourned the meeting.

Lovely refreshments of sandwiches, cookies, Valen-tine candies, nuts, coffee and punch were served.

Has Surgery
A speedy recovery to Mrs. Chaele Beak, who had surgery in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital.

Celebrates 26th Birthday
Ella Struska spent last weekend in Houston having gone for a surprise birthday party for her grandson-in-law, Dean Martin, on his 26th birthday. Barbara chicken and all the trimmings were served to about 50 people at the K.C. Hall. A beautiful flower arrangement of Anthuriums and a decorated birthday cake centered the main table.

A group of ladies have been quilting a king size quilt at the home of Mrs. A. G. Faykus for a fund-raising project for the Catholic Daughter Convention this year.

Deas told the gathering assembled for the occasion that the CAP has a three-fold

objective: to provide emergency service; to provide education and information relating to aerospace; and to instill leadership in the youth involved in the CAP program.

He presented, in behalf of the CAP, certificates of appreciation for outstanding service in locating the plane and in caring for the wounded passenger to the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department, represented by L. J. (Sonny) Spanhel, fire chief; to the Eagle Lake Unit of the