

WPCC will offer farming courses

Western Piedmont Community College will offer several agriculture related special interest short courses.

The courses run from swine feeding and management to tobacco grading and marketing to ornamental horticulture.

Western Piedmont Community College will offer any of the courses through its Continuing Education Division whenever, enough interested persons can be identified.

Among the other courses, in addition to those already mentioned are poultry management and health, pesticides, nursery practices, farm records and taxes, and beef production.

If a farmer needs to improve his skills in a certain area, he may take one of these short courses in lieu of a regular curriculum.

According to the Department of Community Colleges, the swine feeding and management course covers new developments in the swine industry and helps swine fieldmen who work with producers. Skills included in the course are confinement rearing, systems of hog production, manure disposal, management, breeding and feeding, diseases, automation, housing and marketing.

The tobacco grading and marketing course's primary purpose is pre-employment

training for part-time farmers, high school graduates and seasonal tobacco workers. The students have basic and advanced instruction in the science of evaluating tobacco by standardized commercial procedures.

According to a publication issued by the Department of Community Colleges, the ornamental horticulture course is designed primarily to acquaint the students with the basic principles of landscaping and ornamental horticulture.

Among the topics covered are the understanding of the importance of basic planning in developing the landscape, lawn, and shrubbery and the understanding of the general principles of planting, fertilizing, pruning and care of ornamental plants.

The poultry management and health course has as its purpose to teach the management practices essential for keeping poultry healthy, poultry diseases and parasite problems, and the application of proper corrective measures.

In the pesticides course the students learn how to improve the effectiveness of retail sales personnel and others who advise farmers on the use of pesticide chemicals.

Training workers for initial employment in the nursery industry is the primary objective of the nursery practices course. The course is designed to give the students an understanding of the nursery industry and to develop the ability of the student to perform selected nursery practices.

Emphasis is placed on the study of nursery principles and techniques in the classroom and student practice of nursery skills through laboratory exercises held at the local institution, nurseries, garden centers and homes.

The farm records and taxes course is designed for farm managers and others responsible for farm record keeping. Emphasis is placed on single and double entry accounts, accounts and decision making, tax regulations and procedures and records and tax returns.

In the beef production course students develop an understanding of the fundamentals of beef production and the practical application of these fundamentals along with the latest scientific developments in the beef industry. Emphasis is placed on selection, breeding, feeding and management.