

# Flotation system catching on in Nicholas

By Josh Shephard  
**CARLISLE** — Innovations in tobacco farming have been slow to reach most farmers in recent years because of the powerful role traditional farming, County Extension Agent Mike Phillips said. But need, the mother of all invention, has forced some farmers in the area to try new things, the most promising, time and labor saving innovation that seems to be starting to catch on in Nicholas County, according to County extension agent Mike Phillips, is the flotation system.

It is no secret, Phillips said, that in the past several years tobacco labor has dwindled. In spite of raises in wages and other incentives offered, many farmers have been hard pressed to find enough field laborers to adequately tend crops throughout the season. Tobacco setting and the weeding and hoeing of the crop are especially hard hit, Phillips said, and it has led tobacco farmers to search for a more efficient means to set, hoe and weed the crop.

The flotation system itself has been available for some years but studies, Phillips said, continue to hone the process whereby farmers may more efficiently set tobacco plants. The flotation system allows farmers to set tobacco with much less hand breaking labor and time involved steps eliminated.

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The first stage is germination of the seed. A large plastic tray containing approximately 200 cells or dips is filled with a very loose soil base and floated on top of a shallow bed filled with a ferillating water base. Once the seed has germinated, they are removed from the smaller cell tray to another, larger, cell tray to allow the plant to spread and develop a small root system.

In this loose, richly fertilized, soil base young plants can remain healthy for a much longer time and maintain a strong stem for a greater period of time than with the old rigid method, Phillips said.

"The problem farmers have had to contend with is finding a dry time to set the plants during the rainy season. One day you may get several acres out there have to wait several days for the ground to dry. If the rain season is particularly wet, plants end up yellowed and sagged. You could lose a significant percentage of the crop," Phillips said.

However, the benefits of the system also carry over into the setting itself, he said. In the old system, laborers literally had to grab the stem and yank before they got in the ground, breaking the stem and giving disease a direct passage into the xylem and phloem, the main fibrous arteries inside the stem that carry nutrients in and out of the plant from the soil.

Because the trays require a lower type of dirt packing, it is a simple task of lightly plucking the young plant from its cell and placing it in the setter, decreasing the risk of soil-borne diseases.

"I see that the flotation system can be a real labor and time saver for the farmer. It is easier for him to keep his tobacco in storage longer without risking health damage," Phillips said.

Plants compete for sunlight and nutrients and if you have a huge number of plants stored together in a small space, you'll limit the amount of time they can remain out of the ground to about four days rather than two weeks.

"In their effort to get sunlight, they'll stretch out for light, they'll stretch out for light, they'll stretch out for light," Phillips said. But this year, he said, more Nicholas County farmers are experimenting with the flotation system because it can make up for some lack of the last labor with which they had to contend.

"Once farmers make the initial investment, the flotation system doesn't take much maintenance and can pay for itself quite quickly. For large tobacco farms, it is worth looking into," Phillips said.

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Please CALL (502) 443 - 3631 and ask for Doug or Bob or R.S.V.P. for the Field Day or sign up for the Operators Contest.



Nicholas County superintendent Gilbert Gilbert, Bluegrass Head Coach Ed Oakley, sponsor of the tournament, Wildcats Head Coach Rick Pano, and Elementary school principal Gerald Hammons meet and talk about Monday's schedule. Pano and the Wildcats went on an autograph signing and picture taking session with people as they welcomed the Cats to the Voorhees Center.

**Council passed.**

Council re-appointed Clarence Dord to the Planning and Zoning Board.

Council agreed to a past guidelines concerning a city-wide "clean-up day". Those who wish to know specifics about what can be removed and not should contact City Supervisor Gayle Vandelingham.

Council re-appointed N.V. Adams and Spud Malsbenden to the Board of Planning and Zoning. Adams and Malsbenden will replace Doug Garrett, who could no longer serve by virtue of his being a council member.

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- 86 Pontiac Bonneville ..... 3,995.00
- 86 Buick Electra T-Type ..... 6,995.00
- 85 Buick LeSabre ..... 2,995.00
- 85 Chrysler 5th Ave ..... 2,995.00
- 85 Dodge Omni ..... 1,995.00
- 85 Plymouth Aires ..... 2,495.00
- 85 Buick Skylark ..... 2,495.00
- 84 Chrysler Laser 2 dr. .... 2,995.00
- 84 Chrysler 5th Ave ..... 2,495.00
- 83 Plymouth Reliant ..... 1,995.00
- 68 Ford LTD 46,000 mi. .... 1,995.00

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- 91 Astro Passenger Van ..... 12,995.00
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- 91 Geo Tracker 4x4 ..... 9,995.00

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- 91 S-10 Blazer ..... 9,995.00
- 89 Pontiac Grand Prix ..... 8,995.00
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- 88 Ford Thunderbird ..... 5,995.00
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- 88 Ford F150 ..... 5,495.00
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- 91 Chevy Cavalier ..... 7,995.00
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ORDINANCE NO. 2, 1992

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 52.04 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO SERVICE CHARGES FOR THE COLLECTION OF TRASH, AND ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF CHAPTER 52 RELATING TO THE UNAUTHORIZED DEPOSIT OR DEPOSIT OF TRASH, AND ESTABLISH PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF CARLISLE:

SECTION 1. That Section 52.04 of the Code of Ordinances be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

**§ 52.04 TRASH COLLECTION SERVICE CHARGE**

(A) Trash collection service charges for one-family residence and apartments shall be \$9.50 \$2.00 per month, per residence and apartment.

(B) Monthly trash collection service charges for offices, business establishments, and industrial plants shall be as follows:

1. Beauty and Barber Shops	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
2. Restaurants	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
3. Service Stations	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
4. Insurance Agencies	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
5. Attorney at Law	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
6. Laundromats and Laundry	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
7. Garages and Repair Facilities	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
8. Poolrooms	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
9. Doctors and Dentists Offices	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
10. Court House	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
11. Dept. for Human Resources	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
12. T.V. Repair Shops	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
13. Newspapers	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
14. Hardware Stores	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
15. Real Estate Offices	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
16. Produce Companies	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
17. Drug Stores	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
18. Florists	\$ 0.50	\$ 12.00
19. Auto Part Stores	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
20. Groceries Food & Grocery Stores	\$ 0.50	\$ 20.00
21. Ceramic Pic 'n' Eat L.L.B.	\$ 4.50	\$ 20.00
22. Garrett's Furniture	\$ 39.00	\$ 66.00
23. Jockey Killing	\$ 195.00	\$ 220.00
24. Jockey Industries	\$ 500.00	\$ 1200.00
25. Carlisle Manufacturing	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
26. Other Offices	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
27. 26. Apartment Complexes per apt.	\$ 3.50	\$ 7.00
28. 27. Open - Clubs	\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00
29. 28. Churches and Classrooms	\$ 3.50	\$ 7.00
30. 29. Funeral Homes	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
31. 30. Hospital and Nursing Home	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
32. 31. Southern States	\$ 29.00	\$ 56.00
33. 32. Church Classrooms	\$ 3.50	\$ 7.00
34. 33. Retail Business	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
35. 34. Banks	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
36. 35. Post Office	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
37. 36. Jewelry Stores	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
38. 37. South Central Bell	\$ 5.00	\$ 10.00
39. 38. Clay Seed	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
40. 39. Liquor Stores	\$ 7.00	\$ 14.00
41. 40. Magic Image	\$ 35.00	\$ 70.00

SECTION 2. That a new section of Chapter 52 of the Code of Ordinances, 52.08, be enacted to read as follows:

**§ 52.08 UNAUTHORIZED IMPORT AND DEPOSIT OF TRASH**

No person shall bring trash into the corporate limits of the city for purposes of depositing same at any authorized pickup point, whether residential, business, or industrial location. No person shall deposit trash at any authorized pickup point for which he, she, or it does not pay the monthly service charge established in Section 52.04.

SECTION 3. That a new section of Chapter 52 of the Code of Ordinances, 52.99, be and hereby is enacted to read as follows:

**§ 52.99-PENALTIES**

Whoever violates any of the provisions of this Chapter shall be fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). Each day the violation is committed or permitted to continue shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage, approval, and publication as required by law.

First Reading: February 20, 1992  
 Second Reading: March 12, 1992

ATTEST  
 Mary S. Jeep  
 Mayor, City Clerk

Published: March 19, 1992  
 Published in The Carlisle Mercury, Thursday, March 19, 1992.