

NC Cooperative Extension, Craven Center



Agricultural Update

October 2025

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Important Note: Registration deadline for events listed below will vary from as few as 24 hours prior the event to as much as 3-4 days prior the event so please register as much in advance as possible. Also, while attendance is open to anyone, meals, when served, will only be provided for those that register in advance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

US Flue-cured Tobacco GAP meetings have been scheduled. For producers within NC, all meetings are scheduled for January 2026. Below is the scheduled meetings. All will be held within the NC Extension office of the location listed and will begin at 9 AM. Specific details, updates, cancellations, or changes are posted at [GAP Connections](#).

Date	Location
Jan 5th	Wilson
Jan 7th	Smithfield
Jan 20th	Goldsboro
Jan 28th	Greenville

The NC Commodities Conference will take place on January 14-15, 2026 at the Greenville Convention Center located at 303 SW Greenville Blvd., Greenville, NC. Please Note : This is now a one day event on Jan 15th, 2026! Registration, agenda, hotel discounts and more information is found at the [NC Commodity Conference website](#).

*Mark Eubanks now serves as the Pesticide Coordinator and will present these classes. For questions regarding the certification process or other license concerns, please contact him at 252-633-1477 or by email to: meubank2@ncsu.edu

Transitions!

Beginning in November, NC Cooperative Extension office will be located inside the Craven County Agricultural Building auditorium. As we transition, there may be short periods of disruptions as we establish internet and phone services. Too, expect an "open office" area should you wish to visit. Any inconvenience this may cause you is regrettably. Please realize it will be temporary. We anticipate moving back into our renovated offices some time in February 2026.

60th NC Irrigation Society Meeting

This year the NC Irrigation Society's annual meeting will discuss the potential for farmers to be paid to develop or use existing ponds as a means for mitigation of floods. Too, much of the agenda in the afternoon will focus on the potential for drip irrigation in crops, especially for waste application. While you may not currently have a pond or any irrigation system, these topics and others may interest you. To register or for more information visit the [event webpage](#)

Needed: Wheat fields

NC State Extension and NC Wheat Growers' Association is coordinating studies to evaluate fungicides applied at flower (Miravis Ace, Syngenta) or the plant growth regulator, Palisade EC, (Syngenta). The product(s) will be supplied. We simply need growers willing to replicate the application and be willing to allow harvest using a calibrated weigh wagon or grain cart. If this interest you, please contact our office. We are in process of ordering the products and need to confirm locations within the next few weeks.

Data from these individual plots will be kept confidential but the data will be pooled with other grower data to evaluate the average impact of these products within each region of NC. Providing assistance will also help NC Extension in Craven too since each plot has a stipend to aid in expenses and operation of site.

BeanPack 3.0 Volunteer Needed

BeanPack is a web tool to aid soybean production. It has recently been upgraded to include OVT data. The next version will include grower data. The greater number of growers contributing to this data, the greater value it will have to you as a grower. Currently, we are seeking 5-10 growers willing to simply share next season's production data and harvest data with the team developing this web tool. Categories selected to participate can vary from the field you think will be the highest yield, average yielding.....or even the lowest. Similarly, you may classify your fields by first planted or last planted. If interested, please contact our office. We realize you normally would plan this far in advance but we must begin now to determine how to best utilize this data.

Changes in Extension Agricultural Roles Within Craven

Mark Eubanks serves primarily as our Extension Horticultural Agent. However, he also now provides recertification classes for pesticide applicators. Look for letters and announcements from him regarding local classes. He will also provide support for all grain crops, although, Mike Carroll will also continue to provide support.

Free Pesticide Disposal Event

There will be a free collection of unwanted or damaged pesticides on November 18th at Meherrin in Trenton (468 NC-58, Trenton, NC) from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. All sizes will be accepted other than 55 gallon or mini-bulk containers. Items should be in the original container and have a label. If the container does not have a label, one can be printed at the CDMA website, Greenbook, or company website.

If the container is not intact and leaking, place the container in a sand or cat litter filled larger container for transport. If the item cannot be transported, please contact the NC Cooperative Extension, Jones Center for assistance. Follow directions of those at the site for disposal.

Additional questions should be directed to Jacob Morgan by calling 252-448-9621 or email to: jacob_morgan@ncsu.edu.

Note: Due to renovations at the Craven County Agricultural Building proceeding through 2026 as well as limited funding for this type of event, please take advantage of the opportunity to dispose of items now. Normally, we'd be able to project that such an event would be held in Craven County in 2026 but the reality is that it may not.

NC Extension and NCSU Vacancies

At the moment, several Extension positions are vacant that may impact winter meetings. Dr. Matthew Vann, Extension Tobacco Specialist; Dr. Andrew Hueseth, Extension Entomologist; Dr. Wes Everman; Extension Weed Science; Dr. Ron Heiniger, Extension Corn Specialist; and Dr. Rachel Vann, Extension Soybean Specialist, to name a few, have retired or taken employment elsewhere. Many of these positions have been advertised but no candidate has been selected to fill the vacant position. We encourage you to communicate with your local grower association representatives to encourage filling these positions with competent individuals as quickly as possible.

Extension Access to NCDA & CS Information

As noted in earlier newsletters, there have been technical issues as well as privacy issues regarding information stored within the NCDA & CS websites and services. As example, if you listed an Extension Agent's email on the submission form when you submitted samples to the Agronomic Division, then that person does have access to that information for those reports. If you do not list an email for a specific person on the form, then nobody has access to the information but you. Similarly, due to recent technical problems, all pesticide information for private applicators was not accessible to anyone but the NCDA & CS faculty. So, realize that policy and technical issues may limit who has access to your information. As such, we encourage each individual to create an account within the NCDA & CS in order to monitor pesticide credit status or share information from reports with others.

UMO Grants up to \$10,000

The University of Mount Olive Lois G. Britt Agribusiness Center recently announced a new round of funding of the UMO AgPrime Grant Program. This project provides funding to North Carolina farmers for new and/or innovative agricultural project ideas that will increase farm profits. Supported by the North Carolina Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, this program is designed to strengthen farms and communities that were negatively impacted by the downturn of the tobacco economy.

Applicants can find UMO AgPrime Grant application and instructions at their [designated website](#). Funding proposals of up to \$10,000 will be considered for farmers and agribusinesses that are agriculturally dependent and have viable ideas for new and innovative agricultural projects. Priority is given to applicants who earn at least 50% of their personal income from their farm operation or agribusiness entity, and to current and former tobacco farmers or former quota holders. Funding is made available by the NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission and administered by the Lois G. Britt Agribusiness Center at the University of Mount Olive.

For more information visit www.umo.edu/ag. Again, the direct link for the application is www.surveymonkey.com/r/agprime2026. Contact the AgPrime program coordinators for assistance: Stan Dixon at 252-526-1587 or Ed Emory at 910-290-1002.

Jassid Cotton Bug Confirmed in Jones County

Jassid Cotton Bugs have been confirmed in Jones and Lenoir Counties. Not much is known about this insect and it is new to North Carolina. It can be very detrimental to cotton. However, it arrived too late in the season to cause any real damage in 2025. It is believed that this insect

will not survive our winters, however, it is important to keep an eye out in the spring on the small chance that it does survive the winter. More information and pictures can be found [here](#). If you do locate these bugs please let me know. (Note: If okra is growing near a cotton field, this is a likely spot to find this pest during this time of year)



NC Farm Help Line

Tariffs, low economic prices, unpredictable weather, age, labor problems, and many other factors contribute to stress of farming. In fact, whether we like it or not, agriculture has one of, if not the highest, accidental death rates due to equipment use, as well as the highest suicide rate for occupations. Do consider potential impact of things that can be a negative influence on production but please don't worry about things you cannot change! If you find yourself depressed, well, we can listen! If you are not comfortable discussing issues with us, help is available 24/7, through the Help Line that connects individuals experiencing a crisis or in need of other help with resources including mental health, financial, legal, farm safety/health, Cooperative Extension and more at 844-325-3276 or online at <https://ncfarmstress.org/crisis-and-resource-lines/>. Additionally, for tobacco producers, legal or labor assistance is available free from [GAP Connections](#)

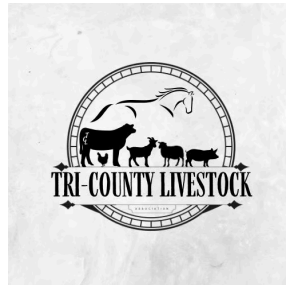
Tri-county Livestock Association Meeting

Beat the Heat, Boost Your Herd: The Benefits of Shade for Cattle

Don't let the summer heat cut into your bottom line! Join Livestock Extension Agent Kristi Welke and NCSU's expert, Dr. Felipe Silva, for a discussion on the importance of shade for maximizing cattle health and productivity. Learn practical, science-backed strategies to keep your herd cool and thriving.

Register at: <https://go.ncsu.edu/tricountylivestockassociationmeeting>

November 12, 2026 at 6 p.m. at the Jones County Civic Center. 832 NC HWY 58 S, Trenton, NC 28585. **Registration closes November 10, 2026**



Upcoming Animal Waste Zooms

November 5, 2025 from 9am-12pm: 1 hour of X pesticide credit. Topics: Ventilation, Pest management in forages, Missteps during DEQ Inspections. Register at:

go.ncsu.edu/animalwastenov5

November 13, 2025 from 1-4PM: Topics: Calibration, Sludge Management, NC Pork Council Update and Safety Register at: go.ncsu.edu/animalwastenov13

Scan the QR Codes to register also!



Nov 5, 9 am-12


go.ncsu.edu/animalwastenov5
Topics:
 *Ventilation
 *Pest Mgmt in Forages
 *Missteps during DEQ Inspections
1 hour X Pesticide credit

Virtual Animal Waste Classes
 3 hours AW credit offered at each session

Nov 13, 1-4 pm


go.ncsu.edu/animalwastenov13
Topics:
 *Calibration
 *Sludge Mgmt
 *NC Pork Council Update
 *Safety

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Disclaimer:

Recommendations for the use of agricultural chemicals are included in this publication as a convenience to the reader. The use of brand names and any mention or listing of commercial products or services in this publication does not imply endorsement by the NC Cooperative Extension Service nor discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned. Individuals who use agricultural chemicals are responsible for ensuring that the intended use complies with current regulations and conforms to the product label. Be sure to obtain current information about usage regulations and examine a current product label before applying any product.

NC Cooperative Extension, Craven Center

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In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, N.C. Cooperative Extension will honor requests for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Please direct accommodation requests to: Mike Carroll at 252-633-1477 or email: mike_carroll@ncsu.edu. Requests can be served more effectively if notice is provided at least 10 days before the event.

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*If you feel you have experienced discrimination or harassment,
you may file a report with Equal Opportunity and Equity.*
<https://diversity.ncsu.edu/report-a-concern/>

*You may also file a complaint with the USDA Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights for
discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability.*
<https://www.usda.gov/oascr/program-complaints>

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