

NC STATE

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TEST: Agricultural News From Craven County Extension

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Fri, Oct 31, 2025 at 4:29 PM

NC STATE EXTENSION

NC Cooperative Extension, Craven Center



Agricultural Update

October 2025

In this Newsletter.....**Upcoming Events****Private Applicator Information Sharing Restricted****Farmland Preservation Grants Available Through NCDA & CS****Soybean Insect Management****Peanut Management****Craven County Agricultural Building Remodeling****NC Farm Helpline**

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](#).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Jan 5th	Wilson
Jan 7th	Smithfield
Jan 20th	Goldsboro
Jan 28th	Greenville

The NC State Fair will be October 16-26, 2026. Two new ticket packages are being offered this year – the Bright Lights and Boots Package, which includes an adult Fair admission ticket, plus a ticket to the rodeo, and the Sippin' Spirits Package that includes an adult admission ticket, plus a cocktail voucher for the N.C. Stillhouse, which features craft cocktails by North Carolina distilleries. New entertainment this year includes a Wild West-style roping and knife-throwing show by cowboy and World Fastest Draw Champion Andy Rotz; the Conjurer Fortune Machine, a live interactive “Zoltar” style fortune experience (think the Tom Hanks movie “Big”); and the return of Cast in Bronze, an engaging Carillon musical performance.

Tickets and information is found at <https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/nc-state-fair/2025-nc-state-fair>. To download the daily schedule, hours of operation and summary of events, click the button below.

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

[Download the NC State Fair Daily Schedule](#)

Private Applicator Information Sharing is Restricted

Due to circumstances beyond their control, NCDA's Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division must shut down access to the Private Applicator database. This means that Extension will not be able to check the certification status of Private Applicators. Furthermore, they now have a new phone number. Their new phone number 984-236-4575.

60th NC Irrigation Society Meeting

This year the NC Irrigation Society's annual meeting will discuss the potential for farmers to 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. The agenda is below. To register or for more informaiton visit the [event webpage](#)

60th Annual North Carolina Irrigation Society Conference

Agenda

Neuse River Resource Recovery Facility
8500 Battle Bridge Rd, Raleigh, NC 27610
November 6, 2025



8:30 am – 9:00 am	Registration & Coffee
9:00 am – 9:15 am	Welcome & Opening Remarks – Durrelle Scott, Department Head, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, North Carolina State University
9:15 am – 9:45 am	Water Farming, The Potential for North Carolina –Barbara Doll
9:45 am – 10:15 am	An Overview of Ag Row Crop Irrigation Across North Carolina – Nick Figgott and Alex Trovillian
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 am – 11:00 am	Water Policy and Changes with the New Administration (ZOOM)– Nathan Bowen
11:00 am – 11:30 am	The Impact of Timely Irrigation on Yield and Nutrient Efficiency in Drought Prone Soils, A Minnesota Perspective (ZOOM) – Vasudha Sharma, University of Minnesota
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	The Interaction of Irrigation and Drainage Timing on Crop Yields and Water Quality – Chad Poole
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch and Business Meeting Lifetime Service Award – Laverne Parker, Jr. - Tom Crockett Irrigation
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Subsurface Drip Irrigation Emittter Technology – Jared Hughes
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	The Potential for Subsurface Drip Irrigation in NC Swine Systems from an Industry View Jared Hughes
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Practical Implication and Challenges of Subsurface Drip Use in Spray Fields for NC – Stephanie Kulesza
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Evaluating Subsurface Drip Irrigation for Odor Reduction – Mahmoud Sharara
4:00 pm	Adjourn

Soybean Insect Management

Corn Earworm (CEW) and Tobacco Budworms(TBW) have been higher this year than in years past. Within many areas of the state, the number of moths flying is increasing again. Generally, these late flights tend to migrate to soybeans with an open canopy or those planted very late that are still blooming. Fields with medium to large pods are normally not threatened by this flight. As such, concentrate scouting on later planted soybeans, fields with open canopy, or those with blooms.

Another pest of concern is the soybean looper. Dr. Dominic Reisig, NCSU Entomology, is noting increased catches of adults in light traps. Too, some agents are reporting this pest beginning to show within fields. Loopers tend to begin feeding on the bottom of the plant and work upward. As such, unless scouting occurs routinely, this pest can cause significant defoliation before being discovered. Generally, unless there is a mixture of both small and large loopers, once they are noted on the top of the plant, the damage has been done and treating is seldom warranted.

Soybean loopers are best controlled by caterpillar specific products. Intrepid Edge (not Intrepid, alone) and Steward have provided good control of loopers. Pyrethroid products do not work. However, if one waits until the loopers are large, inconsistent results may result. Refer to the articles, [Soybean Looper Thresholds & Insecticide Recommendations](#), for more information. When applying product to a field with a thick leaf canopy, for either pest, increasing the volume to about 20 GPA at 60 psi provides best results. Low volume or low pressure limits product dispersal to just the upper leaves and thus provides poor results.

Lastly, please scout for stinkbugs. An NC State survey in 2023 shows that 60% of fields were impacted by stinkbugs with 35% of these field reaching threshold. Brown stinkbugs were among the most common but the Southern Green and Green Stinkbug were also present. These pest feed on soybean seeds so they not only reduce yield but also impact seed quality. An article with images, biology, scouting note, and more is found [HERE](#). Threshold for treatment depends upon the scouting method, row width and whether soybeans are for seed production or grain are located [HERE](#).

Peanut Management

It will soon be time to begin planning for harvest. Generally, it takes 2600 heat units from emergence (not planting) until Bailey is mature. We are slightly above our normal GDS units so peanut maturity may be earlier than normal. A few pointers are listed below as we wait for our digging date.

- If fungicide spray is washed off within 2 hours, it is most likely still effective but will not provide control for 2-3 weeks. Shorten the interval between spraying (i.e Apply in 7-10 days rather than 14 days or more).
- Other than grass, most weeds that escaped do not merit treatment. 2,4-DB is a legal option but this, and other materials, just will not kill large weeds.
- It is not uncommon to note nutrient deficiencies during mid to late season pod development. There is a high nutrient demand due to the vast number of pods maturing. This has been noted in plots at NCSU over the years and even confirmed through tissue analysis. However, this deficient state is temporary. Attempts to apply a remedial treatment has not been proven economical or agronomically needed.
- Rain and warmer weather normally result in higher root worm damage. As harvest proceeds, note any fields that has more than normal root worm damage. Equally as

important, note if you do NOT notice root worms. If no damage is noted, then it likely these fields are not at risk in the future.

Wheat Management

Craven County wheat producers this past season saw challenges with rain and fungus development in the late stages of head development causing a decrease yield per acre for some farmers this highlights the importance of cross referencing [disease resistance](#) with yield data in the [2025 NC OVT](#) for [variety section](#).



Craven County Agricultural Building Remodeling

Just a reminder that remodeling is scheduled for the Craven County Agricultural Building beginning in September 2025 through June 2026. As such, the auditorium will be closed to the public during this time. Production meetings, events, pesticide classes, etc. will be held in other buildings within the county or in other counties. Please note the location in these counties when announcements arrive in future emails, web posts, or newsletters.



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](#)

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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.

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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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