

NC Cooperative Extension, Craven Center

Agricultural Update



January 2024

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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

NC Commodity Conference – This annual event will be held January 8-10, 2025 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Durham, NC. It provides opportunity to network with board members and industry leaders for all commodities. Education sessions include production seminars, marketing, and more! Registration Now Open! Register [HERE](#)

NC Blueberry Council Annual Meeting will be held January 14-15, 2025 at the Charlie Rose Expo Center, Crown Complex, Fayetteville, North Carolina. As of today, cost is \$85 for members and \$100 for non-members. Register [HERE](#). For questions, contact Brenda Park, Executive Director, at 864-361-1598 or b.park@ncblueberrycouncil.org.

2024 NC OVT Soybean Data Webinar – Dr. Ryan Heiniger will host a soybean data webinar to review varietal performance and selection criteria on January 20th, 2025 at 9 am. Please register [HERE](#).

Raising Livestock on Small Acreage - On January 22, 2025 beginning at 6 pm at Jones County Civic Center, Trenton, NC, Kristi Welke and Melissa Huffman will present information regarding fencing, forage selection, stocking rates, and rotational grazing for various livestock species. Register [HERE](#) or download the flyer below for more information.

Area Corn & Soybean Production Updates – On January 27, 2025 from 9 am until 12:30 pm, we will host Dr. Ron Heinger, Dr. Ekrum Ozlu, Dr. Luke Gatiboni, Dr. Jeff Chandler and Daniel Simpson as they present topics on soil/tillage management, fertility management, soybean growth habits, and corn/soybean production. A meal will follow the presentation so advance registration is required for the meal. Register via Eventbrite [HERE](#). NCDA & CS pesticide credits for N, O, D & X have been applied. (If interested in obtaining all required Category V and X credits in one day, note the last article in this newsletter regarding Private Applicator Safety Classes)

NC Peach Growers' Society Annual Meeting – This meeting will be held January 28, from 8 am to 3:45 pm at the NC Cooperative Extension, Moore County Center, 707 Pinehurst Avenue, Carthage, NC. You will find additional details including cost, the agenda and online registration [HERE](#). Registration is \$30 if paid by January 15th, \$35 at the door. For questions, please call 910-947-3188.

Brushy Mountain Tree Fruit Meeting – This meeting will be February 13, 2025 9 am - 3 pm at the NC Cooperative Extension, Wilkes County Center, 416 Executive Drive, Wilkesboro, NC. The agenda and online registration is [HERE](#).

Peanut Production Updates - On February 17, 2025 beginning at 1 PM, NCSU faculty and guest speakers will present information regarding recent peanut research projects and production updates. Visit the [NC Extension, Pitt County Center website](#) for details or call 252-902-1700 for information.

Area Cotton Production Meeting – Final details for this meeting are still being planned but mark your calendar for February 19, 2025 beginning with a noon meal. Time permitting, more information will follow in future newsletters. If not, visit our home webpage under "Events" for information and registration.

Raising Livestock on Small Acres Flyer

Workshops, Recertification and Schools

The information below provides an overview of upcoming workshops, training sessions and recertification events.

Flue-cured Tobacco GAP Recertification

US Flue Cured GAP recertification meetings are limited this year. Those closest to us are listed below. Visit the [NC Tobacco Web Portal](#) for specific meeting registration and details. (Advance registration required) If none of these meetings are convenient, then training is available online through [GAP Connections](#)

Date	NC Location
Jan 6	Wilson
Jan 10	Smithfield
Jan 29	Williamston
Jan 30	Goldsboro

Regional Soybean Schools – Information pertaining to soybean agronomic decisions, research updates, new tools, trends, and pest management will be presented to optimize production. This event is sponsored by NC Soybean Association and NC Extension. Registration, starting times, details and agenda can be found at <https://ncsoy.org/regional-soybean-schools/>. Dates and locations of meeting are as follows:

Tuesday, January 28th in Kenansville
Wednesday, January 29th in Rocky Mount
Thursday, January 30th in Burlington
Tuesday, February 11th in Edenton
Tuesday, February 11th in Plymouth

Price Risk Management/Commodity Outlook Workshops

The Marketing Division of the NCDA&CS is planning a series of risk management workshops on “**Managing Price Volatility/Identifying Macro Indicators**”. The following topics will be covered: Introduction to Commodity/Financial Hedging, Basis Trading, Cost of Carry, ICE Cotton Futures, Option Trading on Futures, Energy Derivatives, and macro forces impacting the market. There will be an emphasis on the principles of options, spreading strategies, and using options to manage agricultural price risk.

Workshop 2: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 – Duplin County Extension. 165 Agriculture Dr., Kenansville, NC 28340. 910-296-2143. 10:00 AM To 12:00PM

Workshop 3: Friday, January 17, 2025 - Wayne County Extension, 3114 Wayne Memorial Dr., Goldsboro, NC 27534, 919-731-1521. 9:30 to 12:00PM

Workshop 4: Monday, January 27, 2025 – Cunningham Research Station, 200 Cunningham Rd., Kinston, NC 28501. 252-527-3579 10:00AM To 12:00PM

Workshop 5: Friday, January 31, 2025 – Pitt County Extension, 403 Government Circle, Greenville, NC

NCDA & CS Sample Access Policy Change

As of January 6, 2025, North Carolina Department of Agriculture will be making changes to their sample database. After this date, two things will be different:

1) **Growers will need to create a PALS account to access their samples.** You can create a PALS account [HERE](#).

Key points:

- Make sure you use the same email address on your sample report as you do to create your PALS account.
- After creating your account, you will need to go to your email and click the link in the email generated by NCDA to activate your account.
- You will need to use this email and a password to access your account and results.

- If you have a personal as well as professional account that you wish to maintain separately, you will need a different email for each account.

2) NC Extension Agents (or consultants, dealer or anyone else you wish to have access) will no longer be able to access your sample report if they are not listed as the advisor on your sample form when the samples are submitted. Please list the appropriate individual/agent in the advisor box on your sample submission form.

Key Point:

- If we are submitting samples for you, we can add this information. If you submit the sample, please include the Extension Agents name, telephone number and email.
- Multiple individuals can be listed. The primary information needed will be the name of the person, email and telephone number.

There may be adjustments made as the system rolls out but, for now, this is the new policy. Should you forget, you can always download the samples from the NCDA & CS PALS website and then email the results directly to whom you wish to review them. This will be fine for us but for those of you with low internet speed or limited access, this may take a while.



Which Insecticide is the BEST?

NC Extension commodity web portals provide the most recent information to assist you in production. Recently the corn, soybean and cotton portals provided charts and information regarding the effectiveness of insecticides by crop. Whether seeking information to evaluate at planting or post emergence remedial treatments, please review this data. Some commonly used insecticides are simply not as effective as portrayed. Reviewing the data is a great way to ensure that you obtain a return for the investment whether it is an insecticide on seed, varietal trait, or pesticide product application. [View All Updates](#)



Market Assistance for Specialty Crops (MASC)

Lisa Rayburn, Area Commercial Horticultural Agent for this area, provided a summary of this program. Rather than recreating a her great article, we just copied her verbatim below! (THANKS Lisa!)

The USDA is offering a new program - Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops (MASC) - to support specialty crop producers and help defray the costs of entering new markets. This program is being administered through the local FSA offices. Here is a link to the [FSA/USDA program overview](#).

This [Farm Bureau article](#) gives a good overview of the program and how it will be administered. Growers must submit a [MASC Application](#) and supporting paperwork to their local FSA office by the January 8th deadline. The program appears to be a general financial assistance program and does not require that the grower direct the funds to marketing-specific activities.

Podcast - Double Cropping Soybeans behind Corn

There is a new [Science for Success](#) video on double cropping soybeans after corn made in cooperation with Clemson Extension. (South Carolina farmers were the ones who came up with the idea, so Clemson began to research the topic). There are 5 really important lessons learned. Check out [this video](#) to learn more.

Private Applicator Safety Classes????

The process of obtaining pesticide credits for Private Applicator Safety involves coordinating with NCDA & CS Inspectors and submission/approval of classes on the NCDA & CS webpage.

We have done this and are awaiting final approval to provide classes for those needing the Private Applicator Safety Training, Category V class. Below are the dates submitted so you can begin planning which might be best for you to attend. Simply realize that these are

"tentative" until final approval of the NCDA & CS Pesticide Division. Also, Craven County has a small number of folks needing recertification in 2025. As such, the number of classes is less than years past. So, if you miss the ones listed below, check the [NCDA & CS calendar for other classes](#).

TENTATIVE DATES & TIMES (All classes will be in the auditorium of the Craven County Agricultural Building, New Bern, NC 28562. Final details, when approved, will be listed on our [webpage](#)

- January 27, 2025 from 2 pm - 4 pm (Will follow immediately after the Corn/Soybean meeting)
- February 12, 2025 from 10 am - 12 noon
- February 24, 2025 from 3 pm - 5 pm.

Note. if you are unsure of your credit status, visit the [NCDA & CS Pesticide Divisions' Private Applicator Credit Search webpage](#). Or, if preferred, download the Excel file below that contains the current list of those with a Private Applicator license. (If you do not find your name, please call the NCDA & CS Pesticide Division at 984-236-4575.

[Download an Excel file of all Craven County Private Applicators & Credit Status](#)

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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<https://diversity.ncsu.edu/report-a-concern/>

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