

YADKIN COUNTY HORTICULTURE NEWSLETTER

January 2026

Winter Garden Checklist: Maintenance & Planning

While the garden sleeps, the dedicated gardener stays busy! Use this month to build a healthy foundation for the year ahead.

In the Landscape: Structural Pruning

Dormancy makes it easy to see the "bones" of your plants. Focus your pruning shears here:

- Shade Trees: Remove dead, damaged, or crossing branches to prevent ice and snow breakage.
- "New Wood" Bloomers: Now is the time for Crepe Myrtles and late-season hydrangeas.
- Berries: * Blackberries/Raspberries: Cut old, woody floricanes (the ones that fruited last year) to the ground.
 - Blueberries: Remove 1-2 of the oldest, thickest canes to encourage new growth and open the center for light.
- Grapes & Muscadines: Complete heavy annual pruning in late winter.

[WARNING] Hands off the Spring Bloomers! Do NOT prune Azaleas, Forsythia, or Rhododendrons now, or you will cut off all of this spring's flowers.

Protection & Hydration

- Water Evergreens: Broadleaf evergreens like Holly and Rhododendron lose moisture through their leaves. If it's dry, give them a slow soak on days when the temperature is above 40°F.
- Free Mulch: Shred fallen leaves and apply them to beds to insulate roots and enrich the soil.

Indoor Planning: The "Mental" Garden

Trade your trowel for a notebook this month:

- Crop Rotation: Map out your vegetable garden to move plant families to new spots. This is essential for breaking the life cycle of soil-borne diseases.
- Soil Testing: Send in your soil samples now! Knowing your soil composition early gives you a head start on applying amendments before spring planting.

Need a soil test kit? Stop by the NC Cooperative Extension office to pick one up!

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Yadkin Blackberry Pruning

Join Yadkin County Cooperative Extension for a hands-on blackberry pruning workshop. Craig Mauney, Area Specialized Agent for Commercial Fruit and Vegetable, will be joining us to demonstrate and guide attendees through proper pruning methods, which are essential for maximizing next season's yields.

Please dress warmly and consider bringing your favorite pair of pruning shears.



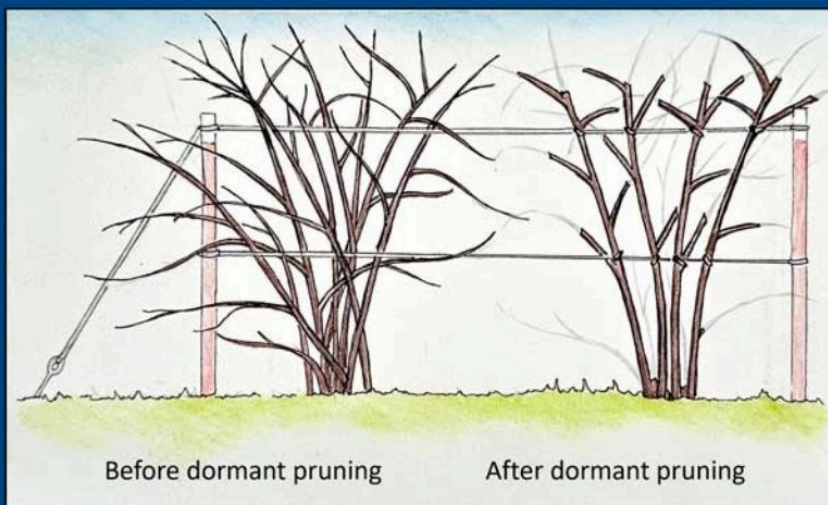
January 27th, 2026



2pm-4pm



2908 Mitchells Chapel Rd
Boonville, NC 27011



Register Online at:

<https://go.ncsu.edu/yadkinblackberrypruning>

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: Kellee Payne at kellee_payne@ncsu.edu or 336-849-7908. Requests can be served more effectively if notice is provided at least 10 days before the event.

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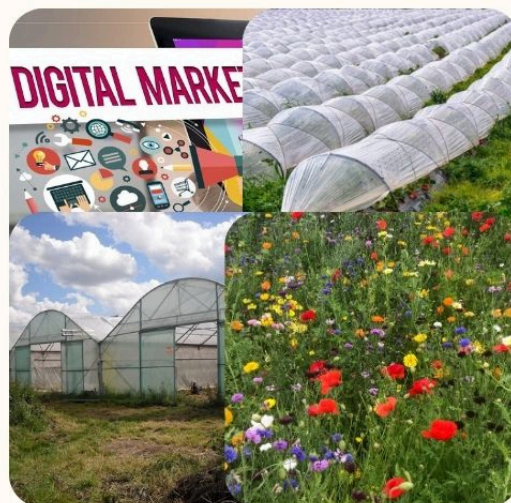
12th Annual Foothills Specialty Crops Roundtable

Please join us for this informational meeting to discuss various topics related to specialty crops to help you be more successful in your farming operation. Topics will include: Sprayer Calibration, High Tunnels, Growing Uncommon Fruit, Digital Marketing, IPM, Preparing for Tax Season, Plasticulture Basics, Wildflower Plantings, Creating a Business Plan, and Farmers Market Certifications.

 Thursday, January 29th

 12:00pm–5:00pm

 Surry County Government
Service Center
915 E. Atkins Street
Dobson, NC 27017



Register Online at:

<https://go.ncsu.edu/2026foothillsroundtable>



Thank you to our sponsor!



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So You Want to Grow Medicinal Herbs?

Join the Piedmont Medicinal Herb Growers to learn about the Medicinal Herb Steps for Commerce. This includes an introduction to medicinal herbs, how to evaluate resources, the planning process, steps on how to grow, and how to grow your success.



Monday, February 16th



1 pm - 4 pm



**Catawba County Cooperative Extension Center
1175 S. Brady Ave
Newton, NC 28658**

Registration-\$12

**TO REGISTER, SCAN QR CODE OR
COPY LINK BELOW**



[HTTPS://GO.NCSU.EDU/GROWINGMEDICINALHERBS](https://go.ncsu.edu/growingmedicinalherbs)

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Check out what is “In Season”
during the month of January!

In Season in January **10%**
BUILDING NORTH CAROLINA'S LOCAL FOOD ECONOMY
Farm-to-Fork
nc10percent.com

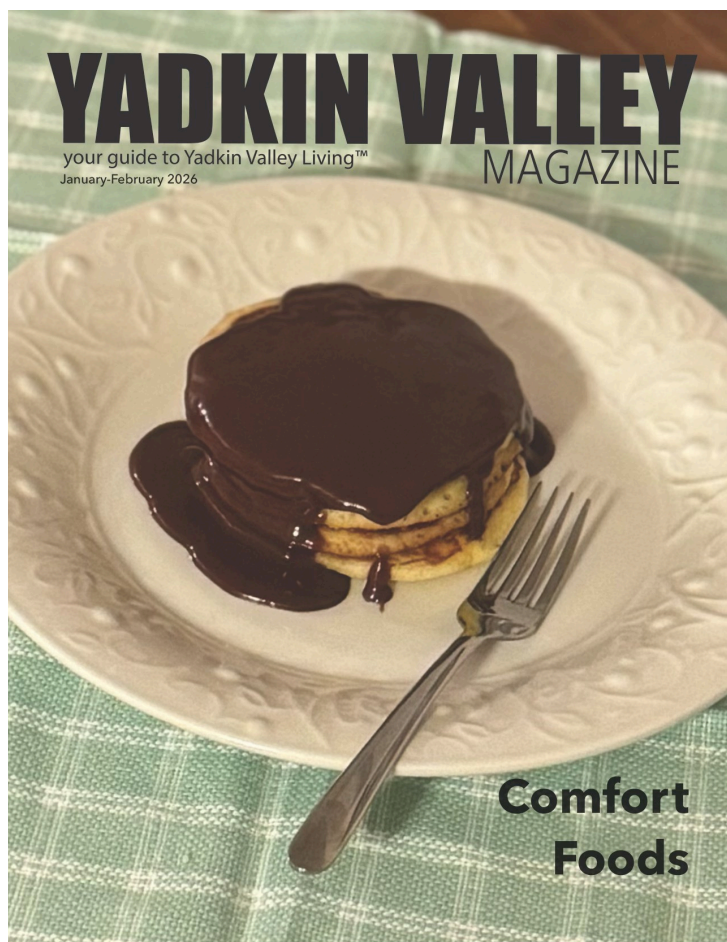


Apples Bok Choy Brussel Sprouts Carrots Celery Root Peanuts Rutabaga Spinach Sweet Potatoes

For more info on what's in season, to find recipes, or locate a local farmers market near you, visit nc10percent.com.



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Check out the
January/February
Edition of the Yadkin
Valley Magazine.
Learn about “Prime
Time Planning: Your
Winter Garden To-Do
List” on pages 42-43.

You can pick up your
free copy at the
Yadkin County
Agricultural and
Educational Building.



FARM BUREAU
YADKIN

NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

EXTENSION TODAY
ON WIFM 100.9

FEATURING:
KELLEE PAYNE
HORTICULTURE
EXTENSION AGENT

JANUARY 7TH AT 9:05 AM
JANUARY 10TH AT 10:05 AM

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Tune in January 7th or 10th to WIFM Radio 100.9 to hear from Horticulture Agent, Kellee Payne. She'll be sharing essential winter maintenance tips and how to use these colder months to plan a spectacular spring garden.

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Want to keep up with Yadkin County Horticulture? Follow Yadkin County Horticulture on Facebook @YadkinHorticulture and hit the like button.

Our office hours are Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. We are located at 2051 Agricultural Way, Suite 201, Yadkinville, NC 27055.
Contact us at 336-849-7908.



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