Save the date: Got to Be NC Festival runs May 20-22

The Got to Be NC Festival returns to the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh May 20-22, highlighting agriculture and agribusiness, the state’s No. 1 industry. This family-friendly event proudly showcases the best of North Carolina at the Got to Be NC Food, Wine & Beer Homegrown Fare, presented by Lowes Foods. Also, there will be plenty of kids’ activities, lumberjack shows, tractor displays, food, carnival rides and a barbecue cooking contest fundraiser.

The N.C. Forest Service is urging residents across the state to think safety and exercise caution during the spring fire season, which typically lasts from March to May.

During the spring fire season, people do a lot of yard work that often includes burning leaves and yard debris. There are many factors to consider before doing any burning.

“If you’re thinking about burning debris, contact your county forest ranger first,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “The forest ranger can offer technical advice and explain the best options to help maximize safety for people, property and the forest.”

Consumers are pretty accustomed to loading up their online retail shopping carts, hitting the pay button and simply waiting for their merchandise to arrive in a few days. Online shopping is convenient, and it doesn’t involve waiting in line or finding a parking space.

To help customers easily pay for services, the Agronomic Services Division recently rolled out a new PayNow feature on its PALS website, which lets customers pay by credit card and get instant access to their test results.

Agronomic customers can now pay their testing fees online using a new PayNow feature on the Agronomic Services Division website.

While farmers, homeowners and crop advisers can check on results of tests of soil, plant tissue, waste, solution, soil-less media and nematode assays.

For people who choose to burn debris, the NCFS urges them to adhere to the following tips to protect property and prevent wildfires:

• Check the weather. Don’t burn if conditions are dry or windy.

• Only burn natural vegetation from your property. Burning household trash or any other man-made materials is illegal.

• Check with your county fire marshal’s office for local laws on burning debris. Some communities allow burning only during specified hours; others forbid it entirely.

• Make sure you have an approved burning permit, which can be obtained at any NCFS office, county-approved burning permit agent, or online at http://ncforestservice.gov.

• Never use flammable liquids such as kerosene, gasoline or diesel fuel to speed burning.

• Stay with your fire until it is completely out. In North Carolina, human carelessness leads to more wildfires than any other cause. If your fire is burning and is the No. 1 cause of wildfires in the state.

• Be sure they are out cold and carefully doused, stir them and soak them again.

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler

In late March, I was pleased to help N.C. A&T State University recognize Don and Alecase Williams of Sampson County as the 2016 Small Farmers of the Year. This year marked the 30th anniversary of Small Farms Week, which highlights the important contributions of small farms across this state.

The Williams’ farm produces free-range pasture pork from farrow to finish using heritage breeds Hampshire and Chester White.

According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, we have around 50,000 farms in the state. Of that, 82 percent of them are 180 acres or less in size.

The economic impact of these businesses is anything but small, especially in our rural communities where farm dollars support ag supply stores, trucking operations and other community businesses and government.

North Carolina’s agriculture and agribusiness industry is $76 billion strong, leading our economy and creating jobs in areas where big industry doesn’t exist. This industry has been the foundation of our state and has helped build some of our biggest cities. I cannot begin to imagine what North Carolina would be without agriculture and agribusiness.

And we are working hard to support this industry and position it for future growth. I am confident that agriculture and agribusiness will be a $100 billion industry moving forward.

Some people may look at agriculture as an industry of the past, but it is anything but that. In fact, with a growing global population that will need to eat, we are going to need each and every farm we can get to keep up with demand.

That represents a tremendous opportunity. We are fortunate in North Carolina to have many farmers such as the Williamses, who understand what it takes to produce food. They are good at it and we can all be thankful for that. Their success means we have healthy, safe and affordable food for everyone.

“I’ve been pleased with the response so far,” said Colleen Hudak-Wise, director of the Agronomic Services Division.

Agronomic Services Division

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The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services last month temporarily suspended the Grade A dairy permit of Crawford’s Dairy in Chapel Hill for failing to comply with state standards. The permit was re-instated after the dairy complied with a series of requirements.

The department began investigating Crawford’s Dairy a year ago. Residents were diagnosed with campylobacteriosis, a bacterial infection that can come from consuming contaminated unpasteurized milk and milk products. The harmful bacterium – including Campylobacter jejuni, Salmonella, E. coli O157:H7, Listeria and Brucella abortus – can cause food poisoning, enteritis and body ache. The harmful bacteria, including Campylobacter, Salmonella, E coli O157:H7, Listeria and Brucella – that may cause illness and possibly death. The most common symptoms are vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, fever, headache and body ache. The harmful bacteria in raw milk can be especially dangerous for pregnant women, the elderly, infants, young children and people with weakened immune systems.

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services said that the reports cannot be altered in any way.

Pest management

The department began investigating Crawford’s Dairy a year ago. Residents were diagnosed with campylobacteriosis, a bacterial infection that can come from consuming contaminated unpasteurized milk and milk products. The harmful bacterium – including Campylobacter jejuni, Salmonella, E. coli O157:H7, Listeria and Brucella abortus – can cause food poisoning, enteritis and body ache. The harmful bacteria in raw milk can be especially dangerous for pregnant women, the elderly, infants, young children and people with weakened immune systems.

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Got to Be NC Big Cart hitting the road

Advertising in the Agricultural Review

SUBMITTING ADS:

Ads are free to N.C. residents and can be submitted by mail to 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001; or by fax to 919-733-5047 on www.atagg.org. The deadline for submitting ads for the June issue is May 2. The deadline for the July issue of the newspaper is June 1 and the deadline for the August issue is July 1.

Limit is 30 words, editor reserves right to edit or reject ads. Limit is 2 ads per household in different categories.

Got to Be NC Big Cart hitting the road

The Got to Be NC Big Cart is hitting the road with hundreds of suppliers featuring a variety of goods and services.

Look for the Got to Be NC Big Cart at the following stops:


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Upcoming Sales

REACTION VEHICLE 

FARM EQUIPMENT

CAT 941B tractor, $15,000.
Clayne Clark, Bessemer City, NC 704-982-2020.

MF 245 tractor w/rear remote, $16,000.
Mr. and Mrs. Nunn, Lincolnton, 704-495-2961

1951 JD B, in nr. 2955, restored 2005.
Jack Ball, Dobson, 336-683-2408.

6 ft. 6 in. rear tires reg. 350, 6-7, w/gal.
ice cream freezer on cart, 8 hp, GC, $3,800.
S. Caro, Asheboro 336-302-8288

FS 555A backhoe, skid-keg, ready to go,

Hand drawn grain drills, grain evolution of 47 year old, need new thresher machine, Jeff Reeder, 2100 & up.

Randy Metcalf, bird houses, traps & kills, ship-jackets, etc., $1.50 & up; 5 frame 4554. frames, smokers, hats, veils, plies, 10 & 8 frame woodenware, lb. pkg., pick up mid 02-16, pards, Statesville 704-682-4018.

Ricky Marshall, Italian queens, no frame exchange, pick up 03-20-16 - 10-12, A permit is not required for:

- Beekeeping equip & tools, 3 frame nucs, 3 lb. pkg., ready 03-25-16, $110.
- Tennessee redback rabbits, great for beagles training pens, 1.10 Allen Roberts, Randleman, NC 916-571-2036.
- Silver fox kits, w/weights, straight & orig., needs change, pick up 20 mi. north of Wilmington, 1.10 Barry Harrington, Wilmington 919-352-7868.
- Rockwell 704-224-7350.
- IH 140 tractors, motor, rebuilt, brakes, lights, new paint, $4,000; 459, w/cult., GC, $2,500.
- Cultivator w/planter, $500; others avail.

Equipment For Sale

Farmsall Super A w/cult., GC, $2,000; 1960 Farmall Cub Lo-Bay, GW, $1,500; Farmall Cub w/cult., 12V, GC, $1,800. Joe Harrell, Fateville 252-333-7757.

1953 Ford Golden Jubilee tractor, 
3,700 hours. Mr. Erskine, Rockwell 704-224-7350.

Farmsall M 53, $3,000; Bob Cowdin, Hope Mills 336-503-7450.

Heavy farm vise, 6 ft. GC, 885. Bob Slagle, New Hanover, NC 910-724-8735.

Compil. wiring wheels or nuc., need 1-2 immediately. Jim Robins, Snow Camp 336-565-8499.

Bees, Supplies & Services Wanted

Beekeeper makes ladybugs, small wraps, $100, 15 mi. S. of Statesville, 704-482-7387.

Beekeeper needs cold frame, 4 ft., 8 row, no water tank, $800. Jerry Ellison, Vilas 828-773-1589.

Bees, Supplies & Services For Sale

Small Animals For Sale

Missouri cottontail rabbits, 7.75, Spring, Raleigh 919-761-3075.

Cotton & beef only.

Carpenter bee traps, like bird traps, traps & kill, shipping avail., 1.15 Randy Metcalf, Fletcher 828-696-6629.


Bees, Supplies & Services Wanted

3 lb. pkg., pick up 04-13-16, marked, $100; unmarked, 1.50; black or silver fox, other items avail. Dave Abbitt, Nashville 252-443-6471.

Carrigan Creek, beekeeping equip, tools, suits, jacket, outframes, 3 lb. packages, 1.25; 5 frame nucs, $140; mated Italian queens, 25. Keith Elkins, Sophia 336- 431-2339.

5, 6 & 5 frame nucs, ready 04-16 & 05-16, no frame exchange, $110-140. Ken Medlin, Hurtville Mils 336-774-5355.


5 frame nucs, no frame exchange, pick up 20 mi. north of Wilmington, 1.10 Barry Harrington, Wilmington 919-352-7868.

5 frame nucs w/2016 hygienic queens, no frame exchange, 125, Curtis Wooten, Basso 919-540-4611.

Many bees, pick up 04-16 & 05-26, pkg., 105s; nucs, 150, Preston Brown, Zebulon 919-404-1441.

Italian bees w/unmarked queen, 3 lb. pkg., pick up 04-16-16, bee-keeping supplies, woodware, gear & tools, $102 & up. John Pledger, Trinity 336-473-5137.

Bees, 3 lb. pkg., ready 03-25-16, 99$, 5 frame nucs & queens exchange, 03-16 through summer, licensed & state inspected, $125 Carwile, Callaway 704-459-7355.

Italian bees w/Italian queen, 3 lb. pkg., pick up 04-16-16, bee-keeping supplies, woodware, gear & tools, 102 & up. John Pledger, Trinity 336-473-5137.

Tennessse redback rabbits, 10.100 Allen Roberts, Randleman, NC 916-734-7800.


SILVER fox kits, w/weights, straight & orig. & others. 1.10 Randy Metcalf, Statesville 704-682-4018.

UNMARKED queens, 5 frame 4554. frames, smokers, hats, veils, gloves, wax foundation, extractors, feeders, 1 & up. Gail Morgan, Liberty 336-632-3720.

Honey bees, 3 lb. pkg., ready 05-16, pick up in Winston-Salem & Wilkesboro, 1.10 Norman, Tate Winston, 336-788-4554.

Italian bees w/queen, 3 lb. pkg., pick up mid 02-16, 1.10, Winston-Salem, 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001.

Benjamin, bees, 3 lb. pkg., marked queen, $110. Rick Cook, Conover 828-437-4206.

5 frame nucs w/Italian queens, state inspected, pickup 04-16, $145; 6 lb. pkg, 1.50 Dick Lip- ladstreet, Statesville 704-482-4018.

Advertised Ads for the Agricultural Review

Classified Advertising

NI 1010 corn head, $600. Gary Dunn, West Liberty 606-672-9409.


Cox, McLeansville 336-392-2564.

Cowan, Archdale 336-442-1380.


Bennett Junie, skid steer, $750. Dave Herndon, 336-630-4283.

Henderson, Scotlandville 336-735-2098.


1999 5075E, 12 row corn head, $13,000. David Hollins, 434-350-6245.

2007 5085E, 12 row corn head, $15,000. Sam Pendergrass, 336-625-0533.

2009 5095E, 12 row corn head, $17,500. Todd Bentley, 336-798-3095.

2010 5100E, 12 row corn head, $20,000. J.C. Davis, 336-625-6577.

1997 5120, 12 row corn head, $25,000. Jeff Dean, 336-625-5426.


2000 Gravely D90, 12 row corn head, $40,000. Lenny Hughes, 336-630-2287.

2004 JD 918, 3 row corn head, $40,000. John Williams, 336-625-7288.

1999 JD 918, 3 row corn head, $45,000. Brian Beazley, 704-452-1339.

1997 JD 918, 3 row corn head, $50,000. David Hatfield, 336-630-7079.

2010 3600 series corn head, $65,000. Thad Hauser, 704-452-3918.

1997 Gravely D90, 12 row corn head, $80,000. Jack Johnson, 704-452-5245.

2008 Case 1440, 4 row corn header, $10,000. Dean Stiles, 704-452-9333.

2010 Case 1440, 4 row corn header, $12,000. Jason Johnson, 704-452-2066.


2014 Case 1440, 4 row corn header, $18,000. Jason Johnson, 704-452-2066.


2001 6600 series corn head, $30,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.


2000 6600 series corn head, $45,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.


2007 6600 series corn head, $60,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.

2009 6600 series corn head, $75,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.

1995 6600 series corn head, $100,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.

1995 6600 series corn head, $125,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.

2005 6600 series corn head, $150,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.


2006 6600 series corn head, $500,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.


2008 6600 series corn head, $600,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.


2010 6600 series corn head, $700,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.

2005 6600 series corn head, $800,000. Tim Cates, 434-350-5245.
**Equipment Wanted**

- **MF 165 w/Perkins,** 300 hrs. on rebuild eng., 95% rear tires, consider trade for other equip., $5,000.
- **For Sale:** 2005 JD 7400, 497-338-342 or jim@waddscreek.com.

**Long 310,** 30 hp diesel, new brakes, $3,500; 3 cutters, $135; lawn distributor, $100; boom pole, $75; $4,000/ yr. mowing contractor.

**EQUIPMENT WANTED**

- **Mule driven plow,** John Ipek, 919-272-8777.
- **Boom pole,** $100; Whitney, Salisbury 704-636-8571.
- **Boom pole,** $75; 5 ft cutter, $350; 5 ft. Glenn Jones, Winston-Salem 336-673-5059.
- **Small feed mill mixer,** reasonable price, 704-972-1627.
- **Bell mower** for Farmall Cub, Wiley Post, Husted Mills 336-673-5059.

**Hay & Grain**

**Spring rice/ grain/ wheat hay, ready 2016,** we load & haul bales, 4½ x 36 ft; $25/bale; 2015 season, no rain sheltered, low rainfall, high yield. Dwayne Dettrey, Mt. Gilead 910-572-6781.

- **Bermuda hay quality, lst cutting,** low weed count, $35/bale. Jack Hunnell, Hendersonville, $498.00.

**Alfaifa & orchard grass hay,** horse quality. Don Williard, 704-712-4346.

**For Hay & grasses;** see old Restore hay old baled near Bakers in Morg, Island Monoc, 704-712-4346.

**FOR SALE**

Please list all equipment and services with description (condition) and contact name of seller, the phone number, and e-mail if available.

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- **JD 8340thru 8470thru 8610, JD 6350thru 6440thru 6580thru 6740thru 6970thru 7020thru 7230thru 7590thru**, used, repowers, all work guaranteed; Doug Ferreira, 704-887-0947.

**Farm Equipment & Supplies For Sale**

- **Wagon wooden wheels, 2.5 x 26 in.** Jim Hicks, Oxford 252-342-1640.

**Land for Farm Labor**

- **Barn repairs, mossey, underpinning, structural framing repair, general carpentry, flooring, siding, brick masonry.** Dan Mathis, Stovallah, 919-259-2109.

**Always looking for vintage wood w/ wooden posts, 4 board wooden fence, etc.; $5.10 David Carlson, Leesburg 704-992-5368.

- **Dirtline gravel & service equipment & turn, 4 ft +, $600/ hr. & hay, $100/ hr. reasonable offer.** Doug Foster, Stokes 252-916-2927.

**Portable work & equip repair in central & northwest NC, free on site & up, Kevin Hancock, Advance 336-477-5279.

- **Fencing, woven wire, barbed wire panels, fences, repairs, all guaranteed; repuls, $500 & up.** John Kapp, Rural Hall 704-636-8571.

**EQUIPMENT WANTED**

- **Cummins, 100+ hp, 2006 or any size w/ matching accessories for rent; 12-20 ft.** John Kapp, Rural Hall 704-636-8571.

**Land for sale must consist of at least 3 acres and be used for agricultural pur-poses, cultivation, raising livestock and/or other farm commodities.**

- **70+ ac farm**, $2,000 sq. ft., horse quality, best offers. Maynard Southern, Pittsboro 919-451-4322 or joephelps@mindspring.com.

**Miniature Sicilian donkeys,** 14 y/o, chestnut, 14.3 hh, $1,000. Małgorzata Kucharska, 910-388-9368.

**Land for Sale**

- **Land in central Pender County for sale, licensed dairy goat.** Jim & Beth Smith, Maysville 910-441-0326. For more details, incl. pictures, contact us at 910-727-2641.

**Land in Cabarrus co to lease for cattle.** Donald Love, Concord 704-743-1748.

**For Rent**

- **Truck for deer hunting 3-4 man, 2 wheel drive & 4 wheel drive truck.** Carl Newton, Gibson, 704-437-6463.

**Hay & grain wanted 100 ac in Rockingham co for winter feed.** John Kapp, Rural Hall 704-636-8571.

- **John & Dianne Watterson, Lexington 336-924-8856.**

**Horses & Supplies For Sale**

- **Wooden wagon wheels, 2.5 in & 36 in.** John Kapp, Rural Hall 704-636-8571.
Livestock For Sale

Santer Gertrudis, purebred replacement cattle, polled, reg. & non reg., bulls & heifers, $1,500 & up. Richard Shaver, Clews, Alamance Co.


Polled Hereford cattle, 1-1½ y/o, gentle, face, proven, shots & wormed, born summer 2015, red w/white bloodline, bulls, $400/ea. John Kernohan, Lawnfield 704-551-7288.

Polled Hereford bulls, $1,250. Bob Beasley, Cleveland 704-278-9291.


Bovine: Red lowline bull, w/sheifers, $1,500 & up. Carl Bundy, Thomasville 336-474-1603 or 259-0118.


did not load successfully
Seeds & Plants

WANTED

Please NOTE: Anyone offering nursery stock for sale in N.C. is required to register as a nursery or horticulture dealer for more. Contact the N.C. Division of Agriculture & Recreation Industry Division at 800-206-9333 or 919-707-3730.


Charley Cantrell, Newland PO Box 92, Advance 28002-0092.

Heirloom seeds, $1/pack + SASE. Nancy Strickland,ivi, 6227 Welborn Rd., Trinity, NC 27370.

Green tomato, eggplant, dill seeds, send SASE, Betty Kessinger, 336-637-9651.

Garden boots, $100; planters, $50; garden lime, $30. Mary Hill, 336-978-0316.

Small, white yucca, 10-14 ft, 18 in. tall, ready for planting. Jerry Crayton, 910-245-1647.

Native plants, healthy, potted, 5-6 ft tall, various varieties, $15-$25. Elyndra Ford, 704-863-5978.

All metal trailer, 5x8, 5x10, tilt bed, tilt, 5x12, 5x14, tire size mount on front, numerous tie down mounts added, $4,000. Don Hall, 704-453-3668.

Graham seed, $2.50/lb. + postage. Keith Crouch, 1422 Weymouth Rd., Hendersonville, NC 28739.

Weeds & Plants For Sale

Red fox or lay tree; seed, 500.00. John Bybee, Flemington, NC 27322.

Yellow berry nandina, 10-14 ft, bare root. Dane Hill, Greensboro 336-624-9814.

Watermelon, 35/$3 w/SASE. Robert Pope, Concord 704-786-2352.

Tall Yarrow 3/$10.00. Carl Bos, Concord 704-701-0032.


Gate, metal 12 ft. w/titles & papers, $2,000. Gene Willard, Martinsville 336-932-1161.

1975 Ford 6000 dump, 350 4x4, extra wide rear tires, $6,000. Betty Heiberly, Blythewood, 336-462-2947.

Carlisle tire, single axle, all tubes, Calgary, $800. Props, Fair Grove, 855-478-7766.

1950 Ford F-3 dump truck, wiring harness, $4,000. Billy Brady, Bennett 336-937-6250.

1950 GMC 4500 series flat bed truck, w/v 8 ft steel bed, $2,000. 1984 Chevy 1 ton, flat bed, 60 miles, 1999 Ford 8600, $300. Sylvia Shilhammer, Camdenton, MO 417-235-4193.

1999 pickup, 7.3 disel, ext. cab, 5th wheel rails & 2Gooseneck trailer, $7,000. Save $1,000-1,500. Curtis Blake, Wakefield, 704-693-1702.

1951 GMC 2 ton dump truck, w/14 ft bed, grain & dirt side boards, CAT diesel, $7,500. Andy Smith, Mocksville 336-479-6875.

1967 Ford 6000 dump truck, 11 ft bed, flatbed, 60 miles, $750. Larry Trammel, Chapel Hill 919-997-5578.

1961 Jeep CJ5, 19 ft dump bed, 4-wheel drive, $4,000. Brenda Sturgill, West End 910-673-1072.

1958 Mack B-61 truck, run, good condition, $2,000. Abe Kemn, Franklin 919-496-4857.

1951 GMC 2 ton truck bidder, w/14 ft truck bed, crane, $10,000. Wallace Barbour, Wil- spring 336-939-6418.

1960 Ford F6000 dump truck, 4x4, $2,400. John Traxler, Biltmore Forest 919-266-2201.

1954 Ford F-100, 4x4, extra wide bed, 72 ft, 5th wheel rails, $4,000. Denny Fesperman, Reidsville 336-904-7753.

1959 Ford F-310, 4 ton, good body & interior, 4 sp, flat bed, eng. 1978, $1,400, 1 sp, ext. cab, 6 ft bed, $3,000. Dennis Kallam, Wadesboro 910-245-6057.

1957 Ford F100, 4x4, high Boy, pick up, $4,500. Dennis Kallam, Wadesboro 910-245-6057.

1961 Ford F100, 4x4, extra wide bed, 72 ft, 5th wheel rails, $4,000. Denny Kallam, Wadesboro 910-245-6057.


1950 Ford F150, 4x4, extra wide bed, 72 ft, 5th wheel rails, $4,000. Dennis Kallam, Wadesboro 910-245-6057.

1957 Ford F100, 4x4, high Boy, pick up, $4,500. Dennis Kallam, Wadesboro 910-245-6057.

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The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has launched a tag program to promote livestock born and raised in North Carolina. The new Got to Be NC tag program uses special ear tags to identify N.C.-born-and-bred cattle, swine, sheep, and goats. The voluntary program is a collaboration between the department’s Got to Be NC marketing program, N.C. Agriculture and Consumer Services’ Agronomic Services Division and Veterinary Division.

“Livestock production generates over $3.6 billion in farm income in North Carolina,” said Agriculturist Commissioner Steve Troxler. “We developed the Got to Be NC tag program to better promote the high-quality livestock raised in our state.”

To qualify for the program, ranchers must be North Carolina residents, and participating animals must be conceived and born in the state. Participating livestock must be identified with an official Got to Be NC tag purchased by the producer before they are sold. The tags cost $5 apiece. Ranchers must complete a producer tag record and submit it to the department after tagging their animals.

In addition to promoting livestock, the tags also will help producers comply with state and federal laws governing interstate transportation of animals.

Changes to N.C. State Fair livestock competitions

The new tag program will affect the current N.C. Born and Bred competitions at the N.C. State Fair and N.C. Mountain State Fair. N.C. Born and Bred champions are chosen in competitions for market cattle, swine, sheep, and goats. Starting in 2016, the winning animals will be known as Got to Be NC champions.

To qualify for the Got to Be NC competitions, producers who have traditionally sold their animals as N.C. born and bred during the fair will need to participate in the new tag program.

Ear tag order forms, membership information and new information are available at www.ncagr.gov/markets/livestock/NCTags.htm. Additional questions should be directed to the NCDACS Livestock Marketing Section at 919-707-3151.

NCDACS offers topsoil and soil fertility tips for spring

NCDA&CS offers topsoil and soil fertility tips for spring to better promote the high-quality soil bought in bags or in bulk from garden centers to fill raised beds, she said.

“There are no regulations on what can be sold as topsoil, making soil testing a valuable tool in determining the actual fertility of these products,” Kamalakanthan said. “It is important to remember that low fertility can cause nutrient deficiencies, while too much fertility can be harmful to plants depending on what nutrients are too high.”

Some nutrients can be toxic to plants, and excessive nutrients, such as phosphorus, may be harmful to the environment if it moves to surface waters.

It is always a good idea to test topsoil before using it, whether it is native or newly acquired for a raised bed. If adding to existing soil, Kamalakanthan recommends thoroughly mixing topsoil with the native soil to help leach nutrient deficiencies, while too much fertility can be harmful to plants depending on what nutrients are too high.”

Starting this year, there will now be Got to Be NC competitions for livestock at the N.C. State Fair and the N.C. Mountain State Fair. These competitions were previously referred to as the N.C. Born and Bred competitions. Animals competing in these shows will now have the Got to Be NC ear tags. Pictures of last year’s N.C. Born and Bred Market Steer shown by Mason Blinn of Baisley Creek.

Don’t play the guessing game with your garden vegetables or yard for the upcoming growing season. Livestock for past and present planting and farming projects and plantings can indicate needed to maximize your efforts and boost garden yields.

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services’ Agronomic Services Division encourages home and community gardeners and landscapers to submit soil samples during the non-busy season for faster turnaround times and with no peak-season fees. Samples will be analyzed free from April 1 until mid-November. For home gardeners, early spring through early fall is an ideal time to submit samples for soil testing.

Whether maintaining an existing lawn or landscaped area or planning a new garden, soil testing can help optimize growing conditions with recommendations for correct amounts of fertilizer to apply. This means feeding your garden, early spring through early fall, she said.

“With greater interest in home, urban and community gardens, there is an increased use of topsoil bought in bags or in bulk from garden centers to fill raised beds,” Kamalakanthan said.

“For payment, customers go into their account to look at the agronomic service items in their account, said Jeff Vitalis, an information technology specialist who worked on the PayNow project. If any questions arise, customers can call the Agronomic Services Division at 919-707-3151.

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Contact the Agronomic Services Division office at 919-733-2655 for questions regarding soil testing.

Western N.C. Agricultural Centers
Fletcher, 828-687-1413
April 30-May 1 4-H Horse Show. Contact Tamirra Tully, 828-273-0860.
May 19-21 ....... Asheville Lions Club Benefit Horse Show. Contact Jackie Rice, 828-707-8456.
June 16-19 ...... Piedmont Paso Fino Horse Show. Contact Ashley Aldred, 704-778-6717.
July 22 & 23 ....... Asheville Equestrian Horse Show. Contact Joyce Wilson, 919-563-5746.
July 26-30 ....... Blue Ridge Classic Horse Show. Contact Elizabeth Holmes 919-563-5992.

See Bob Martin Eastern Agricultural Center, Williamston, 252-792-5111
April 9 & 10 ....... EHA & NCHA “C” Horse Show. Contact Emily Bates, 252-378-4474.
April 15-17 ....... ECU/MHC Spring Flying Miniature Horse Show. Contact Laura Mullens, 603-767-6433.
April 23 & 24 ....... “Just Ain’t Horsin”. Round Open Horse Show. Contact Beth Tews, 252-753-8409.
April 30-May 1 N.C. District 4-4 Horse Show. Contact Sandy Hard, 252-459-9810.
May 12-15 ....... Carolina Reining Classic & ABI Futurity. Contact Mike Hancock, 252-937-2800 ext. 1204.
May 19-22 ....... NCHQA – D4 Little River Circuit. Contact Susan Daniels, 919-894-6060.
June 27-29 ....... Memorial Day Reining Classic and Derby. Contact Chris Wiley, 804-305-7398.
June 4 & 5 ....... Eastern Hunter Assoc & NCHA “C” Horse Show. Contact Wendy Willson, 252-926-3685.

Southern N.C. Agricultural Events Center, Lumberton, 910-618-5699
April 4 ....... Horse and tack auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 910-390-0878.
April 9 ....... Barrel racing. Contact Josh Smith, 910-639-6387.
April 15 & 16 .... Southern Stock Horse. Contact Jenny Taylor, 910-323-9910.
April 22-24 .... Horse and tack auction. Contact Kevin Barnes, 828-306-0878.
May 21 ......... NC State Rodeo Championship. Contact Stacey Smith, 843-241-3155.

*Shows subject to change. Call before attending. More horse events listed in Bucolic Briefs.