Food Safety Forum on Aug. 26
Make your plans now to attend Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler’s 10th Annual Food Safety Forum Aug. 26 at the Expo Building at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

The program features a presentation by Dr. David Acheson, a former chief medical officer with both USDA and FDA and current chief executive officer of the Acheson Group, on accountability and how the Food Safety Modernization Act will affect international trade.

In addition, there will be a panel discussion with local producers to showcase some of the people producing our food.

The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with event attendees invited to a private screening of the movie “Farmland” at 1:15 p.m. The movie highlights four young farmers and the triumphs and struggles they face. This is one of just a few times the movie has been shown in the state.

The movie, from Academy Award-winning director James Moll, shows large and small farms, organic and conventional farms, and first-time growers as well as a multi-generational farming operation.

To register for the forum, go to www.ncagr.gov/ncfoodsafe- tyforum. For more information, contact Chrissy Waggett, N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services federal liaison, at 919-707-3608 or by email at christina.waggett@ncagr.gov.

N.C. Bioenergy Research Initiative announces grants
The N.C. Bioenergy Research Initiative recently awarded $500,000 in grants for six new research projects to boost bioenergy opportunities and production in the state, according to Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.

“We are excited to have the opportunity to explore energy potential through these grants for North Carolina’s agricultural and forestry industries,” Troxler said. Below is a list of grant recipients and projects:

- $35,000 to the Institute of Forest Biotechnology for “Testing Biotech Poplars as a Biomass Feedstock.” This project seeks to improve biomass growth for affordable production of an efficient feedstock for bioenergy production. The study will evaluate two field trials in Oxford and at the Williamsdale Farm in Duplin County of poplar trees modified to enhance growth.

- $89,958 to N.C. State University’s Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources to study “Fertilization and Planting Durations to Maximize Populous Productivity.” This project will look at fast-growing, purpose-grown tree plantations, or short-rotation woody crops, to meet future woody biomass demands.

- $97,500 to N.C. State’s Department of Horticultural Science for an “Optimizing Giant Reed as a Sustainable Bioenergy Crop” project. This project will further study the biomass yields of 24 different genotypes of reed to determine which may be most ideally suited for production in North Carolina based on high biomass yields.

- $96,500 to N.C. State’s Department of Crop Science for the project “Waste Management of Arundo and Miscanthus.” This project will evaluate herbicides to enable weed management for rapid establishment of arundo and miscanthus.

2014 State Fair concerts announced
State Fair runs Oct. 16-26 and advance tickets go on sale Aug. 1.

The 2014 N.C. State Fair Dairy Farm Show Lineup will feature performances by country, gospel, rock and contemporary Christian artists, along with a stand-up comedian.

Vanilla Ice will kick off the series on Thursday, Oct. 16, with a “Throwback Thursday” $5 show. The rapper and reality TV show personality became the featured soloist on several tracks, including “Don’t Take Your Joy Away,” “Now Behold the Lamb” and “Lean on Me.”

Already in August, The Newsboys have released 16 studio albums and charted 30 country singles, including six No. 1 hits: “What’s It to You,” “Live Until I Die,” “Dream about Us with the Eyes Open,” “If I Could Make a Living,” “This Woman and This Man” and “Rumor Has It.” (Tickets $12)

There will be more changes on the way for farmers and I understand why. Some farms that previously qualified for this exemption will no longer be eligible for it. Farms that have qualified for the exemption in the past were recently sent letters from the N.C. Department of Revenue, reminding the owner to explain the changes in the law and steps the farm owners will need to take to continue to qualify for the exemption. This year, every farm that wants to continue to receive sales-tax exemptions will need to reapply by Oct. 1 to continue your exemption, but the Revenue Department encourages you to apply as soon as possible to allow processing time for your application.

I want to be clear that this is a matter for the N.C. Department of Revenue, not a tax department, but because we have had a number of calls and there seems to be confusion with the new changes, I wanted to pass along information to try to help farmers get the assistance they need and also provide a number they can contact with questions.

As I understand, one of the biggest changes under these new rules is the qualifying amount of revenue for sales-tax exemption. Previously, that was $1,000 in revenue from your farm. That amount was increased, and now you must have a minimum of $10,000 in revenue in the prior year or an average gross income of $10,000 for the previous three years to qualify. So if your 2013 income was less than $10,000, but you had a higher gross in come two years prior, you may still qualify for the exemption.

(See Sales tax change, pg. 2)

From the tractor by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler
Through the General Assembly’s income tax modernization in 2013, but they have now become effective. When these changes were first being discussed, they were more far-reaching and even more restrictive. In fact, more changes are on the way in 2015, with taxes coming on State Fair admission tickets and concert tickets.

New farm sales tax exemption law in effect; farms need to reapply for exemption by Oct. 1
We have recently received a number of phone calls about new tax regulations that went into effect July 1 regarding sales tax exemptions for farms on farm-related items used for planting, cultivating, harvesting or curing farm crops or in the production of dairy products, eggs or animals.

These changes came about through the General Assembly’s income tax modernization in 2013, but they have now become effective. When these changes were first being discussed, they were more far-reaching and even more restrictive. In fact, more changes are on the way in 2015, with taxes coming on State Fair admission tickets and concert tickets.

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Bucolic briefs

The N.C. Simmental Association Fall Harvest Sale will be held Sept. 6 at noon at the Shuford Sale Facility in Union Grove. Sale will include bulls, cows, pairs and heifers. For a sale catalog, go to www.ncsimmental.org or call 336-366-1679 or email mas@toler2.net.

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The 73rd Annual N.C. Gourd Arts and Crafts Festival and the 9th Annual Gourd Seed Sale will be held Sept. 6 & 7 at the Kohls Building, State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. The festival is open Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. The event features gourds from around the world, special gourd workshops, competitions and vendors selling dolls, garden art, gourd-related items, craft art, books, art and crafts supplies. There is a live auction on Saturday at noon and also free a free gourd-crafting table for kids. Details about the festival, a listing of workshops and information on how to enter the competition can be found at www.ncgourdsociety.org/ festival. Admission is $2 for adults, free for children under 16, workshop students and N.C. Gourd Society members. For more, contact Kate Mahony, festival chair, at tole1rc@nc.rr.com or 919-639-4577.

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Two Johnston County horse show series, one an open class and the second a hunter class, have been announced. The hunter show dates are Sept. 6 and Nov. 8. Following are open horse show dates: Aug. 9 & 10 — Johnston County Horse Show Series. Contact Michele McLaughlin, 919-934-1344.

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Horse Events


Aug. 9 & 10 — Johnston County Horse Show Series. Contact Michele McLaughlin, 919-934-1344.


Sept. 1 — NCDCTA Sport Horse Breed Show. Contact Marty Harrie, 352-363-0085.


Oct. 31-Nov. 2 — NHC’s “C” Indoors. Contact Joan Petty, 919-669-8877.

Western N.C. Agricultural Center, Fletcher, 828-687-1414


Son. Bob Martin Eastern Agricultural Center, Williamstoun, 252-792-5111

Aug. 16 & 17 — Augustus’ Just Horsetime’ Round Open Horse Show. Contact Beth Tew, 252-753-8069.

Aug. 22 & 24 — Endless Summer Open Horse Show & AQHA Special Event. Contact Kristi Stallings, 252-256-0556.

Sept. 20 & 21 — EHA Hunter Horse Show. Contact Wendy Williams, 252-316-3685.


Oct. 18 & 19 — Festive Fall Hunter Horse Show. Contact Marlo King, 252-268-4144.

Southeastern N.C. Agricultural Events Center, Lumberton, 910-618-5699

Aug. 8 — Borderbelle Ranch Sorting. Contact Jason Darden, 910-733-5840.


Sept. 6 —………. Five Star Barrel Racing. Contact Amy Wallace, 843-672-4180.

Sept. 12-14 — N.C. Horse Council Cup. Contact Rose Kushing, 252-251-7645.


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

August AgroTips

Tour Around time is optimal for soil samples submitted in August. The Agronomic Division’s soil testing lab is processing samples quickly now but will be increasingly busy toward the end of the year. Homeowners, landscapers, golf course superintendents and others with flexible schedules are urged to submit samples before the lab’s fall busy season. If cool-season lawn grasses and pastures need to be resowed, sampling now will make it possible to apply lime well in advance of September or October planting.

Get rapid identification of plant-parasitic nematode species with new test. The Agronomic Division’s Nematode Assay Section offers a new test that identifies plant-parasitic nematodes based on analysis of molecular DNA. The test costs $10 per sample ($3), but results are available within a couple of days (instead of weeks), and reports can identify nematodes accurately to species. This is particularly useful information for growers who depend on resistant cultivars and/or crop rotation to suppress nematode populations. For more information on this test and how to sample, contact Dr. Weimin Ye at 919-733-2655 or via e-mail at weimin.ye@ncagr.gov.

Tissue test now to plan for blackberry fertilization next season. Collect a plant tissue sample about 10-14 days after harvest. Each sample should include 25-30 most recent mature leaves from the prune core. Sampling the floricane is not recommended unless it is specifically to diagnose a problem. If you have different varieties, submit separate samples for each one. Now is also an appropriate time to submit a corresponding soil sample.

Sales tax change (Cont’d from pg. 1)

process, you will have to provide supporting federal income tax information. According to a Fre- quently Asked Questions page on the Revenue Department’s website, you will need to provide evidence of your entire federal tax return, only certain pages and schedules depending on whether you oper- ate your farm as a sole proprietor, an S or C corporation, or a part- nership. Here is a link to the FAQ page with more details: http:// www.dornc.com/downloads/FAQs/FAQ95 Q2627014.pdf. You can find an application on the Revenue Department’s website at https://dornc.com/ downloads/e9595pdf.pdf.

You can also call the Revenue Department’s Taxpayer Assistance and Collection Center at 1-877-252-4487 for more information. If you disagree with these changes, please contact your legislators and let them know how you feel.
Six years ago, Amy Doug-
las left a career in civil engi-
neering so she and her hus-
brand could raise their children in a bucolic setting. Today, they grow six acres of pro-
duce and sell it at their road-
side stand, The Farm-
ers’ Daughter, in Taylorsville.

"We started raising crops in
2008, when we joined a pro-
ducer cooperative that met in
Taylorsville. We decided to
plant vegetables and herbs,
and now we’re growing six
acres of produce and sell our
vegetables at farmers’ mar-
tets in the area," said Douglas, who
owns the farm with her hus-
brand, Randy Metcalf. "We love
it. It’s a source of income for us.

Douglas didn’t start com-
to gather honey.

The Douglases found the
information they needed when
they attended a workshop and
met NCDA&CS agronomist Ben
Knox. He encouraged the Dou-
glasses to speak to tissue
sampling and composted them to
nearby greenhouse vegetable
operations so they could evalua-
te the possibility of expansion.

Because the regional
agronomist position covering
Alexander County was vacant,
Knox and colleague Steve Dil-

The deadline for the September issue of the Agricultural Re-
view is Aug. 1; the deadline for the October issue is Sept. 1.

Agronomists help N.C. farmers with crop recommendations

Farmer Amy Douglas talks with agronomist Dwayne Tate. Douglas and her husband operate The Farmers’ Daughter produce farm in Taylorsville.

Douglas and Tate joined the depart-
ment. Knox has since retired, but
the Douglases maintain close

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Alexander County was vacant,
Knox and colleague Steve Dil-

Nucs, 5 frame, put in your hive; 8 & 10 hive hives w/ super, all w/2014 queens, GC, $125 & up. Ed Whiteley, Albemarle 704-982-3136.

Nucs, 5 frame, in your box; $125; cardboard box, $115; wooden box, $155; mated queens, $25. Johnny & Roxanne, Connelly Springs 828-368-2505.

Beekeeping supplies & services; hive bodies, frames, found-
tools, etc.; queen cells, virgin &

Honey supers, brood boxes, cap-
ing items, 4 frame extractor, setting tank, hives w/ boxes, $26-200. Chris Wethington, Valdese 828-381-6857.

Nucs w/day or June queen, Italian stock, $4.5 frames, no frame exchange, boxes de convey, $100-115. Thomas Medlin, Hurdle Mills 336-364-1915.

Beekeeping equip.; supplies, 8 & 10 frame woodwork, wax, frames, smokers, gloves, hats, veils, feeders,
etc., $1-50.50. Gail Morgan, Lib-
erty 336-622-3720.

9 frame wooden ware, found, frames, bottoms, inner covers, tops, escape screens & feeders, $1 & up. Johnny Elliott, Harmony 704-
614-5006.

Bee hives, nucs, laying queen, 8.5 frames of brood/bee, 1 frame honey, 1 frame pollen, naturally raised, no chem/antibiotics, $150. Nucs, queens, bring your box for nuc, $100, can ship queens, naturally raised, no chem/antibiotics, $300-150. George Mickley, Sylva 828-322-0576.

Honey bees, 5 frame nucs w/2014 queens, no frame exchange, $150, state inspected, open mated, locally raised queens, $25. Marius Crista, Jacksonville 910-330-0481.

7 comphl. hives, can be split, ext. min, queen raising supplies & other insides, $2-50. Craig Bifflum, Delco 910-611-9492.

Beehives w/healthy Russian x buckfast bees, $200+/unit. Tony Park-
er, Bolton 910-655-0741.

Italian honey bees; queen in eastern NC, pick up, $22.50. Dick Coor, Goldsboro 919-778-0210.

CEO, 919-387-9898.

FARM EQUIPMENT

Cadet Cub, 23 hp, Kohler eng.,
GC, $1,200. Bruce Snider, Denton
336-895-2877.

Old pull-type field cult., spring
drafted, on steel wheels, 8 ft wide, 4 cy., JD M tractor, $7,500; JD 7000	& back, $275. J.R. Bass, Burlington 336-421-0383.

Wheel & tire, 110/16.5, 6 ply, fits
Gleaner M3 cultivator, $150; wheel &
tire, $2,520, fits Ford 6000, 6 hole	wheel, $50. W.T. Bramley, Spring	Hope 252-450-0276.

1966 JD diesel, rebuilt eng., new	rear tines, rims, seat, lights & paint,
show quality, $8,000. John Roberts,
Bahama 919-711-8942.

Belarus 420A tractor, 57 hp,
cyl. diesel, GC, $5,100. Shirley Will-
s, Providence 336-388-2128.

NH 474 haybine, GC, field ready,
runs good, $1,200. Don Whittington,
Mt. Pleasant 704-792-5594.

Ford 50 tractor, 3 pt. hitch, all	orig., GC, $2,000. Mac Snider,
Lexington 336-396-3318.

JD 1010 tobacco cult., $7,000.
JD M tractor w/ cultiv., $4,800.
JD M tractor w/ cult., $5,400, all GC;
Donald Cannon, Ayden 252-746-4660 or 917-3405.

Scrape blader, 6 ft, FC, $150. D	Oates, Snow Camp 336-376-7895.

Beehives w/stock: 16, in, used;
WAC D17, $110. Vernon Brown,
Seagrove 336-257-2997.

2012 CA CA tractor, 2 row	planter & cult., w/2 disc, mowing
mach., w/4 ft coulters, bar, rear	mount saw, rear wheel weighted,
100 lbs, $5,500. Alan Fisk,
Newell 704-596-2852.

AC double turn blower, 16, in,
used w/AC D17, $110. Vernon Brown,
Seagrove 336-257-2997.

1964 Ford 4000, new rear tires	& rims, GC, $4,000. 1953 Ford Jubile-
ewith/finishing mower, GC, $4,000.
Tommy Fox, Roxboro 336-508-6838.

1962 CA CA tractor, 2 row	planter & cult., w/2 disc, mowing
mach., w/4 ft coulters, bar, rear	mount saw, rear wheel weighted,
100 lbs, $5,500. Alan Fisk,
Newell 704-596-2852.

AC double turn blower, 16, in,
used w/AC D17, $110. Vernon Brown,
Seagrove 336-257-2997.

BS 226-96-2593.
FARM EQUIPMENT

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2000 Ford tractor w/ 5 ft bush hog, 1 row, cut, disc, scoop pan, finish, full width, 2 row return, 6 ft trailer, $500 OBO. C. Anderson, Mossville 704-834-3774; 876-487-4531 or 704-734-8501.

Tire tractors, 15x32-8/80% diesel, 4 row Mounted tillage, 18x12-8, 9-16 in.湾区, $100-140 tractors, GC, $150; W.E. Sain, Yadkin 704-424-2754.

2003 John Deere 4040, diesel, 65 HP, 4 row, 14 ft. sprayer, 20 gal. tank, 30 ft 30”, 19 no-id tip, 2 row mirror, bagger, new tars, 100% OBO. Woods 5 Mower, 3 pt., GC, needs belt, $450 OBO. George Johnson, Raffee 336-616-5663 or 613-4754. Fordson finisher mower, 3 pt., side delivery, 6 ft, E, 6 wide tire, $500 OBO. Yaran Vinograd, framebuffer 919-770-1788.

Troy-bilt riot rotovator, furrower, high clearance, 13 ft, 4 row, wide traction, used, 171 hr, $1,400; E. Stevens, Goldsboro 919-281-3634.

1954 Oliver 60, 2 row, 24 in. & 36 in. bench, sliding, 20 ft, $3,000; Lanny Burleson, Liberty 828-734-3428.


2006 John Deere 4030, 2 row Cab, 84 in. fertilizer, PTO belt pulley, $2,500; Bill Smoot, Salisbury 704-637-3420.

1992 GS 345 baler, 4x13 bale, $2,500; datatable, not run this year. D. Schmidt, 336-362-9693.


1992 JD 166 chopper, used, good tires, $2,000. Dan Aldridge, Burlison 704-834-5362.

2001 Caterpillar 140M 4 in. track loader, less than 1000 hrs., $3,500. D. Harris, Harrisburg 704-491-5951.


1997 John Deere 4030, 4x5 bale, 100% OBO. Lanny Burleson, Madison 704-239-3841.

1997 John Deere 4040, 2 row, 84 in. fertilizer, new tires, $2,500; C. Smith, Madison 700-232-1290.

1999 John Deere, 4 row, 13 disc, no-till, dry fertilizer, 13x6x28, new tires, $8,000. D. Harris, Harrisburg 704-491-5951.


2005 John Deere 4100, 4x16 bale, $7,000; John MacKinnon, Madison 336-438-2683.

1997 John Deere 4100, 4x5 bale, $10,000; Wilson 252-239-1320.


Livestock Wanted

**FARMLAND**

- **600 ac** for lease/for sale, 14 stall barn/wash pit, feed, tape, fences, precautions, land near Snow Camp, $1,500/mo. Jim Gottschlich, Elon 336-266-4774.
- **Livingston**

**Livestock for Sale**

- Bulls & heifers, low birth, high growth, good, avg. $900, Gemline milker, $1,300 & up. Danny Dennis, Miller Farm, Huntersville 704-222-1132.
- **Santerus, purebred replacement cattle**, polled, reg. & non-reg., $2,000 & up. John Williams, Shaver, Raleigh 704-278-9291.
- **Small herd** of beef cattle, bred for sale since 1966, polled, reg. & horned, $1,500-25,000. John Will Jones, 704-435-5005.
- **Ram lambs**, Cross & Dorset, $200, $450, $500, $600, $1,000. plainside, $200, $450, 1.5 lbs, $500, 2.5 lbs, $900, $1,200, $1,400, $1,600. Shane Phillips, Burlington 704-480-4549.
- **Angus herd** steers & heifers, Taveler, GT Maximum & T277. Exclusive breeding, $50 & up. bison, 300-704-933-7771.
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- **Kiko cross proven bucks**, easy keepers, good prod., low maint., used for beef & milk, $250-$1,000. bison, 300-704-933-7771.
- **Dairy goats**, mature bucks, 90 days old, buckling, $300-$500. dana, 300-704-933-7771.
- **Miniature goats, kids & doelings**, $100-$400. dana, 300-704-933-7771.
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- **Asian & mini dairy goats**, mature bucks, 90 days old, $200. bison, 300-704-933-7771.
- **Kiko cross proven bucks**, easy keepers, good prod., low maint., used for beef & milk, $250-$1,000. bison, 300-704-933-7771.
- **Kiko cross proven bucks**, easy keepers, good prod., low maint., used for beef & milk, $250-$1,000. bison, 300-704-933-7771.
- **Angus & Black Angus**, one of a kind, $300-$1,000. bison, 300-704-933-7771.
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- **Lamancha herd** kids & doelings, $250-$500. bison, 300-704-933-7771.
- **Alpine dairy goats**, mature bucks, $300. dana, 300-704-933-7771.
- **Angus calf/cow pairs**, calves on gear & others spring 2014, $300 & up. dana, 300-704-933-7771.
- **Miniature goats, kids & doelings**, $100-$400. dana, 300-704-933-7771.
- **Kiko cross proven bucks**, easy keepers, good prod., low maint., used for beef & milk, $250-$1,000. dana, 300-704-933-7771.
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Bek, copper maran & barred rock chickens, 5 & up; guineas, 5 & up. John E. Johnson, 2870-401-1118.

Barnes, red rock, Rhode Island Red, buff opalpigeon, Ameraucana, 1 & 10 w, white guinea, various age hens. Robert Nuckolls, 336-794-9157.

Rockwell 704-808-1011 or 855-1118.

Burns, brooom, black, mottled, barred, black textured, white barred, blue splash, etc. Send cash & return address. 310 Country Rd., Lawndale 704-336-3510.

Cubes, many breeds, $15/ea. & up. Allen 724-9286.

Lawton, 2&3 m/o & up, lay blue eggs, good wigeons, blk. belled tree ducks, many colors, dwarfs, $2; medians, $4; all-purpose, $6. Shirley Knox, Sylva 828-226-4700.

27055.

Rd., Trinity, NC 27370.

Kernersville 336-993-2596.

Rockwell 704-808-1011 or 855-1118.

Flemish giants & colors, 3 m/o, $5/ea.

Wellman 252-445-5755.

Josephine Smith, Ellerbe 910-652-2052.

Jeanette Martin gourds

Tobacco/high tunnel supplies

Lancaster, Pa., good for poultry, greenhouses & tobacco, $15,000. Tom Lais- siter, Rockingham 900-1055-1118.

Kernersville 336-993-2596.

For Sale

American guinea, 2 m/o & up; guineas, 5 & up, lay blue eggs, good wigeons, blk. belled tree ducks, many colors, dwarfs, $2; medians, $4; all-purpose, $6. Shirley Knox, Sylva 828-226-4700.

Loofa sponge


Davison, 5 m/o, $5/ea.

Douglas 919-732-4034.

Martin gourds

Breeder plants,prod. approx. 1 gal./plant, $1.25/

ft, $30; 4-5 ft, $40; Turkish Fir, 3-4 ft, $21; 6-7 ft, $24; 7-8 ft, $28; Canaan Fir, 3-4 ft, $16. Canaan Christmas Trees, 859-229-5507.

Blk. corrugated pipe


Goodyear tires

Springs, 2½ ton trucks, $300. Rocky Mount, NC 27804.

M&J Trailer Sales

Lg. red cedar logs, 18 x 12 x 120, $125 ea.; 24 x 12 x 120, $175; 32 x 12 x 120, $250. David Hensley, Asheville 828-457-6190.

Lg. walk-in cooler

16 ft, half, $280; 20 ft, $320. Frank Shumate, Kernersville 336-263-4809.


WANTED

For Sale

Lg. walk-in cooler

16 ft, half, $280; 20 ft, $320. Frank Shumate, Kernersville 336-263-4809.

669-2356.

Vernal, 13 ft, $1,000. John White, Mocksville 704-636-8571.

1998 Ford F-250, king cab, 4x4. See Ford, 13 ft x 6 ft, dovetail, enjoy the outdoors, central heating & cooling, 30x30x24 ft crate. $1,000. David Hensley, Asheville 828-457-6190.

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For Sale

oil tank

935-3109.

Cabbage, green giants, 15 ft; leyland cypress & colors, 126 rack, $15/ea.; Leyland cypress, 16 ft; deer feed, 16 ft; 18 ft, $780. Troy Watts, Taylorsville 336-998-3163.

Loofa sponge

Bearded iris

Loofa sponge


Davison, 5 m/o, $5/ea.

Douglas 919-732-4034.

Martin gourds

Tobacco/high tunnel supplies

Lancaster, Pa., good for poultry, greenhouses & tobacco, $15,000. Tom Lais- siter, Rockingham 900-1055-1118.

Kernersville 336-993-2596.

Rockwell 704-808-1011 or 855-1118.

Flemish giants & colors, 3 m/o, $5/ea.

Wellman 252-445-5755.

27055.

Rd., Trinity, NC 27370.

Kernersville 336-993-2596.

Rockwell 704-808-1011 or 855-1118.

Flemish giants & colors, 3 m/o, $5/ea.

Wellman 252-445-5755.

27055.

Rd., Trinity, NC 27370.

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N.C. county fairs being held August through November

Fairs have always been a way for communities to come together and celebrate. In North Carolina, county fairs are held from August through early November across the state. These events also highlight our state’s rich agricultural heritage. Be sure to check out the county fair in your area.

County fair dates

Aug. 6-10 ......... Stanly American Legion Fair
Aug. 11-16 ......... Davidson County Ag Fair
Aug. 20-24 ......... Haywood County Fair
Aug. 26-30 ......... Burke County Fair
Aug. 27 ......... Alexander County Fair
Sept. 1-5 ......... Cabarrus County Fair
Sept. 5-14 ......... Catahoula County Fair
Sept. 5-14 ......... N.C. Mountain State Fair
Sept. 7-11 ......... Richmond County Ag Fair
Sept. 8-13 ......... Stokes County Ag Fair
Sept. 9-14 ......... Lee Regional Ag Fair
Sept. 10-14 ......... Surry County Ag Fair
Sept. 10-14 ......... Avery County A&H Fair
Sept. 12-21 ......... Caldwell County Fair
Sept. 17-20 ......... Rowan County Ag & Ind. Fair
Sept. 23-27 ......... Atlantic District Fair
Sept. 23-27 ......... Chowan County Fair
Sept. 23-27 ......... Caldwell County Ag Fair
Sept. 23-27 ......... Madison County Fair
Sept. 25-28 ......... Hartnett Regional Ag Fair
Sept. 25-30 ......... Wayne County Ag Fair
Sept. 29-30 ......... Onslow County Ag Fair
Sept. 30-Oct. 4 ......... Wilkes County Ag Fair
Sept. 30-Oct. 5 ......... Stanly Regional Ag Fair
Oct. 3-11 ......... Robeson Regional Ag Fair
Oct. 3-12 ......... Dixie Classic Fair
Oct. 13-19 ......... Columbus County Ag Fair
Oct. 16-26 ......... N.C. Midsouth Ag Fair
Oct. 31-Nov. 9 .... Cape Fear Fair & Expo

Pictured at left is a livestock slate at the 2013 Robeson County Regional Ag Fair. Below, a winner in the 2013 Madison County Fair. County fairs showcase agriculture across the state.

Frank Howey Jr. of Monroe has seen his farm grow over the past 32 years. In fact, he has become one of the largest corn and soybean farmers in the state.

He specializes in row crops, wheat, soybeans and corn, and has a small cattle herd. He farms close to 21,000 acres, of which he owns 17,500 acres and rents another 3,500.

As a result of his success as a crop farmer, Howey has been selected as the North Carolina winner of the 2014 Swisher/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year award. Howey joins nine other state winners from the Southeast as finalists for the award. The overall winner will be announced Oct. 14 at the Sunbelt Ag Expo farm show in Moultrie, Ga.

Howey has already won major farming awards, including the FFA Star American Farmer in 1987, American Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Rancy Achievement Award in 1995 and the Swisher/Sunbelt state Farmer of the Year in 2003. He has no irrigation, yet produces impressive yields. Last year’s 42 acres yielded 185 bushels of corn from 6,000 acres, 81,000 bushels of wheat from 9,100 acres and 68 bushels of full-season soybeans from 1,100 acres. Weather hurt last year’s double-cropped soybeans, but those he harvested yielded 51 bushels per acre. He also has about 1,500 acres of timber.

Howey conserves moisture with no-till planting. Too much moisture can be a problem, so he’s planning an installed drain tile on additional land. He was an innovator in growing 15-inch corn. He also uses a 40-foot-wide combine header, one of the first 32-row headers designed for harvesting 15-inch corn. His normal rotation is corn, followed by wheat, followed by soybeans for three crops in two years. He has also been a pioneer in wheat-corn double cropping. “We have grown 200-bushel corn after outplanting 90-bushel wheat,” he adds.

Howey has won state soybean yield contests, and produces soybeans in an efficient manner by producing soybeans for the lowest cost per bushel. This year, he’s raising about 11,000 acres of wheat. He broadcast and incorporates wheat seed into the soil using minimum tillage.

He’s been active in Farm Bureau, Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, Corn Growers, N.C. State University Agricultural Foundation Board, Crop Improvement Association, Forestry Association, Wildlife Resources Commission, Extension Service Advisory Board and as Small Grain Growers Association president. Howey and his wife, Ali-an, have two children, a son, Trey, and a daughter, Ellie. “The best crops on our farm are our children,” Howey said.

As the North Carolina state winner of the Swisher Sweets/ Sunbelt Expo award, Howey will receive a $2,500 cash award and an expense-paid trip to the Sunbelt Expo from Swisher International of Jacksonville, Fla., a $500 gift certificate from Southern States Cooperative, the choice of either $1,000 in PhytoGen cottonseed or a second $500 donation to a designated charity from Dow AgroSciences, and a Columbia jacket from Ivey’s Outdoor and Farm Supply. Swisher International and the Sunbelt Expo are sponsors of the 25th Southeastern Farmer of the Year awards.

Howey Jr. honored as state’s entry into Southeastern farm contest

Frank Howey Jr. of Monroe has seen his farm grow over the past 32 years. In fact, he has become one of the largest corn and soybean farmers in the state.

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