### Southern Farm Show Feb. 4-6

Representatives from many divisions of the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will be on hand at the Southern Farm Show Feb. 4-6 to answer questions and explain department programs. Department staff will be in the meeting room of the Jim Graham Building at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

NCDA&CS joins more than 400 companies that are exhibiting agricultural equipment, technology and services as part of the annual show. Representatives with agritourism, soil and water conservation, forestry, pesticides and structural pests, food and drug protection and more will be in attendance daily.

The event, which is the largest agricultural show in the Carolinas and Virginia, is free.

The annual Ag Development Forum will be held Feb. 5 at 9:30 a.m. in the Holshouser Building, with Commissioner Steve Troxler providing an update on the state of agriculture in North Carolina. There will also be meetings of the N.C. Pork Council, the Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina and the N.C. Soybean Producers Association.

### Three major invasive species threaten NC forests

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is fighting the spread of three major invasive insect species primarily harming ash, black walnut and redbay trees in the state. The threat is real and only just beginning to be seen in the state as these pests spread.

In many cases, long-distance movement of firewood may be encouraging the spread of emergent ash borer, walnut twig beetle and the redbay ambrosia beetle into previously uninfected areas, said Alfonso Suazo, entomologist with the Plant Industry Divisions’ Plant Protection Section.

“We are continually trying to get the message out that it is always best to use firewood local to the area and leave any unused wood behind.”

The emerald ash borer, first identified in the state in 2013, was probably introduced to the U.S. from Asia in wood packaging materials, such as crates, pallets, or damage used to provide shipments. As of summer 2014, the borer had been detected in Granville, Person, Wake, Forsyth and Vance counties.

- All four native ash species – pumpkin, Carolina, green and white – are susceptible to attack by the borer. That means an estimated 2.5 million ash trees in the state are at risk. Damage caused by emerald ash borers may kill trees within three to five years of initial infestation.
- Adult beetles are metallic green, ½-inch long and 1/8-inch wide, and are active in North Carolina from late spring through mid-summer. Larvae can be found underneath the bark throughout the year.
- The natural flight of the beetles is five to seven miles per year, but rapid (See Invasive pests, pg. 2)

### Norris named NCDA&CS Animal Welfare director

Dr. Patricia Norris of New Mexico has been hired as director of the Veterinary Division Animal Welfare Section of the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

The Animal Welfare Section licenses public and private animal shelters, boarding kennels and pet shops and oversees the state’s Spay and Neuter Fund.

“I am thrilled to bring Dr. Norris on board as director of the Animal Welfare Section,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “She has unique mix of experience with private practice and public service that will serve the department well.”

Dr. Norris earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the Virginia Tech College of Veterinary Medicine in 1986 and has a graduate certificate in veterinary forensic science from the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Norris was in private veterinary practice for 25 years in Virginia, North Carolina and New Mexico. She served as veterinarian in the Duke University Primate Center to provide care for their colony of endangered lemurs. She also served as veterinarian for the Pitt County Board of Health and on the County Animal Response Teams for Pitt and Madison counties.

Previously, she served as the staff veterinarian for the Dolan Ana County Sheriff’s Office, the only position (See Animal welfare, pg. 3)

### Prescribed burn slated at Hanging Rock State Park

Prescribed-burn management conducted by the N.C. Forest Service and Recreation will conduct a prescribed burn in Hanging Rock State Park this winter to reduce the risk of wildfires.

Prescribed-burn managers are hoping to conduct a burn on about 250 acres, in January or February in the Flat Shoals Mountain area.

The burn will be dependent on the right weather conditions to minimize the likelihood of the burn escaping containment lines or causing smoke in nearby communities, said Stokes County Forest Ranger Jonathan Young.

Prescribed-burn managers created a plan that includes smoke-management details, fire-control measures, acceptable fuel moisture and weather parameters, and the necessary equipment and personnel required to safely conduct the burns. The burn will be conducted by staff from the N.C. Forest Service, the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation and local fire departments.

During the burn, visitors to the park can expect some trail closures. Park managers will post signs about the closures.

Prescribed burning is a safe forest-management tool used for native fire-adapted ecosystems and fire-dependent species. The fires reduce dangerous buildup of pine straw, sticks, and other forest litter that put people and communities in jeopardy from wildfires. (See Hanging Rock, pg. 2)

### From the tractor

by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler

You will notice something different about the Agricultural Review this month – color! We are updating the newspaper, starting with this issue. Going forward, photos in the newspaper will be in color and we will be adding color to the masthead.

In terms of content, you can expect the same type of agricultural information, program updates, event listings and ads.
New agronomist joins staff, serving western Piedmont

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services’ Agronomic Services Division has hired Daniel Overcash as regional agronomist for Cabarrus, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly, Surry, Union and Yadkin counties.

Regional agronomists are part of the Agronomic Services Division’s Field Services Section. They provide advice on crop fertilization, nutrient management, lime needs, soil testing, plant tissue analysis, use of animal wastes and composts, nematode analysis, and testing of source water and nutrion solutions.

“Our regional agronomists provide a great benefit to the agriculture community and I encourage folks to make good use of these services,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.

“I am pleased that Daniel has accepted this position, and I know he will be a valuable resource for growers seeking to optimize crop nutrients or manage plant-parasitic nematodes.

Overcash, who still lives on his family’s farm in Mooresville, earned a bachelor’s degree in horticultural science and agricultural education as well as a master’s degree in agricultural education from N.C. State University. He served as a plant pest specialist with the NCDACS Plant Industry Division, working closely with the ornamental nursery crop industry, and also taught agriculture at Surry County Schools.

To arrange a consultation with Overcash, contact him at 704-799-5070 or by email at dan-overcash@ncagr.gov.

Emerald ash borer traps are purple. They should not be disturbed if spotted in the woods.

Invasive pests (Cont’d from pg. 1)

A spread has been attributed mostly to the movement of firewood, Suzao said. Another pest, the walnut twig beetle, carries the fungus Geosmithia morbida. A third pest, the walnut sand-cankers disease, which threatens North Carolina’s native black walnut trees. After infestation, a tree dies within two to three years. Walnut twig beetle was first found in the United States in 2010 and was detected in Haywood County in fall 2011. The disease has been used for its wood, nuts and ornamental features. It is also important for wildlife, as its nuts provide food for birds, squirrels and other small mammals.

Symptoms of sand-cankers disease include a thinning canopy and branch es sprouting from the tree trunk. In general, wherever the beetles have entered and exited the tree bark may be seen if closely inspected, and small oval or round cankers may be seen if a very thin layer of the bark is removed or scraped.

Lastly, North Carolina’s Coastal Plain is threatened by the spread of the redbay ambrosia beetle. This beetle, like the emerald ash borer, is native to Asia. It carries a fungus that causes a disease known as laurel wilt, which was detected in Bladen County in 2011. The disease has since been discovered in Brunswick, Colum bus, New Hanover, Pender and Sampson counties. The N.C. Forest Service has been surveying affected areas to determine the extent of the disease. Trees and shrubs susceptible to laurel wilt include redbay and swampbay, as well as spicebush, sassafras, pondside and pondbry. As of 2014, laurel wilt has only affected redbay in North Carolina. Infected redbay trees display wilted red-brown leaves and black staining in the outer sapwood, which can be seen after removing the outer bark. Movement of infested firewood may also move this beetle into new areas. “The public can help us combat these pests in two ways,” Suzao said. “First, don’t move firewood; the risk isn’t worth it. Second, if you hunt, please don’t extend your county forest range if you already hunt in North Carolina. It’s important that we know if these pests are on the move in other counties.”

Hardwood-firewood quarantines are in place in Haywood, as well as Granville, Person, Warren and Vance counties due to the presence of walnut twig beetle and emerald ash borer, respectively. An N.C. Forest Service county ranger can provide pest identification assistance and land management advice. Residents can find contact information at the following link: http://ncforestservice.gov/Contacts/contacts_main.htm. Local rangers may refer potentially infested trees to other NCDACS specialists.

You can also report the location and descriptions of potentially infested trees to the department staff at 1-800-206-9333 or via email at newpest@ncagr.gov. You can also visit us on Facebook to upload an image, location and contact information at http://www.facebook.com/NCDACSFoest Pest outreach.

Chair of Staff;
Zane Hedgecock
Chief Deputy Commissioner
N. David Smith, Jr.
Assistant Commissioners:
Scott Bissette
Jorge Rivero
Joe Rezalond
Dr. Richard Reich

In revised project list, the names of recently hired employees to the department staff. 1-800-206-9333 or via email at newpest@ncagr.gov. You can also visit us on Facebook to upload an image, location and contact information at http://www.facebook.com/NCDACSFoest Pest outreach.

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Bumper crop of tree seeds beneficial to NC Forest Service seedling program

This autumn, seeds from many a good year hit the ground in record amounts. And squirrels weren’t the only ones looking for them. Some businesses staff from across the state collected the seed used to grow more than 50 types of tree seedlings for the agency’s nursery program. The NCF’s sells these native seedlings to landowners at low cost for a variety of purposes, such as reforestation, wetlands mitigation, aesthetic improvement and wildlife habitat creation.

“While trees make some seed almost every year, a crop of this size only occurs about every four or five years,” said James West, head of the NCF’s Nursery and Tree Improvement Program. “Things have to be just right when it comes to rain, temperatures and wind events. If one of those parameters is off, the seed yield is lower.”

For drug stores and dollar stores, 50 items are inspected, but do not count against a store. Inspectors try to inspect stores every 18 months. If a store has more than a 2 percent error rate on prices downloaded right into the store’s price scanners. Stores may not be as quick to change the prices on the shelf.

“Most stores want the customer to be happy, and in our experience errors are more often due to disorganization, not dishonesty,” said Butler. “If you go to them with a complaint, they will usually correct their action.”

Consumers can contact the Standards Division at 919-707-3225 to register a complaint. “You can find our phone number on the inspection sticker of every scale in grocery stores and on gas pump inspection stickers across the state,” said Butler. “If you see a problem that the store won’t correct for you, we will check it out for you – that’s our job.”

Landowners interested in planting trees this winter or spring may order their seedlings by calling 1-888-NCTREES or visiting http://ncforestry.stores.yahoo.net.

The NC Pesticide Board recently approved the following settlement agreements for individuals and companies in Beaufort, Duplin, Lincoln, Martin, Mecklenburg, Pamlico, Pitt and Stokes counties.

- Stuart Ricks of Pantego agreed to pay $500 for purchasing restricted-use pesticides without a certifier. He also used his son’s driver’s license number on the exam.
- Douglas A. Black, an employee of Crop Production Services in Pantego, agreed to pay $1,000 for selling restricted-use pesticides to a non-certified applicator.
- Andrew Q. Eure Jr., an employee of Crop Production Services in Hamilton, agreed to pay $1,000 for applying pesticides without a certifier’s license. In a related settlement, he also used his son’s driver’s license number on the exam.
- Wepak Corp. of Charlotte agreed to terms after having its license suspended by the Pesticide Board on June 20 for disinfected that were ineffective and contaminated.

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To keep up with the latest on the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, check out the department’s blog at www.ncagr.gov/blog, where you can also find social media links.
The N.C. State Fair took home a number of awards for its advertising, agricultural photos, exhibits and promotional materials at the recent International Association of Fairs and Expos Convention in Las Vegas.

The fair won first-place honors for fair agricultural photo, fair agricultural photo series, outstanding electronic newsletter and outstanding printed promotional material. The agricultural photo was of junior exhibitor Mason Stallings showing a pig during the special awards show. The photo series featured photos of tobacco tying activities and loading in the barn on opening day, along with the mock tobacco auction of the tobacco cured on site during the State Fair. The fair’s daily schedule was recognized as the outstanding promotional material.

The fair also received second-place awards for printed material developed and produced by a fair to promote an agriculture program, new or unique division of competitive exhibits, commemorative poster and unique advertising specialties/merchandise/souvenirs. It also took third place for miscellaneous marketing/promotional display and outdoor advertising.

Entries were judged by fair representatives and industry professionals. The IAFE has over 1,200 members worldwide.

Census of Horticulture surveys in the mail

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service is gearing up to survey the producers of horticultural crops. NASS is conducting the 2014 Census of Horticultural Specialties to gather detailed information on horticultural production and sales across the United States.

“The Census of Horticulture includes producers of floriculture, nursery and other specialty crops,” said Dee Webb, state statistician of the NASS North Carolina Field Office. “According to the most recent Census of Agriculture results, nursery and floriculture products were more than a $14.5 billion industry in the United States.”

This census will provide a source of comparable and consistent data at the national and state levels for the industry. NASS will gather information on horticultural activities conducted during 2014, including production of horticultural crops, value of products, square footage used for growing crops, production expenses and more.

“Participation is important because this census is a unique opportunity to provide information that will be used by policymakers, organizations and businesses for the next several years to help make decisions regarding the availability of goods and services, funding, policies and other key issues that affect the industry,” Webb said.

In December, NASS mailed the census to selected horticultural operations in the United States. For the 2014 Census of Horticulture Specialties, an operation is defined as any place that grew and sold $10,000 or more of horticultural specialty products in 2012, as reported in the 2012 Census of Agriculture.

Producers can fill out the Census online via a secure website, www.agcensus.usda.gov, or return their form by mail. Federal law requires all producers who receive a form to respond and requires NASS to keep all individual information confidential.

Recipients are required to respond by Feb. 5. NASS will publish the results in December 2015. For more about the Census of Horticulture, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov or call 919-856-4394.

Bucolic briefs

The N.C. Agritourism Networking Association will hold its annual statewide meeting Jan. 15 and 16 at the Crown Plaza in Hickory. There will be farm tours on Jan. 15, with the keynote speaker and workshops on Jan. 16. Cost is $85 for farm tour and conference, or $70 for the conference only. An agenda and registration form is online at www.nc-ana.com. The registration deadline is Jan. 5. For more information, call 1-855-517-1817 or email at Martha.glass@nc-ana.com.

**

Back Country Horsemen of Uwharrie will hold its monthly chapter meeting Feb. 9 at 6 p.m. The meeting will be held at Best Foods Cafeteria, 220 E. 1st St., Siler City. Back Country Horsemen of Uwharrie is a non-profit organization and chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of North Carolina and America. The website is www.bchuwharrie.com

The Back Country Horsemen of Uwharrie works in alliance with other chapters across North Carolina, the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service to ensure that forests will be available for equestrian use. Its main focus is on ensuring the Uwharrie National Forest will remain a place that can be enjoyed by all equestrian enthusiasts. Members of the BCHU volunteer their time and resources to maintain trails.

**

A “Successful Small Farm Opportunities Conference” will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 28 at the Vance-Granville Community College Campus in Louisburg. Conference topics will cover pastureed pork production and marketing, using social media on your farm, permaculture, pros and cons of hothouses, small scale beef production, poultry production and marketing, raising capital to start a new farm venture, using solar energy to power your farm, successful business planning for your farm and silviculture mushroom production and marketing.

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has received a grant from the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission to offer branded non-waxed, water resistant produce boxes to Community Supported Agriculture farms through a cost-share program. Boxes would be marked with the Got to Be NC logo and would be available for CSAs that are members of the Goodness Grows in NC Grant to Be NC programs. For registration information on these free programs, go to www.gotobecnccom/become-a-member. Boxes are expected to be available in early 2015. For more information about obtaining boxes, email your name, business name, address, email and daytime phone number to Jack Nales at Jack.Nales@ncagr.gov.

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As a way to help farmers and agricultural workers stay safe at work, the N.C. Department of Labor offers safety videos on a variety of topics through its YouTube channel. Video topics include: preventing green tobacco sickness, hazard communication, tobacco harvester safety, heat stress, migrant housing requirements, forklift safety, and information about the NCDOL’s Gold Star Growers program. The videos are in English and Spanish to increase understanding of safety hazards and preventing accidents. To learn more about the NCDOL and the Agricultural Safety and Health Bureau, go to www.ncagr.com or call 1-888-NC-LABOR (888-625-2267). NCDOL is also on Facebook and Twitter (@NCDOl).

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The deadline for the February issue is Jan. 2. The deadline for the March issue is Feb. 2 and the deadline for the April issue is March 2.

**Classified Ads**

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**Agricultural Review**

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**BEES**

Spruce young, 5 frames, $10; 8 frame med. $50. Melon, 25 young or older $10. Melon, 1 frame, $25. H.J. Long, 704-796-8120.

Spring young, 5 frames, $10 med. $5, 8 frame, $10. 50+ $1 each. AC, 540-909-6780.

**Notice**

N.C. law requires a permit to sell honey bees in the state. No permit is required for: The sale of less than 100 frames in the calendar year, a one-time going-out-of-business sale of less than 500 frames, or the renting of bees for pollination purposes or sale for rearing.

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**Honey Bee Woodenware**

Italian honey bee woodenware, comb frames, 3 lb. pkgs., $100. David Bryant, 336-873-9898.

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Lg. Greenside hyde, val, new/old stock, new/old stock, knockdown, may make hyde, pumps, motors & cly, Lonnie Timmons, Wake forest 919-556-2391.

Force 80 TR trailer w-box blade, 7'-0" wide, 8'-0"-long, 4000 lb. capacity, 7000 lb. axles, specs, 1-800-767-4909.


Front end loader to fit FI 454 tractor, parts triactor w loader. David Shelton, 919-322-9064.

Box blade, 6'-6", fits JD 2240. Bart Goodson, Friendship 910-752-6800.

JD 7000 corn planter for parts, 30 in. corn head for M2 Gleaner, 30 in. corn heads, riding trails, seer, area, $1000. Mr. Booth, Lincolnton 704-245-2154.

2014 Kiefer built 3 horse slant w/all-welded living quarters, 21 3/4 ft. long, very nice, 15 ft. loading slide, toilet, shower, water heater, etc., $15,000. Alt. 704-314-4314.


Reg. sulphur springs gelding, 5 y.o, red dun/walking start, under saddle, deed, Dan Black, Glenville 919-648-2860.

Cecil Field, Goldsboro 919-920-3354.


Lg. horse barn, 30x60, not weather cracked. James & fert. hopper, $2,800. Curtis York, 910-890-3417.

Chamelin, Kernersville 336-769-4418.

Grady, Goldsboro 919-920-3354.


Para-Flo finishing 10 y.o, blk, 3 hrs. riding, $1,500. Danny Hicks, Siler City 919-479-9234 or 910-828-6357.

Curtis York, 910-890-3417.

2-15.5x38. Ronnie Williamson, Snow Camp 336-266-3721.

Mike Bennett, Grimesland 252-792-7709 after 10 p.m.

JD 7000 corn planter for parts, 30 in. corn head for M2 Gleaner, 30 in. corn heads, riding trails, seer, area, $1000. Mr. Booth, Lincolnton 704-245-2154.


Large horse barn, 30x60, not weather cracked. James & fert. hopper, $2,800. Curtis York, 910-890-3417.


LIVESTOCK

Poultry & Supplies

SEEDS & PLANTS

Lucky L."Butterfly" antiques

BUFF ORPINGTONS

25 w/o, $15/ea. N.
Furr, Stan
Philby & Barbary, $1.50 & up. Jimmy
Jumbo browns, albino chukars, rock
Bobwhites, coturnix, Texas A&M,
Dennis, Randleman 336-498-5034.
Buy 10+ for free postage, $10. Danny
ity, $300. Cody Pearson, Battle-
line, deep bred gamefowl, good
Strader, Flat Rock 336-342-3870 or
5120.

SILVER & GOLD LACED

MUTE SWANS

400#, White homers

Bantams

Blk. rosecomb bantam

THESE ARE MALE环

OLD TIMEY COCKS COMB SEEDS

$1/pod; N.C.

WANTED

$1,500; Solo airblast sprayer, 32 gal.,
Hercules, trailer mounted, 25 gal.
Bowden, Benson 910-591-9929.

WANTED

lock rails, $6/ea.; others avail. Eddie
Rivenbark, Willard 910-259-2717 or

Creosoted ½ split

windrower, $11,500. Barry McSwain,
704-699-3871.

LIFEGUARD, Hwy. 301, S. off 70,

(2014 spring hatch, full

3 wells, 2 y/o tractor, gen. & incin-

dated, 8-12 ft; red & sugar

Sawtooth oak seedlings

Mill, pto, pull-type, $3,700. Phil

Wood, Rivesville 336-552-5176 or
dowiana51@

AGRICULTURAL REVIEW Page 7

January 2015

For Sale

I-beans, 16 in., in 7 flats, in

1/2 ton, $750; 4500#; $900. Darrell
Parker, Mooresville 704-677-3458.

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2014: A year in photos

The N.C. Museum of History grew outdoor educational gardens highlighting some of North Carolina’s top crops. Pictured are tobacco plants outside the museum.

Commissioner Troxler, center, surveys damage in Hyde County from Hurricane Arthur, which damaged some crops in eastern North Carolina in July.

Export markets remain significant for North Carolina agriculture. The department has been actively involved in encouraging improvements at the state ports to boost future exports. Roughly 95 percent of the world population lives outside the United States, meaning exports will continue to be a major economic factor. Pictured is the Wilmington port with the Got to Be NC Agriculture sign in the foreground.

The N.C. General Assembly invested a total of $5 million over two years in equipment and technology upgrades at the state’s 18 research stations. Commissioner Steve Troxler, center, and N.C. State University Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Richard Linton, left, and N.C. A&T State University Dean of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Bill Randle, right, showcased some of the new equipment at Central Crops Research Station in Clayton.

In April, North Stokes Senior High School’s ag program became the first high school in the state to be GAP certified, enabling students to sell produce to the school cafeteria. Students grow hydroponic lettuce, which is used in school lunches, with plans to expand production in the future.

Risk-management workshops run January through March

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will offer a series of risk management workshops across the state in January through March. The workshops will focus on managing price volatility and identifying macro indicators.

The following topics will be covered: Introduction to grain hedging, basis trading, cost of carry, cotton futures, option trading on futures and equities, and macro forces. The principles of options, spreading strategies, using options to manage financial risk, and energy derivatives and how to manage exposure to energy costs will be discussed. All workshops will be held from 10 a.m. to noon, and are free.

Following is the schedule, times and location of classes:

Jan. 7 at the Robeson County Agriculture Bldg., Lumberton, 910-671-3276; Jan. 9 at the Johnston County Ag Center, Smithfield, 919-989-5380; Jan. 26 at the Pitt County Extension Center, Greenville, 252-902-1709; Jan. 28 at the Pasquotank County Extension Center, Elizabeth City, 252-338-3954;

Feb. 17 at the Northampton Cooperative Extension Center, Jackson, 252-534-2831; March 12 at the Union County Extension Center, Monroe, 704-283-3801; March 13 at the Carolina Farm Credit Administrative Office, Statesville, 800-521-9952.