Poultry shows, public sales, live-bird auctions suspended starting in August

Blueberry growers across North Carolina are expecting a record crop this season, thanks to recent dry weather.

"Too much rain at harvest can damage blueberries and ruin a crop," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "Fortunately, the weather is cooperating and we are seeing some of the highest yields and best-tasting berries we've had in years."

North Carolina is the seventh-largest producer of blueberries in the nation. In 2012, the state grew 41 million pounds of blueberries. About 75 percent of the state's crop is sold fresh, at grocery stores, farmers markets and roadside stands.

Bill Cline, a plant pathologist at the Horticultural Crops Research Station in Castle Hayne, works with blueberry growers throughout the year. He said consumers should have no trouble finding N.C. blueberries during the next few weeks. Shoppers are encouraged to check labels to see if blueberries were grown in North Carolina.

One of the best ways for consumers to know they are getting locally grown blueberries is to buy berries directly from growers at farmers markets, roadside stands or pick-your-own farms.

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services offers an online directory of farmers markets, roadside stands and pick-your-own farms at www.ncfarmfresh.com.

In addition, the department will host Blueberry Day July 10 at the Robert G. Shaw Piedmont Triad Farmers Market in Colfax from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will feature free blueberry desserts and information about the state's blueberry industry. Farmers also will have blueberries available for purchase.


From the tractor

by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler

I know that many people enjoy reading the Agricultural Review for its classified ads sec-

tion, but I hope you also read the stories. The newspaper includes a lot of agricultural news each month as well as features about some segment of agriculture or the work we do at the department. Our goal is to make sure readers know what is going on in the field and gain a better understanding about some of our programs.

This month I ask that you pay extra attention to the article about highly pathogenic avian influenza that starts on page 1 and also the informational flier that is included on page 8.

While no cases of this disease have been found in North Carolina at this time, HPAI poses a real threat to our poultry industry. Our state ranks third in turkey production and fourth in broiler production nationally. Combined, all poultry and eggs account for $4.9 billion in farm cash receipts, which does not take into consideration the added agribusiness contributions of this industry.

Also, we have nearly 3,700 non-commercial flocks. To say this is a significant industry in North Carolina is an understatement.

In order to protect the health of our poultry flock, we are suspending all poultry shows, public sales of birds and live bird auctions beginning Aug. 15 through Jan. 15, 2016. We plan to review the situation again and see if it is necessary to keep the ban in place longer.

I sincerely hope we do not get avian influenza in North Carolina, but we do know the serious threat to our state's poultry and we anticipate the threat of the virus will increase this fall. We want to take appropriate precautions to prevent the intro-

(See Bird shows, pg. 8)
New license plate lets you show your love for NC plants

The N.C. Commissioner of Agriculture is hoping to find 500 backyard gardens landscaped with native plants and flowers to allow for a newly designed N.C. Gardening specialty license plate that features a field of brightly colored flowers that are grown in North Carolina.

The initial fee for the license plate will be $20, with an extra $30 fee collected by the DMV for those wishing to add personalized text to the plate. Once the plate is approved, participating businesses will be charged a $20 fee by the DMV in addition to the registration fee.

Recycling old appliances, aluminum cans and other heavy metal items not only keeps these items out of our landfills, it sends the customer home with a little spending money.

Glen Farmer, a heavy scale inspector with N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, recently explained how scales at scrap metal facilities are checked for accuracy.

The Standards Division checks any scales where “money changes hands.” This would include scales at yards, scrap dealers, agricultural-supply centers, high-way weigh stations and scrap metal facilities. Scales are checked on an annual basis or as a condition of a load scale.

The Standards Division inspects scales at scrap metal facilities ever year to make sure they are being used correctly by the consumer. The consumer is paid for the difference between the weight on the scales and the weight on the scales. A tolerance level of the amount is a scale could be a couple of hundred dollars.

Glen Farmer moves heavy weights into position to test scales. When consumers bring unwanted appliances, metal debris or even old vehicles to a scrap metal facility the items are generally weighed on a truck scale.

At some facilities, this scale can record up to 100,000 pounds of weight. The entire weight of the vehicle, trailer and scrap metal is recorded on the scale. After unloading inside the facility, the consumer then drives the emptied vehicle and trailer back over a scale at the exit and the weight is recorded. If the consumer is paid for the difference of the two weights. If the consumer is under the amount of scrap brought in, the consumer may have a negative balance.

Grayson, Raleigh

The “Dig into Local” Best Menu NC contest is available at www.to-be-nc.org and Savor NC market programs. More about the contest is available at www.gottobenc.com/DigIntoLocal.

Standards Division inspects scales at scrap metal facilities.
Bucolic Briefs

A Regional Hay Field Day will be held July 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Granville County Livestock Facility on Cannady Mill Road, near Oxford. Educational programs will focus on forage fertility requirements, storing hay, weeds, soil and forage sampling and forage differences. The event includes displays of new equipment on the market and types of summer forages, and a sponsored lunch. For more information contact the Franklin County Extension Center at 919-496-3344.

The N.C. Sheep Producers Annual Field Day will be held July 11 starting at 9 a.m. at Clover C Farm in Bavado. The event will include field demonstrations from birth to sale. To keep it simple, ag cooperatives share programs through the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, rotational grazing and solar power on the farm. The event is open to anyone interested in sheep production. The cost is $50 per person, $20 for a family. For more, contact Dr. John H. McSorley, NCSCA secretary, at ireatcememories@ ncrr.com or Carvel Cheves at carvel_c@yahoo.com.

The election of pork producer delegate candidates for the 2016 National Pork Producers (Pork Act) Delegate Body will be held Aug. 5 at 1 p.m. at the N.C. Farm Bureau Conference Center, 5301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh. The election will be held by ballot. A quorum of directors meeting and all N.C. pork producers are welcome to attend. Any producer, 18 or older, who is a resident of the state and has paid all assessments due can be considered as a delegate candidate and can participate in the election. Eligible producers are asked to bring a sales receipt with them proving that hogs sold were in their name and the checkoff deducted. For more, contact the N.C. Pork Council at 919-781-0361 or 2300 Roxboro Drive, Suite 340, Raleigh, NC 27607.

The Equestrian Exchange Fall Task Conclusions sale will be held Sept. 3-7 at the Holoumsville, State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. The event features anything related to equestrian sports, tack for all disciplines of riding and barn supplies on consignment. Consignors drop off items Sept. 1 between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. and receive 75 percent of sale price. Volunteers shop before the public. A premier shopping night is Sept. 3 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is $7 cash. Free open shopping is Sept. 4 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sept. 7 from noon to 7 p.m. Some items are discounted the final day of sale. Consignors pick up unsold items Sept. 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and also do it online. For more go to www.EquestrianExchange.com or contact Lyn Bresson at 336-362-6248 or Tanya Wright at 540-977-1950.

The N.C. Silvicultural Association Fall Harvest Sale will be held Sept. 5 at the Shaffer Sale Facility in Union Grove. The sale will include bulls, cow/calf pairs and heifers. For more information, call Jennie Rucker at 336-468-1679 or email at jackasolflute@tds.net. To see an online listing, go to ncsimmental.com.

The 74th Annual North Carolina Gourd Arts and Crafts Festival will be held Sept. 12 and 13 at the Holoumsville, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. The festival features displays of gourds from around the world, workshops, a live auction at noon on Saturday, and vendors selling dried gourds, gourd seeds, gourd tools, and other crafts supplies. There will also be competitions with prizes and ribbons awarded. Admission is $2 for adults and free for kids under 16. Workshops and N.C. Gourd Society members. For more details, including a list of workshops and information on how to enter a competition, go to www.gourdsofnc.org/festival or contact Kate Mahony, festival and workshop chair, at 919-659-4577 or tolbecr@nc.rr.com.

Back Country Horsemen of Uwharrie will hold work days Sept. 14 and Nov. 19. The group meets at 9 a.m. in the Canebrake Horse Camp in the Badin Lake Recreation Area near Troy. The group also has roller riding meetings. The website is www.ucbh.org. The group also holds monthly meetings. For more information, call Mike Lepley, 910-366-3545 or email buxie@nc.rr.com for details.

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 BCUH volunteer their time and resources to maintain trails. ***

As a way to help farmers and agricultural workers stay at safe work, the N.C. Department of Labor offers safety videos on a variety of topics through its YouTube channel. Videos include: preventing green tobacco sickness, hazard communication, tobacco harvester safety, heat stress, migrant housing requirements,ilk safety, and information about the NCDOL’s new 2016 Farm Act Talent 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.nclabor.com or call 1-888-NC-LABOR (888-625-2267). NCDOL can also be found on Facebook and Twitter (@NCDOFLab). ***

The N.C. Simmental Association Fall Harvest Sale will be held Sept. 5 at the Shaffer Sale Facility in Union Grove. The sale will include bulls, cow/calf pairs and heifers. For more information, call Jennie Rucker at 336-468-1679 or email at jackasolflute@tds.net. To see an online listing, go to ncsimmental.com.

The deadline for the September issue of the Agricultural Review is Aug. 1; the deadline for the October issue is Sept. 1.

Classifieds Ads

SUBMITTING ADS: Ads are free to NC residents & can be submitted by mail to 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1001 online at www.agreview.org by at 9 a.m. (EST).

Ads must include name, address including zip code, phone number including area code, and price or price range for every item being sold. Deadline for each issue is midnight on the first working day of the month prior to publication.

Bees, Supplies & Services For Sale

NOTICE N.C. law requires a permit to sell honey bees in the state. A permit is not required for: The sale of less than 10 bee hives in a calendar year, a one-time going out of business sale of the entire stock, the sale of remaining of bees for pollination purposes or their movement to another state. Contact Don Hopkins, state apiarist, NCDA&CS, 1060 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001 for information.
Carpenter bee traps, like bird houses, traps, & supplies, can be purchased from Terry, Vass 910-528-1153.

Queens, pick up or ship; cypress hardware, hive bodies, frames, bird houses, traps & kills, ship 897-1597.


Bumper hitch, swinging rear door, Delu, Swansboro 252-393-8076.


Honey bees

5 frame nucs, 2015 Italian, Queens, like

Beehives/bees placed, like

Honey bee gait, 15.1 hh, utd on all shots & vacc pag, Biscoe 910-571-1172.

Miniature donkeys

Twh mare

2 y/o, smart & sensitive w/ lots of

Coggins, Biscoe 910-571-1172.

Jumbo coturnix & Texas A&M quail, 1 quart each.


Electric motor mixers, $100; other

24v, 2 on JD M tractor w/ cult., $4,800; JD 15 ft no-till grain drill

Jack & Jessie, Greensboro 336-621-3495.

Barred rock roosters, white leghorn rooster, silver seagulls, golden seagulls, silver ducking barns, king quail, ringshanked partridge,

Searcy, Marion 828-738-8533.

Birmingham rollers, performance great, $20, $890-777-2296.

Guineas, pearl, mosquito & gold, healthy, good layers, $7.50. Randy Wright, Staley 336-622-2386.

Horses & supplies

Horses

AMT, born 2 bottom plows, $225; boom

Scoop pans

591-8552.

Horse houses

Come in contact with wild

Horses & supplies

store, & other additions from your existing

Machine

Jumbo coturnix

KMB

Weeks Bee Supply, Greenv.

Wood ducks, wood slabs, wood cross

Newbury, Mt. Airy 704-916-1927.

Newbury, Mt. Airy 704-916-1927.

Johnston, Reynolds 249-407-0733.

336-1496.

2000 Silver Star

T爷, Vass 910-528-1153.

Queens, pick up or ship; cypress

Honey, locally raised, 5 frame nucs to full 10 frame hives, $150-270; honey bee queens, proven laying patterns, $30. Tom & Kim Underhill, Raleigh 919-272-4450.
FARM EQUIPMENT

1949 JD M tractor, $1,800; 1949 Ferguson tractor, rebuilt, show ready, $4,500. R. Franklin, Morganton 828-448-3366.

Front tractor tire, 65 ply, $35; front tractor tire, 750/16, $40; 9.50/16, mid, $50. C. England, Denver 704-830-7266.

NH 451 sickle bar mower, 7 ft cut, $1,200; 1976 Gleaner K combine, 10 ft grain head, corn head, kept $4,500. W. Shaw, Cramerton 704-666-2526.

Case IH 695 tractor, GC, $11,500; 2 row cultivator, kept $175, aera- rite tiller, kept $2,095, farmall w/hoppers, kept $175. L.B. Bond, Dobson 336-374-0103.

IH 424 farmall w/s, if new $3,500, $3,300; if 75% $2,550; if 50% $1,650, if 25% $1,200; if 10% $600; if 5% $300. J. Krumenauer, Burnsville 704-697-2007.

IH 706 tractor, $2,750; 2 row corn picker, GC, $700; 2 row hay rake; 3 pt., $400; 3 point hitch, $200/trade. J. Veasy, Aberdeen 910-206-2464.

Ford 309 planter, 1958, $6,400; Combine eng., VGC, $4,100; Farmall Super A, $2,750; John Deere 50, $1,200; Case IH 695, $800.

J 441 2-plow w/hydraulic chisel, kept $350; JD 1947 B, JD 1200 Hill Topper, 1949, $600.

NH 310 baler, $1,500; JD 404 tractor, 1951, $1,000; JD 405 baler, $300; JD 414 corn picker, $200.


K 40 tractor, diesel, $120,500; JD 50, $90,000; JD 504, $70,000; JD 510, $50,000; JD 654, $25,000.

Case IH 1110 loader, $6,000; Ford 4600, 5000, 2 row corn picker, $2,000; Ford 2 row corn picker, $1,500.

John Deere 7204, $2,000; John Deere 7404, $2,500; John Deere 7520, $3,000; John Deere 7620, $3,500.

Grad shank cultivator, $2,500; JD 1154, $2,200; JD 1164, $2,700; JD 1364, $3,200; JD 1564, $3,700.

IH 706 tractor, $2,750; John Deere 8000, $6,000; IH 8100, $9,000; IH 9100, $12,000.

IH 440 tractor, $3,500; IH 508 tractor, $2,500; IH 548 tractor, $1,500; ih 568 tractor, $1,000.

IH 440 grain head, $5,000; IH 508 grain head, $2,500; IH 548 grain head, $2,000; IH 568 grain head, $1,500.

IH 440 hydraulic head, $3,500; IH 508 hydraulic head, $2,500; IH 548 hydraulic head, $2,000; IH 568 hydraulic head, $1,500.

IH 650 tractor, $6,000; IH 750 tractor, $8,000; IH 850 tractor, $10,000.

IH 7440 tractor, $10,000; JD 444 grain header, $4,000; Norman Fink, Mt. Airy 336-351-6769.

IH 348 baler, $4,500; IH 358 baler, $3,500; IH 368 baler, $2,500.

IH 348 grain head, $6,000; IH 358 grain head, $5,000; IH 368 grain head, $4,000.

IH 348 grain head, $6,000; IH 358 grain head, $5,000; IH 368 grain head, $4,000.

IH 348 grain head, $6,000; IH 358 grain head, $5,000; IH 368 grain head, $4,000.

IH 348 grain head, $6,000; IH 358 grain head, $5,000; IH 368 grain head, $4,000.

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IH 348 grain head, $6,000; IH 358 grain head, $5,000; IH 368 grain head, $4,000.
For Sale

**Farm Land For Sale**

6.1 ac in Wilcokes co, hay barn, mostly pasture, 2 b house, head quater, fenced, mostly used for horses, $350. Steve Minton, Ronda 336-508-3522.

**Farmland Wanted**

Land for lease to 2015 & future yrs. within hour drive of Stanley area, and 6 responsible hunter. Jimmy Furr, Stan ton 704-888-0213.

**Livestock For Sale**

Hair sheep, Katadin, blk hair, small ears, $100 & up. Mary Riggs, Dur ris 919-479-8081.

Hair sheep, Katadin, blk & white, $100 & up. Dory Van Dooren Doris 336-667-3773 between 5-11 p.m.

Male llama, 1 y/o, brown & black, $175; mini pottle chy, male, bk. & white, 3 y/o, $50. Johanna Watson, Lincoln 340-432-5289.


Blk. Angus herd bulls, steers & heifers, TRAVELER GMT & MAXIMUM 727 Executive bloodline, $700 & up, 268 ac in Chatham co 336- 577-6102 between 5-11 p.m.

Nubian/Boar mixes, 30 ac 336-302-0353.

Pygmy goats, does & bucks, does, $150; 3 y/o, red roan & white, $115; Kidney, Quit sucker, 900-368-9287. ADGA reg. Nubians, bucks, doe, 1 y/o, $175; multi-purpose, homestead, $150. Johnny Hall, 919-663-9707.

Nubian/Golden Guernsey, 1 y/o, $175; 3 y/o, $150. Steve Minton, 919-742-4009.

Pygmy goat kids, does & bucks, various, from show quality does, $125 & up. Scott, Snow Camp 336-263-8535.


Kuneke pigeon, purebred, red stripe, 7 y/o, $1,500. Sam Smith, Pinnacle 336-305-8986.


Yorkshire pigs, 5-7 y/o, $250. Scott, Snow Camp 336-263-8535.


**LIVESTOCK**

Reg. Scottish highland bull, top line, moderate size, deep body, good legs, udder, $800; $2,500. Katherine Arington, Green Mountain 828-227-2277.

Hairless sheep, long hair sheep, $100-150 ea. or larger tilter trailer, $500. M. A. Miller, Chapel Hill 919-927-2150.

**Aquaculture, Supplies & Services**

Moss fish gambasia, used for mosquito control, disc. w/glass, $2.50; 5000, Dave Blackwood, Irvington Madison 633-613-5294.

**Seeds & Plants For Sale**

Small animals for sale

San Juan rabbits, $10 & up. Gary Campbell, Robbins 636-598-8155.


Tennessee redback rabbits, $6.00. Debra Kinard, Princeton 919-610-8700.

**Agricultural Review**

Lamb, 12 lb., $150; 20 lb., newly weaned, $200; 30 lb., w/bulk order, $125, Tony Bunning, Burlington 336-886-5340.


**For Sale Page**

**PLEASE NOTE**: Individuals or businesses offering nursery plants for sale in North Carolina are required to either have a nursery dealer license or for more information, contact the NCDA&CS Plant Industry People at 919-232-8603 or 919-707-3730.

Old timey cockseed cocks, huge blossom head with crimson color, stately 18 in. stalk, approx. 200 seed, $3; SASE, Nancy McRae, Autryville 910-670-4655.

Jules, over 100 feet tall, $3,000-3,500. William Cane, Burlington 336-226-4293.

**Trucks & Trailers**


**Livestock Wanted**

Minor or reg. Scottish Highland or Dexter heifer, $200-1,000. Steve Suggs, Huntersville 704-808-0465.

August/angus cross steers, 660#; 690#; 720#.


**CANDIDATE PAGE**

**October 15th** Independent truck pull.

Good Friday, $10/ea. or larger tilt trailer, $500. M. A. Miller, Chapel Hill 919-927-2150.

**July 2015** AGRICULTURAL REVIEW Page 7

2015 Calico stock trailer, 16 ft, w/4,950. H. Davis, Elen 336-573-4309.

**Transporters**

No. 201 + 4700 fl bed flat bed trailer. $12,000. Wayne Hill 336-418-0015.

2019 Infr APP truck, diesel, 10 ft. Monta, we need a Clountz, Moores- ville 704-506-9219.

Small livestock for sale, all steel, 3 ft x 7 ft in., good tires w/5 in., 2 in. hitch, nasty, solid, $400. Sam Everhart, Thomasville, 336-847-1755.

**Single axle livestock trailer,** 4x8 ft, 6-9x2.5, 6.5 in. leg pieces, good tread, $450. Billy Wood, Mocksville 336-273-4091.


**For Sale**

Trailer w/tank, 8x12 ft, $800. Andrew German, Denton 704-763-4631.


2014 Chevy 4x4, 6 ft box, $15,900. Sam Everhart, Mocksville 704-506-9219.

30 foot trailer, w/tank, 15 hp, 3 phase, $4,000. Paul Dearman, Graham 910-591-9929.

30' long bed, $1,100; 1988 Chevy 4x4 long bed, $2,500. Michael, Lexington 336-239-3717.

**Livestock**

30 ft. powerhouse, 15 hp, 3 phase, $3,000. Denny Rollins, Mocksville 336-929-6741.

**Livestock Wanted**

**Trucks & Trailers**

3000 #, w/4,950 lb., beds, $16,000. John McSwain, Shelby 704-482-2912.

**For Sale**

Trailer, 4x8 ft, $125 & up. Glenn Everhart, Mocksville 336-886-5340.


2019 Infr APP truck, diesel, 10 ft. Monta, we need a Clountz, Mooresville 704-506-9219.

Utility trailer, all trailer, 4x8 ft, 1 in. deep, single axle, $150. Steve Suggs, Huntersville 704-808-0465.

$700. John McSwain, Shelby 704-482-2912.

**For Sale**

Trailer w/tank, $3,000. Stagecoach, Flat Rock 704-661-2944.

1960 Ford F250, v8, 4 doors, bed w/bed liner, towing pkg., 2,700 kg, narrow body, $4,000. Betty Klein, Bear Creek 919-106-6962.

Long truck bed, fits S-16, $500. L. Murphy, Castalia 919-670-4655.


1966 Ford F100 1/2 ton truck, 240 cu. in., eng. straight drive, $1,000.00. Ron Vansen, Franklinville 336-667-6763.


To keep up with the latest changes in the Department of Agriculture and Community Services, check out the department's blog at www.ncagr.gov/blog, find us on Facebook, or follow us on social media links.
Troxler tours agribusiness sites under development in Western NC

Special from the NCDA&CS blog

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler recently met with agribusinesses and local leaders during a two-day trip to Western North Carolina.

He toured construction sites of two new agribusinesses in Mills River — the Tri-Hishtil plant-grafting facility and Bold Rock Hard Cider’s cider-making operation.

Tri-Hishtil is a multinational partnership formed by the U.S. company TriEst, Israel-based Hishtil and SIS/Centro SEIA of Italy. The company will specialize in grafting, which is the practice of connecting the vascular tissue of one plant to another to improve resistance to diseases and pests.

Virginia-based Bold Rock Hard Cider chose Mills River as the location for its new cider-making operation and tasting room.

“In Henderson County I was really proud to see two major agribusiness facilities being constructed,” Troxler said. “I hope that other counties will see what Henderson County is doing and realize the potential for agribusiness development that we have throughout N.C.”

In Cherokee County, Troxler met with Sheriff Derrick Palmer, county Commissioner Cal Stiles and other officials at the county detention center’s farm. They looked at two high tunnels where fresh fruits and vegetables are being grown for use at the center. The tunnels were purchased with assistance from the Tennessee Valley Authority Ag and Forestry Fund, a program established with a portion of the funds from North Carolina’s settlement agreement with the TVA.

The tunnels are on tracks, so they can be moved to new locations and soil on the farm.

In addition to support from the TVA funds, the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service has assisted with the purchase of 97 high tunnels in Western North Carolina.

“In the mountains there’s a lot of interest in high tunnel production of fresh fruits and vegetables,” Troxler said. “These tunnels protect high-value crops from low temperatures and even help extend growing seasons.”

Commissioner Troxler also met with Michell Hicks, principal chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee. The chief briefed the Commissioner on a feral swine monitoring program that the University of Tennessee has undertaken on tribal land and in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

NCDA&CS is interested in partnering with the tribe, National Park Service and university to expand monitoring for feral swine in North Carolina.

“Feral swine can have an impact on just about every aspect of a farming operation,” Troxler said. “They damage crops, fields, wildlife habitat, game lands and streams. Nationally, they rank behind only coyotes as the top predator of sheep and goats.”

North Carolina’s state-operated research stations and field labs will be holding field days throughout the year to provide an update on the latest research taking place in a variety of areas. Following is a list of confirmed dates and subject matter:

- Aug. 5 – Blacklands Farm Managers Tour, Tidewater Research Station, Plymouth. Contact Rod Gurganus, 252-943-5832.
- Aug. 27 – Bioenergy Field Day, Mountain Horticultural Crops Research Station, Fletcher. Contact Sam Bratke, 919-693-2483.

Dates are confirmed as of press time. Other events are planned, but dates have not yet been announced. Check back at the Research Stations Division’s website at www.ncagr.gov/Research/FieldDays.htm for other events.

Upcoming research field days

Bird shows (Cont’d from pg. 1)

introduction to backyard and commercial flocks.”

The decision comes after department officials consulted with industry representatives, poultry specialists from N.C. State University, fair officials and other related parties. North Carolina joins at least 13 other states that have cancelled or altered poultry shows due to HPAI.

“We know this ban will affect a number of poultry shows and kids who have planned to exhibit at their county fair or the State Fair,” Troxler said. “We regret having to make this decision, but we think it is in the best interest of everyone involved. We’re working on ways to keep youth who wanted to show at fairs interested in showing.”

More information about highly pathogenic avian influenza can be found at www.ncagr.gov/avianflu.

HIGHER PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IS IN THE US!

KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS:

- Lack of energy and appetite
- Decreased egg production or soft, misshapen eggs
- Swelling of the head, eyes and comb
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, comb and legs
- Stumbling, falling down, diarrhea
- Sudden death

HERE ARE SOME STEPS FOR PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF BIRD FLU AMONG BACKYARD CHICKENS:

- Keep chickens and turkeys away from ducks and other waterfowl.
- Install solid fencing so chickens cannot come into direct contact with neighbor chickens and birds.
- If you have a backyard pond where migrating birds may stop, don’t allow your chickens near the water. Keep your feed protected as well.
- Birds from a reputable source and keep new birds separate from the rest of your flock for at least 20 days.
- Do not share feeding buckets or other equipment and supplies with other bird owners.
- Wash hands thoroughly before and after working with birds. Wear clean clothes and disinfect cages, tools and other equipment that come in contact with birds, and their droppings.

THIS SPECIFIC STRAIN OF FLU CURRENTLY IN THE US HAS NOT BEEN KNOWN TO AFFECT HUMANS. AFFECTED BIRDS DO NOT ENTER THE FOOD CHAIN, SO POULTRY PRODUCTS ARE SAFE TO EAT.

For help or if your birds are sick, please call NCDA&CS Veterinary Division at 919-733-7601. USDA operates a toll-free hotline at 1-866-536-7593 www.ncagr.gov/avianflu