New regional agronomists on board to help growers

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services recently announced the hiring of three new regional agronomists. Growers can now seek agricultural advice from Georgia Love in Anson, Guilford, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph, Richmond and Scotland counties; Chris Jerunig in Craven, Carteret, Greene, Jones, Lenoir and Pitt counties; and Amy Poirier in 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 are experts in 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 nutrient solutions.

Love, a native of Robeson County, is a graduate of N.C. State University with a bachelor’s degree in agronomy and a master’s in crop science. She has advised Robeson County growers for more than six years.

(See Agronomists, pg. 2)

Fourth-generation N.C. agribusiness putting BBQ back on school lunch menus

The South is full of food traditions, and barbecue is one that North Carolinians take very seriously. Craig and Twig Wood, owners of Brookwood Farms, a fourth-generation pit-cooked barbecue manufacturer, bring that same level of passion to their work.

Before readers start writing letters to the editor, this isn’t an Eastern North Carolina-versus-Western North Carolina barbecue article, but rather an agribusiness success story about a local company whose heat-and-served barbecue is now part of a number of school lunch programs across the state and who, in 2012, sold a total of 9 million pounds of barbecue.

The businesses’ products are sold through food service companies, retail stores, company restaurants in the Charlotte and Raleigh airports, and school lunch programs.

Brookwood Farms’ success in supplying barbecue to schools started with a simple question: How could barbecue, which is such a staple of Southern cuisine, not be a regular feature on school lunch menus?

The answer, they found, was a bit surprising. Students simply didn’t care for the barbecue being offered — often oven-roasted pork flavored with liquid smoke.

“What we were told again and again was that traditionally kids only want to eat chicken tenders and pizza,” said Craig Wood.

The Woods figured a better, more traditional-tasting product, may sway students to give school barbecue another try.

To get started on product development, the Woods contacted staff members with the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Food Distribution Division, who explained how the school lunch program worked and helped introduce them to some key contacts in the school nutrition industry.

“Our role in helping Brookwood get into the school lunch business was to steer them in the right direction, since this was completely new to them,” said Gary Gay, director of the Food Distribution Division. “The brothers have been able to take an idea and grow it into a successful part of their business plan, which is a win for the company and the jobs it supports, a win for the schools and a win for the economy.”

The Woods were able to gather feedback on the type of product that might appeal to students, meet nutritional guidelines and also be easy for cafeteria staff to prepare and serve.

In the 1990s when the company decided to expand into barbecue, Craig Wood spent the better part of a year talking to pit masters and learning more about cooking techniques and how to infuse the rich smoky flavor into the pork. There were many different types of cooking fuel sources, but, he learned that time spent slowly cooking over hot coals or embers seemed to be the most common denominator for great-tasting barbecue.

Once he gathered the information, Craig Wood set about building a pit and through old-fashioned trial-and-error, he perfected the techniques that are used today to produce the Woods' product.

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From the tractor

by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler

Extension Economist at N.C. State University, recently released the latest agriculture and agribusiness numbers showing the jump. Figures include food, fiber and forestry statistics, and factors in value-added income.

In breaking down the numbers, agriculture and food industries accounted for $67.4 billion or 15 percent of the total North Carolina income, natural fiber industries accounted for $4 billion and forestry industries accounted for $5.6 billion of the overall total.

These new numbers further cement agriculture and agribusiness as the state’s top industry. About a fifth of our state’s workforce, or 642,000 people, are employed by these industries.

One of the surprising things about the numbers is that 2011 was a difficult year weather-wise for farmers. We had tornadoes, drought, Hurricane Irene, and some farmers were affected by all three disasters. Corn and tobacco crops especially were hit hard by the weather.

But the jump also reflects the strength of commodity prices, which have been up significantly in some cases. I think there is still room for growth, and that is one of the things I have been recently talking about with legislators and Governor McCrory. I believe we can grow agriculture into a $100 billion industry in this state. I believe it will take continued investment in agricultural marketing and research, along with sound ag policies. As more and more people seek locally grown foods and as we increase exports of North Carolina agricultural products, this industry will grow.

I know we can do this. We have the natural resources and the farmer know-how to advance this industry. Through the years, our state has invested, and continues to invest, in agricultural research through our 18 research stations operated in joint cooperation with N.C. State University and N.C. A & T State University. This partnership has produced results for farmers through increased yields, lower production costs and better plant varieties.

I have said that North Carolina needs to build on its strengths, agriculture is definitely a strength. It is good to see this backed up by these growing economic numbers.
Bucolic briefs

The Friends of DuPont Fall will host its fundraising Tour de Falls May 11 and 12, offering families and visitors with limited hiking abilities a chance to see the beauty of DuPont State Recreational Forest and its waterfalls via shuttle buses. The forest is located in Henderson and Transylvania counties in the mountains of Western North Carolina.

The 12-mile tour includes stops at four of the forest’s most impressive sites: Triple Falls, High Falls, Middle Falls and Lake Julia. The shuttle will depart from the trailhead three hours or more. Buses will leave the event parking area about every 30 minutes from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Buses are not handi-cap accessible and pets are not allowed. To register, visit www.duportf.org or call 828-463-6363. Cash or check donations of $12 for 18 and older and $6 for ages 6 to 17 are requested. Credit cards accepted.

To monitor the nutrient status of vinifera grapes, collect a tissue sample from the stalk of the shoot opposite the bloom. Collect petioles randomly from leaves opposite the bloom or second bloom. If you want to use tissue testing to diagnose a suspected nutrient problem, use a petiole sample as soon as you see symptoms. To troubleshoot a problem, you should collect four different samples: 1) a petiole sample from symptomatic leaves, 2) a similar petiole sample from healthy plants, 3) a soil sample from the healthy area and 4) a soil sample from the problem area.

The Friends of DuPont Fall is one of many Friends Groups that work with the N.C. Forest Service to enrich the recreational experience and preserve the natural resources in DuPont State Recreational Forest. Donations to the Friends of DuPont Fall are used to finance construction projects such as shelters and access steps at waterfalls. The money is also used to maintain the 80-plus miles of trails and to support research and educational projects. For more information on the tour or the Friends of DuPont Fall, go to www.duportf.org.

The N.C. State Championship Horse Drawn Plowing Contest will be held June 1 at 10 a.m. at the historic Ivey Barn Plantation near Erwin on N.C. 217. Contest categories include single walking plow, team walking plow, team modern riding plow, team consisting of three or more horses, singles or mixed, two or three team and 6-8 of hitches. Contestants will compete for cash prizes, trophies and bragging rights. Cost to enter each contest is $20 per category. The event, which is sponsored by the N.C. Horse and Mule Association, is free for spectators. There will also be free horse-drawn wagon rides. For more, contact Ronnie Bowen at 919-820-4067 or Wayne Collier at 910-980-0066 or email bawenow@yahoocom.

Beepers with bees for rent and growers interested in bee pollination services can post their information on the BeeLinked website at www.acage.com/bee-linked. The site is hosted by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and N.C. State University. The center’s purpose is to help those interested in listing their information so can do by filling out an online Submit Your Ad form on the BeeLinked page or by contacting NCDAAC/GCS at 919-233-2812 or by email at nchoneybee@ncage.gov or NCSU at 919-515-2498. NCDACS Plant Industry Division regulates the movement of agricultural or related items and related items capable of spreading harmful insects, diseases and other pests. Beepers participating in this program are encouraged to comply with all bee and honey regulations.

The Piedmont Saddle Club in Colfax will open its lighted arena every Friday night from 5-9 p.m. for horse riders. The cost is $10 per horse and equipment owners may purchase bundles of Coggins testing and documentation at a waiver. The events are open to the public. Contact info@piedmontsaddlecub.org for more information.

More horse events listed in Bucolic Briefs.

The deadline for the July issue of the Agricultural Review is June 1; the deadline for the August issue is July 1.

Horse Events
Gas, James B. & Hunt, J. Horse Complex, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, 919-735-4845
May 3 &4 ......... Double L Bar Cowboy Mounted Shooters. Contact Mike Libbitt, 919-327-1735.
May 11-12 ......... Wayne County 4-H Horse Show. Contact David Turner, 919-520-1093.
May 19 .......... District 4-H Horse Show. Contact Bill Crouse, 919-624-1014.
May 22-23 .......... Southern States Regional Morgan Show. Contact Fred Nava, 781-760-1220.
June 8 & 9 ....... NAHJA Open Summer Extravaganza. Contact Rorie Meacham, 919-906-3510.
June 13-12 ...... Tarheel Triple Classic Horse Shows. Contact Lynn Hattan, 704-402-8434.
July 10-14 ....... 4-H State Horse Show. Contact Mike Youde, 919-513-3509.
Western N.C. Agricultural Center, Fletcher, 828-687-2414.
May 4 .......... Sheriff Mounted Patrol Horse Show. Contact Wallace Moore, 828-606-7971.
May 10 & 11 ...... Asheville Spring Classic Horse Show. Contact Ray Cloninger, 828-252-5706.
May 31-June 2 ...... Barn and Rescue. Contact Jeff Robinson, 828-714-4712.
June 7-9 ....... Walking Horse Show. Contact All Merritt, 864-301-3004.
July 4-6 .......... Blue Ridge Independence Classic Horse Show. Contact Liz Holmes, 919-672-3741.
June 10-12 ...... NCCHA-EJ Spring Classic Quarter Horse Show. Contact Michelle Wilhelm, 267-483-9449.
May 16-19 ......... Carolina Classic Derby. Contact Mike Heathcox, 252-937-2800.
May 18-20 ...... VHMA Memorial Dog Show & Derby. Contact Tom Berry, 813-426-5707.
June 1 & 2 .......... SE District 4-H Horse Show. Contact Matt Downo, 252-448-7551.
June 8 & 9 ....... EHA Hunter Horse Show. Contact Wendy Wilkin, 252-916-3685.
June 14-16 ...... Summer Classic Miniature Horse Show. Contact Bobby Bridgdon, 336-655-5360.
June 22-23 .... June’s Just Horsin” Round Open Horse Show. Contact Beth Bell, 252-733-5069.
June 24-26 ......... NAHA State Show. Contact Lisa Harmon, 252-322-6602.
July 4-7 .......... Main Event & Double Run Farm Futurity. Contact Gail Berghorn, 813-426-7517.
May 24-26 ...... Piedmont Paso Fino Horse Show. Contact Jill Graff, 828-225-5842.
May 4 & 5 .......... NE District 4-H Horse Show. Contact Tim Kirkpatrick, 252-232-2262.
May 10-12 ...... NCCHA-EJ 5 Spring Classic Quarter Horse Show. Contact Michelle Wilhelm, 267-483-9449.
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create Brookwood Farm’s bar- 
becue products. The company 
officially began cooking over pits in 1993, and entered the 
school lunch business in 2004. For the schools, Brook- 
wood Farms stocks pork shoul-
ders, which is one of the U.S. 
Department of Agriculture’s 
commodity purchases. The fro-
zen shoulders would normally be shipped to schools, but if 
schools choose to process with the 
company, that meat comes to the 
plant and is prepared for the schools for a manufacturing fee.

The company sampled its products at a special food ser-
vice show geared for school systems and came away with 
a modest number of orders from child nutrition dir-
ectors who tasted the product and decided to try it with stu-
dents. Business took off, and now the company has its prod-
ucts in schools in 12 states.

The business’ focus on fol-
lowing the local food trend and not taking shortcutting is what makes part of the prod-
uct popular with customers and 
school nutrition directors alike. Rachel Finley, school 
nutrition director for the John-
ston County School System, 
understands the tradition of pork barbecue in the state 
and is happy the kids coming through the lunch line enjoy “barbecue day” in the cafeteria. “When I see those meaty items, I like to offer things that kids normally find; if I am going to serve barbecue, then I want it to be pork barbecue because that is what they would be tradition-
antially eating at home or out,” Fin-
ley said. “What I like about the product is the ingredient label is 
slim. There are no fillers, not a lot of added ingredients; just good old-fashioned pork barbecue and vinegar sauce. It is gluten free and 
with the plethora of dietary needs we have in the schools, it is nice to offer something different.”

In anticipation of upcoming 
nutritional changes to school lunches, Brookwood Farms created a lower-sodium barbecue. Craig Wood is happy the company has 
been proactive about these chang-
es. She has sampled the product and plans to incorporate the low-
ertable bacon, puts it in the John-
ston County school lunch menus this coming year. She thinks kids will like the new product. Another plus for Finley is being able to work with a North Carolina company. “I really like buying my meat from Carolina,” she said. School lunch products are just one part of the company’s successful business model, but it has grown in geographic reach with 
its school lunch business, Craig Wood is happy to keep the business equation about the 
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gaged approach to busi-
ness that does not have all its eggs in any one basket or market sector.

The process of meat packaging began 
as pork barbecue because that 
fits in with the business equation about the 
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**FARM EQUIPMENT**

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**Ining units & owner's man., GC, orrops cab, 12 ft blade, front scarifi** ...s. Providence 336-388-2506.

**hog, GC, $600. Clarence McCain, $6,000; 2 front tractor tires, 600-**

**boom pole, 6 ft carry-all, 1 row** ...sp, new steel, skids, & charge, $4,000. Haynes, Jacksonville 336-674-4979.

**H. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.**

**tractor, 1 remote, clean & EC, $9,000.** ...est., $125. Bob Kinser, Statesville 828-333-2510.

**hole auger w/2 b, 10 in. & 12 in., 105 hp, Case IH, 333-254-1097.**

**lad, 16 in., 3/4 in., 3/8 in., new 15.5/38 tires, new battery & paint, runs good, GC, good paint & tires,** ...334-2907.

**1080, 5 row, needs repairs, $4,000.**, ...hay, GC, $100. John Race, Statesville 704-733-1457.

**1952 Farmall Cub**

**Salem 336-978-3736.**

**40 cabins, 10 spds, 12 hp, 4000 hrs.**, ...parts, runs great, & front & rear lift, all weights, good sheet metal & tires, paint FC, Payne 336-755-9369.

**Tractor, 6 foldable, 3 pt. hitch, runs good, GC, 99%**, ...Super A & Farmall muf. for 48 in. rows w/spray barrel & bale, 6 avail, $900; NH 518 manure**...baler, 6 avail, $900; NH 518 manure spreader, $900; NH 846 round baler, $2,300 OBO. Tim Cobb, McMechen 336-699-0222 or 693-4427.

**1069 NH stackwagon for parts, will sell** ...great, cracked block, $1,000 OBO. Jake Cobb, McMechen 336-699-0222 or 693-4427.

**Case 44 round baler, 4 ft cut, used, 10 spds, 12 hp, 4000 hrs.**, ...parts, runs great, & front & rear lift, all weights, good sheet metal & tires, paint FC, Payne 336-755-9369.

**1949 Ford 8N tractor, new sheet metal, 4 row farm**, ...3146; John Logan, 336-399-3166 or 649-2349.

**2004 John Deere 3040, 12 ft grain head, GC, 2008**, ...parts, GC, auto trans, runs great, & front & rear lift, all weights, good sheet metal & tires, paint FC, Payne 336-755-9369.

**Case Vac, 4 tractors for parts, 1, 165 hp, 1980 Ford模特 nice, 2**, ...wheels, and CAT D7 dozer; 18 ft blade, $1,000. Dan Cobb, McMechen 336-699-0222 or 693-4427.

**NI 5409 disc & slides, mower, new 16.5x38 tires, new battery & paint, runs good, GC, runs good, GC, $100. John Race, Statesville 704-733-1457.

**1951 Case BT-20, restored to LNC, comp. eng.**, ...80 hrs., VGC, $1,750. Mike Lamore Sr., Norwood 704-474-0307.

**40 cabins, 10 spds, 12 hp, 4000 hrs.**, ...parts, runs great, & front & rear lift, all weights, good sheet metal & tires, paint FC, Payne 336-755-9369.

**1950 Ford 8N tractor, new sheet metal, 4 row farm**, ...parts, GC, auto trans, runs great, & front & rear lift, all weights, good sheet metal & tires, paint FC, Payne 336-755-9369.
FARM EQUIPMENT


304 Oliver Super M 185, 1957, 8 ft. marker, 900 hrs., 430 PTO, $6,000. Dean Mathis, Stantow 336-685-0438.

301 Oliver Super M 185, 1957, 8 ft. marker, 900 hrs., 430 PTO, $6,000. Dean Mathis, Stantow 336-685-0438.


301 Oliver 75, 3 point, 400 hrs., $9,500. Skip Parton, Northampton 336-692-4343.

300 Oliver 99, 3 point, 900 hrs., $8,000. Skip Parton, Northampton 336-692-4343.


275 Oliver 60, 3 point, 900 hrs., $5,750. Skip Parton, Northampton 336-692-4343.

280 Oliver 60, 3 point, 900 hrs., $5,750. Skip Parton, Northampton 336-692-4343.

275 Oliver Super 185, 1957, 900 hrs., 430 PTO, $7,000. Dean Mathis, Stantow 336-685-0438.


275 Oliver 60, 3 point, 900 hrs., $5,750. Skip Parton, Northampton 336-692-4343.


278 Oliver 50, 3 point, 800 hrs., $5,650. Skip Parton, Northampton 336-692-4343.

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HORSES

2000 S & H horse trailer, 2 horses, 20'2" x 6', 2000 model, used, good condition, double deck, 900+ acres, barn, fencing, low rent. 7500. 336-403-7567.

Horse drawn wagon, restored, 7 horse, 12 ft, 250. 704-898-2171.

Wooden gooseneck trailer, 4 horse, 1 box, 1 setup, 2 horse, tractor hitch, $3,500, pony, restored, 10 horses, passenger seat, incl. gooseneck for $1,500. Doug Banks, Hillsborough 919-644-3322.

1981 Amish wagon, 4 horse, restored, good condition, high, wide solid wheels, $1,500. Winder Nance, Pittsboro 376-36-1871.

Tennessee walking mare, excl. gate, may be sold in 5 sets of 2, $2,500 each. Joy Lynn Gutterson, 250-443-5371.

Jumper, 2 horses, 1600 acres, 100% dark red ticket, $800. Craig Redmond, Burlington 336-272-8847 after 6 p.m.

6.4' x 14' gooseneck horse trailer. 2 horse, 2 door, black, $1,500. 336-716-7085.

Antique horse slant, 7 ft, inside fully enclosed hitch, $3,500; pony wagon, restored, $15,000. Ben Hopper, Taylorsville 864-522-3597.

Horse drawn wagon, 2 horse trade, $300. 704-786-8725.

Horse trailer, 2000 S & H bp horse trailer, 2 horses, 20'2" x 6', 2000 model, used, good condition. 7500. 336-403-7567.

Horse trailer, 2000 S & H bp horse trailer, 2 horses, 20'2" x 6', 2000 model, used, good condition. 7500. 336-403-7567.

Horse trailer, 2000 S & H bp horse trailer, 2 horses, 20'2" x 6', 2000 model, used, good condition. 7500. 336-403-7567.


Female lamb, hand raised, does not show signs of having been castrated, $60. Marinette Carroll, Seagrove 336-549-1997.

Female lamb, hand raised, does not show signs of having been castrated, $60. Marinette Carroll, Seagrove 336-549-1997.

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**POULTRY & SUPPLIES**

POULTRY & SUPPLIES

[0x0]POULTRY & SUPPLIES

[46x124]$400-600. Brent Curtis, Moores- bull, cows, young bulls & heifers,

[46x134]friendly, bottle raised, good breeder,

[46x174]bred, polled, 7 m/o & up, $850 &

[46x224]gentle, shots, pics. avail., poss. deliv.,

[46x304]great breeding stock, $200-250. Ja-

[46x344]nor 491-2938.

Salisbury 704-239-4032.

200; doelings, $200 & up. Tiffany

AGS reg., disbudded & cdt vac.,

2013 show season, great for FFA

ments, 10-14 m/o, $1,200; Reg.

200. Dodd Linker, Clemmons 336-

Boer bucks, born 02-13, full blood,

Hopkins, Burlington 336-584-0479.

shearing, all colors, $150. Chris S.,

Mt. Ulla 704-202-2616.

Seagrove 336-879-2500.

kids, friendly, colorful, disbudded,

brown eyes, disbudded, cd&t shots,

wool, gentle & easy to handle, $300

in vineyards & orchards, quality

R. Mock, great for weed control

468-4468.

bucklings, $15; doelings, $25 & up;

Kiko meat goats

White 100% fainting goat

Reg. Nigerian dwarf goats

Kiko buck

& blk. Angus heif-

eld, King 336-983-

Furr, Stan

jumbo browns, albino chukars, rock

chipped, $350; male llama, 1½ y/o,

$850. Robert Barron, Hamptonville 705-

704-932-0503.

Dorper ram

, 3, 3 m/o; 1, 9

Angora goats

Polled Hereford bulls

heifers,

Kimball, Robbins 910-464-5494.

Kahdalinah, bees & rats, $100, Mike

Merrill, Chapel Hill 919-933-0439

Santa Gertrudis, replaced-

 replacement stock, $800 & up.


Kadalahien, bees & rats, $100, Mike

Merrill, Chapel Hill 919-933-0439

Santa Gertrudis, replaced-

 replacement stock, $800 & up.

Polled Hereford bulls & heifers, $900 & up. Rich-

Lambach, Lakeville 704-345-6406.

**LIVESTOCK**

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Guineas, full grown, hatched 09-

12, $12/ea. Idaho blue pigeons, 3

$7.50. Jim Ransdell, Bandera 830-

932-9530.

Stock, old time Murphy’s, gray

lions, $450. Bob Young, Franklin 828-

324-9295.

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**Seeds and Plants Wanted**

- Blueberry plants, 1-3 y/o, many varieties, bars or cuttings, $1.00 per bar or cuttings.
- Sweet potato slips, 4.5" L x 4.5" W x 1" thick, $5.00 per bag.
- Old farm hand tools, $5 & up. L. (under cdl, ps, 5 spd, $2,000.
- Kiwi & more, $12.50 & up. Jackie O'Rourke, Cary 919-824-1468.
- Cabbage transplants, upright, $0.50 each. S. (under cdl, ps, 5 spd, $2,000.
- Sweet potato plants, full frame plant, $1.00 each. C. (under cdl, ps, 5 spd, $2,000.
- Old timey tuberose bulbs, for cutting & flower arrangements, $0.25 each. J. (under cdl, ps, 5 spd, $2,000.