

UPPER MOUNTAIN RESEARCH STATION STATION INFORMATION

Location

City: Laurel Springs
County: Ashe

Station Statistics

Staff: 11

Management Units:

Livestock	Herd Size (#):
goats	85
cattle	100
Field Crops	
Horticultural Crops	

Research Program

Project Leaders (#):	20
Ongoing Projects (#):	45
Focus:	Beef, Christmas Trees, Strawberries, Raspberries, Mushrooms, Community Supported Agriculture, Goats, Blackberries, Blueberries, Burley Tobacco, Small Grains, Organics, Ornamentals

Acres:

Station Total	452.81 ac
Field Crops	11.00 ac
Pasture/Hay	320.65 ac
Small Fruits	3.75 ac
Vegetables	0.50 ac
Ornamentals	13.75 ac
Rotational	13.25 ac
Woodlands	67.75 ac
Infrastructure	22.16 ac
# Buildings	33

Station Highlights

- Studies evaluating the cause of an unidentified syndrome of calf mortality, called white muscle disease were causing a death rate among calves that approached 10%. Work at the station found the cause of the syndrome, lack of Se in the soil and forages produced and developed a cure, supplemental Se, either as an injection or through mineral supplementation.
- Multiple years of research in red raspberry breeding has led to the release of a variety named "Nantahala".
- A genetic clone bank for Fraser firs was established and is planted at this station
- The only planted range-wide seed source of the Carolina Hemlock in the United States.

Improvements:

- Construction of new greenhouse for tobacco production
- Newly renovated animal handling facilities
- Added a Burley tobacco curing structure
- Crops/Multi-purpose building for strawberries and tobacco grading