

HORTICULTURAL CROPS RESEARCH STATION – CASTLE HAYNE

STATION INFORMATION

Location

City: Castle Hayne
County: New Hanover

Station Statistics

Staff: 7

Management Units: Horticultural Crops

Research Program

Project Leaders (#): 13
Ongoing Projects (#): 37
Focus: Blueberries, Strawberries, Grapes, Woody
Ornamentals, Woody Fruit Species, Sea Oats,
Beachgrass

Acres:

Station Total	111.00 ac
Field Crops	0.80 ac
Small Fruits	47.71 ac
Fruit Trees	0.36 ac
Vegetables	11.36 ac
Ornamentals	4.90 ac
Rotational	12.70 ac
Woodland	7.67 ac
Irrigation Ponds	3.00 ac
Infrastructure	22.50 ac
# Buildings	13

Station Highlight

- The station supports the largest public blueberry breeding program in the world with 24 varieties released in the past 15 years. Ninety-Seven percent of the highbush blueberry acreage and 56% of the rabbiteye blueberry acreage in the state are NCSU disease resistant cultivars developed at this station.
- Strawberry fungicide trials have been conducted at Castle Hayne since the 1970's, and serve as the basis for recommendations to growers statewide
- Muscadine Grape & Blueberry Field Day held annually
- Training and exams for Plantsman Identification Course for Master Gardeners

Station Improvements

- State of the art chemical mixing facility