

# Agricultural REVIEW

Volume: 100 - No. 10      October 2025      Raleigh, N.C.

## Oct. 9: Sweet Potato Field Day

The Annual Sweet Potato Field Day will be held Oct. 9 from 2-6:30 p.m. at the Horticultural Crops Research Station, 2450 Faison Hwy., Clinton. The event is hosted by N.C. State University in conjunction with the N.C. Sweetpotato Commission.

## Upcoming Ag Review ad deadlines

The following are deadlines to submit ads for the Agricultural Review newspaper.

Oct. 1 for the November issue  
Nov. 3 for the December issue  
Dec. 1 for the January 2026 issue  
Jan. 2 for the February 2026 issue

**Reminder:** Advertisements for the Ag Review may now be submitted through an online portal. Sellers and buyers can visit <https://apps.ncagr.gov/agreview/Pages/SubmitAnAd> and fill out the form with the details of the item they are selling or seeking.

## N.C. State Fair returns to Raleigh Oct. 16-26

It's time for the N.C. State Fair with its agricultural exhibits and competitions, thrilling rides, arts and crafts, giant pumpkins and fabulous foods. The annual October tradition has been a part of many family memories for generations, proving that "There's no time like Fair time."

The Fair runs Oct. 16-26 at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh and visitors can expect to find plenty of their favorites along with some new and creative foods, new attractions and entertainment, and new rides.

New entertainment this year includes a Wild West-style roping and knife-throwing show by cowboy and World Fastest Draw Champion Andy Rotz; the Conjurer Fortune Machine, a live interactive "Zoltar" style fortune experience (think the Tom Hanks movie "Big"); and the return of

Cast in Bronze, an engaging Carillon musical performance.

Rotz's high energy show features plenty of trick roping, fire, gun slinging and hold-your-breath moments. You won't want to miss this dynamic show.

The Conjurer Fortune Machine is a nod to the Zoltar-style automaton fortune machine that dispenses cards with a fortune. With the Conjurer Fortune Machine, fairgoers will press a button to activate the real live Conjurer who offers funny insights and advice before handing out a souvenir fortune card with an inspiring message.

Cast in Bronze, a popular and unique Carillon musical performance that enchanted audiences in the fair's Flower Show gardens in 2022, makes its return to Heritage Circle for daily shows.

Powers Great American Midway will again provide the fairground's



Find animals, games, food, entertainment and more at the 2025 State Fair.

midway rides, which includes a trifecta of thrilling pendulum rides in addition to many fairgoer favorites like the Crazy Mouse roller coaster, the nostalgic Scrambler and the classic Flying Bob. Food is the No. 1 reason people

say they come to the N.C. State Fair and over 50 new foods will make their debut at the 2025 State Fair. Tickets to the Fair are on sale now at [www.ncstatefair.org](http://www.ncstatefair.org).

## Helene-impacted farmers to see \$221 million in aid

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler and USDA Deputy Secretary Stephen Vaden signed a \$221 million federal block grant agreement recently that targets aid to North Carolina farmers who sustained losses and damages from Hurricane Helene in 2024. The signing took place at the N.C. Mountain State Fair in Fletcher.

The North Carolina Disaster Block Grant for Helene is for production losses not covered by USDA programs or crop insurance. The program will cover four categories of eligible losses: infrastructure damage, market losses,



From left, Sen. Ted Budd, Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler and USDA Deputy Secretary Stephen Vaden at the signing of the grant agreement. future economic losses and timber losses. It will apply to the 39 counties that received a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Helene.

"This \$221 million federal disaster assistance block grant for agricultural damage due to Hurricane Helene is welcomed news to North Carolina farmers in Western North Carolina who have been holding on in the aftermath of massive ag losses in 2024," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "We are grateful for USDA's continued efforts on this block grant and appreciate their willingness to partner with us on this much needed assistance. We all have an interest in the success of agriculture because farmers produce (See Grant, pg. 5)

## From the tractor



Commissioner Troxler

*by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler*

they did not continue to pursue the sale.

I had a similar experience with an item I had advertised for sale in the paper, too, but some things just didn't add up in my conversation with the out-of-state "buyer." One big red flag was the cost I knew would be involved in shipping the item – it didn't make sense to me that someone would pay that.

Unfortunately, these types of scams just seem to be part of the world we live in today. I urge you to use caution in dealing with potential buyers especially if they send a check for too much money and ask that you deposit it and send them back the extra amount or if they are arranging for someone else to pick up the item. These are two of the more common scams happening today, according to an online article I read.

In the first situation, the check is likely not real and the scam is

having you send them the amount back that was more than the cost of the item. They are counting on there being a delay between when a check clears your account and when the bank discovers that it is not a good check.

If another person picks up the item, you have no idea who you are dealing with, and they could claim they never received the item.

It's unfortunate we have to think about these things, but it's better to exercise caution especially when selling higher valued items such as farm equipment. If something seems fishy or off, you should pay attention to that.

\*\*\*

In happier news, I hope you will plan to join us this year at the N.C. State Fair Oct. 16-26.

We have a lot of new things for you to enjoy, plus plenty of your favorites, too. Check out the article above for more details on what's

new at the 2025 State Fair. I hear there will be over 50 new foods offered this year, which is a lot, but fairgoers say food is the No. 1 reason they come to the fair, so I think people will be happy.

In September, we wrapped up a very successful Mountain State Fair and I think the timing of the fair could not have been better as the mountains approached the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Helene.

Fairs bring communities together in a special way that reminds us of who we are and of our resilience. It was great seeing people having a good time, hearing the laughter of children and just reconnecting with one another.

Thank you to all who attended the Mountain State Fair, and I hope to see you Oct. 16-26 in Raleigh for the State Fair.



# Agricultural Review

15,000 copies of this public document were printed at a cost of \$686.44 or 3.9 cents per copy.

Andrea E. Ashby ..... Editor  
Jamey Cross .....Managing Editor  
Jackie Bullock .....Ads & Circulation Mgr.  
Heather Overton..... Staff Writer  
Brandon Herring ..... Staff Writer  
Taylor Harris .....Social Media

AGRICULTURAL REVIEW (ISSN 07445466) is published monthly by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, 2 W. Edenton St., Raleigh, NC 27601. Second-class postage paid at Raleigh, N.C.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes and classified advertising to AGRICULTURAL REVIEW, 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001.  
AGRICULTURAL REVIEW is printed in interest of the farmers of the State and is sent free to residents upon request.

PHONE: 919-707-3001

Steve Troxler  
Commissioner

## DIVISIONS

Agronomic ..... Dr. David Hardy  
Emergency Programs .....Kelly Nilsson  
Farmland Preservation ..... Evan Davis  
Food Distribution ..... Walter Beal  
Food & Drug ..... Anita MacMullan  
Human Resources ..... Pam Hess  
Legal Affairs.....Jon Lanier  
Marketing ..... Peter Thornton  
Meat & Poultry Inspection Dr. Karen Beck  
N.C. Forest Service .....Greg Hicks  
N.C. State Fair.....G. Kent Yelverton  
Plant Industry ..... Bill Foote  
Property & Construction.....Andrew Meier  
Public Affairs .....Andrea E. Ashby  
Research Stations ..... Teresa Lambert  
Soil & Water Conservation .David Williams  
Standards.....Dr. Marcus Heilfrich  
Statistics .....Tony Dorn  
Structural Pest & Pesticides ....Patrick Jones  
Veterinary.....Dr. Mike Martin

Chief of Staff:  
Zane Hedgecock  
Chief Deputy Commissioner:  
N. David Smith Jr.  
Assistant Commissioners:  
Dr. Joe French  
Greg Hicks  
Kaleb Rathbone  
Christina Waggett

## Reich receives Friends of Farmland award



**Dr. Richard Reich (left) and Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.**

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler recently recognized Dr. Richard Reich with the Friends of Farmland award for his exemplary work serving as a field staffer with Farmland Preservation. Reich served the Northwestern region of the state. The N.C. Friends of Farmland Award, established in 2023, is given annually to recognize the exemplary efforts of individuals and groups that advance farmland preservation efforts in North Carolina while demonstrating their dedication to fostering the growth, development and sustainability of North Carolina family farms.

“Dr. Reich was a champion of farmland preservation long before his time with the Farmland Preservation Division,” said Evan Davis, director, Farmland Preservation Division. “As a soil scientist, Dr. Reich brought his expertise to our team, elevating how we understand the critical role of soil conservation in supporting long-term land preservation. Dr. Reich’s connections across the agricultural community in North Carolina helped advance our mission and contributed directly to the rise in demand for farmland preservation. Dr. Reich made our team better, and we are grateful for his service to farmers and conservationists across the state.”

This year is the 20th anniversary of our Farmland Preservation Division. Since its beginning the division has conserved 40,000 acres through this program. “Farmland Preservation has been a priority of mine since my first day in office in 2005,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “As our state continues to welcome more people that require more infrastructure, land and resources – it is vitally important that we conserve our farmlands for farming. Dr. Reich is an invaluable resource and a wealth of agricultural knowledge and this recognition for his work with the Farmland Preservation Division is well deserved.”

Dr. Richard Reich began his career as an assistant agricultural extension agent in Lincoln County in 1976. He later joined R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., where he developed and coordinated cooperative research, extension and educational programs at land-grant universities in 14 states. In 1999, he came to work for the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, first as a director of the Agronomic Services Division and later as the assistant commissioner of agricultural services. After his retirement, Dr. Reich returned to the department in 2019 as a field staffer with Farmland Preservation. Dr. Reich retired again this past December.

The award was presented during opening ceremonies at the N.C. Mountain State Fair in Fletcher.

## 2025 Mountain State Fair wraps up successful run with strong attendance

Gorgeous weather provided a perfect backdrop for the 2025 N.C. Mountain State Fair, which saw 161,059 people come through the gates. The final attendance was up 11,709 over 2024.

“There are a lot of ways to measure success, but seeing so many people here having a good time and making memories with their families and friends is what the fair is all about,” said Sean McKeon, N.C. Mountain State Fair manager. “This year the fair had special significance as we approach the one year anniversary of Helene. It was a blessing to see so many families and local businesses participating in the fair and getting some normalcy back in their lives. It was a powerful reminder of the resilience of the people of Western NC. It was a great feeling seeing the community come together to celebrate, especially after such a challenging year. We appreciate everyone who attended this year, and we look forward to seeing you all in 2026.”

Among the highlights of the 2025 fair are:

- The Mountain State Fair’s continued commitment to the community and fighting hunger in cooperation with Ingles with the We CAN Fight Hunger Day. Fairgoers exchanged five canned goods for admission with the food being donated to the Manna Food Bank. A total of 26,223 pounds of food was collected for Manna.
- Strong interest in competitions, including the first-year favorite Mullet & Mustache Competition. Overall, entries were up by about 1,000.
- The induction of two long-time livestock show supporters Marjorie Burton and Mike Corn to the N.C. Mountain State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame for their contributions to the livestock shows. Burton has been involved with the dairy goat shows and Corn has provided the mama cows and managed the Mooternity Ward, a popular exhibit giving fairgoers an opportunity to witness the live birth of a dairy cow.
- A total of 1,506 caps and 254 warm covers were donated in the Caps for Cancer and Covers for Cancer Program. The fair collected crocheted and knitted hats and covers to be donated for cancer patients. This was the largest number of caps collected in the three years of the program. Caps for Cancer was sponsored by Novant Health with donated items distributed by the Messino Cancer Center.

Go ahead and mark your calendars for the 2026 N.C. Mountain State Fair, Sept. 11-20.





# Mountain State Fair livestock shows see strong participation

The following are winners in the N.C. Mountain State Fair livestock shows:

*Llama Performance Champions*

- Sub-Junior Performance Champion – Levi Stepp, Henderson County
- Junior Performance Champion – Daxton Grier, Henderson County
- Intermediate Performance Champion – Baylor Gordon, Henderson County
- Senior Performance Champion – Adalyn Grier, Henderson County

*Youth Poultry Shows*

- Overall Champion - Graham Harrison, Buncombe County
- Overall Reserve Champion – Easton Walker, Rutherford County

**Youth Bantam**

- Champion – Graham Harrison, Buncombe County
- Reserve Champion -- Easton Walker, Rutherford County

**Poultry Standard, Commercial Egg Layer and Guinea**

- Overall Champion - Margaret Godfrey, Buncombe County
- Overall Reserve Champion – Gabriella Baldwin, Buncombe County

**Youth Standard Poultry**

- Champion – Margaret Godfrey, Buncombe County
- Reserve Champion – Gabriella Baldwin, Buncombe County
- Youth Commercial Class Egg Layers
- Champion – Gabriella Baldwin, Buncombe County
- Reserve Champion -- Jaelyn Coggins, Henderson County

**Youth Guinea**

- Champion -- Everitt Steiner, Henderson County
- Reserve Champion --Conner Corn, Henderson County

**Youth Poultry Egg Show Best of Show**

- White Shelled Eggs and Brown Shelled Eggs – Gabriella Baldwin, Buncombe County
- Blue/Green Shelled Eggs – Rory Raymer, Polk County

*Junior Swine Shows*

**Junior Market Swine Showmanship Champions**

- Novice 8 and under -- Harley Barwick, Lenoir County
- Junior Youth 9 - 13 -- Marker Smith of Lenoir County
- Senior Youth 14 - 18 -- Lucy Formisani of Johnston County

**Junior Market Swine Champions**

- Grand Champion – Jane Jennings of Camden County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Grace Jennings of Camden County
- Got To Be NC Champion -- Allison Best of Lenoir County
- Got To Be NC Reserve Champion -- Dylan Briley of Pitt County

**Junior Breeding Gilt Show Champions**

- Grand Champion -- Conner Barwick, Lenoir County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Charleston Slate, Stokes County
- Got To Be NC Grand Champion – Conner Barwick, Lenoir County
- Got To Be NC Reserve Grand Champion -- Charleston Slate, Stokes County

*ARBA Youth Rabbit Show*

**Best Rabbit in Show**

- Show A – Shiloh Breeding, Wilkes County
- Show B – McKinley Breeding, Wilkes County

**Best Reserve Rabbit in Show**

- Show A – Harper Drum, Spartanburg County, SC
- Show B – Kleigh Roelofs, Johnston County

**Showmanship Champions**

- Junior Youth 8 and under -- Keegan Capps, Henderson County
- Intermediate Youth 9 –13 -- Aubrey Cotton, Polk County
- Senior Youth 14 –18 years old -- McKinley Breeding, Wilkes County

*ADGA Dairy Goat Show*

**Showmanship Champions**

- Junior Fitting and Showing, 9-12 -- Lilah Poole, Rowan County
- Senior Fitting and Showing, 13-18 -- Genevieve Cranford, Randolph County

**Open Junior Doe Show Champions**

- Best of Show – Jessica Bell, Anderson County, SC

**Nigerian Dwarf – Junior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions Erica Illg-Noble, Rowan County

**Oberhasli – Junior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions -- Roslyn Noar, Johnston County

**Recorded Grades -- Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Jessica Bell, Anderson County, SC
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Robin Gibbs, Franklin County, Va.

**Saanens – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Jessica Bell, Anderson County, SC
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Anna Grace Stoltman, Lincoln County, Ky.



Youth livestock shows at the Mountain State Fair are exciting for participants and spectators.

**Toggenburgs – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Noah Johnson, Rowan County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Sandra Coffman, Oconee County, SC

**Alpines – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Ellynor Dowd, Surry County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Jessica Bell, Anderson County, SC

**LaManchas – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion – Terri Sines, Alamance County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Jessica Bell, Anderson County, SC

**Nubians – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Glenda Noble, Iredell County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Jackson Noble, Rowan County

*Open Senior Doe Show Champions*

- Best Doe In Show Overall -- Erica Illg-Noble, Rowan County
- Best Udder In Show Overall -- Jackson Noble, Rowan County
- Best Dairy Herd in Show Overall -- Jackson Noble, Rowan County

**Nigerian Dwarf – Senior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Erica Illg-Noble, Rowan County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Landon Poole, Rowan County
- Nigerian Dwarf – Champion Challenge -- Erica Illg-Noble, Rowan County
- Nigerian Dwarf – Premier Exhibitor -- Erica Illg-Noble, Rowan County

**Oberhasli – Senior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions -- Roslyn Noar, Johnston County
- Champion Challenge -- Roslyn Noar, Johnston County
- Premier Exhibitor -- Roslyn Noar, Johnston County

**Recorded Grades – Senior Doe**

- Grand Champion – Jessica Bell, Anderson County, SC
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Sandra Coffman, Oconee County
- Champion Challenge -- Robin Gibbs, Franklin County, Va.
- Premier Exhibitor – Jessica Bell, Anderson County, SC

**Saanens – Senior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions -- Christine Owen,

Madison County

- Champion Challenge and Premier Exhibitor -- Christine Owen, Madison County

**Toggenburgs – Senior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions -- Noah Johnson, Rowan County
- Champion Challenge and Premier Exhibitor -- Noah Johnson, Rowan County

**Alpines – Senior Doe**

- Grand Champion – Jessica Bell, Anderson County, SC
- Reserve Grand Champion – Anita Arnold, Transylvania County
- Premier Exhibitor -- Anita Arnold, Transylvania County

**LaManchas – Senior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions -- Terri Sines, Alamance County
- Champion Challenge and Premier Exhibitor -- Terri Sines, Alamance County

**Nubians – Senior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions -- Glenda Noble, Iredell County
- Champion Challenge and Premier Exhibitor -- Jackson Noble, Rowan County

*Youth Junior Doe Show*

**Nigerian Dwarf – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion – Lilah Poole, Rowan County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Landon Poole, Rowan County

**Recorded Grades – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Genevieve Cranford, Randolph County

**Saanens – Junior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions -- Anna Grace Stoltman, Lincoln County, Ky.

**Toggenburgs – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion – Anna Grace Stoltman, Lincoln County, Ky.

**Alpines**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champion -- Ellynor Dowd, Surry County

**LaManchas – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion – Lilah Poole, Rowan County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Genevieve Cranford, Randolph County

**Nubians – Junior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Trindle

Beaver, Bladen County

- Reserve Grand Champion -- Anna Grace Stoltman, Lincoln County, Ky.

*Youth Senior Doe Show Champions*

**Nigerian Dwarf – Senior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Ashlyn Tallent, York County, SC
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Landon Poole, Rowan County

**Oberhasli – Senior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions – Arlie Smith, Cleveland County

**Recorded Grades – Senior Doe**

- Grand Champion -- Arlie Smith, Cleveland County

**Saanens – Senior Doe**

- Grand Champion – Genevieve Cranford, Randolph County
- Reserve Grand Champion -- Anna Grace Stoltman, Lincoln County, Ky.

**Toggenburgs – Senior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions -- Anna Grace Stoltman, Lincoln County, Ky.

**LaManchas – Senior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions --Genevieve Cranford, Randolph County

**Nubians – Senior Doe**

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champions -- Anna Grace Stoltman, Lincoln County, Ky.
- Best Doe In Show Overall -- Ashlyn Tallent, York County, SC
- Best Udder in Show Overall – Abigail Ellis, York County, SC
- Youth Herd -- Ashlyn Tallent, York County, SC

*Junior Meat Breed Sheep Shows*

**Junior Meat Breed Sheep Showmanship Champions**

- Novice Youth 8 years old and under -- Ella Hill, Stokes County
- Junior Youth 9 – 13 – Brantley Meadows – Buncombe County
- Senior Youth 14 - 18 – Kendall Ayscue, Nash County
- Senior Plus Youth 19 - 21 -- Hope Latta, Franklin County

Find more winners in the November issue of the Agricultural Review.





# Chesney to lead wine marketing efforts

Nicole Chesney has joined the NCDA&CS Marketing team as the Wine Marketing Specialist assuming the role of Executive Director of the N.C. Wine and Grape Council. In this role, Nicole will lead focused efforts to promote and grow the state’s wine, cider and mead industries through marketing and industry support.

In addition, as the leader of the N.C. Wine and Grape Council, she will coordinate events, support growers and producers and collaborate with stakeholders to enhance both statewide and national recognition of North Carolina’s wine, cider and mead industries.

“North Carolina’s wine, mead and cider industry is steadily gaining ground, linking agriculture, tourism and small business growth in communities across the state. From vineyards that preserve farmland to wineries that draw visitors and support rural economies, we’re seeing exciting products and increased recognition

from consumers across the state,” said Peter Thornton, NCDA&CS marketing director. “We are delighted to welcome Nicole Chesney, whose leadership will help us build on this success and usher in an exciting new chapter for North Carolina wine, cider and mead.”

Chesney received her bachelor’s degree in communication from George Mason University and her MBA in wine marketing and management from INSEEC School of Business and Economics. She has nearly 30 years of marketing experience in the food and beverage industry, including roles as bar manager at The Palm in Tyson’s Corner, Virginia; manager at the Burger Joint in Singapore; and export marketing specialist at Château de Lionne, a vineyard and winery in the Graves region of Bordeaux, France.

Her expertise includes event management, market trend analysis and an in-depth knowledge of the wine and grape industries. She looks



Nicole Chesney

forward to fostering the growth of this emerging industry by continuing to share the story of North Carolina wine and its producers.

Chesney is happily married and has one son, Gryffin, and a dog, August. In her free time, she enjoys reading, scuba diving, gardening and playing with flowers.

# Two inducted into Mountain State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame



Marjorie Burton (third from left) and family with Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler inducted longtime dairy goat exhibitor Marjorie Burton and longtime Western N.C. dairy farmer Mike Corn into the N.C. Mountain State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame during the fair’s opening weekend. These individuals were inducted for their decades of support to the fair and the livestock industry in Western North Carolina.

“We are fortunate to have many agricultural families that put their heart and soul into the livestock programs and the Mountain State Fair,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “Marjorie Burton and Mike Corn are a big part of what makes these programs a success. I am honored to present them with this award and thank them for their support.”

Marjorie Burton and her husband Leonard started Fire Pink Hollar in Leicester with up to 50 dairy goats in the late-1970s. Burton has shown goats at the N.C. Mountain State Fair since its beginning 31 years ago. Over the years, Margie has won premier breeder and exhibitor for the Oberhasli and La Mancha dairy goat shows. When Burton first added Oberhasli, they were a new breed with the American Goat Association. She has done a lot in improving the breed, specifically in Western North Carolina. Burton has also held numerous board positions with the Piedmont Dairy Goat Association.

“Everyone who knows Margie will tell you that she is a stable force at the N.C. Mountain State Fair and that they look forward to seeing her each year,” Troxler said. “In addition to creating a love of goats and showing with her granddaughter, Tiffany, she has helped countless other youth. She is an example of someone that through her love of goats and the Mountain State Fair has made a lasting positive impact in her community and for the

dedication and hard work fairgoers can learn about the dairy industry and watch the miracle of a live birth. It takes a lot of effort, volunteers and a little science to make this exhibit a success. Mike is the one to make sure all these pieces fit together.”

Corn and his wife, Mary Louise, are also very active in the dairy show, ensuring countless youth have the opportunity to show. He’s deeply involved in youth mentorship, training young dairy judges and even loaning

dairy goat industry in North Carolina. We are proud to have her as part of the N.C. Mountain State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame.”

Mike Corn has spent the last several decades managing the Biltmore Estate Jersey herd at his farm Small Acres Dairy in Mills River. At the Mountain State Fair, Mike is more well known for being the farmer that provides the mama cows for the Mooternity Ward.

“When this exhibit was imagined for the fair more than a decade ago, likely no one knew then how popular and beloved it would be at the Fair,” Troxler said. “Every year through Mike’s



Mike Corn (left) and family with Commissioner Troxler.

livestock to help students gain hands-on experience in showing and caring for animals.

Corn’s service and leadership haven’t gone unnoticed. In 1994, he was named Dairyman of the Year. In 2008, he received the Bill Martin Award for Service at the Mountain State Fair. In 2018, he was inducted into the Western North Carolina Agricultural Hall of Fame.

“Mike embodies what it means to give back to the land and the people around him,” Troxler said. “We are proud to have him as part of our N.C. Mountain State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame.”

# 11 farm families to be recognized at 2025 N.C. State Fair

The “Farm Family of the Day” program, sponsored by Tractor Supply Company, is returning for its fifth year to recognize and celebrate more of our state’s rich agricultural heritage and the farm families that are behind our \$111.1 billion agriculture and agribusiness industry.

The 11 farm families were nominated either by family or community members for their hard work and dedication to our state’s No. 1 industry, as well as their overall love for the N.C. State Fair. The lucky winners were chosen at random. Each farm family is assigned a specific day of the 2025 N.C. State Fair, taking place Oct. 16-26, where they will be honored through public address announcements and on-grounds signage, as well as features on both the N.C. State Fair and the NCDA&CS blogs and social media platforms. Follow along on those outlets to learn about each farm and what made them stand-out candidates for this year’s Farm Family of the Day program. Each family also received an N.C. State Fair prize pack, including fair tickets to use on any day of their choosing. Congratulations to all the winners and we look forward to seeing you at the 2025 N.C. State Fair!

The 2025 N.C. Farm Families are as follows:

- Thursday, Oct. 16: Barham Family Farms of Wake Forest
- Friday, Oct. 17: Double R Cattle Services of Hillsborough
- Saturday, Oct. 18: Ruby Brown Farm LLC of Leicester
- Sunday, Oct. 19: Crooked Creek Farm of Stokes County
- Monday, Oct. 20: Ronnie Moore’s Fruits & Veggies of Newton Grove
- Tuesday, Oct. 21: G.M. Langdon Family Farm LLC of Angier
- Wednesday, Oct. 22: Jordan Lake Christmas Tree Farm of Apex
- Thursday, Oct. 23: Miracle Farm of Whitakers
- Friday, Oct. 24: E.B. Harris Livestock of Warrenton
- Saturday, Oct. 25: Worley Honey Farm of Leicester
- Sunday, Oct. 26: Clapp Farm of Siler City

“From the start, the State Fair was a platform to promote the understanding of new agricultural practices and technology. Today, one of agriculture’s biggest challenges is helping people make the connection between farming and the food they enjoy,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “Farm families tell that story the best because they are out there every day working hard to grow the food, fiber and fuel we need. We look forward to recognizing these eleven farm families at the 2025 N.C. State Fair.”

The 2025 N.C. State Fair will run Oct. 16-26 at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. The fair offers an experience unique to North Carolina for all who attend, and is an unparalleled value with free entertainment, thrilling rides and games, thousands of animals, endless family activities, competitions, vendors, and creative deep-fried delights. For more information, visit [www.ncstatefair.org](http://www.ncstatefair.org).

# NCDA&CS awards 10 vet practices grants

Ten North Carolina Veterinary practices were recently awarded grants to help support their large animal practices. This \$130,000 recurring fund was created by the N.C. General Assembly in 2023 and is annually administered by the N.C. Ag Finance Authority.

Applicants intend to use funding this round for student debt repayments, facility construction, equipment loans, a variety of large animal chutes and implementing new technology and software. The veterinarians selected during this funding cycle cover 47 of the 100 counties across North Carolina.

This funding opportunity is available to veterinarians who practice in one of the 70 North Carolina counties with a population of 100,000 or fewer and who spend 30% or more of their patient care involved in large animal veterinary care.

“To date the Large Animal Health Fund Committee has made 21 awards to veterinarians across the state, with the most recent round of funding featuring 10 new grant awards,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “These funds will be used to enhance their large animal practices. The support we can provide for these veterinarians is a boost to the large animal medicine industry in the state. As the Large Animal Healthcare Enhancement Fund continues to grow, we hope to partner with industry leaders in the large animal field. These partnerships would allow us to assist more vets and grow this program’s reach across the state.”

The following practices and veterinarians received grants from the last grant cycle:

- Cool Springs Mobile Vet Service, Rowan County
- Seven Spring Mobile Veterinary Services, Alexander County
- Derek L. Heizer, Alamance County
- Cowee Cowgirl Mobile Large Animal Veterinary Services, Macon County
- Latitude 36 Veterinary Services, PC, Stokes County
- Don Banks, Duplin County
- Iron Will Mobile Veterinary Services P.C., Alamance County
- Bethanie Lewis Cooper, Wake County
- Jacklyn Porter, Rowan County
- Farm and Field Mobile Large Animal Veterinary Services, Macon County



# Surviving the storm: The resilience of Springhouse Farm

In September 2024, Hurricane Helene hit Western N.C. with a force that leveled farms, houses, roads and more. Personal lives and livelihoods were torn apart at the seams as the winds roared and flood waters rose. Amy Fiedler, owner of Springhouse Farm in Vilas, suffered tremendous damage at her farm, but thanks to the help of community members, other farmers and businesses, she is standing stronger today than ever before.

Springhouse Farm opened its doors to the public in 2008, offering fresh fruits, vegetables and cut flowers. “My mother, Jean, and I started this farm as a way to offer fresh products to the community,” Amy said. Through the years, the mother-daughter duo has raised a variety of products, including peppers, tomatoes, squash and cut flowers. As a women-owned and operated business, Amy has a true passion for pouring into women throughout the state and teaching them how to launch their own agricultural careers. For this reason, she developed an internship program for the farm that empowers women to grow vegetables and flowers, teaches them how to implement agritourism events, and how to operate an agriculturally based business. “We host a lot of interns from local colleges, including Appalachian State University, as well as volunteers, to teach about the importance of farming,” Amy said. “Not only are these individuals a big help to my mother and I on the farm, but we also take pride in watching their agricultural dreams flourish.” Today, the farm continues to grow a variety of produce and cut flowers, while also leasing half their land to Brooke Kornegay, a local vegetable farmer.

When news of Hurricane Helene started to surface, Amy and her mother did everything they could to prepare for the storm. “As a farmer, there are many things out of your control at all times, and weather is one of them,” Amy said. “We prepared the farm as much as we could leading up to the storm, but we were not prepared to weather anything as strong as Hurricane Helene.” At Springhouse Farm, there are two creeks that converge on the property. During Hurricane Helene, these creeks flooded over, ultimately flooding the entire farm. “We had so much damage,” Amy said. “Not only did the farm flood, but the produce stand floated away, our stream banks were destroyed, the water was contaminated, our farm pump was submerged in silt, and we lost all of our crops, both produce and flowers, for the 2024 year.” In fact, farmers in Western NC continue to struggle with the aftermath of Hurricane Helene today, because now that repairs have been made above ground, the underground damage is starting to surface. “Our plants and trees are suffering from more pests and diseases than ever before, the water is still contaminated in some areas, which effects the crops, and more,” Amy said. “Due to the help of our community and individuals across the state, however, we have rebuilt our farm even stronger and will continue to do so in the months to come.”



Springhouse Farms in Vilas spent months rebuilding after Hurricane Helene brought tremendous damage.

Once the storm passed, community members, college students, local businesses, farmers and others rallied to help residents of Western NC, including Amy at Springhouse Farm. “I learned what the true meaning of community is after Hurricane Helene ravaged our farm,” Amy said. “Immediately so many groups and individuals came together to help us with anything and everything and wanted nothing in return!” College students at Appalachian State University rebuilt the produce stand on-site at the farm, which is based on an honor system and features in-season produce items throughout the year. The Chamber of Commerce, Second Harvest, ASAP, and NC State Extension are just a few of the groups that helped Amy, and her family, clear the damage and rebuild the farm. “It took us ten months to build back everything that was destroyed, and like I said earlier, some things are still be effected by the underground damage that is just now coming to light,” she said, “but we are absolutely stronger than we were before the storm.” From new, beautiful buildings and greenhouses to scenic ponds, flower fields, and pollinator gardens, Amy is proud of the resilience of her farm and how it stands today. “Disasters put things into perspective and make you realize what you’re working for,” she said. “There is so much beauty here on the farm and rebuilding after Hurricane Helene made me slow down to enjoy it.”

Amy and her mom, Jean, are not only back to growing produce items and cut/dried flowers in full force, but they are also diving headfirst into the agritourism arena! “We want to share the story and peace of the farm with others, and agritourism is the perfect way to do that,” Amy said. From farm tours and dinners to yoga and date nights, Springhouse Farm offers many events throughout the year for you to enjoy alongside your family and friends. During peak flower season, Amy offers pick-your-own for interested customers

from Thursday through Saturday on the farm. “Farm tours can also be made by appointment if people would like to pair a tour with their flower picking,” Amy said. “We want people to come out and enjoy everything the farm has to offer, from beautiful scenery and pollinator gardens to the farm stand and fresh flowers.” Other upcoming events on the farm are U-Pick Date Nights, Farm Workshops, and Brunch & Bunch. They are also planning a Helene Appreciation Day this month, so keep an eye on their social media for more information on that event.

As Amy stated, farmers across the world face challenges every day due to elements outside their control. Amy’s advice for farmers preparing for a storm, whether immediately or in the future, is to get connected and get organized. “Dial in and get connected with organizations in your area, like extension, FSA, crop insurance companies, farming organizations, and farmers markets,” she said. “Not only will this help you get involved and build relationships, but it also establishes a community that will respond when disaster strikes.” Amy also recommends getting all necessary paperwork in order now, so it’s one less thing to think about when a disaster occurs and taking photos of the farm prior to the storm.

“Before a storm is expected, I always go out and take pictures of the farm for documentation purposes,” she said. “That way, once the storm is over, I can easily assess the damages.”

We are so proud of the strength and resilience of Springhouse Farm to not only go through the storm but come out stronger on the other side.

## Bucolic Briefs

Donate your farm and/or farm equipment to The Veteran’s Farm of NC, to use in teaching veterans how to farm. All donations are tax deductible. Contact Robin Tutor at 919-721-2039 or robin@vfnc.org.

\*\*\*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is expanding the Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops program to now include medium-sized businesses in addition to small businesses. Eligible specialty crop growers can apply for assistance for expenses related to obtaining or renewing a food safety certification.

Cost assistance can be used for developing a food safety plan for first-time food safety certification, maintaining or updating an existing food safety plan, a food safety certification, certification upload fees, microbiological testing for products, soil amendments and water, and training.

The program also now includes assistance for 2024 and 2025 expenses. Producers can apply for assistance on their calendar year 2024 expenses beginning July 1, 2024, through Jan. 31, 2025. For program year 2025, the application period will be Jan. 1, 2025, through Jan. 31, 2026.

Specialty crop producers can also call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a FSA employee ready to assist. Visit [www.farmers.gov/coronavirus/pandemic-assistance/food-safety](http://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus/pandemic-assistance/food-safety) for additional program details, eligibility information and forms needed to apply.

\*\*\*

The U.S. Small Business Administration announced the availability of low interest federal disaster loans to small businesses and private nonprofit organizations in North Carolina who sustained economic losses caused by drought occurring March 4.

The disaster declaration covers the counties of Duplin, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pender, Sampson and Wayne. Under this declaration, the SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan program is available to eligible small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, nurseries, and PNP’s with financial losses directly related to this disaster. The SBA is unable to provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, or ranchers, except for aquaculture enterprises.

EIDLs are available for working capital needs caused by the disaster and are available even if the small business or PNP did not suffer any physical damage. The loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills not paid due to the disaster.

## Grant

(Continued from pg. 1)

the food and fiber we all depend on.”

To receive funding, certain producers may have to agree to acquire and maintain USDA Risk Management coverage for a period of two crop years for market loss, future economic loss, plasticulture, and aquaculture claims.

“We are currently creating the program work plan and application in coordination with USDA. Once we have

approval for the plan, we will work as quickly as possible to distribute this money to impacted farmers,” Troxler said. “As more information about the program is available, it will be posted on our website at [www.ncagr.gov/agdisaster](http://www.ncagr.gov/agdisaster). In the meantime, I encourage those in the eligible counties to gather documentation of losses to assist in the application process.”

## Horse Events

Southeastern Ag Center, Lumberton 910-618-5699

- Oct. 6.....Horse and Tack Auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-390-0878.
- Oct. 18.....BBHA Open Show. Contact Jerry King, 910-237-4525.
- Oct. 25 & 26....Carolina Ranch Horse. Contact Diane McAlinn, 919-609-8139.
- Nov. 1 .....Da Bomb Barrel Racing. Contact Josh Smith, 910-639-6387.
- Nov. 3 .....Horse and Tack Auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-390-0878.
- Nov. 8 & 9 .....Cowboy Mounted Shooting. Contact Pamela Lohery, 540-570-8785.
- Nov. 15 .....BBHA Open Show. Contact Jerry King, 910-237-4525.
- Dec. 1 .....Horse and Tack Auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-390-0878.

Sen. Bob Martin Agricultural Center, Williamston, 252-792-5111

- Oct. 3-5.....Da Bomb Barrel Racing Finale. Contact Josh Smith, 910-639-6387.
- Oct. 18 & 19....NCHJA "C" Horse Show. Contact Emily Bates, 252-378-4474.
- Oct. 23-26.....SERHA Fall Spooktacular. Contact Heather Maxwell, 252-305-3610.

Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. Horse Complex, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, 919-821-7400

- Oct. 1-5.....N.C. State Fair Hunter/Jumper Show. Contact Joan Petty, 919-669-9877.
- Oct. 15-18.....N.C. State Fair Saddlebred Horse Show. Contact Liz Holmes, 919-365-5149.
- Oct. 19-23.....N.C. State Fair Horse Shows. Contact Equine Event Planning, 336-908-3302.
- Oct. 24-26.....N.C. State Fair Open Horse Shows. Contact Equine Event Planning, 336-908-3302.

\*Show dates are subject to change. Call ahead to confirm.



# October AgroTips

**Ensure that adequate nutrients will be available for a newly planted wheat crop.**

If soil pH needs adjusting and you have not done so, go ahead and apply lime before planting. Next, give wheat a good start by fertilizing according to soil test recommendations, especially with regard to phosphorus, potassium and sulfur. When the crop is planted on time, 15 to 30 pounds of preplant nitrogen per acre should be sufficient to promote maximum growth and tillering.

Nutrition will be especially important if wheat is planted after grain sorghum on sandy soils with low Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC) because soil nutrient reserves may have been significantly depleted. In that situation, be particularly attentive to crop development. Yellowing, poor stand establishment and lack of tillering could signal a need for additional nitrogen as the season progresses.

**Remember to check for nematode problems during crop harvest.**

Plant-parasitic nematodes are common in all field crop soils and often lower yields without being very apparent. Fall is an excellent time to find out if nematode populations are high and, if so, to develop a plan to manage them. When the weather is good for harvest, it is also good for collecting soil samples for nematode assay.

Nematode populations peak at the end of the growing season so samples assayed at this time provide an accurate description of potential hazards. If you submit samples in the fall, you will have time to plan a management strategy.

If you noticed localized areas of poor growth during the growing season, it is a good idea to collect separate soil samples from good and poor areas. Submit two samples from each of these areas-one for nematode assay and one for soil fertility. Comparison

of results from good and poor areas and from nematode assays and soil tests is helpful in pinpointing a problem.

**Before planting legume cover or forage crops, be sure to submit soil samples, or get revised recommendations based on recent soil report data.**

High fertilizer costs may have you considering the use of legumes as a cover crop or as part of a forage program. If so, be sure to refer to recent soil report data for your fields as you plan. Legumes have different fertility than many traditional crops.

It is usually not necessary to collect new soil samples from fields that have been sampled within the last two (sandy soils) or three (clay soils) years. To get revised/updated recommendations for your current situation, consult your regional agronomist. If you need to collect new samples, send them to the Agronomic Division soil testing lab now to avoid the processing delays that are common during the fall/winter. The sooner you get your results, the sooner you'll be able to finalize lime and fertilizer purchases or make plans to plant legume cover or forage crops to supply additional nitrogen.

**Fall is an ideal time to apply lime.**

Fall liming is an excellent way to prepare for the spring growing season. Whether you are renovating your yard, preparing a new landscape planting or readying your fields for the next crop, fall is the best time to apply lime. However, lime should only be applied according to the recommendations from a recent soil report.

Take advantage of dry fall weather to apply lime as soon as possible. If you delay, wet weather may prevent the application even longer. The earlier you put out lime, the sooner soil pH will be adjusted to meet your planting needs.

## Classified Advertising

### General rules for advertising in the Ag Review

- Advertising is a free service to North Carolina residents only. A North Carolina address and phone number are required for submitting ads.
- The editor or advertising manager reserves the right to accept or reject any ad and to edit ads to meet requirements or space limitations.
- Priority will be given to ads that are strictly related to agriculture.
- Advertisements are limited to 30 words or less. This includes first & last name of advertiser (NOT farm name), complete address and phone number w/area code.
- Ads will be published in one issue only. Ads that are to be repeated must be submitted for each issue.
- Only two ads per family per issue will be accepted. Family refers to all individual sharing the same residence, mailing address or home telephone number. These ads must be under separate classifications.
- All "For Sale" and "For Rent" ads must have a price or price range. Stud service must also include a fee.
- The ad deadline is the first working day of the month prior to publication at noon.



#### Bees, Supplies & Services Wanted

##### 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 less than 50 hives, or the renting of bees for pollination purposes or their movement to gather honey.

Contact Don Hopkins, state apiarist, NCDA&CS, 1060 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001 for information.

**Pure honey**, \$15/qt. Johnny Carwile, Lincolnton 704-748-3258.



#### Equipment For Sale

**Herd 750** seed sower, LN, \$1,000; Leinbach boom spray, never used, \$800. Roger Lawson, Danbury 336-593-8315.

**AC 5050 tractor**, \$6,000; tedder, \$1,200; Hay Max 165 mower, \$1,200. Charles Howell, Advance 336-940-5143.

#### FARM EQUIPMENT

**Feed silo**, 3.5-ton, \$1,200; 3pt cult, \$200; Purina lick tank, \$350; 3pt hd scrape blade, 6 ft., \$450. Doug Stancil, Greensboro 336-402-8161.

**1946 Ford-Ferguson** tractor, for parts or restore, needs some assembly, \$500. Roger Fulp, Walnut Cove 336-595-4515.

**Intl 800** no-till planter, 10-row, 3pt, 20" rows w/Yetter trash cleaners, \$4,500; Hale PTO irrig pump, 4", \$1,000. Brent Strickland, Louisburg 252-213-2667.

**Aerator plugger** for riding mower, \$200; aerator spiker for riding mower, \$100; spreader/spiker, \$150. G. Stowe, Graham 336-675-0466.

**1952 McCormick** Farmall Super A, new tires & battery, kept inside, owner/operator manuals, bought new, \$7,000. Joe Pope, Cedar Grove 919-698-6574.

**Carry-all** w/removable Rubbermaid dump cart, \$1,200; Craftsman integral single plow, 3pt, \$175; 9-shank tillage tool, \$600; drag harrow, \$220; JD 200 series tiller, \$500; other items. Steve Yarborough, Lexington 336-225-1301.

**Farm Pro 2430** 4wd tractor, 3 cyl. diesel, 8-spd, 30hp, needs starter, \$2,500; 1949 Ford 8N Red Belly tractor, restore or for parts, runs, \$1,200. Denny Barney, Mocksville 336-909-5180.

#### FARM EQUIPMENT

**Brinly PA-402** BH lawn aerator, plug type, pull-behind, 40 in., \$200. Duane Kirschenman, Winston-Salem 704-528-9369, Tel or DM.

**1010 JD**, FC, \$900; NH 67 sq baler, GC, \$900; Super A, needs work, full set of cults, \$600. Yates Reep, Denver 704-572-5845.

**JD 4430** tractor w/158 loader, \$15,000; 918 JD flex header, \$1,500; 1,000-gal. steel nurse tank, \$2,000. Leonard Keever, Lincolnton 704-913-0410, no texts.

**1986 Steiger 325** tractor w/3406 CAT eng, 3,000 hrs., \$27,000. Sandra Kennedy, Lincolnton 704-240-0204.

**Conveyor**, 30' long, 29" belt, stainless steel hopper, twin cyl Kohler gas eng, used to load lime, sawdust, shavings & chicken litter; loads 13'6" trailer, \$7,250. Lewis Carter, Clemmons 336-345-4064.

**Phoenix 6 ft.** tiller, model #T10-74, LN, less than 50 hrs., \$2,100; Kubota L-4200 tractor, cab, A/C, 4wd, 481 hrs., \$22,000. Colon Farlow, Sophia 336-645-6182.

**Ford 8N tractor**, running when last used about 3 yrs ago, \$1,000-\$3,000. Gary Matthews, Fuquay Varina 919-356-9249.

**Boom pole & carry-all** for 3pt lift, \$100/both; Winco 5500w generator, Ford 8N wood saw frame, homemade PTO w/8N parts, can convert to belt driven, \$200. Hugh Wilhelm, Rockwell 704-640-1581.

#### FARM EQUIPMENT

**Ford single row** corn picker, \$500 obo. Jesse Gentry, Mocksville 336-998-3423.

**2020 Kioti CK2510** tractor, w/scrape blade, 240 hrs., stick shift, EC, \$13,000-\$14,000. Darris McMillan, Greensboro 336-455-0392.

**Cane mill on trailer**, new pillow block bearings, PTO driven, 200-gal. stainless vat, all GC, \$1,800. Michael Teague, Taylorsville 828-638-7622.

**1970s Ford 4-row** planter w/ various seed plates, \$400; 4-row, 3pt hitch cult, \$300. Allen West, Autryville 910-990-0497.

**NH TD5050**, cab & loader, 9 implements, no hay equip., 1,800 hrs., EC, \$50,000. Greg Van Allen, Banner Elk 828-297-4717.

**JD 770** w/loader, 4wd, 650 hrs., liquid filled aerator, \$9,500. Mark Miller, Matthews 704-968-4982.

**Paddock blade**, lightly used, VGC, pulls great behind lawnmower or ATV, \$850. Gina Booth, Sparta 336-981-7939.

**Wood Mizer** saw mill, LT40 G24, gas powered, 296 hrs., \$25,000-\$30,000. Terry Lovell, Rocky Mount 540-493-1388.

**Ford 8N tractor** w/half tracks, starts & runs well, orig. 6v system w/side distributor, show quality & rare tractor, \$6,995. Roger Shoffner, Liberty 336-339-8881.

#### FARM EQUIPMENT

**(2) 20C dozers**, (1) ready to work, (1) for parts or fix motor, \$25,000; Shaffer post drive, new springs, ready to work, \$650. Dan Stewart, Robbins 336-523-2595.

**NH 331** manure spreader, new tires, GC, \$3,000. Raymond Reitzel, Charlotte 704-361-2025.

**24" Snowco** hay elevator, used once, LN, stored in top of barn, \$1,750. Terry Matthews, Kernersville 336-823-0823.

**2006 Farmtrac** 555, 61 hrs., \$8,500. Linn Lopez, Durham 919-596-2324.

**Scrape blade**, 3pt, GC, \$150. Henry Lambeth, Gibsonville 336-697-0510.

**1989 Hesston** 5530 rnd baler, barn kept, extra belts, new roll of twine, etc., \$6,000. Gil Branch Jr., Dobson 336-401-6562.

**JD 8300** grain drill, 21 spout doub disc openers, \$4,000 obo. Paul Myers, Blanch 336-459-6258.

**Kubota I245h**, GC, w/some extras, orig. fert hopper incld, \$5,000. John Doggett, Sumnerfield 336-462-1852.

**JD 2040**, orig. owner, professional rebuilt injection pump, new fuel transfer pump, new battery/front tires/seat, load control bushings recently replaced, EC, \$12,000. Jared Turner, Concord 704-791-8526.

**JD 535** rnd baler, makes tight bales, comes w/bale monitor, twine only, \$6,000. Chris High, Locust 252-678-4169, call/text.



## FARM EQUIPMENT

**Grass catcher** for JD 345, used very little, \$150. Norman Miller, Granite Falls 828-312-2169.

**JD 425**, 550 hrs., \$3,250; JD 1t160, \$1,250. Chris Davis, Clemmons 336-705-0239.

**JD 318**, ps, hydro trans, \$2,500; JD 1t180, 17hp v-twin Kawasaki, \$1,250. Kent Davis, Clemmons 336-766-7607.

**HD drag harrow**, 6x8 ft., \$200. Jerry Hopping, Pfafftown 336-671-6307.

**DMI center dump** wagon, 300 bu., \$1,950; auger w/hopper, 8 in. x 38 ft., \$1,600; White & Oliver combine parts, \$10 & up. C.S. York, Staley 336-824-2085.

**MF 175 tractor**, w/MF industrial front end loader, \$5,500; Galfre 7 ft. disc mower, LN, \$4,500. Nancy Barlow, State Road 336-874-2166.

**1948 B.F. Avery** tractor, GC, \$4,000. Carolyn Vaden, Lexington 336-239-0885.

**Apple juicer**, doub basket, VGC, kept covered in shed, \$900 & up. Judy Laws, Oxford 919-693-6523.



## Equipment Wanted

**Irrig. pumping** unit, eng driven, 3, 4 or 6-cyl, gas or diesel, running or not. Brent Strickland, Louisburg 252-213-2667.

**Case 430 tractor** for parts. Robert Reynolds, Pleasant Garden 336-685-4945.

**JD 215 silage** wagon for salvage. Norris McConnell, Mt. Ulla 704-431-9321.

**Tongue for NH 477** haybine, in GC, \$100-\$200. Billy James, Reidsville 336-520-5476.

**Kioti 3054xs** tractor injection pump, E5900-51011, parts or tractor to salvage parts, will consider purchasing running tractor. Ralph Sweger, Moncure 919-389-8643.

**Front end loader**, LA463 complete, GC; #55 sq detachable chain for farm conveyor, VGC, not stretched. Chip Harris, Monroe 704-578-5165.



## Farm Labor For Sale

**Vert & horiz** mowing, ponds, dams, shooting lanes, reclaiming property, fence lines, drainage control, \$85/hr. + deliv. of equip. Roger McKenzie, Jackson Springs 910-528-2293.

**Elect. fence box** repair, ssc, parmak, \$20. Bobby Nichols, N. Wilkesboro 336-927-2850.



## Hay & Grain For Sale

**Horse hay**, 4 ft., dry, \$30/bale or 4/\$100. Virginia Rubino, Lincolnton 704-241-3734.

**Fescue**, sq bales, \$6; rnd bales, \$50. Thomas Berrier, Lexington 336-764-1051.

## HAY & GRAIN

**Fescue**, 4x5, \$45/bale. David Lomax, Denton 336-688-5313.

**Horse fescue**, 4x5 rnd, \$50/bale; mixed grass hay, 4x5 rnd, \$40/bale; cow hay, 4x5 rnd, \$30/bale. Ronnie Brogden, Creedmoor 919-528-1767.

**Orchard grass/fescue**, horse quality, \$50/rnd bale; orchard grass, \$7/sq bale; cow hay, \$35/rnd bale. Johnny Sowers, Lexington 336-239-3020.

**Alfalfa/orchard** grass, \$13/bale. Phillip Cantrell, Burlington 336-260-5169.

**Orchard grass/fescue**, 4x5, net wrapped, horse quality, no rain/weeds, sheltered, \$45-\$50/rl; cow/goat mixed grass, net wrapped, 4x5, sheltered, \$40/rl; local deliv. Jay Hohn, Archdale 336-289-3686.

**Coastal bermuda** hay, 4x4 & 4x5 rnd, horse quality, stored under shelter, \$45 & \$50/bale. Dan Lancaster, Pikeville 919-222-6853.

**9/25 coastal** bermuda hay, horse quality, out of barn/shelter, \$8/bale; out of the field, \$7.50/bale, we load. Gary White, Sanford 919-775-9769.

**Peanut hay**, 4x5 rnd, net wrapped, can deliv. 42 bales/load, \$25 & \$30/bale. Larry Bullock, Greenville 252-883-4748.

**Horse quality** hay, deliv. avail., in barn, \$40/rl; outside or in field, \$30/rl. H. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.

**Coastal bermuda**, horse quality, lrg sq bales, \$7; 4x5 rnd, \$45; cow grade, \$35. Jim Newton, Rockingham 910-995-1223.

**2025 fescue/orchard** grass, stored in barn, 4x5 rnd, \$35/bale. Larry York, Staley 336-824-2077.

**2025 coastal** bermuda, horse quality, clean, 900 lbs. of 4x5 rnd, \$90/bale; 20"x 35" sm bales, \$12/bale. David Gillis, Fayetteville 910-867-6600, Wed-Sat morning.

**2025 cow/goat** hay, sq bales, no rain, stored in barn, no min. purchase, \$5/bale. Nick Gray, Concord 704-960-5091.

**Mixed hay**, stored inside, good quality, \$30/bale; some 4x5 rnd, \$25/bale. Roger Tuttle, Monroe 704-753-3333.

**Spring fescue**, horse quality, can deliv., \$8/bale. Allen Moore, Summerfield 336-706-1157.



## Livestock For Sale

**Polled Hereford** heifers, \$2.85/lb. & up; polled Hereford bulls, \$2.85/lb. & up. Randy Davis, Elon 336-263-8163.

**Charolais** bulls & heifers, purebred, polled, gentle, out of reg sires, 7 mos & up, \$2,000 & up. Johnny Harrison, Salisbury 704-213-0857.

**SimAngus** herd bulls, blk, polled, bred for calving ease, muscle, growth & disposition, \$3,000-\$4,500. William Pyle, Franklinton 919-215-5677.

## LIVESTOCK

**Reg Angus** bulls, bred for calving ease & efficiency, good feet/disposition, recent breeding soundness exam, \$4,200; (8)reg Angus heifers, herd mates to bulls, \$3,000. Steve McPherson, Snow Camp 919-444-5307.

**Fainting buck**, dob 8/13/25, brown & white, could be weaned at 8 wks, \$100. Dodd Linker, Clemmons 336-712-2484.

**Twin miniature** Nubian doelings, born 3/28/25, light gold & white, can be MDGA reg, disbudded; bonded pair, must stay together, \$700/both. Elisabeth Montague, Wake Forest 704-807-2272.

**Reg Wagyu** cattle, 100% fullblood, bred cows, heifers & yearling heifers, quality stock, all raised on family farm, \$3,500-\$10,000. Mark Greene, Thurmond 336-341-7008.

**Boer/Nubian** mix billys, 3 m/o, vet checked & vaccs, \$300-\$350. Betina Gonzalez, Yadkinville 336-816-5201.

**Katahdin** ewes, \$300 ea.; rams, \$300-\$400 ea. Todd Redmond, Statesville 704-902-7302.

**(3) Katahdin** & (2) St. Croix ewes, 2 y/o, current on CDT & rabies, \$300. Gina Booth, Sparta 336-981-7939.

**Blk Baldy** bull, 22 m/o, current on shots, BSE in May, \$3,000. Wayne Wilson, Kannapolis 980-521-6707.



## Horses & Supplies For Sale

\*\*\*

PLEASE NOTE: All equine 6 mos. or older must have a current negative Coggins test. Advertisers must supply the accession number of test, the name of lab doing the test, the date of test and results for each equine advertised. The following advertisers have provided proof of a negative Coggins test.

\*\*\*

**Pasture board**, suitable for senior horses, barn w/sheltered paddocks, run-in, rnd pen, 2 feedings/day, up nightly, quality pasture, ref. avail., owner/mgr. on premises, \$325/mo. Mary Ann Harville, Siler City 919-742-5053.

**Shelter Logic** horse shelter frame, 12x12, assembled, tarp incld; used w/12 ft. corral panels, \$100-\$150. Diane Sawyer, Apex 919-452-4317.



## Poultry & Supplies For Sale

**Peacock** pairs, white, silver pied, java green, \$400/pr.; babies, \$30 ea.; Royal Palm turkeys, \$100/pr.; babies, \$30 ea. Posie Guthrie, Pfafftown 336-413-0038.

**Bobwhite** quail & Ringneck pheasants, flight pen raised, quail, \$6; pheasants, \$15. Curtis Meissner, Bostic 609-273-2230.

## Reminder

**There has been an increase in reports of attempted scams off ads placed in the Ag Review. Remember, stay vigilant and cautious when dealing with interested buyers.**

## POULTRY FOR SALE

**California**, Silver California, Bluescales, Gambel's, (8) varieties of bobwhites; partridge, Philby, chukar, Hungarians, \$6 & up. Jimmy Furr, Stanfield 704-351-5654.

**Australian Blk** swans & Mute swans, \$600 & up; Cape Barren geese, \$600 & up; Ruddy shelducks, \$150 & up. Jim Simpson, Indian Trail 704-361-6497.

**Bantam dark** Cornish, exhibition stock, hatched spring '25, cockerels, \$40; pullets, \$60. Farrell Thornburg, Asheboro 336-302-5438.



## Seeds & Plants Wanted

**12-15 cushaw** pumpkin seeds, that is the green & white striped pumpkin. Joe Strube, Concord 704-747-0900.



## Poultry & Supplies Wanted

**Toulouse** geese to add to young flock; geese are free ranging during the day & up at night; exper. flocker. Laura Lee Matthews, Cameron 910-639-9555.



## Seeds & Plants For Sale

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals or business selling seed in North Carolina are required to obtain a Seed License (Retail or Wholesale). For more information contact NCDA&CS Plant Industry Division at 800-206-9333 or 919-707-3739.

**Rabbiteye** blueberry plants, 2 y/o, healthy, Tifblue, Premier, Climax, Powderblue, & Brightwell, \$12 ea. or \$10 ea. for 10 or more. Michael Roberson, Trinity 336-862-3488.

**Potted muscadine** plants, healthy, 5-6 ft. tall, fert & planting instr incld, \$25; lrg field pumpkins, for pies & jack-o-lanterns, \$10. Bob Whitaker, Mocksville 336-469-4822, do not text.

**Cockscomb** seeds, huge blossom head, rich crimson color, sturdy 18" stalk, about 250 seeds, SASE + \$5 cash. Barry Cox, 6225 Welborn Rd, Trinity, NC 27370, 336-434-4662.

**Sunflower** seeds, 12-14 lb. flower, 15-18 in. diameter, SASE & \$5 for 50 seeds. N. Smoot, 6227 Welborn Rd, Trinity, NC 27370, 336-823-5911.



## Supplies For Sale

**Logs** for firewood, 16 ft. trailer dump, deliv. w/ in 25 mi, \$125/load. David Lomax, Denton 336-688-5313.

**Farm hand truck**, commercial, all metal, \$125. G. Stowe, Graham 336-675-0466.

**Fuel tanks**, 2,000 gal., \$1,600; 4,000 gal., \$2,000. Miles Little, Midland 704-791-1438.

**Cedar bluebird** houses, \$12. Bob Whitaker, Mocksville 336-469-4822, do not text.

**Sprinkler** heads & controller, 200+ Rainbird, Optima & Water Whiz, \$80. Duane Kirschenman, Winston-Salem 704-528-9369, Tel or DM.

**Free-standing** Tarter metal hay rack, 3.5 ft. wide x 5.5 ft. long x 6 ft. high, some rust on short sides of bottom, \$100-\$150. Diane Sawyer, Apex 919-452-4317.

**47 treated** poles, 90 y/o, 8-11 in. dia., 8-15 ft. long, \$3/lin. ft. Marvin Davenport, Columbia 252-706-0439.



## Trucks & Trailers For Sale

**Trailer**, 12x2, enclosed, w/ title, \$1,475. Bob Herndon, Liberty 336-622-1199.

**Calico** cow trailer, 16 ft., gooseneck, \$8,850. H. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.

**1989 Ford** F-150, 4wd, 160,000 mi, w/towing pkg, \$4,200. Wayne Dickerson, Ruffin 336-552-6284.

**Calico stock** trailer, bumper pull, 16 ft., \$8,350. Y. Saul, Elon 336-213-6292.



## Trucks & Trailers Wanted

**WW2 Halftrack** truck, complete or parts, made by White, Diamond T, Autocar or Intl; used postwar in forestry & agriculture. Robert Harrison, Salisbury 704-202-3301.

**Used** mobile home tires, in fair shape. David Arron, Snow Camp 336-512-6682.



# From field to fair, growing the "Commissioner's tobacco"

At the Oxford Tobacco Research Station, there's a little more than an acre of tobacco planted each year with one very special purpose. Instead of being destined for market or research trials, the plot is reserved for the N.C. State Fair, where it's used in the annual tobacco stringing competition and then hung in the fairgrounds' tobacco barn to cure during the 11 days of the fair.

Among those who work with it, the crop is affectionately called "the Commissioner's tobacco," a nod to Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler, whose idea it was to dedicate a plot specifically for this tradition.

Station Superintendent Thomas Cobb explained that caring for the field is different from any other.

"This is planted about two and a half weeks later than any of the rest of the tobacco on the station," Cobb said. "The idea behind that is the longer we can wait to put it in the field, the less environmental factors that play into how long it can hold 'til the State Fair."

That timing matters because the fair is unusually late in the year for harvesting.

"I would probably argue that the tobacco that goes to the State Fair is some of the last tobacco that's pulled in the state," Cobb said. "Keeping this tobacco stable and trying to bring a quality leaf to the tying contest is something that really takes a lot of management."

To help it hold longer, the staff manages the field with extra care.



At the N.C. State Fair, the tobacco is strung and placed into the tobacco barn to cure.

One example is the tobacco gets a little more fertilizer.

"We don't want to give it too much that we alter the plant so bad that we don't have a good representation of what tobacco can look like," Cobb said. "But we're trying to give it just a little touch more to maybe make it hold a little later."

They'll sometimes even apply foliar fertilizer sprays late in the season to keep the leaves greener for longer and as healthy as possible until fair time.

Like regular tobacco, the cropping/pulling/priming is done in stages – likely going through the field twice to get the bottom leaves off before the third and final pull happens right before the tobacco's time to shine at the fair.

"The last time that we harvest this will be the morning of the day we take it to the State Fair," Cobb said. "We'll start priming or pulling

it that morning at about 5 a.m. We'll fill a trailer up, and then we'll take that full trailer and head to the barn at the fairgrounds."

Keeping tobacco in the field until mid-October doesn't come without

pipe and sprinklers through the tobacco with a plan that if we had to, we were going turn on water to basically frost protect the tobacco from the frost so that we could try to keep it 'til the

risk. Cobb said the biggest challenge they have in keeping tobacco that long is the amount of rainfall. The more rain, the more nutrients that get washed out of the crop. Then there's also a concern about frost in the first part of October.

That threat is real. In 2024, Cobb and his team even prepared to irrigate the field like strawberry growers do when frost threatens.

"We actually pulled

fair," he said. "We never had to turn the water on, but the morning we pulled the tobacco for the State Fair was the first morning we got a frost. We were literally priming it as it was frosting on the ground."

For Cobb, the extra effort is worth it. "It reminds people that even though there's less acreage of tobacco grown now in North Carolina than they previously had in decades past, tobacco is still one of the top producing cash crops in North Carolina," he said. "Tobacco is a big heritage for a lot of people in North Carolina. Not only folks who grew up in agriculture, but even people who maybe didn't [grow up in agriculture] probably had a relative or a grandpa who was involved in tobacco."

That's why the acre in Oxford exists – to connect fairgoers with a crop that helped shape North Carolina's history and economy. As Cobb put it, "At the fairgrounds, the way we're doing it there, we're doing it very old school. It kind of helps teach people that this is a crop that is still a big deal to North Carolina. This is where we've come from, this is where we are now, and we need to continue to support that industry because it still plays a vital role, in my opinion."

During the N.C. State Fair, which runs Oct. 16–26 in Raleigh, visitors can catch the sweet aroma of that tobacco curing in the historic barn in Heritage Circle and know it came straight from "the Commissioner's tobacco" field in Oxford.



Superintendent Thomas Cobb at the Oxford Tobacco Research Station.

# Muscadine wines, slushies, jellies and more at Lu Mil Vineyard

*Discovering NC Agriculture is a year-long series focusing on twelve N.C. grown, raised, caught, and made commodities. Tune in each month to see how an N.C. commodity is grown, harvested, packed for consumer use and more. Learn nutritional value, find fun recipes to try, hear from local chefs who use that product, and other unique commodity facts throughout the series. We look forward to helping you better understand some of our N.C. commodities and how they impact your everyday lives!*

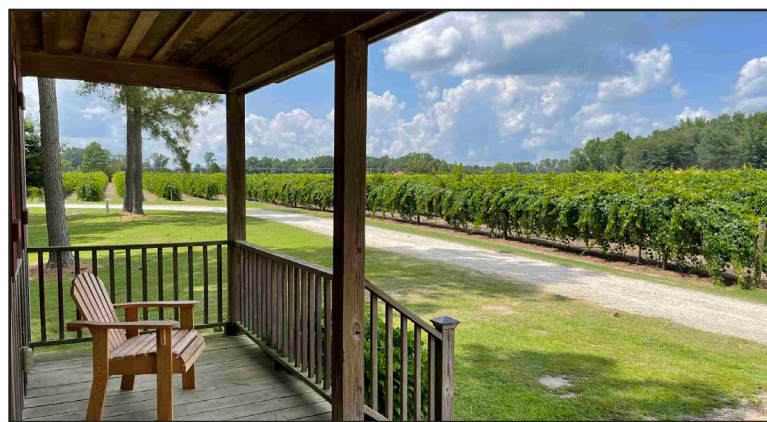
For some North Carolinians, the taste of muscadine grapes is the taste of their childhood. At the 250-acre Lu Mil Vineyard in Dublin, named after Lucille and Miller Taylor, they've been growing these nostalgia inducing grapes since the early 2000s.

The Taylor family, before opening the vineyard, was a leader in U.S. agricultural innovation and development. They worked on inventing, patenting, manufacturing, and distributing large, mechanized equipment such as the nationally sold Taylor Waterstove. The family used their farm as a test site for their many inventions. They first began growing grape vines to test their over-the-row mechanical grape harvester, the Taylor Grape Harvester.

It was in 2005 that they produced and sold their first estate wines, and they've continued to grow since then. Today, they have 78-acres of their land currently under vine and they grow 12 different varieties of muscadine grapes across the vineyard.

Muscadine grapes are naturally sweet, making them perfect for eating by themselves or making into products. At Lu Mil's sister company, D'Vine foods, they make products such as muscadine pepper jelly, muscadine preserve, muscadine salsa, muscadine barbecue sauce, alcohol-free wine and their popular muscadine cider slushie. Their muscadine wine selections range from a semi-dry to a traditional full bodied sweet red with each being distinct from the other.

Muscadine grapes have big health benefits that not many people know about. The simple science is that they have an extra set of chromosomes making them healthier



Lu Mil Vineyard is located in Dublin.



than other grapes. Denise Taylor Bridgers, granddaughter of the Taylors, shared that doctors have sent their patients to the vineyard with "100% muscadine grape juice" written as their prescription.

"When people mention muscadine grapes they think back into the history. It invokes a feeling of nostalgia," Bridgers said, "People say this tastes just like the grape vines that used to grow on the edge of the woods when I was little."

For visitors looking for a taste of muscadine wine, you will find the Lu Mil Vineyard Gift Shop and Tasting Room open 364 days a year — every day but Christmas!

"We do it for the families," said Bridgers. She encourages people to come out to the farm for the day, taste the delicious muscadine offerings and enjoy time in nature on the walking



The family-friendly vineyard offers a wide variety of experiences.

trails or by the fishing ponds. They pride themselves on being a family-friendly vineyard and working farm with something for all ages. Multiple event spaces are available for hosting weddings, receptions, birthday parties, retirement dinners, small trade shows and more.

If you visit this beautiful vineyard and decide you can't get enough, they also have several cabins on the property with stunning views of the grape vines and the surrounding scenery. We are so thankful for all that Lu Mil Vineyard contributes to our state's agriculture industry!