

Agricultural REVIEW

Volume: 98 - No. 12

December 2023

Raleigh, N.C.

Upcoming Ag Review ad deadlines

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

2024 deadlines

Dec. 1 for the January issue
Jan. 2 for the February issue
Feb. 1 for the March issue
March 1 for the April issue
April 1 for the May issue
May 1 for the June issue
June 3 for the July issue
July 1 for the August issue
Aug. 1 for the September issue
Sept. 2 for the October issue
Oct. 1 for the November issue
Nov. 1 for the December issue

NCDA&CS grants preserve 5,000 acres

The N.C. Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund recently awarded over \$15 million to protect working farms and forests, support county farmland preservation efforts and promote agricultural enterprises.

More than \$12.8 million went towards securing 46 agricultural conservation easements on 5,000 acres of land across the state. These family farms will be permanently protected from development, becoming North Carolina Forever Farms.

“These grants are instrumental in preserving our precious farmland, a resource critical to producing food and fiber today and in the future, and a vital part of our state’s heritage and economy,” said North Carolina Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “While we celebrate this achievement, there is more work to be done. We must continue investing in our farms, farmers and North Carolina’s future.”

The following is a list of awarded agricultural conservation easement projects: Alamance Soil and Water Conservation District received \$95,990.50 to preserve a 37-acre farm.

Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District received \$210,177.50 to protect 209 acres of farmland.

Buncombe Soil and Water Conservation District received three grants totaling \$984,766.90 to preserve 246 acres of working land on three farms.

Columbus Soil and Water Conservation District received \$73,869.36 to preserve a 60-acre farm.



Farmland in NC is being conserved from the mountains to the coast.

Conserving Carolina received two grants totaling \$759,245.00 to preserve 232 acres of working land on two farms in Henderson County.

Davie Soil and Water Conservation District received \$172,087.39 to protect 17 acres of farmland.

(See Farmland preservation, pg. 4)

Compost added to list of tax-free items for farmers

Every year, the North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA) passes the Farm Act (SB 582) to address agriculture policy.

This year, the legislation included a provision that adds compost to the list of tax free items for qualifying* farmers. This effort was initiated by the NC Compost Council in an effort to increase the use of compost for agriculture in North Carolina. The tax exemption begins on October 1, 2023.

Senator Brent Jackson, Senator Norman Sanderson and Representative Jarrod Lowery were instrumental in getting the change into the Farm Act.

Senator Sanderson noted “Good soil health is important for North Carolina farmers to produce food for the long term. Using compost made in North Carolina is not only good for NC farmers, it is good for the economy by supporting local producers of compost too.”

This provision will benefit qualifying farmers by reducing their cost to incorporate more compost, bringing important soil nutrition, biodiversity, and moisture retention. This act also aids the compost industry by increasing awareness about the use and benefits of compost. Composters statewide

work hard to capture organic resources and reduce reliance on solid waste management infrastructure.

“Passage of the sales tax-exempt provision will help provide more incentive for farmers to purchase compost and reap the many benefits of compost use. Working on tight margins, eliminating the sales tax for purchasing compost will help improve both their profit margins and their soils.” Gary Gittere of McGill’s Compost stated.

In recent years, alternative sources of soil amendments such as compost have been sought out by farmers in

response to high fertilizer costs.

Earl Smith, David and Ryan Kennedy of Smith Farms in Hope Mills use compost on their farm and said, “Less expensive than fertilizer. Better yields last year with corn and beans. Seems to work better overall than fertilizer.”

Researchers agree. “Adding compost as a soil amendment can aid farmers by increasing soil fertility and building soil health.” Dr. Janel Louise Ohletz, Principal Agronomist for Plantd and chair of the NC Composting Council Advisory and Access Committee.

(See Compost, pg. 4)

From the tractor

by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler



Commissioner Troxler

I hope everyone has been paying attention to the news and the weather of late, and hopefully you are aware of how dry our state has become. Because of the extremely dry conditions and the number of wildfires burning in the state and in neighboring states, 30 North Carolina counties in Western N.C. are under a burn ban as I write this. Affected counties are primarily

west of Interstate 77.

Those counties include: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes and Yancey.

All burn permits have been revoked and we have fire crews on the ground monitoring fires and working to put out a number of fires in Western NC, including Black Bear Fire in Haywood County, Branch Fire in Wilkes County, Collett Ridge Fire in Cherokee County, Poplar Drive Fire in Henderson County and Sauratown Mountain Fire in Stokes County.

While the rest of the state is not under a burn ban, I cannot stress enough that anyone planning to burn

needs to exercise extreme caution or even reconsider burning at this time. Burning in such dry conditions is risky and may not be a risk worth taking.

We have not quite gotten to the level that warrants implementing a statewide burn ban, but we continue to monitor and assess conditions daily to evaluate whether we need to expand the area covered by burn bans.

According to the N.C. Drought Monitor at press time, over 7.5 million people in North Carolina are estimated to be in a drought area. We are anticipating rain moving through parts of the state prior to Thanksgiving, and we hope it will be helpful in possibly dropping the burn bans, but dry conditions like we are experiencing do not clear up quickly.

The Drought Monitor noted that the Western part of the state is experiencing the driest conditions and

fall in the severe drought category. But the rest of the state is reporting moderate drought to abnormally dry conditions, which is why we need everyone to be extra vigilant with fires of any kind.

We have had to shift Forest Service resources from other areas of the state to assist, which stretches areas thin, so what is happening in the west is impacting all areas of the state.

We are extremely grateful for the cooperation and support of state, local and federal partners we are working with to manage these wildfires.

If burning is not 100 percent necessary at this point, please help our firefighting community out and delay burning until conditions improve.

Agricultural Review

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PHONE: 919-707-3001
 Steve Troxler
 Commissioner

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

Tobacco Trust Fund awards \$6.1 million in grants

The N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission (N.C. TTFC) awarded more than \$6.1 million through 30 grants for agricultural and economic initiatives across the state. These grants place a high priority on projects that stimulate the agricultural economy, train current and future farmers and help farmers execute innovative ideas.

“From the mountains to the sea, North Carolina has a strong agriculture history, and we are proud to offer opportunities to strengthen agriculture for the future. These grants will assist producers of livestock, field crops and specialty crops,” said Bill Teague, Chairman of the N.C. TTFC.

The \$6.1 million supports projects that assist with commodity and livestock facilities, FFA instructional equipment and training, food distribution, and farmers with operations improvements and diversification.

Many of the awarded projects are to improve agricultural programs and facilities at high school, community colleges and universities. Several involve the construction of farmers market facilities, allowing for fresh fruits and vegetables to be purchased from local farmers. Other anticipated projects will involve beekeeping, soil health, Good Agriculture Practices, hydroponic farming, sweetpotato nutrition, farm management, logging, pecans, and Christmas trees.

In addition to these grants, the N.C. TTFC has renewed its partnership with The University of Mount Olive - AgPrime program. This program’s purpose is to provide small grants directly to on-farm projects that support increasing farm profitability.

The N.C. General Assembly created the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission in 2000 to lessen the financial impact on farmers and tobacco-related businesses caused by the sharp decline of tobacco in the agricultural economy.

2023 Grant Cycle Recipients

\$125,210 for CEAD Agriculture Equipment
 Piedmont Community College Foundation
 Area Served: Caswell

\$278,537 for Mount Olive Area Farmers’ Market
 Town of Mount Olive
 Area Served: Duplin, Wayne

\$100,000 for TTFC SAE Institute 2024-2025
 University of Mount Olive
 Area Served: Statewide

\$692,000 for TTFC AgPrime 2024-2027
 University of Mount Olive
 Area Served: 33 Eastern Counties

\$133,380 for Rising Consumption of NC Sweetpotatoes
 N.C. Sweetpotato Commission Foundation
 Area Served: Statewide

\$500,000 for Warren County Farmers Market
 Warren County
 Area Served: Warren

(See Compost, pg.4)

Oxford man promoted to assistant commissioner over N.C. Forest Service

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler recently announced the promotion of Greg Hicks of Oxford to assistant commissioner overseeing operations of the North Carolina Forest Service. Hicks previously served as assistant state forester. He will replace current assistant commissioner Scott Bisette who retired.

“I am always pleased to have well-qualified and dedicated staff members step into new leadership roles at the department,” Troxler said. “Hicks has been employed with the N.C. Forest Service for more than two decades serving in nine different roles and in that time has worked at the district, regional and central office levels. I am confident in his ability to understand the many roles of the N.C. Forest Service and build on the lifelong relationships he has made as a career employee.”

Hicks received a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management from the College of Forest Resources at North Carolina State University in 1998. Hicks accepted a job with the N.C. Forest Service in 1999. In his first role, he was based in New Bern and assisted with the four counties that had been heavily impacted by Hurricane Fran. Other positions held by Hicks include service forester (Districts 4 & 11), water quality forester, assistant district forester, assistant



Greg Hicks

regional forester, fire chief and assistant state forester.

Hicks and his wife, Julie, have two children, Emma and Andrew. They reside in Oxford on the family farm.

Raleigh man promoted to Standards Division director

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler today announced the promotion of Dr. Marcus Helfrich to director of the Standards Division. Helfrich previously served as program manager of the fuel quality laboratory. He replaces Steve Benjamin, who is retiring. The promotion is effective Nov. 1.

“Being able to promote from within gives me great pride because not only is Marcus Helfrich the most qualified candidate for the job, but he’s also a dedicated public servant that has worked on behalf of North Carolinians for years,” Troxler said. “The work of our Standards Division touches the lives of people across our state every day and I’m sure the staff will continue their exceptional work under Helfrich’s leadership.”

Helfrich earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Guilford College in 1996 and then a Masters degree and Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Oregon before a post-doctoral appointment at Pennsylvania State University. Helfrich joined the department in 2008 as a chemist in the central laboratory as well as a field chemist in Wake, Lee, Granville and Chatham counties. He became program manager of the fuel quality laboratory in 2014.

Helfrich was on the committee that helped design the fuel quality laboratory in the Steve Troxler Agricultural Sciences Center.

“I have enjoyed working with the Department



Marcus Helfrich

over the last 15 years to identify and solve problems that directly impact the lives of the citizens of North Carolina,” Helfrich said. “I appreciate this opportunity and I look forward to working with each of the sections in the Standards Division to continue to develop a culture of excellence in customer service.”

Horse Events

Southeastern Ag Center, Lumberton 910-618-5699

Dec. 1-3 Cowboy Mounted Shooting. Contact Pamela Lohrey, 540-570-8785.
 Dec. 4 Horse & Tack Auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-390-0878.
 Jan. 1 Horse & Tackle Auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-390-0878.
 Jan. 6 Da Bomb Barrel Racing. Contact Josh Smith, 910-639-6387.
 Jan. 26-29 Cowboy Mounted Shooting. Contact Pamela Lohrey, 540-570-8785.

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

Dec. 2 & 3 NCHJA “C” Horse Show. Contact Emily Bates, 252-378-4474.
 Dec. 7-10 Da Bomb Barrel Racing Finale. Contact Josh Smith, 910-639-6387.

WNC Ag Center, Fletcher 828-687-1414

No horse events currently listed.

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

Dec. 1-3 Holiday Classic Open Horse Show. Contact Richard Isley, 336-908-3302.
 Dec. 8 & 9 Carousel Farms Bulls, Bells and Barrels. Contact Jeff Mullen, 919-872-6898.
 Dec. 28-31 Raleigh Indoor Holiday Classic. Contact Joan Petty, 919-669-9877.

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

2023 N.C. State Fair has strong run; 926,425 attended

The 2023 N.C. State Fair ended its 11-day run with a strong final weekend that pushed total attendance to 926,425. Other fair highlights included a new auction record for the Livestock Sale of Champions and strong participation for Smithfield Foods Hunger Relief Day and competitive entries.

“I am grateful for our fairgoers, vendors and businesses that support the fair,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “It is a celebration of the best of North Carolina and feels like an annual reunion that brings together everything that makes North Carolina a great place to live. It is also a celebration of our state’s \$103.2 billion agriculture industry, from the daily farm families highlighted, the mock tobacco auction, livestock competitions and horse shows to the

horticultural displays, Got to Be N.C. Agriculture Pavilion and soil and forestry exhibits.”

The N.C. State Fair Livestock Sale of Champions drew a record \$217,850 in bids, breaking the previous record by \$5,350. Monies from the sale go into a scholarship fund that all competitors are eligible to apply for and to the grand and reserve grand champion exhibitors.

Smithfield Foods Hunger Relief Day saw fairgoers donate 253,000 pounds of canned goods compared to 214,000 last year combined with 500,000 servings of protein from Smithfield Foods for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. More than 6.3 million pounds of food have been collected since the hunger relief partnership started in 1993.

This year’s fair had 21,626 entries in general competitions and 2,819 entries into livestock competitions. This year’s giant pumpkin and watermelon competitions by weight were the largest competitions of this type the fair has had. The competitions included a 308-pound watermelon, which was the largest grown in the world so far this year and a 2,124-pound pumpkin.

“While numbers help us tell the story of a successful N.C. State Fair it isn’t the only measure,” said Troxler. “We also gauge success from the happy and smiling faces we see on the fairgrounds as people enjoyed what we hope was their Best. Day.Ever! Mark your calendars now for Oct. 17-27, 2024.”
Enjoy photos from the 2023 State Fair below.



Tobacco Trust Fund

(Continued from pg. 2)

\$250,000 for Wayne Community College Ag Building
Wayne Community College
Area Served: Wayne

\$596,851 for Farm, Food, and Family Education Center
NC Cooperative Extension- Randolph County Center
Area Served: Randolph

\$85,500 for NECP Greenhouse Modernization Project
Northeast Carolina Preparatory School
Area Served: Edgecombe

\$100,000 for WNC FoodWorks Sustainability Plan
Center For Agricultural and Food Entrepreneurship
Area Served: Western NC

\$122,473 for Mobile Soils Classroom
Wilkes Soil & Water Conservation District
Area Served: Statewide

\$54,000 for Educational Opportunities for Pecan Growers
North Carolina Pecan Growers Association Inc.
Area Served: Statewide

\$194,888 for Healthy Farm, Strong Agriculture Community
The North Carolina Agricultural Foundation Inc.
Area Served: Edgecombe, Nash, Edgecombe

\$75,000 for From Tobacco to Sustainable Forestry
Forest Education and Conservation Foundation
Area Served: Statewide

\$301,338 for the N.C. PSI Extension Agent Network
The North Carolina Agricultural Foundation Inc
Area Served: Statewide

\$119,981 for Executive Farm Management
The North Carolina Agricultural Foundation Inc.
Area Served: Statewide

\$80,000 for WNC Regional Livestock Center
Refurbishment
WNC Communities
Area Served: Western Counties

\$165,400 for the FCEMC Hydroponic Farm
Four County Electric Membership Corporation
Area Served: Bladen, Duplin, Pender, Sampson

\$83,250 for Supporting Small Farm Viability
Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project
Area Served: Western NC

\$49,391 for Research and Education Farm Equipment
Wingate University
Area Served: Union

\$150,000 for Haywood County Outdoor Agriculture
Classroom
Haywood County Consolidated School System
Area Served: Haywood

\$200,000 for Soil Health for Farmland Preservation
NC Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation Inc
Area Served: Statewide

\$130,000 for Harnett Agricultural Center Educational
Kitchen
County of Harnett
Area Served: Harnett

\$263,860 for Promoting Local Beekeeping in NC
The North Carolina Agricultural Foundation Inc.
Area Served: Statewide

\$311,400 for Agricultural Education Program
Improvement Grant
The North Carolina Agricultural Foundation Inc.
Area Served: Statewide

\$50,000 for NC Real Time Network Upgrade
NC Department of Public Safety/Emergency
Management
Area Served: Bertie, Forsyth, Lenoir

Farmland preservation

(Continued from pg. 1)

Duplin Soil and Water Conservation District received four grants totaling \$826,873.50 to preserve 716 acres of working land on four farms.

Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina received two grants totaling \$209,649.75 to protect 132 acres of farmland in Cleveland and Rutherford counties.

Hanett Soil and Water Conservation District received \$500,000 to preserve 330 acres of working forestland.

Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District received four grants totaling \$748,197.54 to protect 196 acres of working land on four farms.

Johnston Soil and Water Conservation District received two grants totaling \$413,770 to preserve 70 acres of farmland on two farms.

Lee Soil and Water Conservation District received \$500,000 to protect 65 acres of working land.

Macon Soil and Water Conservation District received \$236,970.97 to

preserve 17 acres of farmland.

Mainspring Conservation Trust received four grants totaling \$835,362.50 to protect 196 acres of working land on four farms in Cherokee and Jackson counties.

NC Coastal Land Trust received \$114,825.00 to preserve 231 acres of forestland in Craven County.

Piedmont Land Conservancy received three grants totaling \$1,094,755.69 to protect 670 acres of farmland on three farms in Caswell, Randolph, and Surry counties.

Saluda Land Trust received \$500,000.00 to preserve 84 acres of working land in Polk County.

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy received \$492,050.50 to protect 489 acres of farmland in Haywood County.

Southwestern NC Resource Conservation and Development Council received \$120,812 to preserve 16 acres of working land in Haywood County.

Three Rivers Land Trust received

four grants totaling \$1,459,422 to protect 282 acres of farmland on four farms in Cabarrus, Davidson and Moore counties.

Triangle Land Conservancy received two grants totaling \$834,779.75 to preserve 217 acres of working land on two farms in Chatham and Johnston counties.

Wake Soil and Water Conservation District received \$500,000 to protect 36 acres of farmland in Wake County.

Working Lands Trust received four grants totaling \$1,172,301.34 to preserve 452 acres of working land on four farms in Onslow and Rockingham counties.

The following is a list of awarded agricultural plans and agricultural development projects:

Craven County received \$40,000 for a project, Farm to School and Increasing Local Food Consumption.

Davie Soil and Water Conservation District received \$3,889.60 to update the county's Voluntary Agricultural

Districts ordinance.

Durham County received \$15,000 to update the county's Farmland Protection Plan.

Forsyth Soil and Water Conservation District received \$7,500 to update the county's Voluntary Agricultural Districts ordinance.

Hyde Soil and Water Conservation District received \$21,649 for a project, Coastal Water Drainage Management.

Lois G. Britt Agribusiness Center at the University of Mount Olive received \$99,300 for a project, Expanding Agricultural Education by On-Farm Opportunities.

Montgomery County Cooperative Extension received \$500,000 for a project, Montgomery County USDA Certified Abattoir.

N.C. Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation received \$90,672 for a project, Building Capacity within District Environmental Education Programs.

N.C. Foundation for Soil and Water

Conservation received \$336,194 for a project, Building Conservation Easement Partners for Working Lands Protection Phase III.

N.C. Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation received \$416,723 for a project, Advancing Soil Health by Increasing District Equipment Rental Programs.

N.C. Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation received \$80,000 for a project, Advancing Soil Health Through Statewide Outreach.

New River Soil and Water Conservation District received \$5,000 to update the county's Voluntary Agricultural Districts ordinance.

Triangle Land Conservancy received \$465,000 for a project, Good Ground Initiative.

Wilkes Soil and Water Conservation District received \$133,213 for a project, Mobile Soils Classroom.

Compost

(Continued from pg. 1)

This is truly a win-win for farmers and industry within NC. "I am pleased to see compost added as a sales tax exemption. With recent supply chain issues, compost is an excellent ingredient

*§ 105-164.13E. Exemption for farmers.

a) Exemption. – A qualifying farmer is a person who has an annual income from farming operations for the preceding taxable year of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more or who has an average annual income from farming operations for the three preceding taxable years of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more. For purposes of this section, the term "income from farming operations" means sales plus any other amounts treated as gross income under the Code from farming operations. A qualifying farmer includes a dairy operator, a poultry farmer, an egg producer, and a livestock farmer, a farmer of crops, a farmer of an aquatic species, as defined in G.S. 106-758, and a person who boards horses. A qualifying farmer may apply to the Secretary for an exemption certificate number under G.S. 105-164.28A. The exemption certificate expires when a person fails

to meet the income threshold for three consecutive taxable years or ceases to engage in farming operations, whichever comes first.

Except as otherwise provided in this section, the items exempt under this section must be purchased by a qualifying farmer or conditional farmer and used by the qualifying or conditional farmer primarily in farming operations. For purposes of this section, an item is used by a farmer or farming operations if it is used for the planting, cultivating, harvesting, or curing of farm crops, in the production of dairy products, eggs, or animals, or by a person who boards horses.

The items that may be exempt from sales and use tax under this section are: (1) Fuel, piped natural gas, and electricity that are measured by a separate meter or another separate device and used for a purpose other than preparing food, heating dwellings, and other household purposes. (2) Commercial fertilizer, lime, land plaster, plastic mulch, plant bed covers, potting soil, baler twine, compost, and seeds. ... SECTION 1.4.(b) This section became effective October 1, 2023.

Bucolic briefs

The Veteran's Farm of NC, Inc. is seeking donations of farm equipment to use with programs to teach veterans how to start a farm. The organization offers access to farm equipment through its usage and grant programs and help network the farmer veteran community with each other and new opportunities in agriculture. This is a 501c (3) nonprofit organization is seeking donations of trucks, tractors, 3-point attachments, and any farm related supplies that we will then make available to the farmer veteran community. Donations are 100% tax deductible and a receipt is provided for tax purposes. Contact Robert Elliott, Executive Director, at vetfarmofnc@gmail.com with questions.

As a way to help farmers and agricultural workers stay safe at work, the N.C. Department of Labor offers safety videos on a variety of topics through its YouTube channel. Video topics include: preventing green tobacco sickness, hazard communication, tobacco harvester safety, heat stress, migrant housing requirements, forklift safety, and information about the NCDOL's Gold Star Growers program. The videos are in English and Spanish to increase understanding of safety hazards and preventing accidents. To learn more about the NCDOL and the Agricultural Safety and Health Bureau, go to www.nclabor.com or call 1-800-NC-LABOR (800-625-2267). NCDOL is also on Facebook and Twitter (@NCDOL).

State Fair Jr. Livestock Sale of Champions sets new sales record

For the second year in a row, junior winners in the N.C. State Fair livestock shows drew a record amount of money in the Junior Livestock Sale of Champions. The top steers, barrows, lambs, goats and turkeys earned \$217,850 in the sale on Oct. 22. The figure surpasses the record of \$212,500 set at the 2022 sale.

“The money raised rewards the winners of the livestock shows at the N.C. State Fair, and it also goes to scholarships for the other junior competitors. That helps with college educations, the cost of animal care and educational outreach,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “None of that would be possible without the North Carolina companies, organizations and individuals that show their support during the sale.”

The grand champion junior market steer was shown by Schyler Crocker of Selma, with a winning bid of \$22,000 placed by Tractor Supply Company and Powers Great American Midlands.

For the second year in a row, the grand champion Got to Be NC junior market steer was shown by Annah Claire Sullivan of Lucama. The top bid of \$20,000 came from Farm Credit Associations of N.C., N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance, N.C. Egg Association and Licksillet Cattle Company.

N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance and Farm Credit Associations of N.C. placed the winning bid for the reserve grand champion junior market steer at \$18,500. Peyton Taylor of Caldwell County showed the steer.

The grand champion junior market barrow was shown by Hannah Cooper of Hertford, with a winning bid of \$21,000

from N.C. Pork Council, Smithfield Foods, Prestage Farms and Agri Supply Company.

Travis Cox of Richlands showed the grand champion Got to Be NC junior market barrow. N.C. Pork Council, Hog Slat, Smithfield Foods and N.C. Soybean Producers Association placed the winning bid of \$18,500.

N.C. Pork Council, Prestage Farm and Smithfield Foods placed a winning bid of \$15,500 for the reserve grand champion junior market barrow, shown by Billie Faith Fulcher of Godwin.

Maggie Glass of Belhaven showed the grand champion junior market lamb and grand champion Got to Be NC junior market lamb, which together earned a winning bid of \$15,500 from N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance.

Tractor Supply Company and ATM Auction and Realty had the winning bid of \$13,500 for the reserve grand champion junior market lamb that was shown by Taylor Askew of Greenville.

Kennedy Lee of Smithfield showed the grand champion junior market meat goat. Agri Supply Company, Farm Credit Associations of N.C. and N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance placed the winning bid of \$21,000.

The grand champion Got to be N.C. junior market meat goat was shown by Carter Jennings of Kenly. The winning bid of \$16,500 came from Iron Horse Auction Company Inc., the campaign of state Sen. Tom McInnis and the Thomas M. McInnis Family Fund.

The reserve grand champion junior market meat goat was shown by Zade Jennings of Kenly. The winning bid of \$12,000 was placed by N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance.

Hattie Jo Powell of Four Oaks showed the grand champion market turkey. The winning bid of \$7,500 came from Talley Farms and the N.C. Soybean Producers Association.

For the second consecutive year, Sage Robertson of Burlington showed the reserve grand champion market turkey. N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance and the N.C. Soybean Producers Association placed the winning bid of \$5,000.

In another repeat from 2022, Bryson Baldwin of Statesville showed the Supreme Dairy Female. The winning bid of \$10,500 received a Taste of N.C. Dairy Basket. Buyers were N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance, Farm Credit Association of N.C., N.C. Dairy Producers Association, Iredell County Farm Bureau Insurance, Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association, White Rock Dairy, Piedmont Dairy, Appalachian Milk Cooperative, Major and Lou Bond, Weston and Shannon McCorkle, Thompson Cattle Company, Courtney Bumgarner, Carolina Livestock Vet Services, Nancy Keith, Eco Diesel Dynamics, Beam Dairy, Homeland Creamy, Cowbuyer.com, Drew & Dakota Sparks, Piedmont Dairy Equipment, Rocky Creek Veterinarian Services and Neal, Tonya & Hannah Loftin.

Additional support for bids on the grand champion, grand champion Got to Be NC and reserve grand champion junior market steers, barrows, lambs and meat goats provided by Apple Brandy Cuts, the Blinson family, WNC Livestock Exchange, John E. Ferebee Farming Inc., Land of Promise Farms, New Lake Seed Company, Stine Seed Company, Steve Carroll, Cleveland County Livestock Exchange and Stallings & Stallings Farms.



Top two row of photos are of the grand and Got to Be NC champions in turkeys, beef cattle, sows and meat goats. Bottom three are photos of the reserve grand champion sow, meat goat and beef cow. (Photos are courtesy of Square One Agri Marketing.)

Island Farm

(Continued from pg. 8)

to families who go off-site to gain admission back into the farm.

In addition to daily farm tours, the Island Farm also hosts specialized events throughout the year, including Tater Day, Sweet Potato Giveaway Kit events and their upcoming Garden to Hearth event.

The Garden to Hearth event is took place Nov. 21 and 22.

"This event allows us to demonstrate how the farm prepared for winter in the 1850's," Michelle said. "We cover a variety of topics including, food preservation, pickling, curing, smoking, salting, candle making and cooking. Recipes are available for families to take home and try, plus all of our fresh produce is for sale on-site."

The Garden to Hearth event was one of the very first agritourism events created by the owners in 2010 and has been a huge hit in the community ever since. "It's important for people to learn how to use what is in their garden," Michelle said. "My favorite part of this event is watching people understand how something works, like pickling, and seeing them gain an interest in food preservation."

All event activities are included with the \$10 admission fee. Kids three and under will get into the event for free.

Although Michelle loves every part of her job, including the role that she plays in preserving a rich heritage and history of a farm in our state, her favorite part of agritourism at the Island Farm is seeing people light up as they

learn something new about farming or life on a farm in the 1850's.

"We serve as a bridge between agriculture from the past and agriculture of the present," she said. "I love to see the fascination and joy on the faces of visitors when they see something that they've never seen before or even try it for themselves. It demonstrates and builds an appreciation for farm work as well as the folk heritage and agricultural history in this part of the state."

The Island Farm provides a unique experience for visitors that will leave a lasting impression. The next time you take a trip down to the coast, make time to stop at the farm and learn about life in the 1850's as well as how it impacts our lives today.



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. For example, if you want your ad to be published in the May issue, we must receive it by noon the first working day of April 3.



Bees, Supplies & Services For Sale

NOTICE

N.C. law requires a permit to sell honey bees in the state. A permit is not required for: The sale of less than 10 bee hives in a calendar year, a one-time going-out-of-business sale of 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.

30 beehives & 5-frame nucs, w/healthy honeybees, avail 4/24, \$175 & up. Tony Parker, Bolton 910-655-0741 or 386-7725.

Copper top, 8-frame, \$35; (10) supers, \$1,200. Andy Brown, Rockwell 704-279-2791.



Equipment For Sale

1994 Belarus 530 tractor, 2wd, w/Dunham Lehr 2x2 front end loader, 1,665 hrs., material bucket, pallet forks, front wghts, GC, 1 owner, \$8,950. Tom Taylor, Burlington 913-645-0834.

(1) Farnall H & (1) Farnall Cub, neither run, \$800. Tim Bell, Apex 919-362-8762.

Cole planter w/plates for Sears tractor, 3 pt, 1-row, doub hopper, \$200. John Daniels, Murfreesboro 252-587-7111.

FARM EQUIPMENT

Lon's bale claw, never used, quick attach, new hoses, \$2,500; Hustler chainless 2000 bale feeder, series 3, VGC, \$6,000. Teresa Greene, Boone 828-773-0178.

Krone moco, AMT 323 CV, 11 ft. + cutting width, flail cond, 2 pt quick swivel hitch, kept in dry, EC, \$12,500. Jeff Carpenter, Lawndale 704-530-1867.

Wood splitter, 6.5hp, 25-ton, LN, \$1,100 obo. Jeff Brittain, Hickory 828-327-4782.

9-shank tiller, GC, \$400; boom spray, sprays left & right, GC, \$200; 3 pt scoop pan, GC, \$200. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.

Farnall 100, w/cults, GC, \$2,800; Ford 5000 tractor, w/6 ft. bush hog, cab, GC, \$5,500. Frank McKeithan, Bolivia 910-253-5913.

NH 853 rnd baler, 5x5, \$2,000. Ronnie Brogden, Creedmoor 919-528-1767.

Spike tooth harrow, 10 ft., 3 pt, adjust., \$750. R. Hanes, Glendale Springs 828-406-6365.

1994 Case IH 1688 combine, duals, 4x4, Cummins, shed kept, \$24,000; Case IH 1020 header, 20 ft., full finger, low ac, EC, header cart, \$12,000. Dee Moles, Pfafftown 336-682-7011.

Intl 784 tractor, diesel, needs some work, \$5,000 obo. Bobby Bryan, Garner 919-612-3273.

Cattle liquid protein tank, 280 gal., GC, \$200. Margie Teague, Ramseur 336-318-1604.

FARM EQUIPMENT

Intl 766 tractor, \$5,000; 1460 Gehl rnd baler, \$1,500; 2-basket Sitrex hay tedder, LNC, \$1,100. Walt Hovis, Bessemer City 980-722-6380.

JD 318 mower, 20hp Kohler eng, 48 in. deck, hys drive, \$2,500. Kent Davis, Clemmons 336-391-4801.

JD 7720 combine, w/915 grain header & 643 corn header, \$25,000; 6-row Kinze sod planter, completely rebuilt, new corn meters, \$7,500. Lanny Burleson, Salisbury 704-239-3841.

JD drill, 13 ft., \$500; 13 ft. field cult, no cyl, \$600; Ford 309 4-row planter/plates, \$1,200; 32 in. disc, \$900; other equip. Frank Corriher, China Grove 704-202-8249.

Ford 4-bottom plow frame, \$200; Ford 3-16 bottom plow, \$300; Ford 3-16 high clearance plow, \$400. Jim Corriher, China Grove 704-213-9588.

Long 2510 tractor, \$6,000; NI rnd baler, \$1,200; NH sq baler, \$600; NH hay rake, \$800; 2-row JD corn planter, \$300; NI grain drill \$250. John Naile, Cleveland 704-278-9674.

Ford 6610 tractor w/Dunham loader, motor stuck, \$5,000. Bennett Bradley, Tarboro 252-230-0460.

1982 JD 4420 combine, w/215 grain head, new feeder chain, tailing chain & auger, new return chain & auger, all manuals, \$4,000 obo. Evan Myers, Winston-Salem 336-243-3911.

FARM EQUIPMENT

1949 Farnall C tractor, fully restored, GC, \$6,500. Doug Shoffner, Burlington 336-260-2260.

1995 NH 630 rnd baler, GC, all new chains & bearings, belts GC, always sheltered, needs 40 pto hp, \$7,000. Jeff Greene, Patterson 828-493-2448.

Ford 4630 tractor, 2,400 hrs., \$12,000. Grady Draughn, Yadkinville 336-468-7889.

Root rake, 6 ft., 3 pt, \$500; 1-row cult for AC-B, \$400; Agri-Fab leaf vac, 5hp Briggs, \$400; wood splitter, 22-ton, 5hp Honda motor, \$900. William Atwell, China Grove 704-857-9246.

Ford Jubilee tractor, '53-'54 model, new front tires, doub 14-bottom plow, 16 cut-out discs, 5 ft. bush hog, 6 ft. scrape blade, \$3,550. Ernest Kirksey Jr., Rockwell 980-432-3438.

(2) pull-type discs, \$150. Andy Brown, Rockwell 704-279-2791.

Old corn sheller, grain scales, crosscut saws, push plow, other items, \$75-\$300. N. Lee, Advance 336-998-8922, nights.

1937 AC-WC, \$1,100; 1948 Gibson D, \$2,200; 1952 MH Pony, \$2,200; 2005 Cub Cadet LT1042, \$750; 2019 Cyclone rake, \$1,750. Joan Akers, Franklin 828-421-1571.

NH 640 baler, GC, \$4,000; MF 1308 disc mower, EC, \$6,000; NH 1022 Procart V-rake w/center wheel, EC, \$7,500. Mark Brown, Cleveland 704-682-6097.

FARM EQUIPMENT

1994 MF 253 tractor w/loader, shuttle drive, turbo, new tires, GC, \$13,500. Sam Calloway, Thurmond 336-874-2261 or 366-0226.



Equipment Wanted

Front end loader for JD5105; JD521, 522, Bush Hog 2346QT, 2347QT, 2426QT, 2427QT or Quicke X2 fits; 3 pt stump grinder, 3 pt log splitter. Mark Lowe, Gastonia 704-674-3899.



Farmland For Sale

Land for sale must consist of at least 3 acres and be used for agricultural purposes, i.e. cultivation, raising livestock and/or other farm commodities. Advertisers must state land use.

11 ac Alexander co, presently ag crops & forestry, paved rd frontage, co water, excel. for mini farm, \$160,000. Hental Price, Greensboro 336-404-0594.

28.1 ac, 1,691 ft. rd frontage, oak trees, pines, 3 bd house, (2) septic tanks, spring fed branch, bldg., \$445,000. Ernest Kirksey Jr., Rockwell 980-432-3438.



Farmland Wanted

FARMLAND WANTED

Land to rent in the Belwood & Vale area. Joseph Kurnik, Vale 980-241-0855.

Farms in the Piedmont to hunt coyotes for free, ref avail. Matt Sink, Midway 336-978-5956.

Land to run rabbits w/ beagles in Stanley, Union, Cabarrus & Anson co. Matthew Clontz, Charlotte 704-309-5798, ask for Happy.

Sm acreage Stokes co, suitable for cattle & orchard. Joe Duke, Eure 252-333-0222, call or text.



Farm Labor

Tractor/skid steer work, Gaston, Cleveland, Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Union & Cabarrus co; bush hogging, clearing, plowing, planting, hunting lease upkeep & improvements, shooting lanes, \$60/hr. Mark Lowe, Gastonia 704-674-3899.

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

Elect. fence box repair, parmak, ssc, tsc, zereba, \$20/hr. Bob Nichols, N. Wilkesboro 336-927-2850.



Hay & Grain For Sale

Fescue hay, horse quality, rnd bales, \$60 ea; sm sq bales, \$7 ea. Johnny Harrison, Salisbury 704-213-0857.

Bermuda horse hay, in barn, no weeds/rain/animal litter/preservatives, \$7.50/sq bale; 4x5 rnd, \$80/bale, cash or Zelle, deliv extra. Victoria Rehder, Lillington 910-964-0087, call or text.

Fescue hay, 4x5 rnd, net wrapped, barn stored, \$50/bale. Gene Bailey, Siler City 919-742-3765.

Fescue hay, horse quality, 4x5 rnd, in barn, clean, \$80/bale; cattle & goat hay, 4x5, in barn \$60/bale. Justin Ridenhour, Salisbury 704-239-4032.

Hay, horse quality, 4x5 rnd, good wgt, orchard grass/fescue, \$7/bale; orchard, \$10/bale. Fred Lowry, Statesville 704-880-5031.

Fescue/orchard grass, 4x5 rnd, in barn, \$40/bale. Larry York, Staley 336-824-2077.

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

Fescue, rye grass & crab grass, 4x5 rnd, \$45-\$60/bale; sq bales, \$6/bale. Ronnie Brogden, Creedmoor 919-528-1767.

'23 spring fescue, 4x4 rnd, horse quality, no rain, in barn, \$45/bale. Lee Briles, Asheboro 336-301-0843.

HAY & GRAIN

Fescue hay, 4x5 rnd bales, stored inside, \$40/bale. Larry Hicks, Staley 336-708-0152.

Peanut hay, 4x4.5 rnd, net wrapped, can deliv 42 bales/load, \$35 in field; \$40 under shelter. Larry Bullock, Greenville 252-883-4748.

Fescue hay, 4x4 rnd, good quality, stored inside, \$40/bale. Valerie Cockerham, Yadkinville 336-416-2240.

Fescue hay, spring '23 cut, no rain, horse quality, can deliv, \$6.75/bale; some rnd bales, \$40 ea. Allen Moore, Summerfield 336-706-1157.

Fescue hay, 4x5, net wrapped, shed kept, deliv avail, \$60/rl. Preston Cole, Burlington 336-447-5593.

2023 mixed grass hay, horse quality, sq bales, no rain, min. purchase 20 bales, \$6 ea. Vernon Hill, Mt. Pleasant 980-621-5091.

Coastal hay, good quality, 4x5 rnd, net wrapped, \$40/bale. Jensen Barwick, Seven Springs 919-738-8493.

Coastal hay, 4x5 rnd, \$45/bale in field; \$50/bale in barn. Travis Lookabill, Wadesboro 704-690-0411.

Coastal hay, 4x5 rnd, sheltered, horse quality, \$60/bale; cow hay, \$50/bale; sq bales, \$8 ea. Phil Hood, Goldsboro 919-689-9798.

Orchard grass/fescue mix, spring '23 cut, horse quality, sq bales, no rain, \$6.50 ea; rnd bales, in barn, \$45 ea. Elizabeth Macdonald, Blanch 336-459-6776.

Horse quality hay, deliv avail, \$8/bale. Nikki Mears, Mt. Airy 336-934-0880.

Spring '23 fescue, clover & orchard grass mix, sq bales, \$8 ea; 4x4 mixed grass, rnd bales, \$35 ea. Dillon Pinnix, Reidsville 336-587-9042.

Coastal Bermuda hay, horse quality, 400 bales avail, out of barn, \$8.50 ea. Gary White, Sanford 919-775-9769.

Fescue hay, 4x5 rnd, barn stored, \$40/bale. Roger Drum, Statesville 704-880-7006.

Fescue hay, 4x5 rnd, 500 bales avail, barn stored, \$40 ea. Chris Wood, Sanford 919-842-2126, call or text.

Coastal Bermuda hay, horse quality, sq bales, \$7 ea. Jim Newton, Rockingham 910-995-1223.

'23 fescue, sq bales, \$6; rnd bales, \$50. Thomas Berrier, Lexington 336-764-1051.

Horse quality hay, deliv avail, \$50/rl. H.O. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.

Fescue hay, sq bales, \$5.50/bale; 5x5 rnd, net wrapped, \$45/bale. Grady Draughn, Yadkinville 336-468-7889.

Fall fescue/orchard grass, wrapped, under shelter, 4x4 rnd, \$22/bale. Bill Hart, Lawsonville 336-409-0230.

Fescue/orchard grass, 4x5 rnd, horse quality, sheltered, no rain/weeds, \$50/bale; mixed grass hay, 4x5 rnd, sheltered, \$40/bale; local deliv avail. Jay Hohn, Archdale 336-289-3686.



Livestock For Sale

Charolais bulls & heifers, purebred, polled, gentle, reg sires, 7 mos & up, \$1,000 & up. Johnny Harrison, Salisbury 704-213-0857.

Simmental & SimAngus herd bulls, blk, polled, bred for calving ease, muscle, growth, disposition, \$2,750-\$3,500; select group of 2 y/o avail. William Pyle, Franklinton 919-215-5677.

Quality YON sired 3/4 Blk Angus x 1/4 Simmental bred heifers, bred to low bw, full blood Wagyu bull, vaccs/dewormed, (5) head groupings, \$3,950 ea. Martha Mobley, Louisburg 919-495-1305.

Wye Angus bulls & females, in great shape, top 2% of Angus for grass conversion, \$2,100 & up. Jonathan Brubaker, Asheboro 336-465-0702.

Dwarf Nigerian goats, spring babies, yearlings, males, Wethers & females, \$75. Karey Brindle, Mt. Pleasant 704-960-7342.

St. Croix ewes, reg, \$450 ea; St. Croix rams, \$350 ea. Valerie Cockerham, Yadkinville 336-416-2240.

Kiko/Savanna cross bucklings, kidded 3/23, established, quality bloodlines, healthy, hardy, excel. breeding stock, \$200-\$250. David Ward, Burlington 336-266-1457.

Santa Gertrudis cattle, bulls & replacement cows, \$1,500 & up. Charles O'Bryant III, Reidsville 336-908-0276.

Fainting buck, dob 6/28/23; brn/blk/white, healthy, shots, \$100. Dodd Linker, Clemmons 336-712-2484.

Reg Angus bulls, bred for calving ease, efficiency, good feet & disposition, recent breeding soundness exam, \$3,000; (10) reg Angus heifers, dob fall 2022, \$2,500. Steve McPherson, Snow Camp 336-263-6042.

Reg Angus bulls, sires Bando 1961 & Deer Valley Growth Fund, \$2,000 & up. Wayne Wilson, Kannapolis 980-521-6707.

Nigerian dwarf billy, tri-colored, blue eyes, dob 1/23, very social, \$200; (3) tri-colored Nigerian dwarf females, dob 10/30/23, \$200 ea. Cassie White, Randleman 336-953-2284.



Poultry & Supplies For Sale

California, silver California, Bluescales, Gambel's; 8 breeds bobwhite; partridge, Philby, chukar, Hungarian, \$3 & up. Jimmy Furr, Stanfield 704-888-0213.

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

(12) Golden Comet laying hens, 13 m/o, healthy, good layers, \$10 ea or \$100/all. Mark Graber, Hamptonville 336-468-8256.

POULTRY & SUPPLIES

Pheasants, melanistic mutes, blackish-green color, flight pen raised, \$15 ea. Curtis Meissner, Bostic 609-273-2230.

Rhode Island Red pullets, should start laying 2024, \$20 ea. Kevin Graber, Hamptonville 336-468-2671.



Supplies For Sale

Lumber, oak, pine, poplar, 1 & 2 in. thick, 8-16 ft. long, \$2/bd ft. Richard Hice, Pleasant Garden 336-674-6230.

Water pumps, new & used, GC, \$300. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.

Metal & plastic drums, \$10; feed barrels, lids & rings, \$20; water totes, \$75; cages for wood, \$25. Jeff Brittain, Hickory 828-327-4782.

Fuel tanks, 2,000-gal., \$2,000; 7,000-gal., \$3,800; 8 ft. water wheel, w/new block bearing, \$4,200. Miles Little, Midland 704-791-1438.

(11) tunnel fan motors, 1 1/2 hp, \$50 ea; (14) waterlines, yoke style, \$10 ea; (4) Little Giant submersible pumps, model 8CIA, \$50 ea. Roy Brown, Wallace 910-271-1203.

Transplant system greenhouse, 35x200, w/fans, heaters, etc., \$7,500. Valerie Barwick, Seven Springs 919-580-8371.

Hardwood logs & timber, \$60-\$800. N. Lee, Advance 336-998-8922, nights.



Seeds & Plants

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals or businesses offering nursery stock for sale in North Carolina are required to obtain either a nursery or nursery dealer license. For more information, contact the NCDA&CS Plant Industry Division at 800-206-9333 or 919-707-3730.

Cockscomb seeds, huge blossom head, rich crimson color, sturdy 18 in. stalk, about 200 seeds, SASE + \$3 cash. Barry Cox, 6225 Welborn Rd, Trinity, NC 27370.

Sunflower seeds, old timey type, huge 12-14 lb. flower, 15-18 in. diameter, SASE & \$3/25 seeds; \$5/50 seeds. N. Smoot, 6227 Welborn Rd, Trinity, NC 27370.

Bowling ball shrubs, in gal. containers, matures in 2 yrs, \$10; potted limelight hydrangea plants, in 1-gal. containers, \$20. Sonya Whitaker, Mocksville 336-941-7721.

Muscadine & scuppernong plants, potted, 5-6 ft., several varieties, planting & fert instr incld, \$25. Bob Whitaker, Mocksville 336-469-4822, do not text.

Sea oats grass seed, from Rockingham co. grown plants, 25 seed heads w/10-15 seeds ea, SASE + \$5. Keith Crouch, 1422 Virginia St., Eden, NC 27288.

Elderberry plants, in 8 in. pots, \$12 ea. Kevin Campbell, Harmony 704-775-2425.

SEEDS & PLANTS

Walnuts, 2023 crop, still green, \$20/bu. William Modlin, Jamesville 252-792-7709.



Seeds & Plants Wanted

Doorknob pepper seeds for stuffing. Elaine Hicks, Thomasville 336-687-5288.

White pumpkin seeds & pie pumpkin seeds. Deborah Harris, Harmony 704-546-5564.

Small Animals For Sale

Tennessee Redback rabbits, sold out of cage, \$12 ea. Mark Hinson, Goldsboro 919-734-7800.



Trucks & Trailers For Sale

4-wheel trailer, 13x6x6.5, 2-axle, tilt bed, GC, \$3,500. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.

'61 Willys Jeep truck, kept in shed, runs well, eng rebuilt, good rubber, \$18,500. R. Hanes, Glendale Springs 828-406-6365.

1991 Ford L8000 spray truck, full-floatation, Ford diesel, Allison auto trans, 1,800-gal SS tank, 65 ft. boom, raven controller, well-maintained, shed kept, \$32,000. Dee Moles, Pfafftown 336-682-7011.

1988 Ford F150, short bed, s6, 5 man. in floor, 163,000 mi, needs clutch work, \$2,500. Ben Jordan, Graham 336-212-0168.

1993 Reids trailer doub axle, 8 tires, 15 ft. bed, 4 ft. raise, 4 ft. ramps, 9-ton cap., pintle hitch, elect. brakes, \$7,995. Paul Routh, Pleasant Garden 336-944-5487.

1984 Chevy C-60, 5-spd trans, 2-spd axle, 366 eng, 20 ft. flatbed, \$2,000. Ronnie Brogden, Creedmoor 919-528-1767.

Farm trailer, 14 ft. long, 7.5 wide, GC, \$900. DS Knox, Huntersville 704-677-2612.

'23 Calico stock trailer, 16 ft., gooseneck, \$9,850. H.O. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.

Calico stock trailer, bumper pull, \$7,250. Y.D. Saul, Elon 336-213-6292.



Trucks & Trailers Wanted

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

To keep up with the latest on the N.C.

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, check out our blog at blog.ncagr.gov, or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Island Farm's roots run deep; seeks to educate visitors

When picturing North Carolina beaches, many families don't immediately envision a farm. However, the coastal areas of our state are steeped in agricultural history, some of which are still thriving today. The Island Farm in Manteo dates back to 1757, and is not only a working farm today, but also a place of education and entertainment for visitors.

In 1757, Adam Etheridge rented the farmland that the Island Farm now sits on for 14 years before his son Jesse purchased it to carry on the farming tradition.

"Jesse purchased the land that is now known as the Etheridge Homeplace, and built the farm house around 1847. The homeplace stayed in the family until it was donated to the non-profit, Outer Banks Conservationists in 1997," said Michelle Clower, site manager of the Island Farm. "Since then, the site has become a living farm for people to visit and learn about the rich agricultural history found in this part of the state."

The Island Farm continues to grow a variety of produce in their four garden plots, like Irish potatoes,



Island Farm offers educational and entertaining activities for visitors as it showcases agricultural history.

sweet potatoes, root veggies and peppers, as well as raise livestock animals, including a cow, mule, horses, chickens and sheep. "We try to keep everything as it was in the 1850's," Michelle said. "So, we grow crops and raise animals here that were grown on this farm by the Etheridge family, and we cultivate and harvest them using their methods. Therefore, everything

on the farm is hand harvested." Every Tuesday through Friday from March to December, friends and families alike can visit the farm to see their processes, meet the animals and so much more.

The Island Farm is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Admission costs \$10 for ages 4 and up but includes everything the

farm has on-site that day. "Our farm tours are self-guided, but there are typically three or four interpreters walking around for anyone who has questions about the farm or the on-site demonstrations that are happening on that day," Michelle said.

Demonstrations take place daily at the Island Farm but change from month to month. Check their website

for a detailed schedule of events on the date that you plan to attend. Demonstrations can include blacksmithing, hearth cooking, toys and games from the 1850's, sheep to yarn and more! Families can choose to stay the entire day, enjoying lunch at the farm picnic tables, or go and come back. Stickers will be given (See Island Farm, pg. 6)



Allure of Venus flytraps attracts fans and predators

Children all around the world learn about an incredible carnivorous plant called the Venus flytrap that can eat bugs. It seems almost magical to kids that a plant can feed itself in that way. It is one of the most famous and popular carnivorous plants in the world, and for good reason. The Venus flytrap is a truly unique plant with a fascinating way of life.

What kids don't always learn – even here in our state — is that the native range of the Venus flytrap is limited to the wetlands of southeast North Carolina and northeast South Carolina, a total area of just about 100-square miles on the entire planet. In North Carolina, its range extends from Wilmington only to around Fort Liberty.

The Venus flytrap is a natural gem of North Carolina and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service's Plant Industry Division and its Plant Conservation Program work hard to make sure this exceptional plant has a bright future.

Two preserves in the Wilmington area, Boiling Spring Lakes Plant Conservation Program (PCP) Preserve and Hog Branch Lake PCP Reserve, help to sustain native populations of Venus flytraps.

"The Plant Conservation Program in Plant Industry, we own and manage nature preserves across the state for the benefit of rare plants and their habitat," said Katherine Culatta, a Plant Conservation Botanist. "(Those two preserves) comprise about 7,000 acres and they protect 18 different rare plant species. One of those is the Venus flytrap. We estimate about 5,000 Venus flytrap plants on those two preserves."

Threats to the Venus flytrap include development, habitat degradation and poaching, which is a felony under North Carolina state law.

"As far as what we do to protect and support those flytrap populations, fire is a really big management tool," Culatta said. "Venus flytraps are native to longleaf pine habitats and wet longleaf pine savannahs that have a special combination of being pretty wet and pretty open and sunny. Fire is the way that that habitat is maintained. We, with the help of the North Carolina Forest Service, complete prescribed burns throughout the preserve mostly in the dormant winter season. Those fires help maintain habitat for the flytraps by basically knocking back woody competition and shrubbery and things that would otherwise grow up and sort of shade out the flytrap habitat."

Culatta said support for and understanding of the importance of prescribed burns is crucial for the Venus flytrap's future. Venus flytraps are small plants that grow close to the ground, so they're very susceptible to plants growing above them and blocking their access to sunlight.

Just about everyone knows that the Venus flytrap is a carnivorous plant that closes when an insect lands on it, "eating" the insect. What you may not know is just how sophisticated the closing mechanism is.



Above, Venus flytrap plants that were illegally harvested and confiscated by law enforcement were replanted by plant conservation staff and volunteers at one of the two preserves managed by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Plant Industry Division. At right, a planter of Venus flytraps that are part of a plant conservation exhibit at the N.C. State Fair helps educate fairgoers about these protected plants.



"The trap closing takes a lot of energy for the plant, so they don't want to be snapping shut and not getting an insect meal," Culatta said. "It's a waste of energy. They have these special little hairs on their traps where the trap will only close if multiple hairs are triggered in quick succession, which would indicate that something like a little spider or an ant is actually walking across the surface of the trap as opposed

to a breeze blowing across it or a pine needle falling in the trap. The lack of sequential triggering of those hairs means the plant is you know, 'smart' enough to recognize that is not a meal that they want to have."

With the help of Culatta and the Plant Conservation Program, the Venus flytrap will hopefully thrive in North Carolina for decades to come.