From the Agent

Hi Folks!

We’re nearing the end of the 2009 and [what I hope will be] two of our biggest events of the year: the Local Food Networking Meeting (Thursday, October 29) and the Putting Small Acreage to Work Workshop (Saturday, November 14). We also have a Pond Management Seminar coming up very soon (Tuesday, October 20).

Read more about these and other events on this page and under “Upcoming Events.”

Regards,

Mary Helen Ferguson
Extension Agent

Putting Small Acreage to Work

This workshop will be similar to last year’s series, in that several topics of potential interest to small [or large] farmers will be addressed, but they’ll be covered in one Saturday rather than multiple evening sessions. Here is this year’s agenda:

- Registration (8:15 – 8:30 a.m.)
- Growing and Marketing Specialty Melons (Dr. Jonathan Schultheis, NCSU; 8:30 – 10:15 a.m.)
- Break (10:15 – 10:30 a.m.)
- Grafting Tomatoes for Disease Resistance and Vigor (Cary Rivard, NCSU; 10:30 a.m. – noon)
- Lunch and Integrating Produce and Livestock (M.H. Ferguson, NC Cooperative Extension; noon – 1:00 p.m.)
- Travel to Walker Farms in Franklinville (1:00 – 1:30 p.m.)
- Equipment for the Small Farm (Troy Coggins, NC Cooperative Extension, and farmer Bill Walker; 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.)
- Return to office (3:00 – 3:30 p.m.)

See “Upcoming Events” for additional information about this event!
Upcoming Events

Randolph Co.

Pond Management Seminar
Oct. 20 (6:00 – 8:00 p.m.), NC Cooperative Extension, Randolph Co. Center (112 W. Walker Ave., Asheboro). Drs. Jim Rice and Rob Richardson, Extension Specialists with NC State University, will talk about general pond management and aquatic weed management. One hour of pesticide credits in categories A, N, D, and X is available. Pre-register by Oct. 16. $3 fee payable upon arrival.

Local Food Networking Meeting
Oct. 29 (7:00 p.m., NOTE TIME CHANGE), NC Cooperative Extension, Randolph Co. Center. Come meet people who are interested in buying Randolph County-produced foods. Call 336-318-6000 to register by Oct. 27.

Putting Small Acreage to Work Workshop
Nov. 14 (8:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.), NC Cooperative Extension, Randolph Co. Center. Come learn about growing specialty melons, grafting tomatoes, integrating produce and livestock, and equipment for the small farm. Pre-registration and $8 (lunch included) due by Nov. 10.

For NC Cooperative Extension, Randolph County Center, events: For accommodations for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Wanda Howe by phone, fax, e-mail (wanda_howe@ncsu.edu), or in person, no later than ten business days before the event.

Statewide and Regional

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) Training

Piedmont Biofarm Pepper Festival

USDA Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement Hearing

Cut Flower Production Workshop

NC Greenhouse Vegetable Growers Association Annual Conference
Southeast Strawberry Expo

Triangle Landscape Symposium

American Livestock Breeds Conservancy Annual Meeting

Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association Annual Conf. and Trade Show
Nov. 16 - 19, Myrtle Beach. More info: http://www.cgcsa.org/ or 800-476-4272.

24th Annual Southeast Vegetable & Fruit Expo
Dec. 1 – 2, Myrtle Beach, SC. More info: www.ncvga.com or 919-334-0099.

NCSU 6th Annual NCSU Hands-On Cheese Making Course

ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) Certification Review and Exam

Contact Mary Helen if you want to remain on the mailing list for the paper version of the newsletter. The addresses of those who do not respond will be deleted from the list at the beginning of 2010. The e-mail list will not be affected.

Please also contact M.H. (maryhelen_ferguson@ncsu.edu) if you would like to be on the Randolph Growers e-mail list, by which you can get the newsletter and more frequent updates.