

# Agricultural REVIEW

Volume: 99 - No. 12

December 2024

Raleigh, N.C.

## Buy a local Christmas tree

Hurricane Helene brought devastating impacts to Western North Carolina earlier this year, but tree supply was not significantly impacted. This year, consider supporting Western North Carolina farmers by buying a local, North Carolina Christmas tree, wreath or garland.

For information about where you can find a local Christmas tree near you, find the North Carolina Christmas Tree Association online or on social media.

## Upcoming Ag Review ad deadlines

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

Dec. 2 for the January 2025 issue  
Jan. 2 for the February 2025 issue  
Feb. 3 for the March 2025 issue  
March 3 for the April 2025 issue

## 2024 N.C. State Fair sees nearly 1 million visitors

The 2024 N.C. State Fair finished its run with a strong weekend, pushing the overall attendance to just shy of 1 million visitors. The final attendance was 998,926, the sixth largest in the fair's 156-year history.

"This was a great fair that was blessed with 11 beautiful days of weather and the attendance reflected that. But seeing people enjoying themselves, laughing with family and friends and making memories together is the true measure of success," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "I want to thank the State Highway Patrol and Raleigh Police Department for handling the traffic throughout the fair, our law enforcement partners who are essential to ensuring a safe fair and especially the public for their continued support."

Other highlights of the 11 days included:

- Setting a new attendance record for a Tuesday when 85,738 came



A girl rides the merry-go-round at the 2024 N.C. State Fair.

through the gates for Senior Day.

- Seeing record attendance of nearly 2,400 people for the invitation-only Century Family Farm Reunion, a celebration of farms that have been in continuous family ownership for 100 years or more.

- A total of 254,000 meals, or 17

truckloads of food products, were donated during Smithfield Foods Hunger Relief Day. The food collected this year is benefitting Western North Carolina.

- A strong Junior Livestock Sale of Champions with bidders paying \$213,000 for the top beef cattle, turkeys,

hogs, sheep and goats, plus the top Got to Be NC winners

- Celebrating 20-year anniversaries for the Tobacco Barn in Heritage Circle and the Field of Dreams exhibit near Dorton Arena.

- Attendance for the Got to Be NC Pavilion was up with the number of participating N.C. food companies and fair visitors.

- Marking the first year for the N.C. Stillhouse, featuring North Carolina distilleries serving craft cocktails.

- Participation by many Western N.C. vendors and crafters, which provided them with sales opportunities during a much-needed time.

- Strong number of competitive entries with 24,514 entries in the general competitions and another 4,067 entries in livestock competitions.

The 2025 N.C. State Fair will be held Oct. 16-26.

## Disaster relief efforts following Helene continue

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has continued in its efforts to provide relief to farmers and citizens impacted by Hurricane Helene in Western NC.

The storm brought devastating damage to the region, from significant damage to roads, cell towers and electrical systems, to significant crop losses and considerable soil erosion.

"Recovery in Western North Carolina will be ongoing for quite some time," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve

Troxler. "The need is great, and we will continue to help how we can."

The N.C. Forest Service deployed chainsaw task forces to cut down trees, remove branches and clear vegetation. The division was also involved in humanitarian relief and rescue efforts.

Forest Service personnel completed an aerial forestland damage assessment, estimating some \$214 million in damage to 822,000 acres of timberland was caused by the storm.

The Western North Carolina Ag

Center has returned to normal operations after serving as a shelter for residents and their pets. The Western N.C. Farmers Market, which was serving as a distribution site for MANNA FoodBank of Asheville, has resumed typical operations. Market fees for sellers were waived for the month of October and have been significantly reduced through the spring.

The N.C. State Fair activated its "State Fair Cares" donation effort, allowing fairgoers to contribute to disaster relief efforts when they

purchased their admissions tickets online. The fair announced \$32,370 was raised for MANNA FoodBank as part of that effort.

The Agronomic Services Division is waiving peak-season testing fees for those in counties impacted by the storm. Peak season runs through March 31, 2025.

The Agriculture Emergency Hotline number remains active. The number is 1-866-645-9403 and it is operated Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## From the tractor



Commissioner Troxler

It's December, so I don't want to miss the opportunity to encourage readers to buy a real North Carolina Christmas tree, wreath or garland this year if they can. Buying a real N.C. Christmas tree will go a long way to support tree farmers and communities in Western N.C., and it is a festive way for North Carolinians to help one another.

We know that some N.C. tree farms lost trees and suffered damage to roads and other infrastructure on their farms,

### by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler

but they do have trees. Farmers are working hard to harvest and sell trees so they can stay in business and pay their employees and bills.

Your Christmas celebration and family get-togethers will take on added meaning knowing that your purchase has directly helped a Christmas tree farmer.

We'd love to see your tree. Take a photo and share it with us on the NCAgriculture Facebook page. Tag the tree farm in the photo if you know who grew your tree. We can all help brighten the season for Western N.C. through our purchases and support.

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And, in case you missed it, Curtis Smith of TC Smith Produce Farm Inc. in Seven Springs was recognized as the North Carolina Farmer of the Year and John Norwood of Norwood Meador Farms Meat Sales in Ruffin was recognized as the Young North Carolina Farmer of the Year as part of the inaugural NC Farmer Appreciation Day.

The awards presentation at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh was part of the culmination of the special day dedicated to recognizing the many contributions of North Carolina farmers and I was honored to be part of the activities.

Smith is a fourth-generation farmer who produces strawberries, cantaloupe, sweet corn, collards, watermelon and seasonal vegetables. In his nomination, Smith was praised for mentoring younger farmers in the community. He has been named the Strawberry Grower of the Year and inducted into the N.C. Vegetable Growers Hall of Fame.

Norwood is a fifth-generation farmer who produces beef, pork and lamb that are sold to individuals and restaurants. The farm also produces blueberries and blackberries. He was noted for inspiring other young farmers in his community and for his innovation and passion for agriculture.

In addition to the two winners, four additional finalists were recognized.

Other finalists for N.C. Farmer of

the Year included Marlowe Ivey of Goldsboro and Reggie Strickland of Mt. Olive. The other two Young Farmer of the Year finalists were Ethan Lineberger of Dallas and Adam Barnhardt of Mooresville.

Ivey, a fourth-generation farmer and former executive director of Feed the Dialogue NC, wears many hats—hog and turkey farmer, mom of two, business owner and passionate industry advocate. Her advocacy with Feed the Dialogue offered an important voice in educating people about agriculture and its contributions to our state.

Strickland is a seventh-generation farmer who grows corn, soybeans, sweet potatoes, pickling cucumbers, flue-cured tobacco, turkeys and pork. He lends his voice to agriculture through his service with agricultural organizations.

Lineberger is a fourth-generation farmer who produces 40 different crops

(See Troxler, pg. 3)

# Agricultural Review

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

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Steve Troxler  
Commissioner

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# Four stores fined for scanning errors

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Standards Division recently fined four stores in Forsyth, Mecklenburg and Moore counties for price scanning errors.

"Scanner errors cost consumers money," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "With the holiday season approaching fast, our Standards Division remains vigilant in inspecting stores across the state to ensure consumers are not being taken advantage of."

The department conducts periodic, unannounced inspections of price-scanner systems in businesses to check for accuracy between the prices advertised and the prices that ring up at the register. If a store has more than a 2% error rate on overcharges, inspectors discuss the findings with the store manager and conduct a more intensive follow-up inspection later. Undercharges are also reported, but do not count against a store. Consumers who would like to file a complaint about scanner errors they encounter can call the Standards Division at 984-236-4750.

Penalties are assessed if a store fails a follow-up inspection. In addition to the penalties paid, the store will be subject to re-inspection every 60 days from the last inspection until it meets the 2%-or-less error rate. Additional penalties may be assessed if a store fails reinspection.

Following are civil penalties recorded in the third quarter of 2024:

(Forsyth) Family Dollar at 1425 Waughtown St. in Winston-Salem was fined \$10,000 in quarter three for

two failed inspections – one in July and one in September. Both inspections found an error rate of 4.33% for 13 overcharges on 300-item lots. An initial inspection of the store in November 2022 found an error rate of 22% for 11 overcharges in a 50-item lot. Follow up inspections in January, April, June, August and October 2023 and January, March and May of this year found error rates ranging from 8.67% to 4.33% on overcharges in 300-item lots. The store will be reinspected.

(Forsyth) Circle K at 1400 Union Cross Road in Kernersville was fined \$1,140 after failing inspection in August. The inspection found an error rate of 6% for six overcharges on a 100-item lot. An initial inspection in May found three overcharges on a 25-item lot – an error rate of 12%. The store will be reinspected.

(Mecklenburg) Family Dollar at 4455 Central Ave. in Charlotte was fined \$4,340 in quarter three for failed inspections. An initial inspection in June found an error rate of 5% for five overcharges on a 100-item lot. A second inspection in July found an 8% error rate for 24 overcharges on a 300-item lot. An inspection in September found an error rate of 4.67% for 14 overcharges on a 300-item lot. The store will be reinspected.

(Moore) Advanced Auto Parts at 1800 North Sandhills Blvd. in Aberdeen was fined \$495 after failing inspection in July. An initial inspection in June found an error rate of 6% for three overcharges on 50 items. A second inspection in July found an error rate of 3% for nine overcharges on a 300-item lot. The store was fined \$495. The store passed inspection in September with a 0% error rate.

# Fairgoers delight in decorated Christmas trees at State Fair

One competition at the N.C. State Fair helps get fairgoers in the holiday spirit. Just weeks before Christmas, the decorated Christmas tree competition helped to inspire. This is a popular competition at the N.C. State Fair, since the number of trees available are limited, participants are chosen raffle style in September for participation. The winners are chosen based on creativity, overall design and theme conformance.

Sixteen-year-old Lillie Merrill of Sherrills Ford was a first-time competitor at the fair and earned a second place ribbon and \$75 for her North Carolina-inspired tree. "My mom suggested using items from North Carolina to make the tree more special," said Merrill. "I love Pinterest and found a video on how to make ornaments out of oysters. That's how I decided on the idea. It SEEMED easy, lol. I went into two oyster bars near our house and asked for leftover shells. They were both so nice to give me a bucket each. I had no

idea that they would be so stinky. We placed them in my moms car and could barely stand being there with all the windows down. It definitely was the start of an adventure. When we got home, soaked all of the shells in soap and bleach then went through multiple steps to scrub and clean them. After they were all cleaned, I set them out to sun dry. They weren't stinky anymore. I had a few more than a hundred shells."

Merrill, who is a student at Lincoln Charter School in Denver, painted the insides, decouped different North Carolina scenes, universities and state animals to the inside of each shell. When that dried, she sanded the edges, painted the edges with gold paint and then her mom drilled the holes for the hooks. "She broke four drill bits," said Merrill. "We had no idea this would be such a project but in the end, they looked great."

Merrill's initial reason for entering the N.C. State Fair was to earn money to travel. I really want to go on a trip during spring break to see my best friend who lives in Michigan," said



Decorated Christmas trees on display in the Dorton Arena lobby during the 2024 N.C. State Fair.

Merrill. "My goal was to win as many of the contests that I could. I looked over the list and said "I can do that!" when I saw tree decorating. I love Christmas trees and my favorite time of the year is working at Grace Tree Farm starting the day after Thanksgiving."

Merrill said it was fun to show up

at the fair early and decorate. She and her family picked the smallest tree, not realizing the oysters would be really heavy. "We turned on Christmas music and got into the spirit. I had a lot of fun and I am excited to do it again next year. I do enter the national gingerbread contest every year in Asheville- I love

a good competition."

The Decorated Tree Competition was on display in the North Lobby of Dorton Arena through the fair's 11-day run. Trees were provided by Brad Barick of Back Achers Christmas Tree Farm in Raleigh.



# Three inducted into N.C. State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler inducted three new members into the N.C. State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame Sunday, Oct. 27, at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

"Agriculture has always been and will forever remain the heart of the N.C. State Fair," Troxler said. "These inductees have helped make the livestock shows at our fair some of the best in the nation. This is a considerable honor and one that is well-deserved."

Bryan Blinson of Harnett County was inducted into the Commissioner's Meritorious category. Blinson has dedicated his life to the success of North Carolina agriculture. He purchased his first cow when he was just 6 years old and went on to serve at the helm of the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association. Blinson began showing cattle at the N.C. State Fair in 1974. He is dedicated to supporting North Carolina farmers and families and passionate about fostering youth agriculture programs across the state.

Mike Sauls of Wayne County was inducted into the Swine category. Sauls has been a fixture in the Kelley Building for over 30 years, and has played a key role in ensuring the success



From left, Libby Gorman Williams, Mike Sauls, Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler and Bryan Blinson.

of the N.C. State Fair Swine Show each year. He has dedicated countless amounts of time and energy to supporting exhibitors from the time they step onto the fairgrounds to the time they leave. Sauls is passionate about supporting youth exhibitors and ensuring their experience at the fair is a positive one.

Libby Gorman Williams of Durham County was inducted into the Horses category. Williams began showing horses at the N.C. State Fair as a teenager and went on to become a professional trainer, nurturing a love of horses and passion for the N.C. State Fair among countless young students. Her promotion of the N.C. State Fair and the horse community in the state has contributed to their continued success. Williams continues to attend and exhibit at the N.C. State Fair, bringing new generations of students with her each year.

Since 1980, the N.C. State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame has served to recognize outstanding supporters of the fair's livestock shows. Candidates for induction can be producers of livestock that have exhibited and promoted livestock shows at the fair, or a person who has served as a fair employee, representative of a business, extension worker or others from agricultural organizations.

Including this year's honorees, 185 individuals have been inducted into the N.C. State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame.

# 2024 N.C. State Fair livestock shows see competitive turnout

Following are winners in the 2024 N.C. State Fair livestock shows.

## Open Dairy Cattle – Ayrshire

- Grand champion female and senior champion female shown by Kylie Ward of Lexington (Davidson)

- Reserve grand champion female, junior champion female, reserve junior champion female and reserve senior champion female shown by Russell Isley of Burlington (Alamance)

## Open Dairy Cattle – Brown Swiss

- Grand champion female and senior champion female shown by Maggie Mehaffey of Rural Hall (Forsyth)

- Reserve grand champion female and reserve senior champion female shown by Madeline Branch of Mount Airy (Surry)

- Junior champion female and reserve junior champion female shown by Brittany Heizer of Snow Camp (Alamance)

## Open Dairy Cattle – Guernsey

- Grand champion female and senior champion female shown by Reagan Thompkins of Ennice (Alleghany)

- Reserve grand champion female and reserve senior champion female shown by Calloway Mehaffey of Rural Hall (Forsyth)

- Junior champion female shown by Goldprint Farm of Linwood (Davidson)

- Reserve junior champion female shown by Thatcher Mehaffey of Rural Hall (Forsyth)

## Open Dairy Cattle – Holstein

- Grand champion female and senior champion female shown by Josie Calhoun of Dobson (Surry)

- Reserve grand champion, reserve senior champion female and reserve junior champion shown by Reagan Tompkins of Ennice (Alleghany)

- Junior champion female shown by Kassidy Gantos of Gibsonville (Guilford)

## Open Dairy Cattle – Jersey

- Grand champion female, reserve grand champion, senior champion female, reserve senior champion female and junior champion female shown by Amanda Baldwin of Statesville (Iredell)

- Reserve junior champion female shown by Coby Kivett of Staley (Randolph)



A boy participates in a cattle show at the 2024 N.C. State Fair in October.

## Junior Dairy Cattle – Ayrshire

- Grand champion shown by Carson Ward of Lexington (Davidson)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Michael Hold of Graham (Alamance)

- Junior champion shown by Colton Oliver of Burlington (Alamance)

## Junior Dairy Cattle – Brown Swiss

- Grand champion and junior champion shown by Madeline Branch of Mount Airy (Surry)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Maggie Mehaffey of Rural Hall (Forsyth)

## Junior Dairy Cattle – Guernsey

- Supreme champion and grand champion shown by Reagan Tompkins of Ennice (Alleghany)

- Reserve supreme champion shown by Bryson Baldwin of Statesville (Iredell)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Lucy Mehaffey of Rural Hall (Forsyth)

- Junior champion shown by Mary Eston Everhart of Apex (Wake)

## Junior Dairy Cattle – Holstein

- Grand champion shown by Reagan Tompkins of Ennice (Alleghany)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Josie Calhoun of Dobson (Surry)

- Junior champion shown by Maddie Pipes

of Sparta (Alleghany)

## Junior Dairy Cattle – Jersey

- Grand champion shown by Bryson Baldwin of Statesville (Iredell)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Presley Langley of Staley (Randolph)

- Junior champion shown by Killian Kivett of Staley (Randolph)

## Open Beef Cattle – Supreme

- Supreme champion female shown by Emma Vanhoy of Catawba (Catawba)

- Supreme champion cow/calf shown by Makayla Davis of Zebulon (Franklin)

- Supreme champion bull shown by Wood Angus Farm of Willow Springs (Johnston)

- Reserve supreme champion female shown by Jordan Mitchem of Vale (Lincoln)

- Reserve supreme champion cow/calf shown by Charles Wyatt McCoy of Cove City (Craven)

- Reserve supreme champion bull shown by Virginia Tech Beef Center of Blacksburg, Va.

## Open Beef Cattle – Star 5

- Grand champion female, reserve grand champion female, champion heifer calf, reserve champion heifer calf and champion yearling heifer shown by Alan Barlow of Lenoir (Caldwell)

- Champion bull shown by Rhett Perry of Zebulon (Wake)

- Reserve champion yearling heifer shown

by Mazie Bunn of Zebulon (Wake)

## Open Beef Cattle – Angus

- Grand champion bull and senior champion bull calf shown by Wood Angus Farm of Willow Spring (Johnston)

- Grand champion female and junior champion female shown by Emma Vanhoy of Catawba (Catawba)

- Senior champion female and reserve senior champion heifer calf shown by Little Pine Farm of Ennice (Alleghany)

- Senior champion heifer calf shown by Kymberly Coffman of McGaheysville (Rockingham)

- Junior champion heifer calf shown by Joy Hinnant of Kenly (Johnston)

- Intermediate champion heifer and reserve grand champion female shown by Marcie Harward of Richfield (Stanly)

- Reserve grand champion bull and reserve senior champion bull calf shown by Greyson Peeler of Lawndale (Cleveland)

- Reserve intermediate champion heifer shown by Eric Boatwright of Franklin (Macon)

- Reserve junior champion female and reserve junior champion heifer calf shown by Lydia Crocker of Selma (Johnston)

## Open Beef Cattle – All Other Breeds

- Grand champion bull and senior champion bull shown by Nicholas Vidovich of Midland (Cabarrus)

- Grand champion female and champion heifer shown by Karl Holshouser of Castalia (Franklin)

- Senior champion yearling heifer and reserve grand champion female shown by Joy Hinnant of Kenly (Johnston)

- Junior champion yearling heifer shown by Emily Shuping of Morganton (Burke)

- Reserve champion heifer calf shown by Schyler Crocker of Selma (Johnston)

- Senior reserve champion yearling heifer shown by Lydia Crocker of Selma (Johnston)

- Junior reserve champion yearling heifer shown by Chad Holloman of Selma (Johnston)

## Open Beef Cattle – Charolais

- Grand champion bull and junior champion bull calf shown by Alexis Gowing of Ernul (Craven)

(See Results, pg. 5)

## Horse Events

*Southeastern Ag Center, Lumberton 910-618-5699*

- Dec. 2 ..... Horse and Tack Sale. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-390-0878.
- Dec. 6-8 ..... Cowboy Mounted Shooting. Contact Pamela Lohery, 540-570-8785.
- Dec. 14 ..... Central Carolina IEA, Western Reining and Ranch Show. Contact Diane McAlinn, 919-609-8139.
- Dec. 26-30 ..... Tobacco Road Cutting Show. Contact Mike Farr, 919-497-7942.

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

- Dec. 6-8 ..... Annual Holiday Classic Open Horse Show. Contact Richard Isley, 336-908-3302.
- Dec. 13 & 14 ... Carousel Farms Bulls, Bells & Barrels. Contact Jeff Mullen, 919-796-8375.
- Dec. 28-31 ..... Raleigh Indoor Holiday Classic. Contact Joan Petty, 919-669-9877.

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

## December AgroTips

*Use agronomic testing to optimize fertilization of greenhouse crops.*

Several laboratory tests are available from the NCDA&CS Plant/Waste/Solution/Media Section to help growers of greenhouse crops keep abreast of potential nutritional problems.

**Soilless media**—Sample media prior to filling pots or bags to verify that pH and soluble salts are within the desired ranges.

**Solution analysis**—Submit samples of source water to determine if there are any problems that need to be corrected, such as high alkalinity or high mineral concentrations. Submit samples of nutrient solutions to verify that the injector is working properly and that plants are receiving the targeted nutrient concentrations.

**Plant tissue analysis**—Submit samples every couple of weeks to monitor nutrient concentrations in the crop. This test predicts nutrient deficiencies or excesses before symptoms appear so growers can correct the problem quickly with as little reduction in yield as possible.

## Troxler

(Continued from pg. 1)



Curtis Smith (top, third from left) was named N.C. Farmer of the Year and John Norwood (bottom, left) was named Young N.C. Farmer of the Year.

on over 90 acres, including strawberries which his great, great-grandfather initially started producing. Other produce and products from his farm include pumpkins, blackberries, elderberry syrup, cider, jam and syrups.

Barnhardt's love of farming began in FFA and today, he and his wife Carrie and their two kids, Macie and Tucker, are first-generation farmers in Rowan County. They produce hatching eggs, market lambs and cut flowers, and are proof that it is still possible to start a successful farm from scratch. Congratulations to the first class of winners and finalists!

# State Fair Jr. Livestock Sale of Champions draws \$213,000

The N.C. State Fair Junior Livestock Sale of Champions raised \$213,000 in bids for the top steers, barrows, lambs, goats and turkeys in the sale on Oct. 27.

“Congratulations to all the winners and participants in the N.C. State Fair junior livestock shows,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “This money will help many young people continue their education. We couldn’t do it without the support of all the bidders.”

The grand champion junior market steer was shown by Annah Claire Sullivan of Lucama (Wilson), with a winning bid of \$23,000 placed by N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance, Farm Credit Associations of N.C. and Powers Great American Midways, with additional support by the Blinson Family.

The Got to Be NC grand champion junior market steer was shown by Michelle Hartman of Walnut Cove (Stokes). The top bid of \$18,500 came from N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance, N.C. Egg

Association, Apple Brandy Prime Cuts and Lickskillet Cattle Company, with additional support from Steve Carroll.

Hartman also showed the reserve grand champion junior market steer, which earned a winning bid \$15,000 from N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance.

The grand champion junior market barrow was shown by Billie Faith Fulcher of Godwin (Cumberland), with a winning bid of \$22,000 from Prestage Farms, Agri Supply Company, N.C. Pork Council and Smithfield Foods, with additional support from Stallings and Stallings Farms and John E. Ferebee Farming Inc.

Riley Balance of Lucama (Wilson) showed the Got to Be NC grand champion junior market barrow and the reserve grand champion junior market barrow. For the double-category winner, N.C. Pork Council, Smithfield Foods, Hog Slat Inc., Agri Supply Company, Prestage Farms and N.C. Soybean Producers Association placed the winning bid of \$28,000, with additional support from HuneyCutt Ventures.

Lydia Wilson of China Grove (Rowan) showed the grand champion junior market lamb and Got to Be NC grand champion junior market lamb, which earned a winning bid of \$18,000 from Tractor Supply Company.

The reserve grand champion junior market lamb was shown by Sawyer Hemilright of Columbia (Tyrrell). The top bid of \$14,500 came from N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance, ATM Auction and Realty, and Agri Supply Company with additional support from New Lake Seed Company.

Zadock Jennings of Kenly (Johnston) showed the grand champion junior market meat goat. Tractor Supply Company, Iron Horse Auction Company and Chaudhry Halal Meats Company placed the winning bid of \$16,000, with additional support from Stallings and Stalling Farms and John E. Ferebee Farming Inc.

The Got to Be NC grand champion junior market meat goat was shown by Taylor Askew of Greenville (Pitt). The winning bid of \$17,500 came from Farm Credit Associations of N.C., N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance

and Agri Supply Company, with additional support from Dismal Swamp Boers, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Prime Properties and realtor Kristy Askew.

The reserve grand champion junior market meat goat was shown by Kennedy Lee of Smithfield (Johnston). The winning bid of \$15,000 was placed by N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance and Farm Credit Associations of N.C.

Annie Grace Manning of Nashville (Nash) showed the grand champion market turkey. The winning bid of \$8,500 came from Talley Farms, Farm Credit Associations of N.C., N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance and the N.C. Soybean Producers Association, with additional support from Helena Chemical Company and Nutrien Ag Solutions.

Valerie Poole of Zebulon (Wake) showed the reserve grand champion market turkey. The N.C. Soybean Producers Association and N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance placed the winning bid of \$5,500.

Reagan Tompkins of Ennice

(Allegheny) showed the Supreme Dairy Female. The winning bid of \$11,500 received a Taste of N.C. Dairy Basket. Buyers were N.C. Farm Bureau Insurance, Farm Credit Association of N.C., Maola Milk, the N.C. Soybean Producers Association, N.C. Veterinary Medical Association and Bottomley Farms, with additional support from Big Money Farms, Bryson Baldwin, Nancy Keith, Weston and Shannon McCorkle, Cowbuyer.com, Allegheny Cattleman’s Association, N.C. Holstein Association and Jason and Heather Wright.

Grand and reserve grand champion winners receive money from the sale, with a portion going into a scholarship fund that participating youth are eligible to apply for higher education. Because of strong support of the 2023 sale, 31 scholarships valued at \$2,000 each were awarded in the spring of this year.

(Photos courtesy of Square One Agri Marketing.)



Grand Champion Junior Market Steer Shown by Annah Claire Sullivan



Got to Be NC Grand Champion Junior Market Steer Shown by Michelle Hartman



Supreme Junior Dairy Female Shown by Reagan Tompkins



Grand Champion Junior Market Barrow Shown by Billie Faith Fulcher



Got to Be NC Grand Champion Junior Market Barrow Shown by Riley Balance



Grand Champion Market Turkey Shown by Annie Grace Manning



Grand Champion & Got to Be NC Grand Champion Junior Market Lamb Shown by Lydia Wilson



Got to Be NC Grand Champion Junior Market Meat Goat Shown by Taylor Askew



Grand Champion Junior Market Meat Goat Shown by Zadock Jennings

## Results

(Continued from pg. 3)

- Grand champion female and junior champion female calf shown by Marcie Harward of Richfield (Stanly)

- Senior champion bull calf and reserve grand champion bull shown by Pd Farms of Elkin (Surry)

- Senior champion female shown by Cayte Mitchell of Hiddenite (Alexander)

- Reserve grand champion female and junior reserve champion female calf shown by Hope Latta of Zebulon (Franklin)

### Open Beef Cattle – Gelbvieh

- Grand champion bull, senior champion bull calf and junior champion heifer calf, and reserve senior champion female shown by NCSU Carroll Joyner Beef Education of Raleigh (Wake)

- Grand champion female, reserve grand champion female, senior champion female, junior champion female, senior champion heifer calf, reserve senior champion heifer calf and reserve junior champion heifer calf shown by Molly Anderson of Marion (McDowell)

### Open Beef Cattle – Hereford

- Grand champion bull and champion bull calf shown by Wood Angus Farm of Willow Springs (Johnston)

- Grand champion heifer, champion heifer calf, champion yearling heifer and reserve intermediate champion heifer shown by Jordan Mitchem of Vale (Lincoln)

- Grand champion cow/calf shown by Charles Wyatt McCoy of Cove City (Craven)

- Champion yearling bull, reserve grand champion bull, reserve champion yearling heifer, reserve champion bull calf shown by Pd Farms of Elkin (Surry)

- Intermediate champion heifer and reserve grand champion heifer shown by Sedona Sifford of Goldvein, Va.

- Junior champion bull calf, junior champion heifer calf, reserve champion heifer calf, reserve champion cow/calf and reserve junior champion heifer calf shown by Courtney Eudy of Harrisburg (Cabarrus)

- Reserve champion yearling bull shown by Heather Styers of Catawba (Catawba)

- Reserve junior champion bull calf shown by Daisy Brown of Smithfield (Johnston)

### Open Beef Cattle – Limousin

- Grand champion bull, grand champion female, reserve grand champion female, champion heifer calf, reserve champion heifer calf and champion bull calf shown by Shane Kendall of Magnolia (Duplin)

- Senior champion female shown by Massey Cassell of Teachey (Duplin)

### Open Beef Cattle – Miniature Hereford

- Grand champion bull and champion bull calf shown by Kymberly Coffman of McGaheysville (Rockingham)

- Grand champion female and junior champion heifer calf shown by Gracie Campbell of Midland, Va.

- Grand champion cow/calf pair and reserve champion heifer calf shown by Frank Yantz of Mount Savage (Allegheny)

- Senior champion yearling heifer and reserve grand champion female shown by Eliana Garcia of Stedman (Cumberland)

### Open Beef Cattle – Percentage Simmental

- Grand champion bull, champion bull calf, senior champion heifer and reserve grand champion heifer shown by Charles Thomas of Winston-Salem (Davidson)

- Grand champion heifer and junior champion heifer shown by Rylea Suddreth of Catawba (Catawba)

- Champion heifer calf shown by Joines Cattle Co. of Blacksburg, Va.

- Reserve grand champion bull and reserve champion bull calf shown by Cayte Mitchell of Hiddenite (Alexander)

- Reserve champion heifer calf shown by

Alana McDaniel of Kings Mountain (Cleveland)

- Reserve senior champion heifer shown by Laithan Blankenship of Castalia (Franklin)

- Reserve junior champion heifer shown by Chad Holloman of Selma (Johnston)

### Open Beef Cattle – Red Angus

- Grand champion bull and intermediate champion shown by JK Red Angus of Aberdeen (Hoke)

- Grand champion female, grand champion Got to Be NC female and intermediate champion shown by Rex Howard of Lattimore (Cleveland)

- Junior champion and reserve grand champion female shown by Hannah Vanhoy of Catawba (Catawba)

- Reserve grand champion bull shown by Lauren Slate of King (Stokes)

- Reserve intermediate champion shown by Trey Mills of Spring Hope (Nash)

- Reserve junior champion shown by Grayson Blankenship of Castalia (Franklin)

### Open Beef Cattle – Simmental

- Grand champion bull and junior champion bull shown by Virginia Tech Beef Center of Blacksburg, Va.

- Grand champion heifer, champion bull calf, senior champion heifer, reserve grand champion bull and reserve champion heifer calf shown by Charles Thomas of Winston-Salem (Davidson)

- Champion heifer calf, junior champion heifer and reserve grand champion heifer shown by Joines Cattle Co. of Blacksburg, Va.

- Reserve champion bull calf shown by Cayte Mitchell of Hiddenite (Alexander)

- Reserve senior champion heifer shown by Nate Bowman of Germanton (Stokes)

- Reserve junior champion heifer shown by Montana Boatwright of Franklin (Macon)

### Open Beef Cattle – Santa Gertrudis

- Grand champion bull, reserve grand champion bull, grand champion female, reserve grand champion female, champion bull calf, reserve champion bull calf, champion heifer calf, reserve champion heifer calf, champion yearling bull, reserve champion yearling bull, champion yearling heifer, reserve champion yearling heifer and senior champion female shown by Alan Barlowe of Lenoir (Caldwell)

- Reserve senior champion female shown by Carlyle P. Sherrill of Concord (Cabarrus)

### Open Beef Cattle – Shorthorn

- Grand champion bull, champion bull calf, reserve grand champion female and reserve champion heifer calf shown by Caleb Davis of Zebulon (Franklin)

- Grand champion female, champion heifer calf and junior champion yearling shown by Ashlyn Houston of Claremont (Catawba)

- Grand champion cow/calf pair shown by Makayla Davis of Zebulon (Franklin)

- Senior champion yearling heifer shown by Rylea Suddreth of Catawba (Catawba)

- Reserve senior champion yearling heifer shown by Lauren Slate of King (Stokes)

- Reserve junior champion yearling shown by Emma Beasley of Youngsville (Franklin)

### Open Beef Cattle – Piedmontese

- Grand champion bull, grand champion female, champion heifer calf and senior champion bull shown by Kaitlin Strickland of Middlesex (Nash)

- Grand champion tenderlean female and champion tenderlean heifer calf shown by Ava Strickland of Middlesex (Nash)

- Grand champion cow/calf pair, champion bull calf and reserve grand champion bull shown by A.J. Strickland of Middlesex (Nash)

- Senior champion yearling heifer and reserve grand champion female shown by Marina Strickland of Middlesex (Nash)

- Junior champion bull shown by Chris Schlichtman of Beatrice, Neb.

- Junior champion yearling heifer shown by Dennis Hennerberg of Diller, Neb.

- Reserve junior champion yearling heifer



Youth shows were loaded with talented youngsters and good-looking animals.

shown by Josie Hennerberg of Diller, Neb.

- Reserve champion heifer calf shown by Timothy Barbour of Zebulon (Wake)

- Reserve senior champion yearling heifer shown by Reanna Pettaway of Pinetops (Edgecomb)

### Junior Feeder Calf – Individual Feeder Calf

- Grand champion overall and grand champion prospect shown by Peyton Taylor of Lenoir (Caldwell)

- Grand champion progress, reserve grand champion overall, Got to Be NC champion overall and Got to Be NC champion progress shown by Jackson Pipkin of Sims (Wilson)

- Reserve grand champion prospect shown by Taytum Mills of Spring Hope (Nash)

- Got to Be NC champion prospect shown by Makayla Davis of Zebulon (Franklin)

- Reserve grand champion progress shown by Nate Bowman of Germanton (Stokes)

### Junior Market Steer – British Breed Steers

- Grand champion shown by Taytum Mills of Spring Hope (Nash)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Erica Shutsky of Pinnacle (Stokes)

- Third overall shown by Avery Jones of Magnolia (Duplin)

### Junior Market Steer – Crossbred Market Steers

- Grand champion and third overall shown by Annah Sullivan of Lucama (Wilson)

- Got to Be NC champion and reserve grand champion shown by Michelle Hartman of Walnut Cove (Stokes)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Supreme

- Supreme grand champion shown by Jordan Mitchem of Vale (Lincoln)

- Supreme Got to Be NC champion and supreme champion bred and owned shown by Schyler Crocker of Selma (Johnston)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Shorthorn/Shorthorn Plus

- Grand champion shown by Ross Hinnant of Kenly (Wilson)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Stella Gash of Hendersonville (Henderson)

- Got to Be NC champion and bred and owned champion shown by Caleb Davis of Zebulon (Franklin)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Simmental

- Grand champion, Got to Be NC champion and bred and owned champion shown by Nate Bowman of Germanton (Stokes)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Santa Gertrudis/Star 5

- Grand champion and Got to Be NC champion shown by Mazie Bunn of Zebulon (Wake)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Rhett Perry of Zebulon (Wake)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Gelbvieh

- Grand champion, Got to Be NC champion and champion bred and owned shown by Molly Anderson of Marion (McDowell)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Hope Wakefield of Marion (McDowell)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Limousin

- Grand champion, Got to Be NC champion and bred and owned champion shown by Shane Kendall of Magnolia (Duplin)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Avery Jones of Magnolia (Duplin)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Percentage Simmental

- Grand champion shown by Hannah Vanhoy of Catawba (Catawba)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Kate Hinnant of Kenly (Johnston)

- Got to Be NC champion and bred and owned champion shown by Rylea Suddreth of Catawba (Catawba)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Charolais

- Grand champion shown by Colton Cox of Spruce Pine (Mitchell)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Commercial

- Grand champion shown by Peyton Taylor of Lenoir (Caldwell)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Michelle Hartman of Walnut Cove (Stokes)

- Got to Be NC champion shown by Shane Kendall of Magnolia (Duplin)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Angus

- Grand champion shown by Emma Vanhoy of Catawba (Catawba)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Peyton Taylor of Lenoir (Caldwell)

- Got to Be NC champion shown by Ava Wood of Willow Spring (Johnston)

- Champion bred and owned shown by Ava Wood of Willow Spring (Johnston)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Hereford

- Grand champion shown by Jordan Mitchem of Vale (Lincoln)

- Got to Be NC champion, bred and owned champion and reserve grand champion shown by Colton Cox of Spruce Pine (Mitchell)

### Junior Beef Heifer – Red Angus

- Grand champion, Got to Be NC champion and bred and owned champion shown by Rex Howard of Lattimore (Cleveland)

- Reserve grand champion shown by Grayson Blankenship of Castalia (Franklin)

### Junior Beef Heifer – All Other Breeds

- Grand champion shown by Anna Sullivan of Lucama (Wilson)

- Reserve grand champion, Got to Be NC champion and bred and owned champion shown by Schyler Crocker of Selma (Johnston).

# Troxler signals start of annual Christmas tree harvest

N.C. Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler and other dignitaries marked the start of the state's annual Christmas tree harvest with a ceremonial Christmas Tree lighting in late October at the Upper Mountain Research Station in Laurel Springs.

"As we gather to celebrate the start of the harvest season for Christmas trees, I want to call on North Carolinians to support our Christmas tree growers by buying a real Christmas tree this year," Troxler said. "Supporting Western NC farms and businesses, will help this area recover and ensure that these businesses can continue to thrive and contribute to the community."

The event was held at the Research Station's Tobacco Trust Fund Christmas Tree Seed Center, a soon-to-be completed facility that will help establish a North Carolina Fraser Fir Christmas tree seedling source for growers.

At the event, the Tobacco Trust Fund presented a check for more than \$577,000 to the research station to fund improved equipment for the seed center.



N.C. Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler speaks at the event.



The Tobacco Trust Fund presented a check to fund further improvements at the seed center.



The ceremonial Christmas tree.

## 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 September issue, we must receive it by noon on Aug. 1.



#### Bees, Supplies & Services For Sale

##### NOTICE

N.C. law requires a permit to sell honey bees in the state, with the following exceptions: sale of less than 10 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 to gather honey.

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

**Honeybees**, 5-frame nucs & splits, Italian & Carniolian, avail March through April 15, p/u Yadkin co, \$150 ea.; discounts for 100 or more. Tim Holt, Siloam 336-710-4904.

**New bee tops**, (7) avail, \$15 ea.; honey tank w/stand, LN, \$75; bottling bucket w/honey gate, new, \$17. Andy Brown, Rockwell 704-279-2791.



#### Equipment For Sale

**Farmall 140**, turning plow, disc, cults, torsion blade, carryall, sickle mowing machine, \$5,500. Stuart Matthews, Mt Airy 336-325-5239.

**King Cutter rotary cutter**, 5 ft., rated for 40hp, no leaks, no rust, sheltered when not in use, \$1,100. Bruce Gragg, Newton 828-465-3715.

**Bush Hog brand finish mower**, model ATH 720, 72 in., \$700 obo. David Christenbury, Harrisburg 919-633-0931.

#### FARM EQUIPMENT

**Ford 6610 tractor** w/Dunham loader, motor stuck, \$4,500. Bennett Bradley, Tarboro 252-230-0460.

**1977 Ford 7710 tractor** w/777 loader, inclds bucket, forks & spear, \$17,000. Graham Broadwell, Blanch 336-694-3249.

**Gill rollover box blade**, good edge, new rippers, \$350; Tarter 5' bush hog, GC, \$500. Jason Mecum, Walkertown 336-528-3566.

**NH 848 rnd baler** w/computer box, GC, \$3,000 obo. H.A. Stogner Jr., Norwood 704-438-1169, call or text.

**Single row mulch layer/fumigation rig**, 28" bed, 9" high, up to 60" rls, \$4,750; mulch lifter, retrofitted w/transplanter seats, w/3 sets puncher wheels, \$3,500. Ted Sherrod, Kenly 919-201-8779.

**1 set ag tires & wheels** for 4 Series compact utility tractor, from 50hp tractor, VGC, \$1,800. Call/text Craig Poole, Raleigh 919-801-3661.

**Krone 4-basket tedder**, \$7,500; IH 450 3-bottom plow, \$1,300; gravity wagon, \$2,000; 8 ft. scrape blade, \$900. Gerald Rayle, Pleasant Garden 336-382-3732.

**AC D-17 diesel**, ps, GC, \$3,950; Intl 464 diesel, ps, GC, \$4,950. Rodney Cheek, Graham 336-376-3754.

**Farm Hand feed mill**, \$1,000; Little Giant wooden grain wagon, \$300. Murray Cohen, Pittsboro 919-742-4433.

**Hay rake**, 4-wheel, fair cond, \$450. David Lomax, Denton 336-688-5313.

#### FARM EQUIPMENT

**Creep feeder**, 4-hole, GC, \$700; 3-bale hay wagon, GC, \$1,000. James Lowe, Siler City 336-622-2954.

**3-bottom trip plow**, \$550; 1-bottom plow for Super A, \$200; 9 ft. King harrow, 28-disc, \$1,050. Randy Davis, Elon 336-263-8163.

**Zaga 750 fert spreader**, \$700; (3) hay wagons, \$500 & up; (2) clamp on duals, 18.4x34, \$800/both. Roy Watts, Trinity 336-382-2744.

**8-wheel rake**, \$7,000; Case Intl hay cutter, 9 ft., \$6,000; hay rake, \$1,500; bale loader, \$500; JD hay conditioner, \$800; sq hay baler, \$6,000; other equip. Henry Currie, Ellerbe 910-334-0404.

**Hay spike**, 3 pt, GC, \$150; scoop pan, 3 pt, GC, \$200; (2) spring tooth harrows, GC, \$200. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.

**IH 510 grain drill**, 16 drops, floatation tires, \$2,800; IH 140 tractor, cults, fert attach., hopper, \$7,500; 2018 JD 5045, 2wd, 46hp, \$17,500. Michael Nardo, Jackson Springs 910-281-3522 or 992-1405.

**JD 8-bushel hopper**, dump from seat, fits X700 series lawn & garden tractor, used 2 wks, \$1,600. Don Whittington, Mt. Pleasant 704-792-5584.

**Long 445 tractor** w/4 attach., \$4,000 obo. James Smith, Salisbury 704-645-1450.

#### EQUIPMENT WANTED

**Fred Cain tiller**, 9-shank, 3 pt, \$675; 7 ft. Bush Hog harrow, \$2,150; hvy duty Rhino box blade, \$1,500. Edward Lewis, Gibsonville 336-516-2632.

**Pig feeder**, clean, some rust, 100 lbs. capacity, 2 feeder doors, used 1 summer, \$125. Gene George, Louisburg 919-939-4234.

**Metal brake**, 4 ft., \$100; hood for 8N, \$125; grill guard for 8N, \$25; other items. Joe Leatherman, Lincolnton 704-308-2639.



#### Equipment Wanted

**AC 333 no till planter/parts**; need rnd metal seed hopper units. Jack Simpson, Todd 704-242-0763.

**NH 271 sq baler**, for parts or running cond. Wayne Godfrey, Cherryville 704-435-1266.

**1-row corn picker**, pull type, in working shape. Tyler Dunn, Robbins 336-963-4018.

**AC pull-type # 40 combine**, any cond; Simplicity 648 lawn tractor. Reid Ledbetter, Olin 704-539-5353.

**Ford 7610 or 7810 tractor**, or NH. Larry Hales, Autryville 910-624-4147.

**Hay spear**, 3 pt. Ron Peters, Reidsville 336-280-6111.

**David Bradley walking tractor** w/reverse, running or not, or parts & pieces to put reverse on Bradley walking tractor. Randy McDonald, Ellerbe 910-652-3555 or 206-4169.



#### Farm Labor For Sale

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

**Energizer repair**, afw, zareba, tsc, ssc, parmak, \$20/hr. Bobby Nichols N. Wilkesboro. 336-927-2850.

**Lawn mower/tractor repair**, garden tillers, other sm eng & outdoor power equip, in Alexander & surrounding co; 45+ yrs. exp., can p/u & deliv, \$30-\$60/hr. William Munday Sr., Taylorsville 828-638-1521.



#### Farmland For Sale

**Land for sale must consist of at least 3 acres and be used for agricultural purposes. Advertisers must indicate use of land.**

**65 ac for lease** in Martin co, deer, turkey, mink, 50 wooded w/hunt paths; hunt insurance required, \$10/ac. William Modlin, Jamesville 252-792-7709.



#### Farmland Wanted

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

**Hay & Grain For Sale**

**Fescue**, at barn, \$55/bale; mixed grass, at barn, \$40/bale. B.R. Ferguson, Charlotte 704-591-2944.

**Orchard grass/fescue**, 1st & 2nd cutting, horse quality, no rain, 45-50 lbs., sq bales, \$6/bale; 4x5 rnd, \$50/bale; lot pricing avail. Marshall Ratliff, Reidsville 336-280-6615.

**Coastal Bermuda hay**, 4x4 rnd, horse quality, stored under shelter, \$40 & \$45/bale. Dan Lancaster, Pikeville 919-222-6853.

**Horse hay**, orchard/timothy mix; cow quality, multiple grades, all mixed grass, dry storage, deliv avail, sq bales, \$13; rnd bales, \$55-\$125. Jason Davis, Mills River 828-890-5316.

**Fescue/orchard grass**, spring cut, 4x5 rnd, stored in barn, \$30 ea. Larry York, Staley 336-824-2077.

**2024 fescue/mixed grass**, barn stored, fields fert & limed, 4x4 rnd, \$30 ea.; 10 or more, \$32 ea., cash only. Kent Lambeth, Winston Salem 336-209-8962.

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

**Bermuda hay**, rnd bales, around 800 lbs., good quality, sheltered, \$35 ea. David Smith, Fayetteville 910-850-8715, drsmith2221@gmail.com.

**Orchard grass/fescue**, 4x5 rls, horse quality, stored under shelter, no rain/weeds, \$50/rl; mixed grass, 4x5 rls, sheltered, no rain, \$40-\$45/rl; local deliv avail. Jay Hohn, Archdale 336-289-3686.

**Coastal hay**, horse quality, 4x5 rnd, \$50. Travis Lookabill, Wadesboro 704-690-0411.

**Fescue hay**, good quality, stored inside on pallets, 4x5 rnd, \$40/bale; sq, \$7/bale. Todd Brown, Ramseur 336-318-5131.

**Fescue hay**, 4x5, net wrapped, \$40/bale. Graham Broadwell, Blanch 336-694-3249.

**Bermuda hay**, horse quality, barn stored, clean, no weeds, rain, animal litter or preservatives, sq, \$8/bale; 4x5 rnd, \$80/bale, cash or Zelle only. Victoria Rehder, Lillington 910-964-0087, call/text.

**2024 Coastal Bermuda hay**, horse quality, 125 bales avail, \$8/bale. Gary White, Sanford 919-775-9769.

**'24 fescue**, horse quality, 4x5 rnd, \$50/bale; sm sq, \$7/bale; '23 fescue, sm sq, \$5/bale; '24 orchard grass, horse quality, sm sq, \$9/bale; 4x5 rnd, \$60/bale. Johnny Harrison, Salisbury 704-213-0857.

**Hay, 4x5 rnd**, fert, weed free, no rain, sheltered, cow quality, \$35/bale; horse quality, \$40/bale. Alice Davis, Salisbury 704-855-4930.

**HAY & GRAIN**

**Orchard grass hay**, no rain, sq bales, 40+lbs., around 700 avail, \$9/per bale. Kenneth Chilton, Pilot Mtn 336-374-2410 or 399-1973.

**2024 mixed hay**, no rain, min. purchase 25 bales, \$6/bale. Vernon Hill, Mt. Pleasant 980-621-5091.

**Horse quality hay**, deliv avail, \$45/bale. H.O. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.

**Fescue**, 4x5, sheltered, \$40/bale. David Lomax, Denton 336-688-5313

**Hay, 4x5 rnd**, stored inside, \$40/bale. Larry Hicks, Staley 336-708-0152.

**Fescue & orchard grass**, \$6/sq bale. Sylvia Reid, Welcome 336-731-4015.

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

**Attention Advertisers**

**The advertising deadline for the January issue is Dec. 2, and the deadline for the February issue is Jan. 2.**

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

**Fescue**, 4x5 rnd, horse quality, \$50/bale; cow quality, \$30/bale; sq bales, \$4/bale. Ronnie Brogden, Creedmoor 919-528-1767.

**Peanut hay**, rnd bales, net wrapped, can deliv 42 bales/load, in field, \$35 ea.; sheltered, \$40 ea. Larry Bullock, Greenville 252-883-4748.

**Horses & Supplies For Sale**

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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.

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**Western saddle**, TexTan AQHA Collection, 16" seat, GC, \$300. Lynn Scholz, Pilot Mtn 336-368-3050.

**Livestock For Sale**

**Kiko/Savanna cross** doelings & bucklings, dob 4/24; adult does, yearlings to 7 y/o; established, quality bloodlines, healthy, hardy, easy keepers, \$150-\$300. David Ward, Burlington 336-266-1457.

**LIVESTOCK**

**Fainting goats**, \$150 & up. Joan Culberson, Snow Camp 919-259-6139.

**Intact hog**, 50/50 Red Wattle-Duroc, 375-400 lbs., \$400. John Wilkinson, Maiden 704-380-5451.

**8 reg Angus** heifers, 1/2 sisters, same sire group, born 11/23/23 thru 1/9/24, vaccs, de-wormed; 1 Angus bull & 4 bulls to choose from, \$24,000. Steve McPherson, Snow Camp 919-444-5307.

**Santa Gertrudis cattle**, 6 m/o, \$1,500 & up; breeding bulls, \$2,000 & up; pairs, \$3,000 & up. Charles O'Bryant III, Reidsville 336-908-0276.

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

**ND goats**, bred for being great milkers, friendly pets; spring babies, \$125; yearlings, doe w/blue eyes, \$150; does, \$150. Karey Brindle, Mt. Pleasant 704-960-7342.

**Charolais bulls & heifers**, purebred, polled, gentle, reg sires, 7 mos & up, \$1,250 & up. Johnny Harrison, Salisbury 704-213-0857.

**Kune Kune piglets**, gilts & barrows, can be AKKPS reg, \$150-\$400; 18 m/o Kune Kunes also avail, \$400-\$650. Grant Sainsbury, Snow Camp 919-601-7844.

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

**Polled Hereford** heifer & bull, \$2.50/lb. Randy Davis, Elon 336-263-8163.

**Blk fainting buck**, full blood, 7 y/o, gentle, easy to handle, good breeder, \$200. Deck McCain, Nashville 252-452-5447.

**Poultry & Supplies For Sale**

**3 pairs Red Golden Pheasant**, 1 pair Swinhoe pheasant, \$75/pair; extra Red males, \$30. Posie Guthrie, Pfafftown 336-413-0038.

**California, Silver California**, Bluescales, Gambel's, 8 breeds of bobwhites; partridge, Philby, chukar, Hungarians, \$6 & 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.

**Bobwhite quail**, \$6 ea. Richard Hix, Olin 704-437-1574.

**POULTRY**

**Bourbon Red turkeys**, 6 m/o, \$100/pair; extra hens avail. Greg Shell, Hudson 828-850-1072.

**Poultry & Supplies Wanted**

**Poultry breeder house** to lease in Alexander or surrounding co, 400 ft. or larger, GC, ready to use; may consider partnership, prefer Mount Aire contract. William Munday Sr., Taylorsville 828-638-1521.

**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, lrg, healthy, Climax, Tifblue, Premier, Powderblue, Brightwell, \$10 ea. Michael Roberson, Trinity 336-862-3488.

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

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

**Potted scuppernong & muscadine vines**, healthy, 5-6 ft., fert & planting instr incld, \$25 ea. Bob Whitaker, Mocksville 336-469-4822, do not text.

**Evergreen trees**, Green Giants, Alberta Spruce, Emerald Green Arborvitae, Leyland Cypress, 22" to 59" high, ready for fall planting, \$12, \$16, \$21. David Gabriel, Elon 336-260-1298.

**NOTE: Sellers, please be aware of potential scam callers and fake checks. Stay vigilant and report any suspicious activity.**

**Supplies For Sale**

**Myers shallow well pump**, 1hp, w/regulator, EC, \$175; cast iron wash pot, 20 gal., EC, \$125. Jack Matthews, Charlotte 704-846-1903.

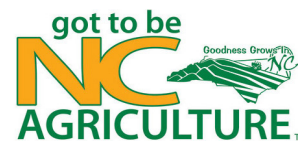
**Square D manual transfer switch**, commercial grade, 200 amp, \$350. Donnie Eatmon, Middlesex 919-614-7010.

**FARM SUPPLIES**

**Totes**, \$75 ea.; feed barrels w/rings, \$20 ea; trash barrels w/rings, \$10 ea.; metal burning barrels, \$10 ea.; discount for more than 10. Jeff Brittain, Hickory 828-327-4782.

**White oak lumber boards**, rough sawn, (45) 1" bds, 9' long, 5"-10" width, 270 +/- BF, dry stacked, \$6.50/BF. Kenneth Shoffner, Burlington 336-266-7675.

**Water pumps**, new & used, \$250; water barrel, GC, \$200. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.

**Support N.C. Farmers****Buy Local!****Trucks & Trailers For Sale**

**Horse trailer**, 16 ft., gooseneck, good tires, \$3,000 obo. H.A. Stogner Jr., Norwood 704-438-1169, call or text.

**2003 Dodge RAM 2500** flatbed truck, 4x4, 4-dr., diesel, deluxe pkg., 4 toolboxes, excel. running cond, 250,000 mi, recently rebuilt trans, \$18,000. Call/text Craig Poole, Raleigh 919-801-3661.

**2023 Calico stock trailer**, 16 ft., gooseneck, never used, \$9,650. H.O. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.

**All metal truck body**, 14 ft., metal sides, \$1,200. Jimmie Walker, Edward 252-670-6071.

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

**2001 4-Star 2-horse trailer**, slant load, gooseneck, used little, sheltered, EC, \$9,500. Dan Fritz, Bahama 919-740-5533.

**2024 Calico stock trailer**, 16 ft., bumper pull, cut gate, \$8,750. Y.D. Saul, Elon 336-213-6292.

**Trucks & Trailers Wanted**

**2-horse trailer**, bumper pull & ramp access preferred. Grant Sainsbury, Snow Camp 919-601-7844, call or text.

**To keep up with the latest on the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, check out our blog at [blog.ncagr.gov](http://blog.ncagr.gov), or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.**

# First-time competitor wins blue ribbon at N.C. State Fair

Smiles could be seen all around the 2024 N.C. State Fair, bringing this year's "Homegrown Happiness" theme to life. Some of the biggest smiles came from the many competition winners, who, amusingly enough, don't find out they secured a blue ribbon until they visit their entry at the fair.

"Shocked" was an understatement for Greensboro's Julia Hagler, a first-time N.C. State Fair competition entrant who walked away with her first-ever blue ribbon in the "Luv Ya!" fresh floral design category.

As if that wasn't impressive enough, she also earned a second-place title for another self-made flower arrangement in the "Clear Blue Yonder" category. Hagler entered a total of five competitions.

"I haven't been to the State Fair since I was very young," said Hagler. "One of my coworkers told me it would be a good idea to enter some floral competitions, and I also thought it'd be fun, but I had no idea the results would be so incredible!"

She collaborated with two nearby florists she makes flower deliveries to as an employee of River Twist Homestead, a 10-acre events farm and local flower business just outside historic Jamestown. Her winning entry contained flowers from River Twist in a vase from Grassy Knoll, a florist also in Jamestown.

Hagler was first introduced to flowers through her grandpa's passion



Julia Hagler is pictured with her blue-ribbon floral arrangement.

for gardening and attending flower shows. She quickly grew fascinated with native plants and growing things, later studying environmental science at UNC Greensboro for two years.

Additionally, Hagler works at the Farmers Curb Market in downtown Greensboro. She previously interned for their sustainability program and participated in a "Native Planting Day" where people brought in flowers, herbs and other native plants to cultivate beautiful gardens.

Hagler discovered River Twist Homestead after her dad and stepmom were married there. A few months later, River Twist was looking for extra help on the farm, and Hagler saw an opportunity to immerse herself fully in flowers. She's been there for six months now and even started an Instagram account to promote the

farm's flowers, @rivertwistflowerfarm.

"River Twist Homestead is a women-run farm," said Hagler. "The team includes myself, my boss Carolyn and our coworker Early. It's a small group, but it's been nice to learn a lot and harvest and deliver flowers with such wonderful people."

Entering N.C. State Fair flower competitions provided a fun and creative outlet for Hagler to showcase her talents. She recommends the experience to any up-and-coming flower arrangers, regardless of skill level.

"I enjoyed reading through the competition descriptions because there were so many to enter," said Hagler. "It was nice to talk to contestants and the people who worked there to make connections within the community."

Hagler's favorite flowers are dahlias, which she used in her blue-ribbon



River Twist Homestead flower farm is located near historic Jamestown.

bouquet, and snapdragons.

After she brought her bouquets to the State Fair on a Sunday, the anticipation of receiving the judges' results the following Wednesday was exciting but nerve-wracking for Hagler, as she wanted her flowers to remain in the best condition.

"Thankfully, I harvested everything fresh and early in the morning," she said. "I found out I won a week after dropping off my flowers, and the fact that they held up so well was something I was quite proud of."

Hagler is now looking forward to entering as many flower competitions as she can, including more N.C. State Fair competitions and ones at the Carolina Classic Fair in Winston-Salem. She wants to explore new categories beyond the five she entered this year, like the miniature arrangement categories.



Harvesting flowers from the farm.

"Now that I've experienced these competitions for the first time, I feel a lot more confident in my abilities," said Hagler. "Having a first and second-place title tied to River Twist is an amazing high to ride into preparing for our spring season and expanding the flower farm."

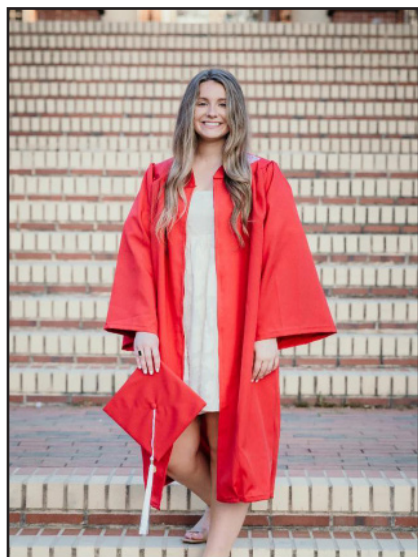
## #NextGenAg: Fouts is buzzing into the N.C. Ag industry

Honeybees are an incredibly important part of the agriculture industry because they pollinate all the foods and plants that we love. At a young age, Jessie Fouts was introduced to the agriculture industry through honeybees and learned to not only appreciate them, but also love working with and raising them.

Growing up in Cleveland, Jessie learned about gardening and beekeeping at the hands of her father and grandfather. "My pawpaw has had honeybee hives since I was a little girl, and my parents always had a garden, so I learned about agriculture at a very young age," she said. "However, it wasn't until I took my very first Animal Science class my freshman year of high school that I truly fell in love with all that agriculture has to offer." After her first day of Animal Science class, Jessie joined the FFA at West Rowan High School and her journey towards a life in agriculture began.

Between helping her grandfather and father manage over 20 apiaries and participating in many activities and competitions with the FFA, Jessie's freshman year of high school proved the perfect launching pad for her agricultural career. "During the fall semester, I decided that I wanted my own apiaries, so I worked with my dad and pawpaw to save up the money and buy two Italian honeybee nucs and hives," she said. "After the first honey harvest, I decided to turn the apiary into a business and start offering local honey to the community."

In 2018, Cline's Hives was born and has been steadily growing ever since. In fact, Jessie's grandfather recently hit the highest number of hives he has ever managed, which was over thirty! "We take pride in adopting proper beekeeping practices, producing high quality



Fouts is a graduate of N.C. State University.

honey, and educating the community about the value of beekeeping," she said. "We harvest our raw honey several times throughout the season, bottle it, and sell it to interested customers." In addition to helping with the company throughout high school, Jessie competed in many FFA competitions, including public speaking, and built partnerships across the industry that helped prepare her for a future career. Following her high school graduation, Jessie obtained her associates degree and transferred to N.C. State University as a first-generation college student!

In May of 2023, Jessie graduated from NCSU with a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business Management with minors in entomology, entrepreneurship and economics. "I loved both the atmosphere and the education that I experienced at N.C. State University. It truly helped prepare me for a career in agriculture," she said. "I also had the opportunity to intern with AgSouth Farm Credit while I was in college, which gave me lots of hands-on experiences to coincide with my education." Jessie not only brings that knowledge and professional experience with her to the industry, but also a passion for agriculture, strong networking and leadership skills, and a willingness to listen.

Although Jessie loves her honeybees and position at Cline's Hives, life has taken her in another direction for this season. In 2023, Jessie married the love of her life, Sam, who is actively serving our country. They are currently living in Richlands where Jessie is working as a Program Technician with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Lenoir County. "Even though I love my bees and I miss them dearly, I am truly enjoying the experience of working for the USDA and all the aspects of agriculture that this job is teaching me," she said. "Not only is the job fast paced and fun, but it is also helping me learn things about agriculture and the structure of the industry that will help me when I get back to Cline's Hives one day." In the future, Jessie does plan to



Fouts tending to her hives.

return to the nursery and take it over from her father, who is currently running the operation. "I would love to expand the farm one day and raise more bees," she said. "In addition, I would love to have a farm store on-site where people could purchase honey from the nursery and offer tours where they can learn about our process."

Jessie has a passion for many aspects of the agriculture industry, but her favorite part is working with the people found within it. "The stories of hard-working people who spend their lives in this industry are both astounding and amazing," she said. "I not only love to hear those stories, but also spend time networking with those individuals and building relationships with them. People in this industry are so supportive, welcoming and unique. They will give you advice and you never know how far that advice will take you. It's a blessing to witness as well as be a part of."

For anyone seeking a career in the agriculture industry, Jessie encourages you to build connections and develop relationships across the state. "If you haven't started networking with industry professionals, then get started today," she said. "This industry is all about connections. Build relationships with people not just for what they could do for you one day, but also for what you could do for them."