

North Carolina Tomato Growers Association MEMORANDUM

To: N.C. Tomato Growers Association Members & other Commercial Growers

From: Randall Patterson, President

Date: December 7, 2023

56th Annual Meeting of the N.C. Tomato Growers Association and "Winter Vegetable Conference & Trade Show" – February 21st – 22nd, 2024

You are invited to attend the 56th Annual Meeting of the N.C. Tomato Growers Association and "Winter Vegetable Conference" to be held *Wednesday and Thursday, February 21st – 22nd, 2024*. The conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Resort in Asheville, North Carolina. The conference program reflects growers' needs covering many aspects of production, business management and marketing. We hope that you take advantage of this opportunity to learn about current issues associated with vegetables and take time to visit with the representatives from agricultural companies and other businesses that support our industry. The program committee has put together an excellent educational program, with associated pesticide credits, which covers the vegetables grown in this area.

Registration and trade show will open at 8:30 am, Wednesday, February 21st. Regular educational sessions begin at 1:00 pm.

The activities on Thursday, February 22nd begin with registration and trade show opening at 8:30 am. Educational sessions will begin at 8:30 am. The conference will conclude with a sponsored banquet and awards luncheon.

This year we will be doing a 50/50 raffle for the benefit of our scholarship fund and we extend an invitation to you to participate in this raffle. NCTGA supports future generations of farmers with an endowment fund used to offer merit/need-based scholarships. Last year's contributions allowed us to award two \$1,000 scholarships to two deserving students in 2023.

In addition, we will be holding a silent auction for the benefit of our scholarship fund and extend an invitation to you to play a part in our silent auction for 2024.

Conference pre-registration is \$75.00/per person if pre-registered and there is a registration form enclosed. Registration will be \$90.00 after January 31st and at the door. For your convenience, online registration is available through a link located at http://go.ncsu.edu/2024_winter_vegetable. You may also register by mail if you prefer.

We encourage everyone to stay at the Crowne Plaza Resort where the N.C. Tomato Growers Association has reserved a block of rooms. Please tell them you are with our group to receive the group rate. The room rate for a room with two queen beds is \$99.00 per night plus applicable taxes and this room rate is valid through January 31, 2024. Please make your reservations directly with the Crowne Plaza Resort, Asheville, NC at 1-844-330-0296, or (828) 285-2603.

You may visit our event website through a link located at http://go.ncsu.edu/2024_winter_vegetable for the most recent program information. If you have any questions, please call Ellen Moss at (919) 414-7989.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Winter Vegetable Conference & Trade Show

Crowne Plaza Resort, Asheville, NC February 21st – 22nd, 2024, Wednesday & Thursday

Pre-Registration Fee: \$75.00 /per person before January 31st, 2024 (Registration will be \$90.00/per person after January 31st and at the door)

Simple and quick on-line registration is available through the event website at www.nctomatoes.com NAME______Tomato Farmer yes____no___ BUSINESS NAME_____ ADDRESS_____ CITY_____STATE____ZIP____ TELEPHONE _____E-Mail ____ Others for which I am enclosing \$75.00 each for registration fee: (\$90.00 if after 1/31/2024) E-Mail _____ ADDRESS ____ Tomato Grower Yes ____ No ____ **NAME** E-Mail _____ ADDRESS ____ Tomato Grower Yes ____ No ___ **NAME** NAME TOTAL AMOUNT \$____ PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NC Tomato Growers Association RETURN TO: Ellen Moss, Executive Secretary, NCTGA, 2491 St. Paul's Road, Hendersonville, NC 28792

NCTGA has partnered as an endorsing organization with First Benefits Insurance Mutual, Inc. (FBIM). As a member of NCTGA, you are eligible to purchase workers' compensation coverage through First Benefits Insurance Mutual, Inc.

If you don't have your workers' compensation through FBIM, you should! You may contact them toll-free at (888) 393-2667 for an agent near you, or at www.firstbenefits.org. If you are already insured with FBIM, mention your membership with NCTGA to be endorsed under our program!