

Agricultural REVIEW

Volume: 99 - No. 7

July 2024

Raleigh, N.C.

Upcoming Ag Review ad deadlines

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

- 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
- Dec. 1 for the January 2025 issue

Large animal vets eligible for grants

Large animal veterinarians in North Carolina are eligible to apply for up to \$25,000 in funds to help support their large animal practice. This \$125,000 fund was created by the N.C. General Assembly in 2023 and will be administered by the N.C. Ag Finance Authority.

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

“North Carolina, like many other states, has a deficit of large animal veterinarians. In many areas of the state, a single veterinarian may be the only option within 100 square miles,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “These funds can be used for repayment of educational loans related to the recipient’s veterinary degree, to purchase equipment or technology for use in the practice or any additional uses the advisory committee determines is appropriate to promote and develop large animal veterinarians to practice in the designated counties.”

The application period runs from June 17 through Aug. 16. Applications are available online at <https://fs4.formsite.com/QopHZM/4llcxkovj4/signup>. More information on the grant program can be found in frequently asked questions or by emailing largeanimalvetgrants@ncagr.gov.

The Large Animal Health Enhancement Advisory Committee will make the determination on grant dispersal based on eligible applications. This committee includes the N.C. Commissioner of Agriculture; the State Veterinarian of North



Carolina; the Executive Director of the North Carolina Agricultural Finance Authority; one designee from the Food Animal Scholars Program, North Carolina State University, College of Veterinary Medicine; two practicing large animal veterinarians; two representatives of the livestock industry; one designee by the Commissioner of Agriculture of North Carolina; and one designee by the State Veterinarian of North Carolina.

Emerald ash borer found in five new counties

The N.C. Forest Service has deemed five new counties positive for the emerald ash borer (EAB). Newly impacted counties are Anson, Bertie, Duplin, Martin and Sampson, bringing the number of counties in the state where the tree-killing insect has been detected to 76.

“Seasonal trapping for EAB typically runs from late March to early May. During that time, we were able to extract adult beetles from ash stands in Anson, Bertie, Duplin and Sampson counties,” said Jim Moeller,

forest health specialist with the N.C. Forest Service. “While we weren’t able to physically uncover the insect in Martin County, current signs and symptoms found in ash trees indicate EAB infestations are already underway. We’re going to consider Martin County positive based on these indicators so landowners will know what to expect and can plan accordingly.”

EAB is a metallic green beetle that bores into ash trees and feeds on tissues beneath the bark, ultimately killing the tree. Adult borers lay eggs on the bark

of ash trees. When the eggs hatch, the larvae bore into the bark and feed on tissues of the tree. This disrupts the movement of nutrients and water within the tree, causing the tree’s slow death typically in three to five years.

The signs and symptoms of an EAB infestation include thinning and dying crowns; increased woodpecker activity that causes the tree to look like it is losing patches of bark; small, 1/8-inch D-shaped exit holes where adult beetles emerged from the trees; galleries on the inside of the bark; cream-colored

larvae; and epicormic sprouting or sprouting from the main stem of the tree. Host plants include all native ash trees and native white fringetree. The Chinese white fringetree, often planted for ornamental purposes, is believed to be resistant.

Adult EAB beetles are about a half-inch long and 1/8-inch wide. Under their wing covers, their bodies are a metallic purple-red color. In North Carolina, the adult EAB is typically active from late spring to early summer, likely April through

(See Emerald ash borer, pg. 2)

From the tractor

by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler



Commissioner Troxler

Like a lot of farmers, I have been paying especially close attention to the N.C. Drought Monitor and weather forecasts as the temperatures have climbed and rainfall has become more limited. And, like many people, I have been praying for rain because we desperately need some across most areas of the state.

As of June 18, the N.C. Drought Management Advisory Council

listed 67 counties as abnormally dry, including pretty much all of Eastern North Carolina and a two-to-three-county-wide path along the Virginia border from the coast to the Northern mountains around Boone.

I am hearing from a lot of farmers about the corn crop in particular, and that they are likely looking at the potential for significant losses for corn.

The latest crop condition statistics published on July 24 by the National Agricultural Statistics Service confirms what I am hearing, with 17% of corn being described as in very poor condition, 38% in poor condition and 21% in fair condition. Only 23% was reported as in good condition.

Every farmer knows a lot can change in a week. Just the week prior, 10% and 13% of corn was listed as being in very poor and poor condition. And 25% was described as fair, with 49% listed as good.

Map depicts current drought conditions as of June 18, 2024.



The Crops and Condition Report also is showing the drought’s effect on other crops, too. Cotton, hay, pastures, peanuts, sorghum, soybeans, sweet potatoes and flue cured tobacco also posted a greater percentage of crops being in the very poor to fair range than in the good range.

We still have a lot more season to go and I pray we get some well-timed rain to help these crops be productive.

When our farmers hurt, we all hurt because their hard work feeds us all. Please keep our farmers in your prayers and support local growers by buying local wherever you can. Farmers markets, roadside stands and retail stores are offering lots of local produce and proteins. Look for the Got to Be NC logo where you shop. I’ll keep readers updated as the growing season goes on.

Agricultural Review

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

Andrea E. Ashby Editor & Mng. Editor
Jackie Bullock.....Ads & Circulation Mgr.
Heather Overton..... Staff Writer
Brandon Herring Staff Writer
Vacant..... Staff Writer
Taylor Parrish.....Social Media

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

POSTMASTER: Send address changes and classified advertising to AGRICULTURAL REVIEW, 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001.

AGRICULTURAL REVIEW is printed in interest of the farmers of the State and is sent free to residents upon request.

PHONE: 919-707-3001

Steve Troxler
Commissioner

DIVISIONS

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

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

To keep up with the latest on the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, check out our blog at www.ncagr.gov/blog, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter or @gottoBeNC on Instagram.

NCFS popular seedling sale begins July 1

The N.C. Forest Service will begin accepting orders Monday, July 1, for its annual tree seedling sale. With an average annual production of 16 million seedlings, the NCFS Nursery Program produces enough native and genetically improved tree seedlings to plant roughly 30,000 acres of land, equivalent to nearly 23,000 football fields, each year.

“Having healthy trees and forests provides many benefits to our state, including helping to clean our air and water and sequestering carbon,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “I encourage residents to take advantage of the high quality trees produced through the North Carolina Forest Service nursery program. Seedlings go quick so you’ll want to purchase them early.”

Quality conifer and hardwood seedlings are available for purchase in a range of quantities. Genetically improved stock is available for Fraser fir, loblolly, longleaf, shortleaf, Eastern white pine and Virginia pine. These seedlings offer better volume growth, tree form, disease resistance, straightness, and other characteristics needed to produce beautiful Christmas trees, healthy woodlands and quality forest products. Customers interested in knowing more about specific tree species and available inventory can speak with NCFS Nursery staff, as well as reference the ordering website or seedling catalogs.

How can you order tree seedlings from the NCFS Nursery Program?

Tree seedlings can be ordered from



N.C. Forest Service seedling sale begin July 1. Buy early.

the online seedling store at www.buynctrees.com.

Tree seedlings can also be ordered by phone at 1-888-NCTREES (1-888-628-7337) or 919-731-7988.

Tree seedlings can be ordered using the order form in our FY24-25 Nursery Seedling Catalog. Complete the form and mail to Seedling Coordinator, 762 Claridge Nursery Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530.

A user-friendly online catalog will soon be available at <https://www.ncforests.gov/nursery/NurseryandTreeImprovement.htm>. Seedling catalogs will also be available at local NCFS offices beginning in July. Within the catalog, landowners can find information about the types of tree species, quantities and cost to order. Each species description includes information about ideal planting locations and whether a species is typically used to benefit

wildlife, restore forest habitats or as marketable timber.

Accepted methods of payment are check, money order, Mastercard and Visa.

Most containerized seedlings are available and used October through March while most bare root seedlings are available and used January through March. Seedling orders can be shipped to one of 13 distribution centers statewide for a small fee or via UPS for a charge. Seedling orders are also available for pickup from the NCFS Claridge Nursery in Goldsboro or the Linville River Nursery near Crossnore.

For information on planting trees, customers are encouraged to contact their local NCFS county ranger. Contact information for NCFS county office and nursery locations is available at www.ncforests.gov/contacts.

Young artists’ work picked for Farm to School calendar

Thirteen budding artists were recently chosen as winners in the annual Farm to School Calendar Contest, sponsored by the North Carolina Grange.

Each month depicts the art of a student and represents a different commodity. The calendar also includes daily facts about agriculture, giving students an understanding of agriculture’s role in food production.

“The Farm to School Calendar contest is a pretty special project. This is the 13th year for the contest and it is extremely popular with students and teachers, drawing over 3,600 entries from 56 counties,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “As I look at all the winning artwork, I can honestly say you have done a great job of capturing the diversity of agriculture in this state.”

Prizes for student winners from kindergarten through fifth grade include gift cards from the N.C. Farm to School Cooperative and the School Nutrition Association of North Carolina. They were awarded at the Got to Be N.C. Festival in Raleigh.

Winning entrants are:

Nicholas Ortega, a fifth grader at Sardis Elementary in Union County; Teacher Hali Griffith;

Blakely Hanlon, a first grader at Lake Lure Classical Academy in Rutherford County; Teacher Allyse Searcy;

Sophia Gunn, a second grader at Chicod Elementary in Pitt County;

Teacher Kathryn Bello;

Joana Han, a kindergartener at Elon Park Elementary in Mecklenburg County; Teacher Karissa McLaughlin;

Elijah Hur, a third grader at Holly Grove Elementary in Wake County; Teacher Courtney Przybowski;

Carly Bores, a fifth grader at Olde Providence Elementary in Mecklenburg County; Teacher Amanda Allen;

Lillian Austin, a fifth grader at Lindley Elementary in Guilford County; Teacher Beverly Clary;

Jack Renfrow, a third grader at Rea Farms STEAM Academy in Mecklenburg County; Teacher Courtney Riley;

Zayden Hemingway, a third grader at Jessie Mae Monroe Elementary in Brunswick County; Teacher Theresa Reiter;

Victoria Swift, a fourth grader at Coltrane-Webb STEM Elementary in Cabarrus County; Teacher Alyssa Douglas;

Caroline Moon, a fifth grader at Vance Charter School in Vance County; Teacher Katherine McDorman;

Ava Lamar, a fifth grader at Highcroft Elementary in Wake County; Teacher Dawn McCormick-Dahm;

Alison O’Kelley, a fifth grader at Dr. Hubert Eaton Sr. Elementary in New Hanover County; Teacher Sarah Parson.

For 27 years, the N.C. Farm to School Program has helped place products from North Carolina farms into the state’s school cafeterias. This year, the



Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler, dark shirt, and N.C. Grange President Jimmy Gentry, white shirt, present awards to winners in the annual Farm to School Calendar Contest. Pictured below is the July 2024 winner.

project set a new record with farmers supplying over \$3.6 million worth of food products to schools across the state. This program is a collaboration of the Food Distribution and Marketing divisions in the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

The North Carolina Grange ensures that students receive calendars free of charge. The calendars will be available through the School Nutrition Program. If needed, more copies can be obtained through NCDA&CS while supplies last. www.ncfarmtoschool.com provides a printable calendar.



FFA involvement leads to lifelong love of ag

The bond of siblings is enough to shift the dynamic of an entire family, or at least it was for Susannah “Suzy” Piatek and her family. Growing up with four siblings involved in agriculture, Suzy followed in their footsteps from childhood to FFA and now through high school. With eyes set on a future in Ag Mechanics, Suzy is well on her way to becoming one of our industry’s future leaders.

As a child, Suzy remembers many afternoons spent watching her oldest brother tend chickens in their backyard in Johnston County.

“The day he brought home chickens I was immediately fascinated by them,” she said. “I would watch my brother care for them and harvest eggs until I decided that I needed chickens of my own.”

Although their parents were not involved with agriculture, all five of the Piatek siblings grew up in FFA and were immersed in agriculture at some point in their lives. In fact, Suzy joined FFA her freshman year of high school because she had seen and heard about all the wonderful things that it did for her siblings.

“Watching my siblings come up in FFA plus tending chickens in the backyard really sparked my interest in agriculture as a career,” she said.

In middle school, Suzy got her first chicken named Sandy and eventually two more named Cruella and Reba.

“I have learned a lot from tending these animals and I would love to one day learn more about livestock by raising and caring for them,” she said. “Thankfully, we have had a lot of experience in FFA working with animals and learning more about the livestock side of the industry. I find it all very fascinating and would love to become more involved in future years.”

Suzy joined FFA her freshman year of high school and dove headfirst into N.C. agriculture.



Susannah “Suzy” Piatek discovered a love of agriculture through high school FFA classes, especially for raising chickens and agricultural mechanics. Piatek plans to pursue a degree in Ag Education at N.C. State University.

“I’ve always wanted to be a teacher, but it took me a while to figure out what subject I wanted to teach,” Suzy said. “When I took my very first ag mechanics class in high school, I immediately fell in love and knew this is where I wanted to spend my career.”

Growing up more of a girly girl, Suzy was shocked that Ag Mechanics ended up having her heart, but she loves the skills and pride that it brings her.

“Ag mechanics doesn’t just teach you specialized tasks like welding, but it also teaches you a variety of life skills, like wiring and how to fix things,” she said. “I not only enjoy learning the concepts, but also building things that look good, and discovering how to use the tools and reap the rewards

of my hard work!”

As a rising senior at Cleveland High School, Suzy plans to continue taking all the agriculture classes that she can until she graduates. After graduation, she plans to attend N.C. State University to pursue a degree in Agriculture Education. Once completed, she dreams of becoming an Ag Mechanics teacher for her local high school, preferably Cleveland High School.

Suzy is also the acting Chapter Secretary for the FFA at Cleveland High School. She has been involved with many competitions through the years, including tools team and ag sales.

“I love FFA because you learn so much and are presented with many hands-on opportunities,” she

said. “They teach you what makes N.C. Agriculture – agriculture. You learn about the different processes of agriculture, how to build connections in the industry, various leadership skills and so much more.”

Suzy plans to finish out her Senior year in FFA and looks forward to continuing to work with them for many years to come. “I encourage everyone to get involved with FFA because of all the opportunities presented to them,” she said. “It’s an experience that changed my life and I know it can do the same for others.”

Her strong leadership skills, outgoing personality, knowledge of mechanics and people skills will take Suzy far in her ag mechanics career. In addition to becoming a teacher, Suzy plans to

keep raising chickens and eventually incorporate other livestock animals, like goats. “Livestock farming intrigues me and I love working with the animals,” she said. “I would love to expand my knowledge of it by adding additional animals to my property one day.”

For anyone seeking a career in the agriculture industry, Suzy recommends setting your nerves aside and jumping in. “Don’t be timid about joining the agriculture industry,” she said. “Agriculture is a fun industry to be a part of. You will find something that speaks to you, your interests, and your passions if you take every opportunity presented to you and work hard at all that you do.”

Clip and mail or fax your
Agricultural Review ad!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Ad copy: _____

Price or price range: _____

Mail to: *Agricultural Review*
1001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1001

Fax to: (919) 715-8493
or
(919) 733-5047

Web site: www.AgReview.org
*Ads must be typed or neatly printed

Bucolic Briefs

The popular 5-County Beef Tour is scheduled for July 16 in Wake County. The tour is scheduled begin at 7:30 – 8 a.m. with check-in at Wood Angus Farm, 755 Honeycutt Road, Willow Springs.

Two farm stops will look at Angus cattle, genetics for production and show animals, rotational grazing, regenerative agriculture, an agritourism ‘Event Venue Barn,’ and direct marketing of proteins to the public.

The third stop will be at the NCSU E. Carroll Joyner Educational Beef Unit off Lake Wheeler Road in Raleigh. Three types of shade structures for smaller operations will be showcased in addition to summer grazing management for cattle herds demonstrated. Marketing resources will also be discussed.

Snacks and a beef brisket lunch are included. A mini-trade show will also be held for participants to visit vendors along with door prizes given out.

The deadline to register is July 12, by contacting Martha Mobley, Agricultural Extension Agent, at martha_mobley@ncsu.edu; 919-496-3344 or your local Agricultural Extension Agent. An Eventbrite link will be set up for registration. Cost is \$10 per person.

Dinner in the Meadow, a fundraiser for the Leonard-Mobley Small Farm Fund, will be held Sept. 15, in Louisburg. The culinary experience raises money for non-profit organization started in 2014 to nurture and empower small farms across North Carolina.

The Leonard-Mobley Small Farm Grant, named for Marjorie Leonard and Jerry Stephen Mobley, recognizes and supports small farm owners in eastern and central North Carolina who demonstrate exceptional dedication and commitment to their craft. Applications for the \$5,000 grant are being accepted until July 1 from small farms located in one of the following 11 eligible counties: Franklin, Granville, Person, Durham, Vance, Warren, Wake, Nash, Halifax, Chatham and Wilson. Learn more about the Grant Fund at: <https://dinnerinthemeadow.org/about-us>
Apply online at: <https://dinnerinthemeadow.org/grant-application>

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).

Sixth generation of Century Farm carrying on tradition

Mtn. View is a sixth-generation farm located in the foothills of Hickory. Throughout their years as a Century Farm, they've grown strawberries and sweet potatoes and raised Hereford and Black Angus cows. Mtn. View became a full-time Japanese Wagyu farm just two years ago. Current owners and married couple, Laura and Chase Blalock, made the shift with an eye on the future.

After starting with just four full-blood Wagyu, the farm has grown exponentially and is currently home to 45 cows. Mtn. View will soon say hello to 11 new additions with calving season in full swing. Twelve more will join the herd in the fall. Numbers are only the surface level of Laura and Chase's success with the farm. The Blalocks are widely respected throughout the Wagyu industry and their Hickory community because of their dedication to the business and love of their roots.

Laura's great-great-grandparents purchased the farm in 1913 when her great-grandfather was born. He lived on the farm his entire life, building even stronger family roots and raising Laura's grandfather, who then brought Laura's mom up on Mtn. View. The cycle continued when Laura and Chase moved to the farm in 2015, officially taking over its operations. Laura and Chase have three sons: Easton (13), Parker (5) and Ford (2). The five of them make up the entire farm staff. In addition to the Wagyu, you'll also see their nine bird dogs roaming the fields.

A typical day at Mtn. View includes checking on the Wagyu, their water and special-rationed feed. "The trick to Wagyu is it is not a fast-paced growth," said Chase. "It's not like regular cattle where you want them to gain crazy amounts of weight every day." Harvesting begins for these Wagyu

after they've been on the farm for at least 30 months, nearly double the time frame for regular cattle.

Chase's favorite part of being in this industry is the data, such as tracking DNA, growth and Expected Progeny Differences (EPD). "Our cattle are dual registered with the American Wagyu Association and the Australian Wagyu Association," said Chase. "It's just amazing how much you can find out about these animals and what you want to do with their breeding plans in the future."

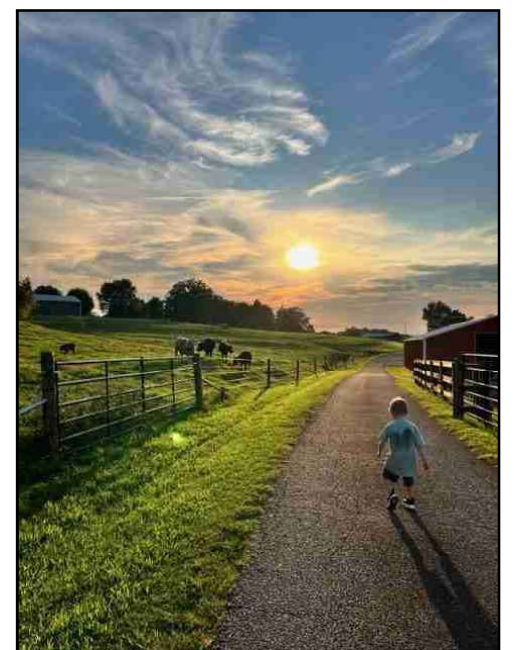
Every advancement in cutting-edge technology grows the efficiency of accessing this data. "It's at your fingertips, and the younger generation will be invested in it," continued Chase. "There are advancements like virtual mating, whereas at one point you had to depend on what somebody sat down and wrote about the bull."

Laura personally prefers the networking side of the business. "There's not as many of us out there as you think, especially in North Carolina," said Laura. "We're like a big family." Whether that's keeping up with each other or sharing advice, the Wagyu community is always looking to help and show their support.

Chase plays a crucial part in their networking as a land broker for National Land Realty. He has the advantage of cultivating deeper relationships with his clients, and fellow farmers, by engaging in intelligent conversations about what they can do with their farms. "It builds connection and resources," said Chase. "As a community, we're bringing awareness to agriculture through land sales and letting people know how to live this lifestyle."

The Blalocks resources don't stop there. They are tight knit with their county extension office and the Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and Ranchers program. Chase is also a member of the Catawba Valley Cattlemen's Association. "There were a lot of reasons why we went

Pictured at right are part of the Wagyu cattle herd at Mtn. View Farm in Hickory. Below left are the Laura and Chase Blalock and their children at the farm. Laura is the sixth generation of her family to operate the farm. Mtn. View is one of over 2,000 registered Century Farms in the state.



into Wagyu," Laura said. "Truly we just fell in love with the breed, the people, the beef—all of it!"

In the next few years, the Blalocks would love to explore agrotourism—the budding industry that it is. Their family farm resides in the heart of Mtn. View, and with that comes a twinkling fascination with the farm's efforts from the community. Friends and neighbors already love to ride by and look at its gorgeous landscape (and of course

the Wagyu). The Blalocks dream of opening a store and establishing a large e-commerce presence for their beef sales.

When asked about their farm's biggest accomplishments, the Blalocks wasted no time expressing their gratitude for their Century Farm recognition. Laura was incredibly close to her grandfather and had gone through a tough time when he passed. It's the most heartwarming honor to follow

in his footsteps.

Not only are Laura and Chase proud to have the responsibility of preserving the farm's heritage, but they're excited to continue the legacy for their sons. Their focused teamwork is the most instrumental contributor to Mtn. View's successes. Make sure to follow Mtn. View Wagyu on Facebook to stay in the loop of the Blalocks' journey as sixth-generation farm owners.

Emerald ash borer

(Continued from pg. 1)

June. EAB larvae may be found under the bark of the tree most of the year.

EAB has been found in more than 75% of North Carolina counties including all of Western North Carolina, most of the Piedmont and continues to track east. The entire state is under a quarantine for EAB which prohibits the movement of ash plant parts, the insect itself, ash nursery stock and all hardwood firewood into nonquarantined areas such as central Tennessee, most of Alabama and Florida.

The spread of invasive insects in the state is often due to human activity through the transportation of infested wood products such as firewood. It is strongly recommended that people burn local or treated firewood to reduce the spread of invasive pests.

The N.C. Forest Health Branch monitors the spread of invasive pests. People who suspect there is an infested tree in an area near them should contact their county ranger. Contact information can be found online at www.ncforestservice.gov/contacts.

A map showing emerald ash borer detections throughout North Carolina is available at www.ncforestservice.gov/forest_health/pdf/Map_EAB_NCTracking.pdf.

For more information about EAB, visit ncforestservice.gov and follow the links under the "Forest Health" section. To view current federal EAB quarantines, visit www.emeraldashborer.info.

To keep up with the latest NCDA&CS news, follow the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services on Facebook or on Twitter @NCAgriculture, or @gottobenc on Instagram

Horse Events

Southeastern Ag Center, Lumberton 910-618-5699

No events listed. Check with Ag Center.

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

July 9-14.....SERHA Main Event & North American Reining Stakes. Contact info@serha.org.
 July 26-28..... Little River Circuit. Contact Susan Daniels, 919-894-0600.
 Aug. 2-4..... Fallin' into Autumn Open Horse Show. Contact Travis Alford, 252-450-5438.
 Aug. 17 & 18... Aug. Just Horsin' Round Open Horse Show. Call 252-450-5438.
 Aug. 23-25..... NCQHA-D5 Endless Summer Horse Show. Contact Susan Daniels, 919-894-0600.
 Sept. 7 & 8..... NCHJA "C" Horse Show. Call 252-378-4474.
 Sept. 20-22 Sunnyside Open Horse Show. Call 252-378-4474.
 Oct. 3-6..... 9th annual Da Bomb Barrel Racing Finale. Call 910-639-6387.
 Oct. 11&12 East Carolina Black Rodeo & Trail Ride. Call 313-231-6775.

WNC Ag Center, Fletcher 828-687-1414

July 17-20..... Asheville Summer Fun Horse Show. Contact Liz Holmes, 919-672-3741.
 July 23-27..... Blue Ridge Classic Horse Show. Contact Liz Holmes, 919-672-3741.

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

July 10-14..... State 4-H Horse Show. Contact Lori Stroud, 919-515-5788.
 July 19-21..... Triangle Farms Summer Indoors "C." Contact Joan Petty, 919-669-9877.
 July 21 & 22 TWHA July Show. Contact Kim Moser, 919-219-0256.
 July 27 & 28 Raleigh Summer Dressage I & II. Contact Janine Malone, 919-269-7307.
 Aug. 5&6..... Finally Farm Horse Show Series. Contact Lesley Jenks, 919-280-8087.
 Aug. 5&6..... TWHA Youth Benefit Show. Contact Kim Moser, 919-201-3606.
 Aug. 16-19..... Wild Horse Adoption event. Contact Demetrius Sanders, 601-919-4742.
 Aug. 25-27..... Triangle Farms Summer Indoors II "C." Call 919-669-9877.
 Sept. 2-3 Labor of Love Dressage. Contact Janine Malone, 919-269-7307.
 Sept. 9&10..... UPHA Chapter 12 Academy Show. Contact Peyton Hamilton, 803-431-1991.
 Sept. 13-16 UPHA Chapter 12 NC State Championship Show. Contact Peyton Hamilton, 803-431-1991.
 Sept. 23&24..... TWHA Fall Fantastic. Contact Kim Moser, 919-201-3606.
 Sept. 23&24..... Finally Farm Horse Show Series. Contact Lesley Jenks, 919-280-8087.

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

That's a whole lotta cabbage!

This 22-pound whopper was grown by Po Hous Farm in Apex. The family owned and operated farm has been run by the Jenks family since the 1960s. Buying local helps support family farms like Po Hous Farm and ensures access to local food.



Don't forget to renew your Agricultural Review

Clip the renewal card on the front page of the June issue and mail it in, or go online to www.agreview.org and enter your subscription number. It is listed above your name and address.

Wildfire seasons

(Continued from pg. 8)

don't want that something to be is your gutters full of leaves, your foundation shrubbery or under your deck where you keep your dry firewood. N.C. Forest Service personnel are happy to come out and do an assessment of individual homes or communities to make recommendations on how you can become a fire-adapted community."

Sketo further explained that wildfire risk and suppression challenges increase in areas where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland, forest or vegetative fuels. These areas are known as the wildland urban interface (WUI), and North Carolina has more WUI acres than any other state in the country and the state's population growth increases this acreage each year. The interface creates great challenges for fire managers as nearly every fire or its associated smoke may impact homes, roads, farms or other development.

"We want folks to focus on how they can develop home-hardening techniques and the manipulation of natural vegetation and landscaping choices to negate losses to life and

property as that fire passes," added Sketo. "As North Carolina's population continues to increase, and as we have more people residing in the wildland urban interface, we'll continue to see an increase in wildfires."

Sketo talked about the importance of communities working together to identify solutions in preparation for the next one. Following the wildfire on Sauratown Mountain, and the implementation of suppression repair, many private landowners who reside on the mountain gathered at the Sauratown Fire Department in January 2024 for an informational meeting with the N.C. Forest Service and other local fire officials to recap the incident and look ahead. While the incident had concluded more than a month prior, N.C. Forest Service personnel who live and work in the communities in which they serve, continue to stand by long after the emergency has passed.

"A wildfire galvanizes a community and brings us closer to how American society has typically functioned in the past," added Sketo. "Neighbors working together on projects where their home ignition zones overlap, or donations to the local fire department to increase their readiness for the next call out,

follow-up presentations and wildfire risk assessments. I've seen all of these in the weeks since our presentation at Sauratown Fire Department. Many more partners are joining the effort to accomplish these projects."

Having responded to multiple wildfires on the mountain, Young has observed how partnerships between agencies and communities continue to strengthen.

"The community partnerships and agency relationships are even stronger since the wildfire on Sauratown Mountain," described Young. "All agencies involved work very closely together in Stokes County and get along exceptionally well. Numerous community members have expressed their praise and appreciation to all those involved and how well things were handled."

To learn more about fire safety and preventing wildfires and loss of property, refer to Fire Safety Outdoors. For information about creating defensible space and a fire-resistant landscape around your home and property, visit www.resistwildfire.nc.org. Contact information for NCFCS county rangers is available online at www.ncforestservice.gov/contacts.



To prevent accelerated water runoff and soil erosion, ground personnel are using grass seed and straw to stabilize the fire lines, especially in steep terrain and near and around intermittent and perennial streams.

July AgroTips

Mulch to prevent blossom-end rot of tomatoes.

If garden soils have adequate moisture and a pH in the range of 6.3 to 6.5, tomatoes are not likely to have blossom-end rot. Although this common problem is largely due to calcium deficiency, fertilization is not usually the answer. Any soil with a pH of 6.3 to 6.5 will contain enough calcium. However, during dry periods, plants cannot take up the calcium that is there. If your soil pH is good, you can optimize calcium availability by managing soil moisture. Make sure your plants get an inch of water each week, but be careful not to overwater! Apply 2 to 4 inches of mulch (pine bark, straw, leaf compost or other organic material) to help the soil retain moisture.

Collect cotton tissue samples.

Collect tissue samples (MRMLs + detached petioles) weekly beginning at early growth (at least by matchhead square or one week before first bloom) and continuing for three to four weeks after first bloom. Follow current NCDA&CS cotton tissue sampling protocol: www.ncagr.gov/agronomi/pdf/files/14cotton.pdf.

Collect other agronomic samples as needed.

Forages

Note: Forage samples for animal feed analysis should be sent to the NCDA&CS Food & Drug Protection Division. The plant tissue analysis service offered through the NCDA&CS Agronomic Division provides nutrient information relevant to crop fertilization not animal nutrition.

Home & Garden

Take soil samples now to prepare for fall planting projects such as vegetable gardens, tree and shrub installation and renovation/maintenance of cool-season lawns. Remember: 1) Do not wait until fall to submit soil samples for home landscape projects. There is a fee for soil tests in late fall and winter. 2) You can submit your soil sample information online through PALS all year!

Nursery Crops

Collect pour-thru leachate solution samples to monitor pH, electrical conductivity (EC) and nutrient levels.

Tobacco

Collect tissue samples five to 10 days before each anticipated leaf harvest to determine ripeness. An appropriate sample consists of 10 to 12 leaves from the appropriate stalk position.

NextGenAg

(Continued from pg. 8)

this farm. It's all I've ever known, and I will do everything in my power to see it grow and succeed in the years to come."

In addition to growing and raising crops and livestock on the farm, Luke and his family also host a variety of agritourism events throughout the year to help educate the community on the importance of agriculture in our state. Each spring they offer pick-your-own strawberries on the farm as well as pre-picked strawberries.

"We want people to come out and experience the farm for themselves, whether they want to pick their own berries or simply pick some up from the farm stand," he said. They also host an event throughout the year called "Sundays on the Farm" where they invite the community to come and enjoy food, games and more.

"We want people to see that we truly are a family operation and that everything we do here not only benefits us but their families as well," Luke said. "By visiting the farm, they gain hands-on experience with the industry, see how it functions, and learn about its importance to the world at large. Education is still a key part of this industry, and we seek to do our part in that through these events." Finally, the Friday before Christmas each year, Luke and his family

host a Christmas lunch on the farm for staff, partners, and other members of the community to show appreciation for all the hard work done throughout the year.

"All the goods that we use every day tie back into agriculture," Luke said. "Whether purchasing food at the grocery store or buying clothes at Target, agriculture plays a role in all of it." Although Luke loves every part of the industry, his favorite thing is running the farm equipment and watching a harvest come to fruition. "I love the pride that you feel when you see all your hard work pay off in the harvest," he said. "Plus, the cotton picker is my happy place, so I never complain about running it or the combine on the farm. It's a great way to enjoy the farm work and escape from reality."

For anyone seeking a career in the agriculture industry, Luke reminds you to work hard and do things the right way. "People take notice of how hard you work and the quality of your work," he said. "Don't try to find shortcuts to things but do them right to start with and it will pay off in the long run. Don't be afraid to work hard. It's always best to be honest and put your best foot forward."

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 August issue, we must receive it by noon on July 1.



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 move-

Beeswax, strained, 19 lbs., \$190; smoker, \$25; other items. Jim Robbins, Snow Camp 336-565-8499.

Local honey, pure, \$16/qt. Johnny Carwile, Lincolnton 704-748-3258.

Radial elect. honey extractor, 24-frame, stainless steel, used 1 season, \$800 firm. Clara Carroll, Youngsville 919-201-1017.

Radial extractor, 8-frame shallow or med., all stainless, 120v variable speed, ball bearings top & bottom, all welded, \$1,200. Ken Medlin, Hurdle Mills 336-364-1915.



Equipment For Sale

IH rear cult springs, pair of 2, \$150; IH rear cult bars, pair of 2, \$250; 6v generator off IH, \$100; 6v hvy duty battery, \$25. Thomas Locklear, Laurinburg 910-384-3819.

FARM EQUIPMENT

NH 479 haybine, 9 ft., rollers/roller bearings replaced, gear box needs repair, \$1,500; NH 718 silage chopper, 2-row corn head, grain head, needs repair, \$1,000. Glenn Sheets, Lexington 336-596-6617, call/text.

JD 953 barge grain wagon, grain door, rear hitch, hyd hoist, recently painted wooden sides, 12'Lx8'Wx4.5'H, \$3,150. George Lee, Clayton 919-369-3855.

GP 1300 no-till drill, 10 ft., bought new 2016, less than 100 planted ac, \$28,000. Evan Myers, Winston Salem 336-242-3911, emyers1@triad.rr.com.

JD 16-disc 3pt harrow, \$500; 500 lb. steel 3pt PTO spreader, \$600; 3pt drum spike aerator, \$500. John Fox, Browns Summit 336-656-3964.

JD riding mower, 25hp, 54 in. cut, 180 hrs., \$2,500. Jeff Brittain, Hickory 828-327-4782.

1994 Troy-Bilt horse tiller, 7hp Briggs cast iron 1-C eng, elect. start, selective trans, used little, EC, new tiller furrower, manual, \$1,650. Earl Hammock, Eden 336-635-1110.

Landscape rake, 6 ft., 360-degree swivel, 3 pt, \$550; CountyLine 500 fert/seed spreader, 3 pt, PTO, \$600; other items. Noble Hinshaw, Siler City 919-663-0477.

New 4 ft. pulverizer, \$1,230; Cat. box blade, 6 ft., \$995; hiller w/layoff plow, \$500; pull-type plugger, 4 ft., \$775; 6 ft. pulverizer, \$975. Chris Witherspoon, Valdese 828-381-6857.

Gear box for rotary cutter, will fit side winder 5x5, \$350. Larry Carson, Crumpler 336-620-4700.

FARM EQUIPMENT

1975 Ford 2000, gas, 6-spd, 3hp, 540 PTO, no ps, turf tires, doesn't smoke/use oil, \$3,500. Harold Wright, Shelby 864-838-4763.

Post hole digger, 9 in. auger, 3 pt, GC, \$425; Sitrex hay tedder, 2-basket, needs tires, GC, sheltered, \$900. George Boger, Mocksville 336-998-4795.

Hay spike, 3 pt, GC, \$150; scoop pan, 3 pt, GC, \$200. J. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.

Bucyrus Erie 22B cable crane, \$2,500; clam shell bucket, \$1,000; pole driver, \$1,000; \$4,000/all. Bruce Tilley, Mt. Airy 336-351-3337.

NH 853 rnd baler, makes 5x5 bales, \$1,000; 18 ft. hay elevator, \$500. Ronnie Brogden, Creedmoor 919-528-1767.

Long 350 tractor, good eng & tires, noisy rear end, \$1,500; AC UD-40 tractor, good eng & tires, lift problems, \$1,200. Jake Brewer, Clemmons 336-766-4100.

Ford 1-row corn picker, \$1,000. Jesse Gentry, Mocksville 336-998-3423.

Case IH 485 diesel tractor, w/2250 loader, GC, good tires, kept under shed, \$12,000. Robert Blake, Mt. Gilead 704-242-3028.

Trailer hitch adapter for a 100-140 Farmall fast hitch, LN, \$60. Roger Drum, Statesville 704-880-7006.

Implements for sm tractor w/3 pt hitch; 2-bottom plow, cult, 6 ft. doub disc, GC, \$600; D8-H Cat dozer, straight tilt blade, everything works, \$25,000. Paul Price, Goldston 336-337-5334.

FARM EQUIPMENT

(2) IPT irrig pumps w/fittings & 2 in. filter, rated up to 130 GPM, GC, \$1,400; BCS BIO-80 chipper/shredder for BCS or Grillo walk-behind, EC, \$975. Ray Tuegel, King 336-994-2517.

Alum. elevators, \$1,200 & up; gravity boxes, \$1,500 & up; corn baggers, \$1,500 & up; 4-row uni-pickers, \$20,000 & up. Bobby Brannan, Sanford 919-770-1353.

Befco Hurricane H40-S60 flail mower, hammer knives, hyd offset, rear or front mount, CL/CCL rotation, new, mowed less than 5 ac, \$5,300. S. Darstein, Pfafftown 336-829-1265.

NH 477 haybine, working cond, 7 ft. cut, \$1,200. Joseph Greble, Richfield 704-433-1774.

1998 NH 3930 tractor, 4wd, no additional attach., GC, \$12,500. Ashley Hughes, Ash 910-398-0654.

MF 240, 46hp, 1,200 hrs.; Bush Hog brand 2426 QT loader, 5 ft. bucket, EC, LN, \$10,000. Buck Melton, Monroe 704-292-0497.

Kubota B6100E tractor, w/48 in. bush hog, \$4,000 obo. David Christenbury, Harrisburg 919-633-0931.

2020 JD 60D mower deck for JD 1025R sub-compact tractor, auto-connect, less than 60 hrs., w/load & go ramp, \$2,200. Lanie Wall, Mocksville 336-650-6939.

NH 256 hay rake, VGC, \$1,500. Lindsay Tapp, Efland 336-260-5415.

1-row seeder, hand-push type, 6 plates, \$30. Jim Robbins, Snow Camp 336-565-8499.

FARM EQUIPMENT

JD 6620 Titan II combine, 4wd, w/915 header, EC, \$17,000; Case Ecolo-Til 2500, EC, new, \$15,000. Fran Marshall, High Point 336-457-0055, call or text.

1972 AC roto baler, new belts, \$1,600; 1964 Ferguson 50, \$4,200; 1955 Ford 740 row crop, restored, \$6,500. Fred Hamby, Pinnacle 336-325-2425.

MH Pony used eng parts, starter, flywheel, oil pan, etc., \$5-\$100. John Huskey, Hillsborough 919-644-0136.

NH 1069 bale wagon, very clean, sheltered, 460 gas eng, 5,280 hrs., 8-spd, \$20,000. R. G. Hammonds, Lumberton 910-734-2991.

Plugger aerator for riding mower, 48 in., flat-free tires, \$250; seeder spiker for riding mower, flat-free tires, \$170; implement wghts, 25/150 lbs., 2 in. hole, \$150. G. Stowe, Burlington 336-675-0466.

Equipment Wanted

Farmall B or BN tractor, prefer good shape. Thomas Payne, Marshall 828-284-2239, text only.

Pair JD rear wheel wghts for lrg disc wheels, M926T/AM904T; JD 60 child's pedal tractor, type 2, front/back gusset seat brackets, sq tab rear axles. Tommie Beeding, Winston Salem 336-945-3928.

Ford 309 corn planter plates; corn, beans, sorghum & filler plates; Ford 309 corn planters for parts. Charles Chamelin, Kernersville 336-769-4418.

EQUIPMENT WANTED

AC 333 no till planter/planter parts. Jack Simpson, Todd 704-242-0763.

4 used tires. (2) 5.00x15 & (2) 11.2x24; willing to travel to pick up if needed. Richard Moody, Hickory 828-493-9945.

Old wagon wheel, wood or metal, in decent shape. J. Johnson, Saxapahaw 336-214-4505 or 512-6682.

 **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.

Cattle artificial insemination, no farm too small, \$50-\$150. Keith Parson, Sanford 919-410-6046, Cowbreeder1022@outlook.com.

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

 **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, paved rd frontage, co water, presently ag crops & forestry; perfect for mini farm, homestead, hunting, \$160,000. Henda Price, Greensboro 336-404-0594.

 **Hay & Grain For Sale**

2024 fescue, 4x5 rnd, approx. 650 lbs., \$50/bale; 2023 fescue, \$5/sq bale; rnd, \$35/bale. Ronnie Brogden, Creedmoor 919-528-1767.

Coastal Bermuda hay, 10/23 cut, horse quality, 75 bales avail, out of barn, \$5.50/bale; 2024 horse quality hay, out of field, will help load, \$8/bale. Gary White, Sanford 919-775-9769.

Orchard grass/fescue mix, 1st cutting, horse quality, 4x5 rnd, no weeds or rain, sheltered, local deliv avail, \$50/rl. Jay Hohn, Archdale 336-289-3686.

Peanut hay, 4x5 rnd, net wrapped, shelter kept, can deliv anywhere 42 bales/load, \$40/bale. Larry Bullock, Greenville 252-883-4748.

Orchard grass hay, 2024 cut, good quality, no rain, \$9/sq bale. Kenneth Chilton, Pilot Mtn 336-374-2410 or 399-1973.

2024 mixed grass hay, horse quality, no rain, min. purchase 20 bales, \$6/sq bale. Vernon Hill, Mt. Pleasant 980-621-5091.

Bermuda hay, top quality, sq bales, stored, clean, no weeds, rain, litter or preservatives, deliv avail, \$7.50 ea. cash or Zelle only. Victoria Rehder, Lillington 910-964-0087.

HAY & GRAIN

1st cut hay, 2024 fescue, 4x5 rnd, \$60 ea.; sm sq bales, \$7 ea.; orchard grass, sm sq, \$9 ea.; orchard mix, 4x5 rnd, \$70 ea. Johnny Harrison, Salisbury 704-213-0857.

2024 fescue, sq bales, \$6.50 ea.; 4 ft. rnd, \$30/bale. WD Wood, Denton 919-302-0549.

Fescue hay, \$6 ea.; rnd bales, \$50 ea. T.C. Berrier, Lexington 336-764-1051.

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

Fescue hay, \$5/sq bale. Marvin Hill, Lexington 336-764-2244.

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

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

 **Horses & Supplies For Sale**

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

Pasture board horses, N. Orange co, off hwy 86, private/group pastures, high tensile wire, local trails or retirement horses, \$150/mo/horse. Richard Lockamy, Cedar Grove 919-619-5482.

 **Livestock For Sale**

Midsized Highland bull, naturally polled, dun colored, gentle disposition, curly haired, IMCBR reg #9265, DNA incld, chondro negative, dam is Bella of Cyrus Ridge, \$1,500. Skip Mabe, Asheboro 910-220-0928.

2 ND does, tri-colored, dob 4/24; 1 ND buck, blk & white, dob 5/24, \$150 ea. Donald Edge, Hope Mills 910-425-5335 or 988-5748.

Nubian/Boer cross kids, bucklings, \$100; doelings, \$125. Kyle Almond, New London 704-463-5988.

Reg NZ Kiko bucks, \$400 & up; (5) Kiko cross doelings, \$250 & up; (4) proven, cross-bred nannies, 3 y/o, \$250 & up. David Morton, Norwood 704-474-9369 or 467-5616.

Reg Katahdin ewes & rams, \$300-\$400. Mark Mills, Peachland 704-254-5724.

Reg polled Hereford heifers, \$1,500-\$2,000. Robert Blake, Mt. Gilead 704-242-3028.

10 reg Angus heifers, dob fall 2023, weaned & vaccs, bred for calving ease & efficiency, \$2,000. Steve McPherson, Snow Camp 336-263-6042.

LIVESTOCK

ND goats, rotational pasture raised, all ages, kids, adults, blue eyes/great colors, \$125-\$200. Rob Welborn, Trinity 336-688-0369.

Santa Gertrudis cattle, calves, \$900 & up; replacement cows, \$1,800 & up; young bulls, \$1,200 & up. Charles O'Bryant III, Reidsville 336-908-0276.

St. Croix rams reg, dob 12/22 & 05/23, grass fed & no worming, \$350 ea. R. Harrell, Salisbury 704-224-9969.

San Clemente Island goats, (4) doelings & (3) bucklings, CDT current, reg w/SCIGBA, DNA parent verification, \$400-\$450. Marguerite Strand, Spring Lake 910-584-5025.

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

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

Fainting buck, dob 12/21/23, brown & white, healthy, tame, \$100. Dodd Linker, Clemons 336-712-2484.

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

Boer goats, healthy, \$200-\$300. Heather Davis, Greensboro 336-420-7470.

 **Livestock Wanted**

Nubian buck for stud, to breed doe in Oct/Nov, un-reg is ok. Chelsea Thomas, Walnut Cove 336-817-1502, texts preferred.

Sm boar for breeding. Jerry Creech, Four Oaks 919-524-0382, call or text.

Small Animals For Sale

Baby rabbits, 6-10 w/o, assorted colors, \$10 ea. Walter Kyles, Woodleaf 704-278-9572.

 **Poultry & Supplies For Sale**

Red Gold & Lady Amherst pheasants, Ring Neck pheasants, 3 types of quail, \$75/pr. Jerry McGhinnis, Sugar Grove 336-317-3365.

California, Silver California, Bluescales, Gambel's, 8 varieties of bobwhites; partridge, Philby, chukar, Hungarians, \$6 & up. Jimmy Furr, Stanfield 704-888-0213.

(11) tunnel fan motors, 1 1/2 hp, \$35 ea.; (3) Little Giant #8 sump pumps, \$35 ea.; (12) winches, \$10 ea. Roy Brown, Wallace 910-271-1203.

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

1 y/o peafowl, (1) India blue male, (1) blk shoulder female, (2) India blue females; peacock chicks, 1 w/o, \$35 & up. Richard Simmons, Clarendon 910-640-7114.



Poultry & Supplies Wanted

American blk saddleback fantail & silver saddleback fantail. Larry Matthews, Warsaw 910-293-7840.

Dark Cornish bantams, w/pearl eyes, w/in 50 mi of High Point/Winston Salem. Joe Muse, High Point 336-869-7734.



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.

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.

Rabbiteye blueberry plants, 2 y/o, Irg, healthy, Climax, Tifblue, Premier, Powderblue, Brightwell, \$10 ea. Michael Roberson, Trinity 336-862-3488.

Clemson spineless okra, fresh, \$60/bu. Mitch Fields, Lumberton 910-740-4196.

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



Supplies For Sale

12 pcs PVC, 1 1/4 in. x 20 ft., schedule 40, \$8 ea. Roy Brown, Wallace 910-271-1203.

3-panel cement fence, approx. +/- 200 ft., \$3/ft. Tommy Sink, Lexington 336-787-5996.

Water totes, \$75; metal & plastic drums, \$10; burning barrels, \$10; feed barrels, \$20. Jeff Brittain, Hickory 828-327-4782.

Myers shallow well pump, 1hp, w/regulator, EC, \$175. Jack Matthews, Charlotte 704-846-1903.

Farm fuel tanks, \$250; parts washer, \$250; (2) alum. 12 ft. load ramps, \$900; snap-on toolboxes, \$800; Yale chain hoist, \$200. N. Lee, Advance 336-998-8922, nights.

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

NOS Rainbird, Optima & Water Whiz sprinkler heads & controller, 200+ avail, \$100. Duane Kirschenman, Winston-Salem 704-528-9369.

Old tobacco knife cutter, by Reading Hardware Co. VGC, \$100. Gary Williams, Granite Falls 828-493-2461.

FARM SUPPLIES

150 ft. of 4 ft. chain link fence, w/all hardware, \$500 obo; 120 ft. 3-rail vinyl fencing, w/rails, posts, caps, \$500 obo. Alice Davis, Salisbury 704-855-4930.



Supplies Wanted

Locust split rails. David Cunningham, Columbus 979-219-3032.



Trucks & Trailers For Sale

Steel livestock trailer, \$800. John Fox, Browns Summit 336-656-3964.

Theiman truck lift gate, 3,000 lbs., EC, \$2,000. Eddie Moretz, Deep Gap 828-963-0883.

4-wheel trailer, 13x6x6.5, 2-axle, tilt bed, GC, \$1,800. J. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.

Metal truck bed, 18 ft., \$1,000. Bruce Tilley, Mt. Airy 336-351-3337.

1995 Texas Bragg tandem axle flatbed trailer, 16 ft., \$2,400. Duane Kirschenman, Winston-Salem 704-528-9369.

Kaufman trailer, 20 ft., ramps, flatbed, dovetail 10,000 lb., extra tie-downs, 7-ton side crank jack, little use, GC, \$4,400 obo. David Simonson, Statesville 704-450-7335.

1973 Chevy C60, 14 ft. dump, \$3,000; 1978 C65 GMC, 12 ft. dump, 42 in. sides, \$3,500. John Hinson, Asheboro 336-302-0398.

1999 Ford F-350 Super Duty XLT, 2wd, dually, 7.3 diesel, 90,500 mi, VGC, horse hauler, \$20,000. Craig Cooper, Wake Forest 919-414-6923 or 414-5108.

Calico stock trailer, 16 ft., cut gate, bumper pull, \$8,995. Y.D. Saul, Elon 336-213-6292.

Alum. camper shell, white, clamps, for full size 8 ft. bed, fair cond., paint faded, \$300. David Pearsall, Snow Camp 336-376-9431.

2005 Chevy Colorado p/u, 4-dr., 192,000 mi, VGC, 1 owner, \$8,900. Wayne Jones, Walstonburg 252-236-6090.

Flatbed trailers, 45 & 48 ft., new bed, ideal for hauling rnd bales, \$5,000 ea. R.G. Hammonds, Lumberton 910-734-2991.

2023 Calico stock trailer, 16 ft., gooseneck, \$10,450. H.O. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.



Trucks & Trailers Wanted

WW2 Halftruck, complete or parts, made by White, Autocar, Diamond T or Intl; used postwar in ag & 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.

#NextGenAg: Luke West is pursuing his love of ag

For a multi-generational family farm, agriculture runs through the veins of each individual. Luke West grew up on a family farm in Northern Wayne County and remembers helping on the farm from the time that he could walk.

Today, he not only loves agriculture and being on the farm more than any other hobby or activity, but he also couldn't see himself doing anything else.

From the time he could stand up on his own, Luke remembers spending time in the turkey houses on the farm with his mom.

"The farm was my daycare growing up," he said. "I would go with my mom to the turkey houses every day and play in the shavings until I was old enough to help dad with the row crops."

Luke's family grows a variety of crops on the farm, including cotton, corn, soybeans, wheat, peanuts, sweet potatoes, strawberries, and tobacco. Although he loves working with every crop on the farm, Luke has a particular soft spot for cotton.

"It's my favorite crop by far," he said. "Not only is the process beautiful to watch from beginning to end, but it also generates a huge source of pride when you get a good harvest and see it used in your home and throughout the community."

Not only do Luke's parents work on the farm, but also his brother, grandmother, grandfather, aunt, and uncle.

"It truly is a family operation,"

he said. "We are not a corporate farm here, we are a family company, and it takes all of us to make this place successful." Growing up on a farm caused Luke to fall more in love with it every day. In fact, agriculture is so ingrained in every fiber of his being that he couldn't imagine himself doing anything else.

Luke recently graduated from Wayne Community College with an associate of arts degree. He is starting his first semester at NC State University this fall where he will be majoring in Agronomy with a concentration in Crop Science. He would also like to pursue a minor in agriculture and environmental technology.

"We use a lot of technology on the farm today, including John Deere Operations Center," he said. "I want to learn more about the technology in agriculture so that I can continue to cultivate and innovate on the farm."

After graduation, Luke plans to return and work full-time on the family farm, focusing on cotton, crop scouting and precision agriculture. Luke's talents in these areas, plus his passion for the industry, are all talents that will continue to drive him forward and help him achieve his dreams.

Luke and his brother also handle most of the mechanical work on the farm for tractors, combines and more. "I really am living the dream here on the family farm," he said. "My main goal in life is to continue carrying on the legacy that my parents and grandparents established here. I love

(See NextGenAg, pg. 6)



Luke West plans to major in Agronomy with a concentration in Crop Science from N.C. State University, wanting to put his knowledge to work on his multigenerational family farm. West hopes to carry on the family farming tradition.



In 2023, N.C.'s wildfire seasons offered few breaks

North Carolina traditionally experiences two seasons annually in which wildfire risk is heightened and activity increases.

The year's first wildfire season occurs March through early May when humidity levels tend to be lower and trees, shrubs and other natural vegetation begin pulling necessary moisture and nutrients from the ground to green-up, blossom and bloom. This causes ground conditions to dry out quicker.

As summer heat and humidity levels taper off and autumn's foliage begins to stack up leaf litter on the forest floor, wildfires once again become more frequent from October through early December. To most, these two seasons are known simply as spring and fall wildfire seasons.

However, in 2023, it seemed as though North Carolina was never able to "take five" and catch its breath from wildfires. The N.C. Forest Service responded to more than 5,300 wildfires across the state in 2023, which burned around 76,200 acres. Most fires were held to five acres or less, but North Carolinians saw their fair share of large incidents as well. Off to an early start with March's Last Resort Fire in Tyrell County, wildfire season appeared to roll on through the summer months and into the fall before its grand finale, when North Carolinians endured more than a thousand wildfires in November alone.

The Sauratown Mountain Fire in Stokes County in 2023, which required many personnel with the N.C. Forest Service to forgo their Thanksgiving feast to stand post, was first reported Nov. 18, before being declared fully contained Dec. 8. Determined to be the result of an escaped campfire, the 809-acre blaze was the second to occur on the mountain in the last three years.

To suppress wildfires as safely and efficiently as possible, the N.C. Forest Service utilizes a variety of heavy equipment including Type 4 and Type 6 engines, bulldozers and aircraft. A bulldozer pulling a plow removes burnable fuel around a wildfire, exposing mineral soil—which doesn't burn—and pushes burnable debris aside. This process is known as establishing a containment line. Since they provide natural fuel breaks, water features such as streams can be a good starting or ending point for a containment line.

The N.C. Forest Service works to contain wildfires while minimizing damage to a landowner's woodlands. Rehabilitating

At right, a view of the Sauratown Mountain fire that began in November and was contained in December. The fire drew N.C. Forest Service personnel from across the state.



containment lines installed during suppression is crucial for controlling erosion and protecting water features that may have intersected with containment lines. Bulldozed containment lines lacking rehabilitation efforts can be a chronic source of sediment that causes damage to site productivity. The resulting stream sedimentation can be problematic for aquatic wildlife and water quality. The recently burned landscape may also be vulnerable to further site damage by weather events, which can prolong the reestablishment of vegetation and accelerate soil erosion, impacting water quality and wildlife habitat, making suppression repair just as important as suppressing wildfires, safeguarding homes and protecting natural resources.

"Typically, once we know the wildfire is contained, meaning no chance of escaping, we start the rehab process before all resources are released," said Jonathan Young, N.C. Forest Service Stokes County ranger. "The rehab plans that were implemented on Sauratown Mountain are working properly and it looks amazing. Water bars are holding, grass seed has

sprouted and stabilized in the areas where it was applied and the impacted stream crossings are well stabilized."

The area where the fire burned will recover naturally through successional forest processes but active management can help accelerate the recovery process, implemented at the discretion of the landowner.

With Sauratown Mountain having recently caught fire twice in the last three years, mitigation is a word that has been brought up by many as a means of being proactive to protect life and property during the next one. Mitigation activities focus on the likelihood that wildfires will continue to occur and their community to start building a more defensible living space.

"Embers are like the tumble weeds you see in western movies, they just keep blowing in the wind until they get lodged against something," explained Wes Sketo, wildfire mitigation forester for the N.C. Forest Service. "What you

(See Wildfire seasons, pg. 5)