

COMMERCIAL HORT NEWS

Buncombe County's Extension Newsletter for The Green Industry

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February 2009

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Check out Buncombe County
Center's website at:

<http://buncombe.ces.ncsu.edu>

or BLOG

wncgreennews.blogspot.com

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SOUTHEASTERN Native Plant Nursery

36 Kel-Co Road
Candler, NC

(828) 670-8330 (phone) / (828) 670-8331 (fax)

info@SoutheasternNatives.com (email)

<http://www.SoutheasternNatives.com>



- *Owner, Sales & Grower:* Brad Martin
- *Square feet/acres of business:* 6 acres of field grown material and two/three acres of containerized material
- *Grand opening date:* Brad has been providing brokering services in Western North Carolina for several years. After a lot of hard work, Southeastern Native Plant Nursery opened in 2008. Congrats Brad!
- *Product mix:* Field grown and containerized **Native Plants** for the Eastern U.S.
- *Clientele:* Landscapers, retail garden centers, developers, state and federal agencies
- *Special Services:* **Brokering** and reliable **delivery!!** Not finding what you are looking for? Southeastern Native Plant Nursery can find it for you. They can consolidate your plant needs, from plugs to large caliper trees. Call, fax, or email your entire plant list to Southeastern Natives.
- *Comments:* Although Brad has been involved in Horticulture for many years, Southeastern Native Plant Nursery is one of the newest nurseries in Buncombe County. I have been working with Brad over the last three years and he is one of the best young nurserymen around. Brad knows how to grow a superior quality native plant! Folks, be sure and visit the website and check out **Spring 2009 Plant Availability** list. Give Brad a call and support your local growers!



Persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency may request accommodations to participate in activities mentioned in this newsletter. Please contact Amanda Stone at 828-255-5522 during business hours at least 3 days prior to the event to discuss accommodations.

NC State University
A&T State University
**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION**

Empowering People • Providing Solutions

Calendar of Events– LOTS GOING ON!!!!

Winter 2009

North Carolina Arboretum-Visit their website at <http://www.ncarboretum.org>

Winter 2009

Asheville Botanical Gardens-Visit their website at <http://www.ashevillebotanicalgardens.org>

Winter 2009

The Bullington Center-Visit their website at <http://www.bullingtoncenter.org>

February 11

Rain Water Harvesting/Rainbird Drip Workshop, Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, Mills River, NC 9am-4pm. This FREE (with lunch) workshop is co-hosted by John Deere Landscapes. To register or for more information contact Cliff Ruth, (828) 697-4891

February 12

Landscape Irrigation/Permeable Pavers, Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, Mills River, NC. 9am-4pm. This FREE (with lunch) workshop is co-hosted by John Deere Landscapes. Smart Irrigation systems and permeable pavers will be taught. To register or for more information contact Cliff Ruth, (828) 697-4891.

February 13

Local Forest Products Workshop: New Enterprises and Markets. A workshop for forest land owners, farmers, forest professionals, and policy makers, 9am-3pm. At Land-of-Sky Regional Council, 339 Leicester Highway, Asheville. Directions at: <http://www.landofsky.org/mainlinks/contact.html> (828) 251-6622. Registration \$20 includes lunch.

February 18

Brewers and Hops Workshop. 10am-4pm. There is no charge for the workshop, but you must register prior to Monday February 16, by phone or email. You may attend either morning or afternoon session or both. Lunch is at your own expense, beer samples will be provided. For more information, please call 828-606-3130 or email Chuck@JeweloftheBlueRidge.com

February 25

Nursery Management Workshop, Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, 8:30am-4:30pm. Registration is \$20 per person. Go to the following site for the program brochure: <http://buncombe.ces.ncsu.edu/files/library/11/2009nurserymanagement.pdf>

February 26

Landscape Management Workshop, Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, Mills River, NC. The program will be from 9am-4pm. The cost is \$20 per person. NC Pesticide credits (2.5) available, categories HLNDX. Sustainable landscaping, preventing pesticide drift, hands-on landscape pruning are just a few of the things you will learn! To register or for more information contact Amanda Stone, (828) 255-5522 or go to the brochure: <http://buncombe.ces.ncsu.edu/files/library/11/2009landscapemaintenanceworkshop-1.pdf>

February 28

ASAP 6th annual Marketing Opportunities for Farmers Conference, Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, NC. The goal of the conference is to provide farmers with networking and training opportunities and give them the knowledge they need to sustain their farms in a time of changing markets and landscapes. Conference cost: \$35 per person or \$50 per two farm partners (includes a continental breakfast and lunch of locally-grown food). For registration information visit <http://www.asapconnections.org/mofform.html> or call (828) 236-1282.

March 9

WNC Turfgrass Conference. Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, Mills River, NC 8:30am to 4:00pm. There will be a golf track & lawn care and athletic field track. Pesticide credits will be available. For more info contact the Extension office (828) 255-5522.

Did you know that you can get this newsletter via email?
If you are interested, please contact us either by phone at 828-255-5522 or email:
amanda_stone@ncsu.edu

Calendar of Events continued:

March 21-22, 2009

16th Annual Organic Growers School, Blue Ridge Community College, Flat Rock, NC. Join us for over 70 classes and hands-on workshops each day, a trade show, seed & plant exchange, silent auction, and children’s program. More hands-on workshops than ever before! Topics include gardening, farming, livestock, homesteading, herbs, food preservation, alternative energy, cooking, soils, landscaping, forestry, pest management, and much more. For more info or to register visit: <http://www.organicgrowersschool.org>.

April 14

Support Landscape Tree Health: Understanding and Managing for Environmental Stress and Pests., NC Arboretum, 9am-1pm. Tree care professionals are encouraged to attend. This workshop is a joint collaboration between NC Arboretum, NC Cooperative Extension, NC Urban Forest Council and Quality Forward. ISA and NC pesticide credits will be available. Speakers include Barbara Fair (NCSU), Paul Merten (US Forest Service), Anthony LeBude (NCSU), Early registration: \$20 for members, \$40 for non-members. Contact Amanda Stone, 255-5522 if you are interested.

Certified Landscape Technician

The certified Landscape Technician exam is rotating back to Western NC this summer. We will be hosting it on the Blue Ridge Community College campus in Flat Rock on **June 18th and 19th**. If you are already certified and willing to help with a pre-exam training or with judging please let me know. We can use your assistance. The date(s) of the pre-exam training have not been determined—probably late May or early June. If you have employees that you want certified, NCNLA is starting to take applications and we will begin soon to pre-register for the pre-exam class. More to follow!



**Wednesday
Feb. 25, 2009**

**8:30 am—5:00pm
\$20 includes lunch**

Conference Schedule:

Registration & Welcome, 8-8:45
Managing Disease & Weeds, 8:45-10:30
Monitoring Nutrients, Pour-through sampling fundamentals, 10:45-11:45
Pour trough sampling hands-on, 1-2
Nursery Irrigation, 2:15-4:30pm

**Nursery
Management
Workshop**

**Registration deadline
Feb. 20, 2009**

Mountain Horticultural Crops
Research & Ext. Center
455 Research Drive
Mills River, NC 28759

**See the Nursery Management
Workshop Brochure on:**

<http://buncombe.ces.ncsu.edu>
or for more information call :
Extension office
Buncombe Co. (828) 255-5522
Pesticide Credits available

Pesticide Recertification Classes

***** Please visit North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Section for a list of recertification opportunities throughout N.C.

<http://www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/pesticides/index.htm>

2/25/2009– *Managing Weeds and Diseases in the Nursery*, categories LNDX (2 credits). Class will be held from **8:30am-4:30pm** at the Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, 455 Research Drive, Mills River, NC. Please call the Buncombe County Extension Office at (828) 255-5522 to pre-register.

2/26/2009– *Landscape Management Workshop*, categories HLNDX(2.5 credits). Class will be held from **8:30am-4:30pm** at the Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, 455 Research Drive, Mills River, NC. Please call the Buncombe County Extension Office at (828) 255-5522 to pre-register.

3/17/2009- *Pesticide Safety Training for Private Applicators*, category V (2 credits). Class will be held from **3:00-5:00pm** at the Buncombe County Extension Office, 94 Coxe Ave., Asheville, NC. Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register.

3/24/2009– *Pesticide Specialty Training*, categories ABGHIKLMNOTDX (2 credits). Class will be held from **3:00-5:00pm** at the Buncombe County Extension Office, 94 Coxe Ave., Asheville, NC. Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register.

6/9/2009– *Pesticide Specialty Training*, categories ABGHIKLMNOTDX (2 credits). Class will be held from **3:00-5:00pm** at the Buncombe County Extension Office, 94 Coxe Ave. Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register.

9/1/2009 - *Pesticide Safety Training for Private Applicators*, category V (2 credits). Class will be held from **3:00 - 5:00pm** at the Buncombe County Extension Office, 94 Coxe Ave. Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register.

9/1/2009– *Pesticide Specialty Training*, categories ABGHIKLMNOTDX (2 credits). Class will be held from **6:00-8:00pm** at the Buncombe County Extension Office, 94 Coxe Ave. Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register.

Pesticide Board tightens rules for keeping records of pesticide use in North Carolina

The NC Pesticide Board approved tighter standards for record-keeping by farmers and others in the state licensed to use pesticides covered under the Worker Protection Standards for Agricultural Pesticides.

The changes to the state's pesticide rules will require licensed pesticide applicators to record the date and time each pesticide application was completed, and each application day must be a separate record. The records will also have to be kept for two years.

Previously, pesticide applicators were required to record only the date and approximate time that applications were made, and they had to keep the records for 30 days.

The new standards are aimed at increasing the protection of farm workers from pesticide exposure. The changes were mandated by legislation adopted by the General Assembly last year in response to a state task force's recommendations

If the rule changes are approved by the Rules Review Commission, they could take effect March 1.

The Board also adopted revisions to other regulations dealing with pesticide storage to bring North Carolina's rules on bulk distribution of pesticides and pesticide storage into compliance with new federal requirements.

~~These changes, if approved could also take effect March 1.~~

Integrated Pest Management

As the cost of traditional synthetic pesticides continues to rise, many growers are looking for alternatives to using them. This is a good time to begin developing an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program on your nursery, in your greenhouse, or at your landscape accounts.

Some basic principles to follow in setting up an IPM program include the following:

Prevention:

- Maintain healthy plants by using proper culture, fertility and management practices
- Practice IPM and realize that all culture and management factors can affect pests
- Grow resistant plants particularly cultivars or species that have fewer pests
- Scout plants for pests, use phenological records and thresholds to make pesticide decisions
- Use soaps, oils and low toxicity, biological derived, products whenever possible
- Spot spray only infested plants that exceed the threshold
- Destroy heavily infested or injured plants.
- Match beneficial species to pest and plant
- Conserve and promote beneficial organisms by choosing pest management tools that do not harm those organisms
- Develop ecosystems with in the nursery or landscape that attracts beneficial organisms

Monitoring:

- Know pest profile of plant, multiple pests may present problem
- Evaluate the results of your control measures.
- Sample pest populations and use economic/aesthetic thresholds as appropriate
- Match beneficial species to pest and plant
- Managing Pesticide Resistance
- Rotate chemicals by class (either in sequential applications or by pest generations)
- Manage pesticide use rate, use lowest dose that provides control

Control Steps

- Use physical or mechanical controls first. Hand weeding; hand picking insects from plants; cultivation; selective pruning; and high pressure water are all mechanical methods of pest control
- Use biological controls when the physical or mechanical controls fail. Beneficial insects and other organisms should be encouraged where possible
- Finally use synthetic pesticides when none of the other methods work to control the pest you have.

Winter is a good time to begin developing a pest management program that will help you conserve time and energy this year.

2009 SEEDLING SALE



The District's annual seedling sale will be held at Jesse Israel and Sons at the WNC Farmers Market the following dates:

Feb. 26(1-6 pm), Feb. 27(8am– 4pm), Feb. 28 (8am-4pm) * or until we run out of each species of seedling

The following species will be available:

Hardwoods (75 cents each)

Black Cherry, Wild Plum, Black Walnut, White Ash, Persimmon, Red Maple, River Birch, Flowering Dogwood and Northern Red Oak.

Eastern White Pine (25 cents each)

Seedlings will be sold on first-come-first-served basis for the date or until we run out of seedlings. Proceeds from the seedling sale go to support the Districts educational and other programs.

All seedlings are bare root and range in height from 10 inches to 36 inches. March is the ideal time of the year to plant bare root seedlings. Species such as black cherry, wild plum, and persimmon bear fruit suitable for wildlife, and several of the other species are beneficial to wildlife for food and cover.

For more information about the sale or the seedlings, call the District office at: 828-250-4785 or go to the NC Division of Forest Resources website at: <http://nc-forestry.stores.yahoo.net/>

Rain Barrel Sale

The Buncombe County Master Gardeners are again selling 80 gallon rain barrels for \$110. **Payment is due by March 27** to the Master Gardener Project Fund—**Pick-up Day is Sat. April 4 (9:30—1:30) at the WNC Farmers Market.** To order your barrel call Buncombe County Cooperative Extension at 255-5522 or download an order form from our website: <http://buncombe.ces.ncsu.edu>

Grower Spotlight—Past Issues

Eagle Feather Organic Farm, (828) 649-3536, 300 Indigo Bunting Lane, Marshall, NC 28753. Native medicinal herbs such as Ginseng, Goldenseal, Echinacea and more are available. See website :

<http://www.ncgoldenseal.com>.

Sandy Mush Herb Nursery, (828) 683-2014, 316 Surret Cove Road, Leicester, 28748. Traditional culinary and medicinal herbs, scented geraniums, wildflowers and other native plants, perennials, trees and shrubs. Retail at the nursery or by mail order.

Reems Creek Valley Nursery and Garden Center, (828) 645-3937, 70 Monticello Road, Weaverville, NC 28787. Natives, perennials, annuals, bedding plants, vegetable transplants, trees and shrubs and more.

Jack Young Greenhouses, (828) 667-5555, 91 Holbrook Road, Candler, NC 28715. Perennials and annuals grown from seed, perennials grown from cuttings and division, hanging baskets, potted flowering plants like lilies, flowering shrubs, and more.

Country Fields Greenhouse & Garden, Inc.,(828) 296-8839, 154 Lower Grassy Branch Road, Asheville, NC 28805. Perennials, annuals, bedding plants, shrubs, blueberries, hydrangeas, crepe myrtles, field grown trees from seeds and plugs pus organic vegetables. Retail and wholesale to the green industry

Give these nurseries a call and support our local growers!! If you are interested in being featured in the Grower Spotlight give Amanda Stone a call at the Buncombe County Extension Office (828) 255-5522.

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