



Alamance Cooperative Extension Service

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TOBACCO NEWSLETTER

June 2016

**From: Dwayne Dabbs
Field Crops Agent**



The Crop is Set...

As you all finish setting the crop this year, I hope that everyone has a productive season, and we don't see the problems that we had last year. I want to send out a few reminders for as you go through the season. **If you find that you are going to have tobacco plants left over, let me know, and I will try to find someone that is looking for additional plants.**

- **Tobacco Production Meeting**

We will have the production meeting here at the office (209-C N. Graham-Hopedale Rd.) on June 29, 2016 starting at 7pm. I will have Dr. Grant Ellington coming to talk about something that is on everyone's mind; Bulk Barns and Heat Exchangers, and the new tray steamers that companies are trying to market. Supper will be provided, and I ask that you please give me a call here at the office (336-570-6740) or my cell phone (336-264-8238) and let me know if you will be able to attend, and how many people will be coming with you. I need to have a head count by Friday June 24, 2016, so that I can have enough food for everyone.

- **Tobacco Production Survey**

Along with this newsletter, I have included a survey that I want to ask all the tobacco producers to fill out. Each year the specialist at NC State, send out a survey to all the agents asking these questions to get a feel for variety information, along with what was done in the greenhouse. In order for me to give them the best information, I know that there were things that I may have missed even though I tried to come to most of the greenhouses every week. Most of this survey is self-explanatory but if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask me. When you finish filling out this survey, you can either mail it back to the office or give it to me when I see you out and about.

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- **Production Information**

After the fields have been set, remember to try and set your rotary-hoes far enough out so that you do not hit the plants, unfortunately all it takes is a slight brush from the equipment to create a wound and allow for a disease to get in the plant. I know that it is unavoidable sometimes, so plan to have treatment ready for when black shank and other diseases start to show.

For black shank, you have the options of Ridomil Gold, and Orondis Gold in the transplant water. As I am sure you are aware, this year Presidio cannot be put in transplant water! Please make sure that you read the labels, and respect any restrictions the labels have on them. The tobacco specialist at NC State is recommending that if you know you are going to have a hot field in your rotation this year, start with Orondis Gold in the transplant water, followed by Presidio at first cultivation, and rounding it out with Ridomil Gold at layby. How you choose to do this program is up to you, but like the old saying goes, “an ounce of prevention, is worth a pound of cure.” Target Spot may be another disease that may show up in your fields. Quadris (azoxystrobin) is labeled to control Target Spot at a rate of 6-12 ounces per acre, but note you can only spray up to 32 ounces per acre per season.

- **Field Trials**

I would like to make you aware of a few field trials for tobacco we will be doing this year. The first trial was in Edgar Pritchett’s greenhouse, looking at various tray types as well as soil media to figure out which would turn out the best transplants, the data is starting to be compiled, and I will pass that along when I get it.

We will also be having a field trial at Hugh Davis’ this year, in conjunction with NCSU looking at using different rates of liquid Nitrogen on tobacco, to be able to give recommendations based on the growing season.

Lastly this year, we will be having a field trial at Ricky Whitesell’s. This trial will be looking at the soil amendment Quick-Sol and a biological Microbe product to see what effect these products have on yield, as well as a few other parameters.

If you would like more in-depth information about these trials, please let me know.

- **Pesticide Survey**

I know that everyone is extremely busy, and there is always something that needs to be done, but I want to ask that each of you that hold a pesticide license, please take a minute to help me serve you better. I have put together an online survey, to try and schedule classes at times that will work for you and I would like to get everyone’s input. I put on a host of pesticide classes through the year, and I want to set these classes up so that more people are able to attend. You can find this survey at:

https://ncsu.qualtrics.com//SE/?SID=SV_9Ns9dxUzoCRsY9n

If you do not have access to the internet, please let me know, and I can make other arrangements to collect this information.

Due to budget cuts, we are trying to go to sending our newsletters via email. If this is something that you would be interested in helping us with please send me an email to dcdabbs@ncsu.edu, with your name and which mail lists you are interested in (Field Crops, Tobacco) Please let me know which crops that you grow, I do have specialized lists, that I send to when something pertinent comes out on a particular commodity. If you think there is a list that I need to add, please include that as well. If you would like to be taken off this mailing list let me know, either by email, or calling our office, at 336-570-6740.

If you have questions or problems out in the field, please feel free to give me a call here at the office and we will try to get them figured out.

