



Alamance Cooperative Extension Service

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TOBACCO NEWSLETTER

October, 2016

From: Dwayne Dabbs
Field Crops Agent

Harvesting Time is Here!

Well, now that everyone is harvesting tobacco and it has set into raining. There have been plenty of mixed reviews on the curing and how the tobacco is selling. But I hope that everyone will have a good season to finish out on.

Please Be Safe

I know that you all get tired of seeing some sort of safety post in these newsletters, but I do want to remind each of you to try and be safe as you go through harvesting, transporting, and curing the crop. I am sure that you have heard by now about the accident that one of the farmers just north of us had, and I hope that it is a reminder, that in a split second anything can happen.

Certified Safe Farms

We have made it through a year of doing this program, and I am happy to say that we have had five farms throughout the county that have participated and have passed the program. I know right now that there are not enough hours in the day to get everything accomplished, so I will not pester you, but I do want to remind you that the program is still going on and in full force. When things start slowing down, please keep the program in mind, and I hope that when the winter meeting's start back up again, I can get Scarlett Joyner to come out and talk about the program with you all.

I want to note that the cost-share portion of the program has changed as well. Previously, you could get up to \$500.00 if you spent \$1,000.00 on items that would improve safety on your farm, but with that, it was about a mile of paperwork that you had to fill out before the money could be reimbursed to you. Now to streamline this process, after you go through the program, you can give Scarlett a list of items that you need, and she will order them up to \$500.00, and have those items shipped directly to your farm.

I do hope that you will consider participating in this program, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give me a call (336-264-8238– Cell; 336-570-6740– Office; or send me an email– dcdabbs@ncsu.edu)



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- **Curing Information**

I know that some people are having problems trying to get their tobacco to cure due to several factors. Dr. Ellington of the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department at NC State sent out this publication that has some information that aids in the curing process for Powell Barns. He also said that experience was going to be an extremely important part of curing the tobacco this year. The link to that publication is:

<http://tobacco.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/PowellCuringChapter1.pdf?pwd=no>

Also you can find more information on curing and other parts of tobacco production on the NCSU Tobacco Portal at:

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

- **Upcoming Pesticide Classes**

I know that everyone looks forward to the beginning of the year to start meeting season again. If you will be needing pesticide credits for the coming year (2017), I have not nailed down specific dates for all my upcoming classes yet. I'll be sending out more information about those classes in the future to the applicators that need credits. If you are unsure about where you stand on your credits you can give me a call and I can look them up for you, or you can go to:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/aspzine/str-pest/pesticides/Recert/RTsearch.asp>

- **Pesticide Collection Day**

I want to remind everyone that we will be having our Pesticide Collection day at the Burlington Fire and Police Training Facility (100 Stone Quarry Rd. Haw River, NC 27258) on Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 8 am– 1 pm. If you have any pesticides that you need to get rid of, bring them by and we can get rid of them for you.

If you have questions or problems out in the field, please feel free to give me a call here at the office at 336-570-6740, send me an email at dwayne_dabbs@ncsu.edu, or give me a call on my work cell phone at 336-264-8238 and we will try to get them figured out.

