

## ***Blueberry Workshop for Cooperative Extension Service Agents***

*June 19-21, 2007*

*Sponsored by the Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium*

Duplin County Center, 165 Agriculture Drive, Kenansville, NC 28349 (910) 296-2143

### **Program**

#### **Tuesday, June 19, 2007**

- 1:00 – 1:45 Registration
- 1:45 – 2:00 Welcome and announcements – Tom Monaco, Director, Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium
- 2:00 – 2:45 Overview of acreage, cultivars and production areas in the southeastern US – Bill Cline, Extension Plant Pathologist, NCSU
- 2:45 – 3:30 Blueberry breeding, genetics and future trends – Jim Ballington, Professor of Horticultural Science, NCSU
- 3:30 – 3:45 Break-Sponsored by BASF, Gowan, Valent, Brandt Consolidated and DuPont
- 3:45 – 4:30 Investment analysis for Blueberry Production in the Southeastern US – Charles Safley, Professor and Extension Economist, NCSU, Presented by Guido van der Hoeven
- 4:30 – 5:15 Weed management in Southern blueberries– Katie Jennings, Research Assistant Professor, Horticultural Science, NCSU
- 6:30 -- Sponsored meal-NC Blueberry Council

#### **Wednesday, June 20, 2007**

- 8:00 – 8:30 Coffee and discussion
- 8:30 – 9:15 Blueberry breeding in Georgia – Scott NeSmith, Professor of Horticulture, UGA
- 9:15 – 10:00 Blueberry disease identification and control – Bill Cline, Extension Plant Pathologist, NCSU
- 10:00 – 10:45 Insect pests of blueberry – John Meyer, Professor of Entomology, NCSU
- 10:45 – 11:45 Cultural practices for the Southern US and potential for Organic production – Gerard Krewer, Extension Specialist and Professor of Horticulture, UGA
- 11:45 – 12:00 Discussion and wrap-up

12:00 CATERED lunch-Sponsored by BASF, Gowan, Valent, Brandt Consolidated and DuPont

1:30 – 5:30 **Field Tour in Bladen and surrounding counties**

- Site selection, site preparation
- Overhead and drip irrigation systems
- Effects of 2007 Easter Freeze (Apr 8) on the NC crop
- Summer pruning
- Weed, disease and insect pests at harvest
- Mechanical harvesting and equipment for processing
- Hand-harvest and fresh packing

6:30 Sponsored meal-Dole Food Company

**Thursday, June 21, 2007**

8:00 – 9:00 Hotel check-out, travel to Castle Hayne, NC

9:00 – 11:30 **NCSU Horticultural Crops Research Station in Castle Hayne, NC.**

- Tour of field, greenhouse and lath house facilities
- Pick late-ripening highbush and early-ripening rabbiteye cultivars
- Learn to identify fruit rot fungi and other diseases
- Learn to identify insect pests and the damage they cause
- Blueberry propagation procedures and breeding techniques

11:30 Adjourn