

# North Carolina Blueberry News



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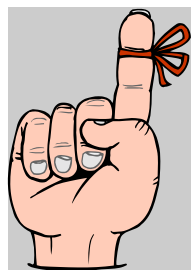
**North Carolina  
Cooperative Extension Service**  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

*A newsletter for commercial blueberry producers, edited by specialists and agents of the NC Cooperative Extension Service and supported by the NC Blueberry Council, Inc.*

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- 2004 NC Blueberry Crop Report
- Advertisements
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## BLUEBERRY OPEN HOUSE AND EXPO -- JANUARY 10-11



### ***New This Year:***

- Plans and Costs
- Profit or Loss?
- "V" Safety credits
- Blackberry production
- Migrant housing rules

Please mark your calendar! The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Open House of the North Carolina Blueberry Council, Inc. will be held January 10-11, 2005 at the Sampson Agri-Exposition Center in Clinton, NC. For information about the site and how to get there go to: [www.sampsonexpoctr.com](http://www.sampsonexpoctr.com).

Last year we had a tremendous response from equipment, service and supply vendors, and filled the building with booths and displays! This meeting is an excellent opportunity for growers to interact with manufacturers and to "look before you buy".

Enclosed is a copy of the registration form for the meeting. Pre-registration is encouraged for all attendees. The form also allows those who cannot

attend to maintain their membership in the North Carolina Blueberry Council. Those who pre-register by Dec 24 receive a \$5.00 discount! Membership includes a copy of the proceedings, a year's subscription to this newsletter, and mailings from the NCBC board of directors on issues of interest to all blueberry growers in the state.

## 2005 NC Blueberry Open House & Trade Show

Sampson Agri-Expo Center, Clinton, NC

### MONDAY, JANUARY 10

8:30 - 9:00 am Grower registration

9:00 - 11:55 am Research reports & invited talks, new equipment

12:15 - 1:30 pm Catered lunch

1:30 - 4:30 pm Trade show

3:00 - 5:00 pm 2-hour training session for growers needing "V" safety certification

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

8:30 - 9:30 am Coffee & donuts, trade show continues

9:30 - 11:30 am Research reports, current issues, business meeting, drawing for door prizes

11:30 am Adjourn

**NORTH CAROLINA  
BLUEBERRY COUNCIL, INC.  
39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE**

in cooperation with  
**North Carolina State University**

January 10-11, 2005 at the Sampson  
Agri-Exposition Center, Clinton, NC

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*MONDAY MORNING*

- 8:30 REGISTRATION
- 9:00 WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 9:10 INTRODUCTION – NEW BLUEBERRY PRODUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS AND COSTS -- Bill Cline, Plant Pathology, NCSU
- 9:30 LAND SELECTION, PREPARATION AND PLANTING – Mike Mainland, Horticultural Science, NCSU
- 9:50 CULTIVAR SELECTION AND BREEDING UPDATE -- Jim Ballington, Terry Bland and Susan Rooks, Horticultural Science, NCSU
- 10:10 CHANGES IN IRRIGATION SYSTEMS FOR BLUEBERRIES -- Open discussion with irrigation suppliers and growers
- 10:30 FERTILIZATION AND PRUNING RECOMMENDATIONS – George Cummings, Soil Science (Retired); Mike Mainland, Horticultural Science, NCSU
- 10:50 DISEASE, INSECT & WEED CONTROL UPDATE-- Bill Cline, Plant Pathology; John Meyer, Entomology; Dave Monks, Horticultural Science, NCSU
- 11:10 HARVESTING, SORTING AND PACKING – Overview and panel discussion
- 11:30 BLUEBERRY EQUIPMENT - WHAT'S NEW FOR 2005 - Sponsors/Exhibitors
- 12:00 RECOGNITION OF GUESTS
- 12:15 LUNCH

*MONDAY AFTERNOON*

- 1:30 - 4:30 TRADE SHOW -- Visit with equipment vendors, speakers and guests

- 3:00 - 5:00 PESTICIDE SAFETY TRAINING (category "V") – Corey Crabtree, Wayne Batten and Josh Gaddy, NCCES; Ken Crabtree, Pesticide Inspector, NCDA

*TUESDAY MORNING*

- 8:30 TRADE SHOW – Coffee, donuts and social time!
- 9:30 ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF BLUEBERRY PRODUCTION - PROFIT OR LOSS WITH BLUEBERRIES – Dr. Charles Safley, Agricultural and Resource Economics, NCSU
- 10:00 REGULATIONS FOR HOUSING MIGRANT LABORERS -- Everette Puckett, Agricultural Safety Officer, NC Dept. of Labor
- 10:30 BLACKBERRY PRODUCTION IN NC – Gina Fernandez, Horticultural Science, NCSU
- 11:00 NCBC BUSINESS MEETING -- President Ralph Carter Jr., Presiding
- 11:30 DOOR PRIZES, ADJOURN

**SPONSORS/EXHIBITORS**

(As of December 4, 2004)

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A&B Packing Equipment  
Airtec Sprayers  
American Blueberries  
BBC Technologies  
BEI  
Bladen Outdoor Supply  
Brewt Power Systems (Maibo)  
Caleco Soil Services  
Cape Fear Farm Credit  
Coastal Plains Irrigation  
Carolina Blueberry Association  
Clinton Truck & Tractor  
Cottle Strawberry Nursery  
Crumpler Plastic Pipe  
D. D. Cox Agency  
East-West Label  
Fabri-Kal Corporation  
First Citizens Bank  
H&H Machine Services  
Island Grove Ag Products  
Leinbach's  
McKibben Manufacturing  
Nash Equipment Co.  
NC Farm Bureau -- Pender County  
Parker Bark Company  
Tom Crockett Irrigation, Inc.

**NC BLUEBERRIES -- 2004**

*Sherry Warren, Market News Manager, North*

Price and volume data was obtained from five major shippers in the 2004 season. Winter chilling was adequate for the 2003-2004 winter, and blueberries in the commercial growing areas of southeastern North Carolina were observed to leaf and flower normally this spring. Freezes occurred during the last week of March but did not significantly reduce the crop. Excellent pollination weather occurred during bloom, resulting in good fruit size and an early, concentrated harvest season. Harvested acreage of very early ripening cultivars, Star and O'Neal, has increased. Harvesting of these cultivars began around May 12. Growers began harvesting the main-season cultivar, Croatan, on May 21, and were finished by June 10, about a week earlier than normal. Later ripening Premier, Tifblue and Powderblue rabbiteye cultivars also ripened earlier than normal, with most harvest completed in July. The first price reported for flats of 12-1 pint cups was on May 19. Prices ranged mostly \$18-\$20. The last f.o.b. price report was issued on June 28, with prices ranging mostly \$11-\$12. Approximately 16 million pounds, an equivalent of 1.8 million 12-pint flats, were reported shipped for fresh market. (Source: Bill Cline, NCSU)

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**BLUEBERRY PLANTS FOR SALE – TINGA NURSERY –**  
We will contract grow for your needs, rooted cuttings (liners) or 1-gal potted plants. (910) 762-1975, FAX (910) 763-4231

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**USED BLUEBERRY EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

1. **Automated Packing Line**  
cleaning machine  
sizer  
tilt table  
2 10' run out tables  
cup filler  
cup closer  
lazy susan
2. **John Deere Tractor 950 with Fork Lift**
3. **2 Pallet Jacks**
4. **Air Blast Sprayer**
5. **Fertilizer Distributor**
6. **Middle Buster**
7. **Subsoiler**

Various other pieces of equipment

Everything is priced to sell!!!

Call Marcelle Austin (Mrs. Bob Austin) 910-791-8826

[maustin@cape-fear.net](mailto:maustin@cape-fear.net)

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**USED BLUEBERRY EQUIPMENT FOR SALE -- Contact Ira Cline at (828) 464-5942**

1. **SMALL FORCED-AIR BERRY COOLER – “Cool and Ship”**  
34,500 btu/1 hp unit, insulated, portable, will rapidly cool up to 72 flats of blueberries – \$ 1,500

(For information on “cool and ship” units, go to:  
<http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/programs/extension/publicat/postharv/ag-414-7/index.html> – editor)

2. **PACKING LINE EQUIPMENT –** Inspection table with cleaner/blower, excellent condition, \$1,200. De-nester, filler, closer and lazy susan, excellent condition, \$5,800.
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**BLUEBERRY PACKING LINE FOR SALE – Contact Johnny Edwards at (843) 995-3161**

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## ADVERTISEMENTS

**COMMENTS REQUESTED** -- If you have questions, comments or suggestions for improving this newsletter, contact Bill Cline, (910) 675-2314, E-mail: [bill\\_cline@ncsu.edu](mailto:bill_cline@ncsu.edu)

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**BLUEBERRY PLANTS – FINCH BLUEBERRY NURSERY,**  
P.O. Box 699, Bailey, NC 27807. (252) 235-4664 or: 1-800-245-4662. Free Brochure.

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**MOORE'S MACHINE SHOP –** Machining, welding, burning, fabricating. Contact Kenneth R. Moore, Owner/Operator, Phone/Fax (910) 283-7288.

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**GEORGIA BLUEBERRY CONFERENCE** (2005 Southeast Regional Fruit and Vegetable Conference) Savannah, GA, January 6-9, 2005. Contact: 1-877-994-3842.

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**ISLAND GROVE AG PRODUCTS –** Don't buy plants until you've talked with us. We have all the southern highbush varieties from the University of Florida. We will grow specifically for your needs. Call Sheri Brothers at (352) 481-

# North Carolina Blueberry Council, Inc. 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Open House

in cooperation with  
North Carolina State University and the NC Cooperative Extension Service  
January 10-11, 2005 at the  
**Sampson Agri-Expo Center, Clinton, NC**

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## MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

Early pre-registration must be postmarked by FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2004

Participant  
Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Company/Farm \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**NEED TO JOIN THE NC BLUEBERRY COUNCIL BUT CAN'T COME TO THE MEETING? To Join or renew membership, just check here \_\_\_\_\_ to let us know you will not be attending, fill in this form to verify your address for the newsletter, and send in your registration fee.**

REGISTRATION FEE –  
(Choose one option)  
Includes membership in the  
NC Blueberry Council, one  
copy of the Proceedings,  
Newsletter and other  
mailings

1. Early (before Dec 24) \$30.00  
OR
2. Late (Dec 25 - Jan 5) \$35.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
OR
3. At the door (Jan 10) \$35.00

MEALS (not included in registration) \$6.00 x number attending \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the NORTH CAROLINA BLUEBERRY COUNCIL  
and mail your completed form with payment to:

NC Blueberry Open House  
3800 Castle Hayne Road  
Castle Hayne, NC 28429

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**For more information contact:** Bill Cline • NCSU Hort. Crops Research Station • 3800 Castle Hayne Road • Castle Hayne, NC 28429 • (910) 675-2314 • FAX (910) 675-0242 • e-mail: [bill\\_cline@ncsu.edu](mailto:bill_cline@ncsu.edu)