



## Yancey County Center

### June 2021

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Welcome to the June Agriculture Newsletter from N.C. Cooperative Extension, Yancey County Center. Summer is in full swing. That means that the crops are growing, the hay harvest is happening, and there is a lot going on out on the farm. If you encounter problems with weeds, diseases, or insects, or if you just want to talk things over, remember that we are here for Yancey County farmers. Please feel free to contact us anytime!

Sincerely,

Adam McCurry  
NC A&T Agriculture Technician  
N.C. Cooperative Extension  
Yancey County Center



Follow us on Facebook:  
**@YanceyCes**

-OR-

Checkout our website:  
**yancey.ces.ncsu.edu**

## Pesticide Drop Off Days

Tuesday, July 6

Monday, July 19

An appointment is required to drop off unused, unwanted pesticides to make sure they are properly prepared for drop-off. To schedule an appointment, or for more information, contact the Yancey County Center.

## Pesticide Container Recycling



Available year-round at Riverside Recycling Center. Containers must be triple rinsed, labels, and caps removed. Rinsing nozzle are available at the Yancey County Center at no cost to farmers. If you would like more information about this program, contact the Yancey County Center by calling **828.682.6186**.



Box tree moth larva and webbing.  
Ferenc Lakatos, University of  
Sopron, [Bugwood](#)

## New Pest Alert: Box Tree Moth

Box tree moth is a potentially devastating pest of boxwoods and was recently found in multiple states on the East Coast of the US in May of 2021. It arrived on plants imported from Ontario Canada. Nurseries or retail outlets that received boxwoods, *Euonymus*, or hollies from Canada and consumers who recently purchased these plants should scout for this pest. Learn more here: <https://yancey.ces.ncsu.edu/2021/06/urgent-new-pest-alert-box-tree-moth-found-in-the-us/>

## 2021 Western NC Strawberry Pre-Plant Meeting

Strawberry Growers:

Whether you are a new farmer or an established producer looking to expand your customer base, this workshop will offer an overview of current strawberry production and marketing strategies for Western North Carolina.



Topics that will be covered include:

- Direct market strategies and opportunities for tapping into regional demand for local food
- Pre-plant production considerations: fumigation, weeds, variety selection, and fertility
- Produce safety for strawberry growers
- What does the industry need in Western NC? Sharing of your needs and opinions
- Tour of a local farm and equipment demonstration

**Event Date: July 26, 2021, 9:30am-3:00pm**

Location: TRACTOR Food Hub, 54 Ferguson Hill Road, Burnsville NC 28714

Cost: \$12.50 (box lunch provided)

Registration required and space is limited (see below)

Workshop Contacts:

Craig Mauney | Phone: 828-989-7900 &  
Email: [craig\\_mauney@ncsu.edu](mailto:craig_mauney@ncsu.edu)

Sara Runkel | Phone: 828-682-6186 & Email:  
[sara\\_runkel@ncsu.edu](mailto:sara_runkel@ncsu.edu)

Pesticide credits will be available.

**To register:**

<https://2021westernncstrawberrypreplant.eventbrite.com>



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture



# Plan to Test Forages for Livestock Feed Value

We are now deep in the midst of the 1st cutting hay harvest. As you harvest your hay, remember that knowing the quality of your hay harvest can be greatly beneficial in developing your fall feeding plan. The best way to know the quality of your hay is to test it! Forage test results can later be used to best plan when to feed it by matching the quality of the forage to the changing nutritional needs of livestock. Forage test results can also be used to plan and estimate supplemental feeding needs.

Forage testing can help make a livestock operation to be even more productive and profitable. Here are a few things that you might want to consider as you complete hay harvest if you plan to test your forage later in the year.

## 1. Know Where Your Hay Comes From, and When it Was Harvested

There are many factors that might differ between various fields that can impact quality. Differing weather patterns, variations in forage grass or legume species, differences in soil type, or even differences in how fields are fertilized can make a difference in quality. First and second cutting hay from the same field will often vary greatly when comparing forage test results so it is not only important to test field separately, but also different cuttings of hay from the same field. There are many other possible factors that might result in differences of forage quality indicators when comparing test results from different fields.

Because there are so many possible factors that can impact forage quality, it is important to identify lots as you harvest and store forages. Lots of forage should be designated, documented, and sampled separately. As you put hay rolls, or bales into storage, identify them by lot. Label them, flag them, map them, or do anything you can so that you can come back and sample various lots of hay separately.

## 2. Consider the Impact of Storage Method on Hay Quality Test Results

How hay is stored can impact hay quality drastically. It is best to store hay under roof if possible.

Wrapping hay, storing it on pallets and covering with plastic, or covering with a tarp are all ways to preserve hay quality. Whether hay is net wrapped, or twine wrapped may make some difference on hay quality loss in storage also. Leaving hay stored out in the field, or in-line on the ground and uncovered will result in the greatest amount of quality loss.

Different storage methods have their own advantages and disadvantages. However, it is important to consider differences in hay quality that might result from the method of hay storage that is implemented. If hay is taken from the same field and harvest, but stored differently, make sure that a plan is made to test in lots that differ by storage method.



*(Left) Hay stored outside, uncovered, and on the ground will exhibit the greatest amount of quality loss over time. (Right) Hay stored inside, or under roof has been shown to display the least amount of quality loss in storage*

## 3. Plan the best time to test your forage/hay!

As you harvest hay consider best time to sample for testing. For greatest accuracy, hay should be tested about 3 weeks minimum prior to the planned feeding date. This is especially important for hay stored outside, uncovered. However, to save time, hay that is stored completely inside can be tested within a month following harvest.

**Hay testing is available through the NC Cooperative Extension Yancey County Center.**

**If you would like for us to come sample your hay, contact us to schedule a time in advance.**

**If you would like to know more, contact David Davis ([david\\_davis@ncsu.edu](mailto:david_davis@ncsu.edu)) by calling 828.682.6186.**

# Yancey Cattlemen's Association Meeting



**When: Tuesday, June 29  
starting @ 6:30 PM**

**Where: Yancey Senior Center**

**Topic: Yancey County Premiere Beef  
Producer Program**



A meal will be provided so RSVP is required. For more information, or to RSVP contact the NC Cooperative Extension Yancey County Center by calling 828.682.6186 or send an email to Adam Mccurry (adam\_mccurry@ncsu.edu).

## Integrated Pest Management Series for Diversified Fruit and Vegetable Growers

In this five part series you will learn how to apply IPM principles to manage weeds, plant diseases, and insect pests on your farm. You will also have an opportunity to see IPM practices at work and learn new skills during an in-person on-farm field day.

Beginning farmers and experienced farmers interested in learning more about IPM are encouraged to attend.

**Cost: \$15 (includes all five sessions in the series)**

The first four sessions will be held online via Zoom

**Registration is required: <https://go.ncsu.edu/zllv1tr>**

For more information contact: Sara Runkel at [Sara\\_runkel@ncsu.edu](mailto:Sara_runkel@ncsu.edu) or 828-682-1873

Funding support for this workshop provided by:



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

August 2nd 4:00 - 5:30 pm Session 1:  
Integrated Weed Management

August 9th 4:00 - 5:30 pm Session 2:  
IPM - Plant Diseases

August 16th 4:00 - 5:30 pm Session 3:  
IPM - Plant Pests

August 23rd 4:00 - 5:30 pm Session 4:  
Creating an IPM Plan for Your Farm

August 30th 4:00 - 6:00 pm Session 5:  
IPM Field Day - Hands-on IPM  
activities, scouting, identification and  
more.