



# Consumer Horticulture Newsletter

Yancey County Center

September 2021

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Welcome to the Yancey County N.C. Cooperative Extension Consumer Horticulture Newsletter,

The seasons are starting to change and you may already be thinking about your 2022 garden plans. This month's newsletter includes some timely tips about fall fruit maintenance, upcoming workshops, and information about identifying large hornets you may find in your landscape.

## Have a gardening question?

N.C. Cooperative Extension is here to help. The NCCE website has a lot of great gardening articles and resources:

<https://gardening.ces.ncsu.edu>

Want to identify a plant or find a plant for your particular landscape needs? Check out the Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox:

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu>

You can also call or stop by the Extension office in Burnsville with your garden and landscape questions.

Happy gardening,

Sara Runkel  
Agriculture Agent  
N.C. Cooperative Extension  
Yancey County

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<http://yancey.ces.ncsu.edu>. You can subscribe to receive any of our newsletters by email. Don't use email or do you want to receive a hard copy in the mail? That is ok as well! Contact us by calling **828.682.6186**, and we can let you know how you can receive a hard copy in the mail.



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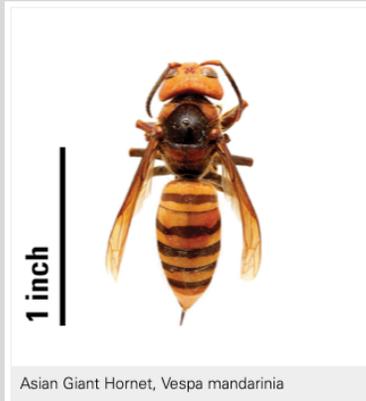
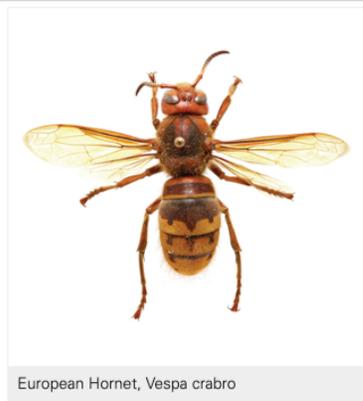
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# Have you found giant hornets?

Asian Giant Hornet, *Vespa mandarinia*European Hornet, *Vespa crabro*

There have been a number of calls to the Extension office from concerned citizens reporting large hornets. Fortunately there are still no Asian Giant Hornets (aka "murder hornets") in North Carolina. What most people are finding are actually European Hornets or other large hornets and wasps that are either native to NC or have long established populations. If you find something that looks like an Asian Giant Hornet take a look at the visual guide linked below to figure out what you actually have.

<https://www.ces.ncsu.edu/2020/05/a-visual-guide-to-asian-giant-hornets-and-similar-insects/>

## Pesticide Drop Off Days

**Monday, Sept. 20 & Monday, Oct. 4**

Do you have old or unused pesticides in storage that you don't know what to do with? Pesticides are a type of hazardous waste, don't throw them away and don't dump them down the drain! You can bring your unwanted pesticides to the N.C. Cooperative Extension Office in Burnsville to be properly disposed of for free. 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.

828-682-6186

## Timely Articles for Fall Gardening

**Hints for Fall Planted Spring and Early Summer Flowering Bulbs:**

<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/hints-for-fall-planted-spring-and-early-summer-flowering-bulbs>

**Information About Fall Lawn Renovations:** <https://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/2021/08/fall-renovation-seed-part-1/>

**Lawn Maintenance Calendar for Cool Season Grasses:** <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/tall-fescue-hard-fine-fescue-and-kentucky-bluegrass-home-lawn-calendar>

# Fall Fruit Maintenance Tips

## Apples

All fruit should be picked before becoming over-ripe. No fruit should be allowed to remain on the trees after ripening. All fruit should be picked and if not consumed, removed from the fruit-growing area. This helps reduce many disease and insect problems for later-ripening fruit. Rake and remove all dropped fruit and leaves after leaf fall which will reduce the likelihood of many diseases and insects the following year. Use of rigorous cultural and sanitation practices can usually reduce the number of sprays needed.

Excerpt from: <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/disease-and-insect-management-in-the-home-orchard>

## Raspberries

Red raspberries (summer bearing): Remove fruiting canes at the end of harvest. Do it soon after harvest, to help control diseases. Make cuts close to the ground, also thin new shoots at this time, leaving 3 or 4 of the sturdiest canes per ft of row. If you use a single wire or one wire above the other type trellis, or stakes, tie the canes loosely to the support structure after summer pruning.

Caroline and other everbearing types may be annually pruned by simply mowing or cutting off all canes at or slightly below the soil surface late each fall. To get a second crop from everbearing varieties, do not prune the canes after they have fruited at their tips. They will produce a crop lower on these canes the following year, before the fruit from the newly emerged canes ripen. Once the canes have produced two crops prune them to the ground.

Excerpt from: Raspberries in the Home Garden: <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/raspberries-in-the-home-garden>

## Blackberries

As soon as all the fruit is harvested, prune out all the old fruiting canes and remove them from the garden, as they no longer produce fruit. Fertilize after harvest, but well before fall, a second time with 5 pounds of 10-10-10 per 100 linear feet of row. Continue to tie, tip, or train the new canes that have not produced fruit to the trellis until growth stops in the fall.

Primocane-fruiting types, also known as everbearing or double cropping, can be grown to produce fruit twice in a season. They will produce fruit in the late summer or fall on the tips of the new canes. If the canes are left for a second year, they will produce fruit in the second season and then die. If you choose to double crop, prune the canes in the first winter as if you were growing a floricanne-fruiting type. If you choose to grow only a single crop in the late summer and early fall, prune the canes to the ground each winter.

Excerpt from: Blackberries for the Home Garden: <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/blackberries-for-the-home-garden>

Join the Center for Environmental Farming Systems  
for a FREE virtual Blueberry Selection and Planting Webinar!

When: September 16th, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Where: Zoom (register to receive the Zoom link) <https://cefs.ncsu.edu/event/blueberry-selection-and-planting-webinar/>

A series of experts will present opportunities and challenges that come with starting blueberry plots. We will also discuss how you can start growing blueberries in your own backyard. During this hour, there will be real-life examples of best practices from the Small Farm Unit as well as a Q&A session at the end.

# Lifelong Gardening: A Seminar on Gardening With Limited Mobility

A love for gardening does not have to end when mobility and other issues arise. This program is open to gardeners of all ages and abilities who want to learn more about smart gardening techniques so they can continue to pursue their passion for gardening for years to come!

## Registration and Event Information

Training Location: WNC Livestock Center, 474 Stock Drive, Canton

Training Time: Wednesday, Oct. 13 from 6-8p OR Thursday, Oct. 14th from 10a-12p

Fee: \$5

Registration: October 13, click here: <https://go.ncsu.edu/lifelong1013>

October 14, click here: <https://go.ncsu.edu/lifelong1014>

## Soil Testing, Get Ready for 2022

Just like us, plants need nutrients to grow. Whether you grow a lawn, a home vegetable garden, fruit trees, or ornamentals in your landscape, all plants need a mix of essential nutrients to thrive. Having your soil tested is the best way to know if your soil has the right levels of nutrients and the correct pH to make those nutrients available to plants during the growing season. Regular soil testing helps you make informed decisions about how much fertilizer and lime to apply so that you are meeting your plant's needs without over applying. Fall is an ideal time to have your soil tested so you can be ready for next season. On September 11th from 1-2 pm, N.C. Cooperative Extension, Yancey County Center is holding a Soil Testing for Productive Gardens class. In this class you will learn how and when to collect soil samples, where to send them for testing, and what to do with the results. This class will be held online via Zoom. Zoom link information will be sent to participants following registration.

For more information and to register for the Soil Testing for Productive Gardens workshop go to: <https://go.ncsu.edu/9itefhv> or call 828-682-6186

## Sustainable Gardening Workshop Series

Home and community gardeners in Yancey and surrounding counties are invited to attend a series of free educational programs on the second Saturday of the month from 1–2 p.m. Workshops are offered in partnership with the Yancey County Library in Burnsville. For more information and to register visit: <https://yancey.ces.ncsu.edu/2021/04/sustainable-gardening-workshop-series/>

Schedule for Fall, 2021 (workshops will be held online via Zoom):

September 11: Soil Testing for Productive Gardens and Landscapes

October 9: Fall Garden Maintenance (perennial garden focus)

November 13: Happy House Plants

