

"Together We Can Learn"

December 2 - 3, 2025



40th Southeast Vegetable & Expo Registration & Program Packet

HOSTED BY:

North Carolina Vegetable Growers Association

P.O. Box 158 Angier, NC 27501

Phone: 919-413-9544

www.ncvga.com



NC Cooperative Extension



2025 Expo Schedule at a Glance

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

8:00 am - 6:00 pm	Trade Show Open
9:30 am - 11:00 am	Educational Sessions
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Lunch - Visit Trade Show
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Educational Sessions
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Visit Trade Show - Reception, Live Auction

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

7:30 am - 11:00 am	Trade Show Open
8:00 am - 9:00 am	NCVGA Board Meeting
8:30 am - 11:00 am	Educational Sessions



**Pesticide Credits and
CCA Credits
will be offered!!!**



**Door Prize Drawings will be held
throughout the Expo.
Visit the Trade Show
to enter!!!!**

GUEST SPEAKERS



Will Brinkley
Tarheel Farmer



Michelle Grainger
NC Sweetpotato Commission



Garrett Howell
NCVGA President



Dr. David Monks
*Association Dean and
Director,
NC State Extension*



Dr. Frank Louws
*Dept. Head of
Horticultural Science,
NC State University*

EXPO Events

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025

8:00 am	Registration
8:00 am - 6:00 pm	Trade Show Open
9:30 am - 11:00 am	Concurrent Educational Sessions
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Lunch
	President's Welcome <i>Garrett Howell, NC Vegetable Growers Association</i>
	NCVGA Business Meeting <i>Cathy Price Horton, Executive Director</i>
	NC State University Representatives <i>Dr. David Monks & Dr. Frank Louws</i>
	Keynote Speaker <i>Will Brinkley, Tarheel Farmer</i>
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Concurrent Educational Sessions
	General Session - <i>Garrett Howell, NC Vegetable Growers Association, President</i>
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Part 1: Labor Issues and FOIA Coalition: <i>Michelle Grainger, NC Sweetpotato Commission</i>
	Part 2: Telling Our Story: Promoting Agriculture in a Modern World <i>Will Brinkley, Tarheel Farmer, Michelle Grainger, NC Sweetpotato Commission</i>
4:30 pm	Refreshments in the Trade Show: Reception with Host Bar, Assorted Pickles (provided by Mt. Olive Pickle Company) Live Auction
6:00pm	Dinner On Your Own

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025

7:30 am - 11:00 am	Trade Show Open
9:30 am - 11:00 am	Concurrent Educational Sessions
11:00 am	Adjourn

TUESDAY, DECEMBER, 2, 2025
TRADE SHOW OPEN - 8:00 AM TO 6:00 PM
MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS - 9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM
LUNCH 11:30 AM TO 1:00 PM

- Session 1 PICKLING CUCUMBER** - Tommy Batts, NC Cooperative Extension
1 hr NC/SC Pesticide Credits, 1 hr CCA Credits
 9:30 - 10:00 Cucurbit Downy Mildew and Anthracnose Updates: *Lina Quesada-Ocampo, NC State University*
 10:00 - 10:30 New Information on Cottony Leak and Downy Mildew Resistant Cultivars: *Rob Last, Clemson Extension, Tony Keinath, Clemson University*
 10:30 - 11:00 NC Pickle Producers Association Meeting: *Pickle Growers*
- Session 2 SWEETPOTATO** - Brittney King, Clemson Extension
1 hr NC/SC Pesticide Credits, 1.5 hr CCA Credits
 9:30 - 10:00 Nematode Management Updates: *Adrienne Gorny, NC State University*
 10:00 - 10:30 Weed Survey Results and Weed Control Update: *Kai Goble, Katie Jennings, NC State University*
 10:30 - 11:00 Nitrogen Rate Effects on Yields: *Baker Stickley, Jonathan Schultheis, NC State University*
- Session 3 PROTECTIVE STRUCTURE** - Cody Craddock, NC Cooperative Extension
0.5 hr NC/SC Pesticide Credits, 1.5 hr CCA Credits
 9:30 - 10:00 Tomato Russet Mite Management in Covered Structures: *Lorena Lopez, NC State University*
 10:00 - 10:30 Fundamentals of Bell Pepper Production Under High Tunnels: *Emmanuel Emmanuel Torres Quezada, NC State University*
 10:30 - 11:00 Tunnel Pickle Trials: *Joe Rowland, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association*

TUESDAY AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS - 1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM

- Session 1 FARM STAND/LOCAL MARKET** - Bruce McLean, NC Cooperative Extension
1.5 hr CCA Credits
 1:30 - 2:00 Local Market Access and Crop Scheduling: *John Gurganus, NC Cooperative Extension*
 2:00 - 2:30 Grower Panel: How We Use Social Media to Market Our Farm: *Curtis Smith, T.C. Smith Produce, Leah Williams, Williams Produce, Lauren Clemmons, Heritage Fresh Market*
 2:30 - 3:00 Influencers & Agriculture - Growing Your Farm's Reach: *Janice Wright, Rooted In NC*
- Session 2 TOMATO & PEPPER MANAGEMENT** - Bill Kleiner, NC Cooperative Extension
1.5 hr NC/SC Pesticide Credits, 1.5 hr CCA Credits
 1:30 - 2:00 Pepper and Cucurbit Anthracnose: Emerging Issues and Management: *Lina Quesada-Ocampo, NC State University*
 2:00 - 2:30 Tomato Spray Program & Pepper Phytophthora Management: *Inga Meadows, NC State University*
 2:30 - 3:00 Thrips Management Options on Tomatoes and Peppers: *Mandeep Tayal, Jim Walgenbach, NC State University*
- Session 3 FOOD SAFETY:** Chip Simmons, NC Cooperative Extension
1.5 hr CCA Credits
 1:30 - 2:00 What's New in the Food Safety World? 2025 Food Safety Updates for Farms: *Elena Rogers, NC Cooperative Extension*
 2:00 - 2:30 Cleaning and Sanitation: Important Resources for Fresh Produce Growers: *Elena Rogers, Chip Simmons, NC Cooperative Extension*
 2:30 - 3:00 Where the Rubber Meets the Road: How to Do a FSMA Pre-Harvest Water Assessment! *Chip Simmons, NC Cooperative Extension*
- General Session** - Garrett Howell, NC Vegetable Growers Association, President
 3:30 - 4:00 Part 1: Labor Issues and FOIA Coalition: *Michelle Grainger, NC Sweetpotato Commission*
 4:00 - 4:30 Part 2: Telling Our Story: Promoting Agriculture in a Modern World *Will Brinkley, Tarheel Farmer, Michelle Grainger, NC Sweetpotato Commission*
 4:30 pm Auction, Refreshments in the Trade Show
 6:00 pm Dinner on Your Own

Please visit our Trade Show, which will be open continuously throughout the Expo!

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER, 3, 2025
TRADE SHOW OPEN - 7:30 AM TO 11:00 AM
MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS - 9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM

- Session 1 COLE CROPS** - Lisa Rayburn, NC Cooperative Extension
0.5 hr NC/SC Pesticide Credits, 1.5 hr CCA Credits
- 9:30 - 10:00 **Multistate Evaluation of Heat-resistant Broccoli Cultivars for Spring Production in Eastern United States:**
Emmanuel Torres Quezada, NC State University
- 10:00 - 10:30 **Effect of Planting Dates and Preplant Nitrogen on Broccoli Production in North Carolina:** *Tomas Quezada Baez, Emmanuel Torres Quezada, NC State University*
- 10:30 - 11:00 **Opportunities and Limitations of Mating Disruption for Diamondback Moth:** *Jim Walgenbach, NC State University*
- Session 2 CUCURBITS** - Sarah Richardson, NC Cooperative Extension
1.5 hr NC/SC Pesticide Credits, 1.5 hr CCA Credits
- 9:30 - 10:00 **Demystifying Phytophthora Crown and Fruit Rot Management Strategies for Cucurbits:**
Doug Higgins, Virginia Tech
- 10:00 - 10:30 **Managing the Rindworm Complex, and other IPM Updates, with a Focus on Watermelon and Zucchini:**
Tom Bilbo, Clemson
- 10:30 - 11:00 **Adaptive Disease Management Strategies for Watermelon Anthracnose:** *Doug Higgins, Virginia Tech*
- Session 3 ORGANIC PRODUCTION** - Karen McSwain, Carolina Farm Stewardship
- 9:30 - 10:00 **Why Consider Organic?** *Nicole Delcogliano, Organic Growers School*
- 10:00 - 10:30 **Steps to Becoming Certified Organic: Demystifying the Process:** *Jill Beaver, Clemson*
- 10:30 - 11:00 **Becoming Organic: Farmer Experiences:** *Farmer Panel*

Please visit our Trade Show, which will be open continuously throughout the Expo!

Convention Hotel Information



Embassy Suites by Hilton Myrtle Beach Oceanfront Resort

9800 Queensway Blvd, Myrtle Beach, SC

Phone: 800-876-0010

To Call In to make Reservations:

- ◆ Dial (800) 876-0010
- ◆ Press Option 2 for Embassy Suites Myrtle Beach Resort. You will need to identify yourself as an attendee of the Expo.
- ◆ Use the following **SRP code**:
- ◆ Room Rate: \$158.00
- ◆ Oceanfront Suites & Oceanview Suites
- ◆ Full Cooked Breakfast Buffet

For More Information please call

North Carolina Vegetable Growers Association

P.O. Box 158 Angier, NC 27501

Phone: 919-413-9544 Fax: 984-480-2002

www.ncvga.com

2025 Expo Registration Form

Everyone attending the Expo **must be registered.**

Entrance to the Trade Show will be by official Expo name badge.

Please ✓ the following: ____ Grower ____ Supplier ____ Produce Buyer ____ Gov't/Education ____ Other

Participant Name: _____

Spouse/Additional Participants (Please list names of additional persons for name badges below.)

Company/Farm: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **County:** _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Email: _____

DESCRIPTION	Registration	After November 1, 2025	Total
Tuesday, December 2, 2025 - Wednesday, 3, 2025 Expo - First Participant (Growers ONLY)	\$200.00	\$210.00	____ x ____ # people = \$ _____
Tuesday, December 2, 2025 - Wednesday, 3, 2025 Expo - Additional Participant From same Farm (Growers ONLY)	\$ 75.00 each additional person	\$ 80.00	____ x ____ # people = \$ _____
Tuesday, December 2, 2025 - Wednesday, 3, 2025 Expo - First Participant (ALL Companies, Suppliers)	\$300.00	\$325.00	____ x ____ # people = \$ _____
Tuesday, December 2, 2025 - Wednesday, 3, 2025 Expo - University Educators, County Agents and State & Federal Dept. of Agricultural Personnel	\$85.00	\$90.00	\$ _____

TRADE SHOW ONLY

Grower Fee **\$90.00** per day (Admission to Trade Show Only) # days ____ x ____ # people = \$ _____

Non Farm/Company **\$250.00** per day (Admission to Trade Show Only) \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Method of Payments:

Card Type:



Check # _____

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Card# _____

Exp. Date _____

Name on Card: _____

Address for card billing: _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

**Make Checks Payable to
NCVGA**

Mail with check to:
NCVGA P.O.
Box 158
Angier, NC 27501

Paying by credit card:
Email to cathy@seasag.com
or call the Association
office at 919-413-9544



North Carolina Vegetable Growers Association
December 1, 2025 to December 1, 2026
Membership Annual Dues

Name: _____

Farm/Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

Please tell us about your operation: _____

Please check one of the following:

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| ☐ Grower | \$ 125.00 |
| ☐ Supplier, Produce Buyer, Other | \$ 250.00 |
| ☐ Government Education | \$ 75.00 |

Method of Payment:

☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card

MasterCard # _____ Exp. Date _____

Visa# _____ Exp. Date _____

Discover # _____ Exp. Date _____

America Express # _____ Exp. Date _____

Please mail this form and your check to :

NCVGA
P.O. Box 158
Angier, NC 27501

Paying by credit card you may email it back to cathy@seasag.com