

40th Annual Southeast Vegetable & Fruit **EXPO** **December 2 - 3, 2025**



Embassy Suites by Hilton Myrtle Beach Oceanfront Resort
9800 Queensway Blvd., Myrtle Beach, SC
Phone: 800-876-0010

Room Rate: \$158.00 (Use Code SVF when making Reservations)
Cut-Off Date: October 31, 2025

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 Torres Quesada, 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 Howard, 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!

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, Produce Buyer)	\$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