

# Central VCE

September 2017



**VirginiaTech**  
College of Agriculture  
and Life Sciences

## **18th Annual VIRGINIA TECH SHEEP CENTER PRODUCTION SALE**

Saturday, September 2, 2017 10:00 a.m.  
Virginia Tech Alphin-Stuart Livestock Arena  
500 Plantation Road  
Blacksburg, Virginia

*Selling Dorset & Suffolk ram lambs  
and select group of ewe lambs*

Sale-day Internet Bidding Available at  
[www.livestockbuyer.com](http://www.livestockbuyer.com)



Sale Day Phone: (540) 230-2680  
Prior to Sale Call: (540) 231-9159

Additional details available on Virginia Tech web site  
<http://ext.vt.edu/agriculture/sheep.html>

Department of Animal & Poultry Sciences  
Litton-Reaves Hall  
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Dr. Scott Greiner  
Faculty Coordinator  
(540) 231-9159  
[sgreiner@vt.edu](mailto:sgreiner@vt.edu)

Phil Keffer & Emily Williams  
Copenhaver Sheep Center  
(540) 231-6988  
[pkeffer@vt.edu](mailto:pkeffer@vt.edu) [wemily93@vt.edu](mailto:wemily93@vt.edu)

# Family & Farm Day

## September 9, 2017

9AM - 2PM

Rain or Shine

Virginia Tech Southern Piedmont Center near Blackstone



**Mobile Dairy Classroom**  
10am & 12pm

*Cost - Free*

**Location:** 2.5 miles from Blackstone on 40 East one half mile past Ft. Pickett's main gate, **on the left**



**Lumberjack Demonstration**  
10:30 am, 11:30 am, 12:30 pm & 1:30 pm

*Come and join us in a day of fun hands-on activities to learn about Virginia agriculture and natural resources!*



## Saturday, September 9, 2017

## Play with Your Food Event

Bring the kids to an educational event focused on reconnecting children with where food comes from and old time handmade craftsmanship.



Activities include an artificial milking cow, knitting demo, basket weaving demo, food related games, corn shucking, bean shelling, butter making, 4-H booth, coloring table, proper way to recycle, sewing demo, kids crafts and more!



Saturday, Sept. 9  
7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Event will be held in the  
Community Room  
629 Craghead St.

Free to Attend

All ages welcome

# Farm to Table



## & table to soul !

*Hunting Creek Vineyard - Hudson Heritage Farms - Springfield 1842*  
Monday Night Dinner Club Series

### TICKET INFORMATION:

Tickets to the Dinner Series Events must be pre-purchased

Tickets Available on-line at [hcvwines.com](http://hcvwines.com)

Dinner is \$43.00 per person

Drink package with dinner is additional \$18.00

Corn and Carnivore - Springfield 1842

September 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-9:00 pm

Pork and Provisions - Elmo Grocery

October 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-9:00 pm

### 4th Annual Grow Your Own Sustainable Vegetable Gardening Series

Join the Prince Edward Demonstration Garden each month to learn step-by-step topics, including, Principles of Organic Gardening; Building Soil Health; Seed Starting & Seeding Care; Attracting Bees, Butterflies & other Beneficial Insects; Weed Control, Trellising & Water Management; Companion Planting & Square Food Gardening. 5:00 - 7:00



pm, September 11, October 9 and November 20. The cost is \$5.00 per class or \$30.00 for the entire series. Contact the Prince Edward Extension office at 434-392-4246 or email [sheldae@vt.edu](mailto:sheldae@vt.edu) to register.



# Facilitation Training: A Vital Tool for Leaders

## Strengthening Your Facilitation Skills

**Abingdon:** Tuesday, September 12, &  
Wednesday, September 13, 2017  
Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center located at  
One Partnership Circle; Abingdon, VA 24210

**Richmond:** Tuesday, October 24, & Wednesday, October 25, 2017  
Virginia Tech Richmond Center  
2810 N Parham Road—3rd Floor, Richmond, VA 23294

To Register: Visit <http://tinyurl.com/2017facilitation> and complete the form.

*Registration deadline is one week prior to the training date.*

For questions or to obtain additional information, please  
contact Dr. Martha A. Walker, at 434.766.6761 or [walker53@vt.edu](mailto:walker53@vt.edu)

2017 Annual Meeting & Conference  
To Be Held In Richmond-area September 13-14  
[REGISTER HERE!](#)



Council Board of Directors and staff are excited to announce that our [Annual Meeting and Conference](#) will be held September 13-14 at the *Virginia Crossings Hotel & Conference Center* in Glen Allen. This year's conference will follow a similar format as last year, with a diverse line up of special guest speakers and panels, as well as industry tours! *Stay tuned for further details about our special guests!*

## SAVE THE DATE!

Virginia Tech's Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Extension Center (ESAREC) has scheduled the 2017 Research Field Day for Wednesday, September 13th. Registration is free, open to the public and will begin at 8:00 AM at the ESAREC complex located at 33446 Research Drive, Painter, Virginia 23420. Lunch will be provided.

The Virginia Tech, Eastern Shore AREC is committed to supporting commercial vegetable and agronomic crop production throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Centrally located on Virginia's Eastern Shore, the center conducts basic and applied research on more than 25 agricultural crops including, but not limited to, alfalfa, barley, broccoli, cabbage, cantaloupe, collards, cotton, cucumbers, dry beans, eggplant, field corn, lettuce, lima beans, peppers, potatoes, pumpkin, snap beans, soybeans, spinach, squash, sunflowers, sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelon, wheat, and zucchini.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Carrie Scott at least 5 days prior to the event at 757-414-0724\* (\*TDD number: (800) 828-1120) during business hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations.

If you would like more information about this topic or are interested in sponsoring this event or setting up a booth, please contact Lauren Seltzer at 757-414-0724 ext. 11 or email at [mlpeyton@t.edu](mailto:mlpeyton@t.edu).

## Summer Farm Tour Series Tour 6: Benmar Farm

Date: September 13, 2017

Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm

Cost: FREE

Dinner: Pot Luck

This farm tour will be in Chesterfield County. At Benmar Farm, the main effort goes toward beef and hay production. They utilize newly developed techniques in grazing and hay to maximize their efforts while maintaining a healthy ecosystem on the farm. In addition to beef and hay, they raise hops, sheep and hardwood forests.

Farmers who are young, young at heart, just starting out or well seasoned are welcome on this tour! RSVP by September 11 to Charley Maxwell at [mcharley@vt.edu](mailto:mcharley@vt.edu) or 804-556-5872. Address will be revealed with RSVP.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinzie, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Charlotte Maxwell, Goochland at 804-556-5872/TDD\* during business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations five days prior to the event.

\*TDD number is (800) 828-1120.



# Field Day of the Past

## September 15, 16, 17, 2017



Goochland 4-H livestock shows all 3 days and a variety of family activities, vendors and more! Tickets are \$10 Friday and Sunday, \$15 on Saturday.  
<https://www.fielddayofthepast.net/>

## Field Day and Pasture Walk

### Monroe, VA

Friday, September 22, 2017  
 10 am to 2pm

10 am to 12 pm: Hayfield and Pasture Weed ID and Control Strategies  
 Feat: Dr. Michael Flessner, VT Weed Specialist

12 pm to 1pm: Lunch, Amherst Watershed Program and Agency updates

1pm to 2pm: Horse Pasture Management

\$10 per person, includes your choice of lunch option

**Pre-registration is required by Sept. 15 for lunch.**

**Call the Amherst Extension Office at (434)946-9365 to register**



## Sheep Field Day and Katahdin Ram Sale

Friday, September 22

Southwest AREC at Glade Spring, VA

This is the fifth year for this forage-based hair sheep ram performance test which includes evaluation of parasite resistance. The educational program will center around this activity, and the top end of the rams will be sold. The Field Day will begin at noon with sale to follow. More details and information will also be forthcoming on the Southwest AREC site:

<https://www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/arec/southwest-virginia.html>



## Direct Marketing 101 Workshop Series

Learn how to get started Direct Marketing your meat products



\$30 for the entire series or \$10 per session

6 pm to 8 pm  
Drinks and light refreshments provided

Agriculture Building  
163 Kabler Lane, Rustburg, VA 24588

Contact Alyssa at [ajelliott@vt.edu](mailto:ajelliott@vt.edu) or  
(434) 946 9365 to Reserve your spot!

### **Session 1: October 5th**

- What is Direct Marketing?
- Understanding regulations and the inspection process

### **Session 2: October 12th**

- Basic Economics of Direct Marketing
- Lessons from the Field

### **Session 3: October 19th**

- Carcass Breakdown
- Pricing cuts of meat

### **Session 4: October 26th**

- Marketing your products
- "Name that Claim" Label claims Demystified



## Forestry Bus Tour

October 10

Dillwyn, VA (Buckingham County)

Registration 8am - 8:30. Tour concludes by 5pm. Catered hot lunch by "Helping Hands". Scholarships for science teachers and free Project Learning Tree Educators kit. Contact Jason Fisher - [jasonf@vt.edu](mailto:jasonf@vt.edu) 434-476-2147 x3389. Online registration coming soon at <http://forestupdate.frec.vt.edu/landownerprograms/field-tours.html>



# Health Summit 2017

The Health Collaborative's 3rd Annual Health Summit

## • Join Us •

Date: Thursday, October 12th

Time: 8:30 am

Venue: Averett University

Address: 420 West Main St. Danville, VA

Updates: [thehealthcollab.com/health-summit](http://thehealthcollab.com/health-summit)



### OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOOL SHEEP



**October 14, 2017**

**8:30 AM to 3:30 PM**

Augusta County Gov. Center  
Verona, VA

### About this Program

Are you a sheep enthusiast? Are you interested in learning more about raising sheep or producing high quality wool?

If so, please join us for this important program on sheep and wool management and marketing.

Questions? Contact John Benner at  
540-245-5750 or [benner89@vt.edu](mailto:benner89@vt.edu)

# TURNING YOUR FORESTLAND AND FARM OVER? COMING FALL 2017 TO PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY **SAVE THE DATE!!!**



**Dates:** October 17 and October 24

**Location:** Olde Dominion Ag. Complex

<http://olde dominion agriculture complex.com/>

**Time:** 12:30pm-6:30pm

*(attend both dates with dinner provided)*

**What:** Farm Transition for Family  
Forestland—Preparing for Generation NEXT™



If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact the Pittsylvania County Extension office at 434-432-7770 during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event.



"Sponsored in part by funding from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services which was generated by revenue from the Virginia Agricultural license plate."



Virginia Cooperative Extension and Virginia Department of Forestry programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

## 2017 GRAZING SCHOOL

**October 18-19, 2017**

12065 Chatham Road, Vernon Hill, VA 24597

*Locust Level Farm*

**Class size will be limited to 25 participants.  
Early registration for \$100 begins in May!**



**For more information, contact:**

**JB Daniel at 434-392-4171 x115, [j.b.daniel@va.usda.gov](mailto:j.b.daniel@va.usda.gov)**

# Youth Beef Training Workshop



October 21, 2017  
8:30am Registration  
4:30pm Adjournment  
Location- NCSU Beef Education Unit  
Raleigh, NC

Workshops on: Pasture Management, Low Stress Handling, Reproduction, Beef Quality Assurance Certification, and Meat Handling Included

Registration Limited to 30 Applicants  
Ages 12-18

Registration available:  
<http://go.ncsu.edu/youth-beef-workshop>

Contact April Shaeffer  
for more Information  
[april\\_shaeffer@ncsu.edu](mailto:april_shaeffer@ncsu.edu)

## Smyth Agritourism Workshop

**Wednesday, October 25, 2017: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**  
**Holston Hills Golf Course, Marion, VA**




Learn about important Agritourism topics! Network and create partnerships!  
For questions, contact Sarah Gillespie at [sgillespie@smythchamber.org](mailto:sgillespie@smythchamber.org) or 276-783-3161. Registration deadline is October 20 and space is limited—register early! Register here: <https://vaagritourism.eventbrite.com> or by calling Sarah.



**Save  
The Date**


## Veteran Farming Conference

FREE Two-Day Educational Training and Networking Event  
\*FOR Veterans interested in or already involved with Agriculture\*



### Thursday October 26th and Friday 27th

Hudson Heritage Farms  
14242 River Road South Boston, VA 24592  
Southern Virginia, Halifax County



**Tours of  
Veteran Farms &  
Panel of Ag Agency  
Resources**

Topics Include:

- Starting New Business
- Financing and Business Planning
- Liability/Insurance
- Agritourism
- Marketing/Budgeting

**Networking  
Evening  
Social**



### VDACS Update - Homegrown by Heroes

**Speakers Include:**

**Dr. Basil Gooden, Virginia Secretary of Agriculture**  
 Commissioner John Newby, Department of Veteran Services  
 Matthew Underwood, USDA Military Veteran Ag Liaison Support  
 John Fant, Virginia Contact—Veteran Farmer Coalition

**\*Free Event - Contact Halifax Extension Office  
for Registration Information\* (434) 476-2147**

Special Thanks to our Sponsor  
VSU Small Farm Outreach Program

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Rebekah Slabach, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Halifax office at 434-476-2147 during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event.

## Next Level Bow hunting Class

October 27-29

Jamestown 4-H Educational Center

Topics: Bow hunting Methods and Techniques, Tree stand use- Placement and Safety, Camouflage, Scent Control, Lures, Calls, Shot Placement, Recovery of Game and An Evening Bow Hunt on a Wildlife Management Area. For registration and details, visit

<http://www.jamestown4hcenter.org/programs/>

## **Dinwiddie Agritourism Workshop**

**Thursday, November 9, 2017: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Ragsdale Community Center, McKenney, VA**



Learn about important Agritourism topics! Network and create partnerships!

For questions, contact Andrew Hardy at [AHardy@dinwiddieva.us](mailto:AHardy@dinwiddieva.us) or 804-732-

1100. Register here: [https://apm.activecommunities.com/playdinwiddie/](https://apm.activecommunities.com/playdinwiddie/Activity_Search/1055)

[Activity\\_Search/1055](https://apm.activecommunities.com/playdinwiddie/Activity_Search/1055), or by calling Andrew. Registration Deadline is November 2, 2017 and space is limited - register early!

## **SOVA Agritourism Workshop**

**Wednesday, December 6, 2017: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Cloverdale Quarters, Sutherlin, VA**

Learn about important Agritourism topics! Network and create

partnerships! **Thanks to our sponsors, this event is free, but**

**registration is required. To register, visit [http://](http://www.dpchamber.org/events/details/id/293/category/chamber-events/innovative-communities-agritourism-in-vi)**

**[www.dpchamber.org/events/details/id/293/category/chamber-](http://www.dpchamber.org/events/details/id/293/category/chamber-events/innovative-communities-agritourism-in-vi)**

**[events/innovative-communities-agritourism-in-vi](http://www.dpchamber.org/events/details/id/293/category/chamber-events/innovative-communities-agritourism-in-vi) or email**

**[chamber@dpchamber.org](mailto:chamber@dpchamber.org) or call 434-836-6990. Registration**

**Deadline is November 29 and space is limited - register early!**



## LOOKING FOR MORE PROFITABLE WINTER CROP OPTIONS?

NOW OFFERING

### **RAPESEED PRODUCTION CONTRACTS**

- Premium pricing over winter wheat
- Fixed price, full production contracts
- On-farm support, crop knowledge sharing

Call 336-934-8908 or  
[goagpartners@perdue.com](mailto:goagpartners@perdue.com)



*AgriBusiness*

## ORGANIC CONTRACTS



Call 336-934-8908 or  
[goagpartners@perdue.com](mailto:goagpartners@perdue.com)



*AgriBusiness*



# SOVA Agribusiness Information Technology Program

**Final Round —Applications now available! Final Deadline 9/15/17.**

Funded by Tobacco Commission Region Revitalization Commission

Approximately 80 farmers across 18 eligible Southside counties, who are accepted into SAITP will be awarded 33.3% cost share funding (up to \$1,200 per producer) on information technology tools for farms including laptop computers, QuickBooks financial recordkeeping software, Cattle Pro and Farm Logic production recordkeeping software, and professional website development. In addition, participants will have opportunities to participate in educational programs on information technology tools and practices. The objective of the program is to increase producer productivity, by identifying producers who are willing to introduce information technology into their business management and marketing strategies, for an overall increase in net farm income, either from increased revenue, decreased expenses or increased efficiency.

**For additional information, please contact Ashley Nauta at 434-476-7770 or [aswolfe@vt.edu](mailto:aswolfe@vt.edu), or your local extension agent.**



VSU College of Agriculture offers many educational programs, workshops and field days. To find out more, visit: <https://www.ext.vsu.edu/calendar/>.

## NEWSLETTER UPDATES

Check out our blogs at: <http://blogs.ext.vt.edu/ag-connection/> or <http://blogs.ext.vt.edu/central-virginia-ag-spotlight/>. Check out the google drive with information to all programs [here](#).

**Like us on Facebook at Virginia Cooperative Extension Central District!**



**Newsletter is created by Virginia Cooperative Extension—Central District. Questions or comments - please contact Ashley Nauta at [aswolfe@vt.edu](mailto:aswolfe@vt.edu) or (434) 432-7770.**



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