Two Seeders Nursery

Website: www.twoseeders.com

Owners, Sales & Growers: Donna and Jack Thomas

Square feet/ acres of business: 1 cold frame, 16’x85’ and 4,080 sq ft. of (outside) nursery pad space.

Grand opening date: April 6, 2009

Product Mix: Two Seeders offer well known containerized perennials and some that they think deserve attention. Along with selections for sun and shade. Two Seeders offer ferns, grasses and natives!

Clientele: Wholesale to landscapers and retail by appointment; Open Monday through Friday, 1:00—5:00pm, please call first because Two Seeders will have extended summer hours.

Special Services: Conditional contract growing and personal service.

What is something that you have learned since starting the nursery or advice you would give to someone interested in starting a business? “You have to be well organized and manage your time wisely! Use your resources and the help that is out there, like the Cooperative Extension Service!”

Comments: Two Seeders Nursery is a small family owned and operated perennial nursery located 10 minutes from West Asheville. A few favorite selections from Two Seeders Nursery are: Alchemilla, tough and adaptable, the foliage captures individual water droplets after the lightest shower. Agastache ‘Blue Fortune’, a showy, fragrant perennial that attracts pollinators of all kinds. Santolina virens, a mounding and low evergreen shrub with really cool fragrant foliage. Tiarella, great low maintenance ground cover and year-round beauty with this native perennial. Two Seeders have lots of native perennials available such as Turk’s Cap Lily, Goats Beard and more. Folks, be sure and visit the website and check out Spring 2009 Plant Availability List. Give Donna a call and support your local growers.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Summer 2009


The Bullington Center - 33 Upper Red Oak Trail, Hendersonville, NC www.bullingtoncenter.org

June 11
NC Pesticide Applicator License Exam. Buncombe County Cooperative Extension Office, 94 Coxe Avenue. The exam will be held at 1:00 pm. To register for the exam and to get your study manuals contact the NC Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Section (919)733-3556.

June 23-July 23
Certified Plant Professional Short Course. NC Arboretum, 100 Fredrick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville, NC. This class is designed to assist participants in developing their level of knowledge and professionalism in the area of landscape plants and use. For more information contact Cliff Ruth, (828) 697-4891 or Amanda Stone, (828) 255-5522 or visit the website: http://henderson.ces.ncsu.edu/content/CertifiedPlantProfessionalShortCourse2009

June 18-20
Southeast Greenhouse Growers Conference & Trade Show, Greenville, SC. This is the largest educational conference and trade show in the South focused on the greenhouse grower and ‘color’ industry. Tours, workshops, educational sessions, new varieties, trade show networking, are all available during the three day event. For more information call the Extension Office at 255-5522 or visit www.sgcts.org.

September 15-17
Building Your Urban Forest Infrastructure: developing working partnerships and technologies for your community. Winston-Salem, NC

September 22-23
NC Pesticide Applicator License School and Exam. Mills River, NC. To register for the school and to order your study manuals call (919)733-3556 or go to the following website: http://www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/pesticides/license.htm.

Sign-up for N.C. Agricultural Cost Share

If you would like to sign-up for the NC Ag Cost Share Program the District will be taking applications from July 1- July 31, 2009. Call or come by the Soil & Water Office to fill out an application and set up a time to meet on your farm and discuss how the program can benefit your operation while improving water quality in Buncombe County. Conservation practices that can be cost-shared include: animal waste management systems, cropland conversion to grass, livestock watering tanks (with stream protection measures), conservation tillage, filter strips, stream bank stabilization, critical area treatment or establishment of vegetation on bare areas, riparian buffers, agrichemical handling facilities, and several others. If you want more information, call the District office at: 250-4785. Please call in time to get your application to us before the deadline. It only takes a few minutes to complete the application form. Forms can be mailed to you and accepted for consideration if they are received back in our office by July 31, 2009.

If you are interested in being featured in the Grower Spotlight give Amanda Stone a call at 828-255-5522
Welcome Steve Duckett and Melinda Roberts
to the Buncombe County Cooperative Extension Staff

Steve Duckett, Rutherford County Extension Director since July 2005, has been named Buncombe County Extension Director. He started in the position on May 11 (relieving me, Amanda Stone, of interim director responsibilities!!). Steve is no stranger to Buncombe County. Prior to becoming Rutherford County extension director, he was an extension agent in Buncombe County from January 1997 to July 2005. He also served as an associate extension agent for 4-H youth development in Macon County from 1992 to 1996. Steve holds a master’s degree in human resource development from Western Carolina University and a bachelor’s degree in agriculture form Berea College. The Buncombe Extension staff is very happy to have Steve as our Director. Give Steve a call, 255-5522 and welcome him back to the county!! Let him know how the Buncombe County Cooperative Extension staff can help serve you.

Melinda Roberts joined our staff on April 1 as the Small Farms Extension Agent, the position previously held by Jean Harrison. Melinda is new to NC Cooperative Extension, but not to this region. She was born and raised in Statesville NC, growing up on a small farm that was dependent upon income derived from ‘Buy Local’ programs. Her educational background also lies in Western North Carolina, spanning Haywood Community College, Western Carolina University and Appalachian State University. Melinda will work toward helping both seasoned and new farmers through:

1. Providing educational programs focusing on farm planning, diversified crop production, adding value to products and marketing strategies.
2. Helping link farmers to local markets.
3. Seeking resources and funding for farmers through grant programs.
4. Providing assistance with value-added products through organizations such as Blue Ridge Food Ventures.
5. Linking aging landowners with aspiring farmers through Farm Transition Programs.

Please give Melinda a call and welcome her to Extension! For additional information or questions on the Small Farms program contact Melinda. Her phone number is 255-5522 or email melinda_roberts@ncsu.edu.
Pesticide Recertification Classes

Please visit North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Section for a list of recertification opportunities throughout N.C. http://www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/pesticides/index.htm

Pesticide Safety Training Session (Category V)

9/1/2009 - Pesticide Safety Training for Private Applicators, category V (2 credits). Class will be held from 3:00 - 5:00pm at the Buncombe County Extension Office, 94 Coxe Ave. Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register.

Pesticide Specialty Training Sessions

6/9/2009 - Pesticide Specialty Training, categories ABGHIKLMNOTDX (2 credits). Class will be held from 3:00-5:00pm at the Buncombe County Extension Office, 94 Coxe Ave. Asheville. Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register. CLASS IF FULL!

6/11/2009 - Integrated Pest Management for Landscapes and Nurseries, categories GLNDOX (2 credits). Class Will be held from 3:00-5:00pm at the Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, Mills River, NC. Please call (828)255-5522 to preregister.

7/28/2009 - Integrated Pest Management for Landscapes and Nurseries, categories GLNDOX (2 credits). Class will be held from 3:00 - 5:00pm at the Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, Mills River, NC. Please call (828)255-5522 to preregister.

8/18/2009 - Integrated Pest Management for Landscapes and Nurseries, categories GHLNDOX (2 credits). Class will be held from 3:00 - 5:00pm at the Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, Mills River, NC. Please call (828)255-5522 to preregister.

9/1/2009 - Pesticide Specialty Training, categories ABGHIKLMNOTDX (2 credits). Class will be held from 6:00-8:00pm at the Buncombe County Extension Office, 94 Coxe Ave. Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register.

Notice! Pesticide Regulatory Rule Change!

In an effort to comply with the recommendations of the 2008 Governor’s Task Force on Preventing Agricultural Pesticide Exposure and to implement the requirements of Senate Bill 847: “Prevent Agricultural Pesticide Exposure” The North Carolina Pesticide Board has adopted changes to the application information that is required under the Federal Worker Protection Standard. The Proposed Rule changes will become effective on May 1, 2009.

The changes will now require growers making applications that fall under the scope of the Worker Protection Standard to add the actual “end time” of application to the records. This is in addition to the “time of the application” that is required to be posted before the application takes place under the current WPS Regulations. Also each day of applications should be recorded as a separate application record.

The application information must also now be maintained for a period of two years. This coincides with the USDA Requirements for Restricted-Use Pesticides. So to comply with the regulations growers must keep the information posted at a central location for 30 days after the re-entry period expires (if workers are present on their establishment) and then maintain the records for a period of two years to allow for inspection by Pesticide Inspectors with NCDA&CS.

The regulatory changes that went into effect May 1, 2009, namely recording the time that the application was completed and maintain the records for two years, are incorporated into the New pesticide record keeping form. I am pleased to announce that the new recordkeeping form for USDA restricted-use pesticides and the WPS are now posted on the Pesticide Safety Web page: http://ipm.ncsu.edu/pesticidesafety/ if you do not have internet access please call Amanda Stone, (828) 255-5522 and she can print a copy and mail it to you.

You can choose any of three versions of the recordkeeping form: (1) a pdf which can be downloaded and used in the office or a field notebook, (2) The RTF (rich text format) allows users to input information using Word or other software or (3) an excel version.
2009 Certified Plant Professional Short Course

NC Cooperative Extension will present this year’s Certified Plant Professional Short Course using the following schedule/curriculum: All classes begin at 4:30 pm and conclude before 8:00 pm, except the review on July 21st. Which is from 4:30 to 9:00. All of the classes will be held at The North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville, NC. The first four classes will be held in the Visitors Educational Center and the balance in the Plant Professional Landscape Garden. The arboretum drive connects to the entrance ramp to the Blue Ridge Parkway from US 191. This entrance is about 2 miles south of I-26 from exit 33.

Instructors include: Anthony LeBude, Tim Matthews, Cliff Ruth and Amanda Stone.

Class Curriculum—2009 dates

- June 23 - Introduction, Basic Botany, Plant Physiology, Chapters 1-3
- June 25 - Landscape Design, Landscape Installation, Plants for Particular Sites, Chapters 5-7
- June 30 - Soils and Fertilizer, Pruning, Turfgrass, Chapters 8-10
- July 2 - Pest Management, Managing Plants in the Garden Center, Salesmanship; Chapters 12-14
- July 7 - Ground Covers, Small Shrubs, Grasses, Vines
- July 9 - Medium to Large Shrubs
- July 14 - Trees
- July 16 - Herbaceous Plants
- July 21 - Review (NC Arboretum)
- July 23 - CPP Exam (Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center).

Waiver and Program Information

This class is designed to assist participants in developing their level of knowledge and professionalism in the area of landscape plants and use. While past participants tend to score higher on the Certified Plant Professional exam we do not make any guarantees that you as a student will do so. You will need to make a personal commitment to study the materials provided and attend each class. It should also be noted that individuals with less than one years experience in the green industry are not eligible to take the CPP Exam. While this class is a good review for those individuals it would be advisable to wait or retake the class near the date you plan to take the exam.

The 2009 CPP exam will be held July 23rd at The Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center in Mills River, 9:00am - 12:00pm.
2009 Certified Plant Professional - Registration

Registration has started for the 2009 class. Please register by June 15th. There is a 10 person minimum to hold this class and we will cap it at 40.
• Company:________________________________________________________
• Name(s):_________________________________________________________
• __________________________________________________________________
• __________________________________________________________________
• Address: _________________________________________________________
• City:_____________________________________________________________
• State:____________________________________________________________
• Zip:_____________________________________________________________
• Phone:___________________________________________________________
• E-mail:___________________________________________________________

Registration fees are payable to the NC Nursery and Landscape Association. Fees cover exam fee, book, and class supplies.

Fees are as follows:
$200.00 for members of NCNLA or the employees of members
$250.00 for non-members.

If you already have a study manual from previous years (2002-forward) you may deduct $50.00 from either of the above fees.

Fees should be mailed into NCNLA at:

NCNLA
968 Trinity Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27607
Fax to 919-816-9118
Contact Kakki Collins at (919) 816-9119 for Credit Card Charges
www.ncnla.com

All attendees must meet the exam requirements of 2000 hours of industry related experience! *A portion of this fee will provide the enrollee with a 1 year individual membership to The North Carolina Arboretum Society. Membership benefits include free parking, discounts on education programs and at the gift shops and cafe, special mailings such as the newsletter and education program information, invitations to member events, and reciprocal privileges with more than 200 American Horticulture Society gardens nationwide. Your membership begins on the first day of class. After one year you will receive an invitation to renew your Arboretum membership. For more information about the Arboretum and membership benefits visit www.ncarboretum.org.
Woodland Steward Workshop Series: Managing your Legacy

According to 2008 USDA Forest Service data, 84% of the forests in North Carolina are privately owned. Of that total, over 11 million acres of our state’s forests are owned and managed by families. These family forests have been called the “last frontier” in sustainable forest management as the decisions made by private landowners affect the entire landscape for generations to come.

Forests provide and protect fresh water, supply habitat for animals and fish, provide recreation and beauty, and offer vital economic products. In 1895 George Vanderbilt hired Carl Alwin Schenck, a forester from Bavaria, to manage his forests and protect the vital resources at the Biltmore Estate and what was later to become Pisgah National Forest. Dr. Schenck opened the first forestry school in America in 1898 and for 15 years he taught his students the concepts of sustainable forest management. The legacy of Dr. Schenck lives on today. The Biltmore Forest School was officially re-opened in 2003 with the creation of the Woodland Steward Series. This series of workshops is designed to share with landowners the knowledge and resources necessary to enrich their experience as a woodland owner and manager.

Woodland owners (especially those owning 20 acres or less) interested in managing their land and developing and understanding of the basic principles of woodland stewardship are invited to participate in a unique educational event. A team of land management experts from federal and state agencies, universities, and the private sector are coordinating efforts to offer the Woodland Steward Series through the Biltmore Forest School. Sessions include both hands-on activities in the field and instruction in the classroom. Introductory information on a wide variety of land management topics will be discussed.

Registration is $50 per person per workshop, with discounts for other family members. For more information or to register, contact Amy Garascia, program coordinator 828-884-5713 ext. 26.

- July 10 & 11, 2009—Discovering Your Land: Land Management Skills (Transylvania County)
- July 24 & 25, 2009—Native Landscaping and Water Management (Buncombe County)
- August 7 & 8, 2009—Woodscaping your Woodlands and Firewise Management (Henderson County)
- August 21 & 22, 2009—Stewardship, Recreation, and Liability (Transylvania County)

Food Preservation Workshops

Canning season is just around the corner and it’s time to get prepared. Check equipment to make sure it is ready for use. Buy new jar lids to replace the lids used last year. Call our office to set up an appointment for checking your pressure gauge. (828) 255-5522.

To learn more about canning, or just to brush up on the newest information, our Hands on Canning Classes this season are:
- Making Strawberry Jam - Thursday, June 4, 9am to 1pm
- Making Dill Pickles and Relish - Thursday, July 9, 1 to 4 pm
- Canning Tomatoes - Thursday, August 6, 1 to 4 pm

Pre-registration is required and a fee of $10 will cover costs for materials ($15 for couples). Call our office to register or for more information.(828) 255-5522.

Madison County Cooperative Extension Center is offering Canning and Preserving Made Easy on Wednesday, July 22, 2009 from 1-4pm. This workshop is an introduction to canning, pickling, jams and jellies, freezing, drying and storage. Cost: $10 ($15 for couples). To register please contact Sue Estridge, Ext. Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences, at (828) 649-2411.
Here are a few strategies to consider for coping with the down economy.

Some of these steps are radical, while others are a milder form of defense. Implement them according to the conditions you experience in your market area.

1. **Conserve your cash.** Don't spend a dime on anything that isn't absolutely necessary to your operation strategically.

2. **Refinance anything and everything you can.** Stretch out the payments because getting cash later on will be difficult as more people will apply for loans and banks will become very picky.

3. **Know your costs** well because poor pricing can put you out of business faster. Assume that cost-side pressures caused by a recession will last about two years after a recession is over.

4. **Beef up your advertising/marketing.** Everyone else is cutting back. Now is the time to gain "mind share."

5. Slowdowns mean layoffs, which may mean **there are some talented folks** that can be picked up. Take advantage of that fact.

6. Selling off assets during a recession is difficult. Nevertheless, **selling off unused equipment** reduces insurance and registration costs and property taxes.

7. **Apply for credit long before you need it.** Credit markets are very skittish right now and a good relationship with your banker will pay off dividends.

8. Look deeper in your own markets. Can you **offer your current customer base a more diversified line of products and/or services?** Go and make eyeball-to-eyeball visits to your top 10 customers.

9. **Review your business insurance** to make sure your premiums have been adjusted for the depreciated value of your vehicles and equipment.

10. Take a **look at your estimated tax payments** made to the IRS. Decreased earnings call for decreased estimated tax payments.

Cash is "king" during economic slowdowns no matter how mild or severe. Expect your customers to also feel the effect, which means they will pay you at a much slower rate than during the good times. Having enough working capital to make it through the season is paramount!


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You can get this newsletter via email. Contact us either by phone at 828-255-5522 or email: Amanda_stone@ncsu.edu