Grower Spotlight

Carolina Tree Form
70 Pisgah Hwy, Candler, NC 28715
(828)670-8733 (phone) - (828)670-8690 (fax)
info@carolinatreeform.com (email) or www.carolinatreeform.com

- **Owner, Sales & Grower**: Jennifer Hodges & Travis Lamb
- **Number of employees**: 3 fulltime & 2 seasonal
- **Square feet acres of business**: 7 ½ acres
- **Grand opening date**: May 1, 2000
- **Product mix**: Large selection of high quality trees & shrubs, conifers, vines, grasses & groundcovers. Lots of native plants & rare, unusual, hard to find specimen & specialty plants!
- **Clientele**: Wholesale to landscapers, general contractors, landscape architects, developers, garden centers & knowledgeable horticulturalists.
- **New & upcoming**: Carolina Tree Form has grown & is expanding their production. The grand opening date of the new nursery is July 1. *Congratulations guys!!* At the new nursery they will have 1-2 acres in field grown plant material including wetland plants. They will be purchasing liners and growing those up as 7, 15, & 30 gallon plant materials. So, if you need big material, they got it!
- **Special services**: Delivery of plant materials within a 100 mile radius for a minimal fee!!!
- **Staff picks**: Natives, specialty plants & conifers!!
- **Fringe Tree, Chionanthus sp.** - Native, very beautiful shrub or small tree with an outstanding flower. Prefers full sun to partial shade. Michael Dirr would like for this plant to be the National Shrub!!
- **Big Leaf Magnolia, Magnolia macrophylla** - One of my favorite trees! Native, big leaves, largest single flower in North America, intoxicatingly fragrant!
- **Bottlebrush Buckeye, Aesculus parviflora** - Native, superb plant for a foliage effect! This plant is outstanding in flower - attracts hummingbirds! Excellent fall color!
- **Comments**: Carolina Tree Form bases their business on providing the highest quality plant material to their customers. The '07 availability and price list is now available! Just contact Carolina Tree Form and the availability list can be mailed/faxed to you OR check it out online! They have a great website with pictures, on-line catalogue and more ... it’s great. Give’em a call and support your local growers!!!!!
**Pesticide Recertification Classes**

*Pesticide Safety Training Sessions (Category V)*

4/17/2007 - Asheville, NC - 2 hours credit V  
Private Safety; contact Amanda Stone, (828) 255-5522, amanda_stone@ncsu.edu

4/26/2007 - Waynesville, NC - 2 hours credit V  
Private Safety; contact Bill Skelton, (828) 456-3575, bill_skelton@ncsu.edu

**Pesticide Specialty Training Sessions**

3/22/2007 - Columbus, NC - 1.5 hours credit N O D X  
Pasture Weed Management; contact John Vining - (828) 894-8218

4/2/2007 – Asheville, NC - 2 hours credit N O D X  
Pasture Management; contact Kenneth Reeves – (828) 255-5522

4/17/2007 - Asheville, NC - 2 hours credit L N O D X  
Weed ID & Control for Farm & Landscape; contact Amanda Stone, (828)255-5522, amanda_stone@ncsu.edu

Recertification for Private Pesticide License Holders; contact Elizabeth Ayers - (828) 649-2411

Please call to pre-register.

*** Please visit North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Section for a list of recertification opportunities throughout North Carolina. [http://www.agr.state.nc.us/fooddrug/pesticides](http://www.agr.state.nc.us/fooddrug/pesticides)

**Landscape Maintenance in March**

**Lawns:**

- Prepare lawn mowers and sharpen blades.
- If you have not fertilized your lawn, you are almost out of time. Products containing slow-release nitrogen should be applied no later than the first week of March. Quick-release products such as 10-10-10 can be applied through the end of the month.
- If winter annual weeds are actively growing and they bother you, you can treat with a post-emergent broadleaf weed herbicide.
- There is still time for soil testing; add lime to any soil that needs it.

**Ornamentals:**

- Cut back old foliage on grasses and perennials.
- Time to prune summer flowering trees and shrubs, evergreens and over-grown shrubs that need rejuvenation.
- Do not prune spring blooming plants until after the flower fades.
- This is a good time for planting woody ornamentals and perennials as long as the ground isn’t frozen. Remember to water every two to four weeks as long as temperatures are above freezing and the ground is not frozen.
- Divide and replant summer & fall blooming perennials.
- There is still time for soil testing; add lime to any soil that needs it.
2007 Commercial & Private Pesticide Applicators & Dealer Exam Dates

Two pesticide exams are now available in Spanish: Private Applicator Exam and Ornamental and Turf Exam.

Call NCDA & CS/Pesticide Section (919) 733-3556 to schedule an appointment and to confirm licensing category.

ALL EXAMS WILL BEGIN AT 1:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Exams are also held the second day of each school.

March 14 - Asheville, NC
April 2 - Statesville, NC
May 2 - Fletcher, NC (May 1st School)
June 6 - Asheville, NC
September 19 - Asheville, NC

** Training material may be obtained from NCSU, Department of Horticulture Science, Box 7609, Raleigh, NC 27695, telephone (919) 515-3113 or go to www.ncagr.com/fooddrug/pesticid/ and download the manual order form, fill it out and mail it in.

Pasture Management Workshop

When: April 2, 2007; 6:00-8:00pm
Where: Buncombe County Cooperative Extension, 94 Coxe Avenue, Asheville, NC.

This workshop will focus on management strategies to reduce weed competition with forage grasses for animal production. Specific topics include weed identification; evaluation of general agronomic practices, including attention to limiting soil nutrients, grazing management, calculation of bio-mass and days of grazing potential; weed control strategies, and herbicide resistance management. Two (2) hours of pesticide recertification credits will be available at this workshop for categories N O D X. Please call to pre-register, (828) 255-5522.

Keeping Honey Bees

Do you keep honey bees or want to learn? Buncombe County has a real active bee club that would love to have you join. A chapter of the State Beekeepers Club, the Buncombe County Beekeepers meets the 2nd Monday of each month. Our next meeting will be Monday, March 12 from 7:00-9:00 pm. We’ll meet at the Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center. At this meeting we will be discussing honey bee nutrition and spring build-up. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact the Extension office, (828) 255-5522.

Looking for beekeeping equipment? Need to sell old equipment? Buncombe County Beekeeper’s are hosting a ‘Bee Equipment Sales Day’ on Saturday, March 31 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm at the Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center, Fletcher, NC.

Recommendations for the use of chemicals are included in this publication as a convenience to the reader. The use of brand names and any mention or listing of commercial products or services in this publication does not imply endorsement by NCSU, NCA&T State University or NC Cooperative Extension or discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned. Individuals who use chemicals are responsible for ensuring that the intended use complies with current regulations and conforms to the product label. Be sure to obtain current information about usage regulations and examine a current product label before applying any chemical. For assistance contact an agent of N. C. Cooperative Extension.
Calendar of Events

March 8
*Risky Business - How Do I Protect My Farm & Me?* UNC-Asheville, Robinson Hall, Room 129, Steelcase Teleconference Center. 3:00- 6:00pm. No registration required. For more info contact the Extension office, (828) 255-5522.

March 10-11
14th Annual Organic Growers School. Blue Ridge Community College, Flat Rock. A day of workshops for beginning gardeners to advanced commercial growers. To register and for more info go to: www.organicgrowersschool.org

March 13, 20, 27, & April 3
Spanish for Green Industry Employers & Supervisors. Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center, Fletcher, NC. 6:00- 8:30 pm. This short course isn’t designed to make you a fluent Spanish speaker, but to give you some of the fundamentals that you will use in the green industry. The instructor is Tonya Allison. Class size is limited to 20 registrants, registration is $100. Please contact Cliff Ruth, (828) 697-4891 to register or go to: http://henderson.ces.ncsu.edu/content/SpanishforGreenIndustryEmployees

March 24
Agribusiness Planning 101 - Building a Business Plan that Works for Me & My Farm! Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center, Fletcher, NC. 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Pre-registration is required ($15), contact (828) 255-5522 for more details.

March 27
Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Applicators Workshop. Calvary Episcopal Church in Fletcher, 9:00 am-4:30 pm. Topics will include HWA Biology, Pesticide Safety, Legal Aspects of Applications, Understanding Effective Chemical Applications, Mauget Equipment Operations (Hands-on) and Evaluations of Site, Weather, Tree Size, Tree Value, and Tree Health in Making Application Decisions. Registration $65. Call Cliff Ruth, (828) 697-4891 or visit: http://henderson.ces.ncsu.edu/content/HemlockWoolyAdelgidTreatmentProgram

March 29
Dwarf Conifers - A Variety of Color, Texture and Form. Bullington Center, 33 Upper Red Oak Trail, Hendersonville, NC. 4:00-5:30pm. Learn about the surprising variety in conifers from Michael Balogh, owner of Mountain Meadows Nursery and 25-year veteran of growing these plants!!! Call (828) 698-6104 to pre-register ($12). Visit the website at: www.bullingtoncenter.org

April 25
Perennials and Grasses for WNC Gardens. Bullington Center, 33 Upper Red Oak Trail, Hendersonville, NC. Jean-Claude Linossi, Horticulturalist from Etowah Valley Country Club, will highlight perennial plants and ornamental grasses that perform especially well in our area. Pre-registration ($12) is required; call (828) 698-6104. Visit the website at: www.bullingtoncenter.org

April 27-28
‘Growing in the Mountains’ Plant Show & Sale. 9:00 am-6:00 pm. WNC Farmers’ Market, Asheville, NC. Sponsored by the Blue Ridge Horticulture Association. For more information please call the Extension office at (828) 255-5522.
March 2007

Calendar of Events (Continued)

May 1-2
Commercial & Private Applicators Pesticide License Exam & School. Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center, Fletcher, NC. For more information call (828) 255-5522 or http://www.ncagr.com/fooddrug/pesticid

May 31-June 2
Washington, D. C. Garden Tour
Complete tour information, fee schedule and itinerary included in this newsletter. Among the stops include National Arboretum, U.S. Botanical Gardens, Museums on the Mall, Lewis Ginter Arboretum. Contact Amanda Stone, (828) 255-5522 for more information.

June 19-July 21
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.

June 21-24
South East 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, education sessions, new varieties, trade show networking, are all available during the three day event. For more information call the Extension office at (828) 255-5522 or visit www.sgcts.org

U. S. Department of Labor, Wage & Hour Visit Growers in WNC!

A meeting to address the questions and needs for compliance to federal and state regulations will be held on March 15, 2007 from 5:00-9:00 pm at the Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center; Fletcher, NC. If you have questions, call Diane Ducharme, N. C. Cooperative Extension (828) 697-4891. Three guest speakers are:

*Mr. John Blaine*, District Director, US Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division, Charlotte, oversees many federal labor laws including the minimum wage, overtime, and child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA); the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA); the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act (MSPA); worker protections provided in several temporary visa programs; and the prevailing wage requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act (DBA) and the Service Contract Act (SCA).

*Regina Luginbuhl* from NC Department of Labor - Ag Safety and Health Bureau will be speaking about migrant housing registration, field sanitation and regulations, and ways to improve work place safety.

*Paula Gupton Page*, NC Farm Bureau *State Legislative Director will be answering questions and serve as growers representative for issues.

Grower Spotlight – Past Issues

1. **Broad River Botanicals** (828) 664-9902; 2805 Hwy 9, Black Mountain, NC. Perennials – unusual new varieties and top performers, natives; wholesale to landscapers and garden center; will deliver.

2. **Biltmore Estate Nursery**, (828) 665-3635; 702 Brevard Road, Asheville, NC. Perennials, natives, trees, shrubs, grasses and ferns; wholesale to landscapers.

3. **Mountain Meadows Landscape & Dwarf Conifer Nursery**, (828) 626-2695; Weaverville, NC www.mountainmeadowsdwarfconifers.com Over 300 varieties of conifers, dwarf conifers and select deciduous plant material, like fragrant Viburnums and Peony; wholesale to landscapers and retail.
Trip to the US National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.

May 31-June 2, 2007

Bus Trip: $100--check made payable to “NC State Agriculture Foundation” and sent to Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center, c/o Anthony LeBude, 455 Research Drive, Fletcher, NC  28732
Hotel:  $120/night regardless of occupancy (you reserve the room yourself; see below)
Deadline to register for the trip is Monday May 21, 2007.

Itinerary:

Thursday, May 31, 2007
8:00 am - Leave Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center
Stop for lunch in transit (on your own)
3:00 pm - Arrive Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
6:00 pm - Depart Lewis Ginter for Springfield, VA
Stop for dinner in transit (on your own)
9:00 pm - Arrive Hampton Inn Springfield, VA

Friday, June 1, 2007
9:00 am - Arrive U. S. National Arboretum.  
Box lunch provided.
4:00 pm - Depart US National Arboretum for Union Station.  (Dinner on your own)
Arrive Union Station or continue with bus to the hotel (due to limited bus parking, we are not guaranteed a spot).  Those remaining at Union Station will ride the Metro to the hotel by riding the blue line to the Franconia-Springfield, VA station, then a free hotel-shuttle will bring you to the Hampton Inn.  *Hey, I know there is some risk here, but also some adventure.

Saturday, June 2, 2007
8:30 am - Depart hotel for River Farm located at the American Horticultural Society
10:30 am - Depart River Farm (AHS) gardens
Lunch in transit (on your own)
3:00 pm - Arrive J. C. Raulston Arboretum
6:00 pm - Depart JCRA.
10:30 pm - Arrive MHC&REC

Hotel Information:  Call the Hampton Inn to make reservations for yourself for two nights (5/31/07 and 6/1/07).  Do so by April 30, 2007 (room block released after this date).  If you decide later not to go, you must cancel your room by May 30.

Hampton Inn
6550 Loisdale Court; Springfield, VA 22150
(703) 924-9444

Group Name:  NCSU  $120/night, regardless of occupancy.

You must register for the bus trip by sending a check for $100 made payable to the “NC State Agriculture Foundation.”  Send the check to Anthony LeBude (do not make the check out to him) at Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center, 455 Research Drive, Fletcher, NC  28732.  Call Anthony at (828) 684-3562 or e-mail him at Anthony_Lebude@ncsu.edu so he can expect your payment.
Hands-on training to learn how to calibrate a rotary and drop spreader, backpack sprayer and boom. Knowing how much product your sprayer is actually putting out per acre can save you time, money and it's kinder on our environment. We will also practice calculating application rates or how much product you need to put in your sprayer based on label recommendations.

The training is approved for 3 credits for pesticide license categories: A B D G H I K L M N O T X

Pre-registration is required - $20

For more information or to pre-register, please contact Amanda Stone, 828-255-5522.

Registration
- Company:____________________________________________________________
- Name(s):___________________________________________________________
- Address:___________________________________________________________
- City:______________________________________________________________
- State:____________________________________________________________
- Zip:_______________________________________________________________
- Phone:____________________________________________________________
- E-mail:____________________________________________________________

Please send this portion of form back with the registration fee of $20 made payable to the Buncombe County and mail to:

Amanda Stone
Extension Agent
Buncombe County Center
94 Coxe Avenue
Asheville, NC 28801
Plant Problems to Watch for in March

http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/ent/clinic/Summary/marwatch.htm

Here are some diseases we observed in the clinic during the month of March. Upon going to the website, hypertext links will lead you to specific information about a certain disease or about diseases in a certain crop.

Turf Grass

Brown patch, Cold injury, Fairy ring, Nutritional problems, Pink snow mold

Woody Ornamentals

*General shrubs* - Cold injury to stems (bark loose & peeling near soil line), Frost damage to blooms and new growth, [Edema](#), Normal decline of senescent leaves on broadleaf evergreens (secondary leafspots)

*Azalea* - Phomopsis dieback, [Phytophthora root rot](#), [Stunt nematodes](#)

*Boxwood, Common* - [Lesion nematodes](#), [Phytophthora root rot](#)

*CAMELLIA* - Algal leaf spot, Bullnose (bloom failure), Canker, [Phytophthora root rot](#)

*Cherry Laurel* - Bacterial leaf spot

*Cypress, Leyland* - Cypress canker

*Hawthorn, Indian* - Entomosporium leafspot

*Holly* - Japanese - Black root rot, [Dagger, ring and root-knot nematodes](#)

*Juniper* - Low pH, Phytophthora root rot

*Leucothoe* - Powdery mildew

*Magnolia, Southern* - Algal leaf spot

*Photinia* - Entomosporium leaf spot

*Rhododendron* - Botryosphaeria dieback, Botrytis dieback (begins in old flowers), [Phytophthora root rot](#), [Stunt nematodes](#)

*Rose* - Botrytis cane blight, Downy mildew, Rose Mosaic

Herbaceous Ornamentals

*Greenhouse bedding plants/perennials* - Botrytis diseases, Pythium root rot, Rhizoctonia diseases (Web blight, root/stem rot), Sclerotinia stem rot, Impatiens necrotic spot virus

*English Ivy* - Anthracnose, [Edema](#)

*Liriope* - Anthracnose and secondary leafspots on last year's foliage

*Pansy* - Black root rot, Botrytis blight, Cold injury, Pythium root rot

*Madagascar periwinkle* - Botrytis blight, Phytophthora blight

*Snapdragon* - Downy mildew

Foothills Ornamental Production Workshop

*Where:* N. C. Cooperative Extension - Caldwell County Center

120 Hospital Avenue, NE, Lenoir, NC

*When:* March 8, 2007 at 8:30am - 4:00pm.

The Foothills Ornamental Production Workshop is designed to provide updated information on ornamental plants, production practices and pest identification and control for those in nursery and landscape industry. Registration is $15 *(March 5)*; $20 *(after March 5)*. Registration includes lunch & handouts. Pesticide credits will be available for L N O D X.

*Contact:* Craig Adkins, (828) 757-1290
Wood Products Workshop for Home Owners and Builders

Buncombe County Extension and NCSU Department of Wood & Paper Science – Wood Products Extension are sponsoring a workshop for builders, designers and homeowners. The workshop will focus on discussing the common wood products used in home construction, from the structure to the exterior and interior. Also discussed will be who in the local area is making these products. The workshop is scheduled for Saturday, April 28. Contact the Extension Center at (828) 255-5522 for a brochure.

AS:gs
Individuals with disabilities who would like to participate in any program mention in this newsletter, but who need special assistance to do so, should call the Extension Center at 828-255-5522 at least five days prior to the event.

The Commercial Horticulture News is a newsletter produced by the Buncombe County Center of North Carolina Cooperative Extension. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform and educate Buncombe County producers about current issues related to commercial horticulture production.

Editor: Amanda Stone, Extension Agent – Agriculture, Commercial Horticulture

Check out Buncombe County Center’s website at...http://buncombe.ces.ncsu.edu