

**2024 Apple School Tentative Agenda
February 6-7, 2024
Flavorful Farms &
Blue Ridge Community College**

**February 6, 2024
Flavorful Farms & KB Orchards**

Time	Topic	Speaker
7:45-8:45	Registration at Flavorful Farms	
8:45-9:00	Welcome	Rex McCall, President BRAG Harley Prewitt, President NCAGA
9:00-10:00	Apple Slicer Demonstration, Tour of Packing House	Jeff Nix, Flavorful Farms Jerrod Nix, Flavorful Farms
10:00-10:45	Identify food safety risks in packing houses and develop a maintenance plan for the off season.	Elena Rogers, NCSU
10:45-11:15	Break and move across the street to KB Orchards	
11:15-12:00	Equipment Demonstration at KB Orchards	Kenny Barnwell, KB Orchards
12:00-2:00	Lunch on Your Own – Convene at Blue Ridge Community College	
2:00-2:30	NCDA Agritourism Program	Erica Calderon, NCDA&CS
2:30-3:00	Agritourism in NC	Debbie Hamrick, NC Farm Bureau
3:00-3:45	Direct Marketing & Agritourism Grower	Mike Culifer, Virginia Beach, VA
3:45-4:00	Break	
4:00-4:30	Overview of food safety practices to protect farms that direct market produce.	Elena Rogers, NCSU
4:30-4:45	Update on VIST NC Farms	Julie Hayes, Hend. Co. Tourism
4:45-5:00	BRFDMA Annual Meeting	Stephanie Lively, President

February 7, 2024 – Blue Ridge Community College

Time	Topic	Speaker
7:30-8:15	Registration	
8:15-8:30	Welcome	Rex McCall, President, Blue Ridge Apple Growers Harley Prewitt, President, NC Apple Growers
8:30-8:55	What's the Status of Codling Moth and Brown Marmorated Stink Bug	Dr. Jim Walgenbach, NCSU Dept. of Entomology, Mtn. Hort. Crops Res. & Ext. Center, Mills River, NC
8:55-9:20	Orchard Weed Management	Mr. Wayne Mitchem, Dept. of Horticultural Science, Mills River, NC

9:20-10:15 MCP: What we Know and What We Don't
Dr. Mike Parker, Dept. of Horticulture, NCSU, Raleigh, NC.

10:15-10:45 Break

10:45-11:15 The Cornell Apple Breeding Program
Dr. Sue Brown, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

11:15-11:30 Nursery Update
Marshall Saunders

11:30-11:45 BRAG & NCAG Awards Ceremony

11:45-12:00 BRAG Annual Meeting

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-1:20 Greetings and Report from Cooperative Extension
Dr. Dale Monks, Assoc. Director, Cooperative Extension, NC State University,
Raleigh, NC
Welcome to Henderson County, John Mitchell, Henderson Co. Manager
Presentation of Decree from Henderson County Commissioners

1:20-1:50 Report from US Apple
Diane Kurrle, US Apple

1:50-2:20 New Varieties and Those Coming Down the Pipeline
Bill Pitts, MAIA

2:20-2:35 2024 Food Safety Update
Ms. Elena Rogers, Area Specialized Agent-Food Safety, NCSU Dept. of Horticultural
Science, Lenoir, NC

2:35-3:00 Predicting apple chemical thinner responses with new technologies.
Dr. Tom Kon, NCSU, Dept. of Horticultural Science, Mills River, NC

3:00-3:30 Break

3:30-3:55 Optimizing Captan Programs for the Management of Glomerella Leaf Spot and Bitter Rot
Dr. Sara Villani, NCSU Dept. of Ent. & Plant Path., Mills River, NC

3:55-4:10 The Farmworker Health & Safety Program
Chris Just, Henderson County Cooperative Extension

4:10-4:30 Review 2024 Integrated Orchard Management Guide-Sign Up for Pesticide Credits
Dr. W. Terry Kelley & Panel

4:30 Wrap Up and Adjourn