

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

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

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic &amp; Speaker</b>
7:45-8:45	Registration at Flavorful Farms
8:45-9:00	Welcome Rex McCall, President BRAG, Edneyville, NC Harley Prewitt, President NCAGA
9:00-9:50	Apple Slicer Demonstration, Tour of Packing House Jeff Nix, Flavorful Farms, Edneyville, NC Jerred Nix, Flavorful Farms, Edneyville, NC
9:50-10:35	Identify food safety risks in packing houses and develop a maintenance plan for the off season. Ms. Elena Rogers, Area Specialized Agent-Food Safety, NCSU Dept. of Horticultural Science, Lenoir, NC
10:35-11:00	Break and move across the street to KB Orchards
11:00-12:00	Equipment Exhibits at KB Orchards/Flavorful Farms Kenny Barnwell, KB Orchards, Edneyville, NC
12:00-2:00	Lunch on Your Own – Reconvene at Blue Ridge Community College @ 2pm

**February 6, 2024 – Afternoon  
Blue Ridge Community College**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
2:00-2:30	NCDCA Agritourism Program Erica Calderon, NCDCA&CS	
2:30-3:00	Legislative Update Debbie Hamrick, NC Farm Bureau	
3:00-3:45	Direct Marketing & Agritourism Grower Mike Cullipher, Cullipher Farm Market, Virginia Beach, VA	
3:45-4:00	Break	
4:00-4:30	Overview of Food Safety Practices to Protect Farms that Direct Market Produce. Ms. Elena Rogers, Area Specialized Agent-Food Safety, NCSU Dept. of Horticultural Science, Lenoir, NC	
4:30-4:45	Update on VIST NC Farms Ashley Downer, Hend. Co. Tourism Devel. Auth., Hendersonville, NC	
4:45-5:00	BRFDMA Annual Meeting Stephanie Lively, President, Flat Rock, NC	

**February 7, 2024  
Blue Ridge Community College**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
7:30-8:15	Registration	
8:15-8:30	Welcome & Housekeeping	Rex McCall, President, Blue Ridge Apple Growers Harley Prewitt, President, NC Apple Growers Dr. W. Terry Kelley, NC Cooperative Extension, Henderson County
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
9:20-9:45	MCP: What we Know and What We Don't	Dr. Mike Parker, NCSU Dept. of Horticultural Science, Raleigh, NC.
9:45-10:00	A Proposed Agricultural Apprenticeship Program for Henderson County	Commissioner Rebecca McCall, Henderson County Board of Commissioners, Hendersonville, NC
10:00-10:30	Break	
10:30-10:55	Identifying Landscape Factors Associated with Ambrosia Beetle Attack	Dr. Jensen Hayter, NCSU Dept. of Entomology, Mtn. Hort. Crops Res. & Ext. Center, Mills River, NC
10:55-11:20	Characterizing the Effects and Interactions of Water Stress and Rootstock on Physiological Responses and Ambrosia Beetle Colonization	Dr. Melissa Munoz, NCSU Dept. of Horticultural Science, Mtn. Hort. Crops. Res. & Ext. Center, Mills River, NC
11:20-11:40	Nursery Updates	Saunders Brothers, Marshall Saunders AC Nursery, Ryan Callahan Waffler Nurseries,
11:40-12:00	BRAG & NCAG Awards Ceremony	
12:00-12:15	BRAG Annual Meeting	
12:15-1:15	Lunch	
1:15-1:35	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
1:35-2:05	Report from US Apple	Diane Kurrle, US Apple
2:05-2:35	New Varieties and Those Coming Down the Pipeline	Bill Pitts, MAIA
2:35-2:50	2024 Food Safety Update	Ms. Elena Rogers, Area Specialized Agent-Food Safety, NCSU Dept. of Horticultural Science, Lenoir, NC
2:50-3:00	The Farmworker Health & Safety Program	Chris Just, Henderson County Cooperative Extension

- 3:00-3:30 Break
- 3:30-3:55 Predicting apple chemical thinner responses with new technologies.  
Dr. Tom Kon, NCSU Dept. of Horticultural Science, Mtn. Hort. Crops. Res. & Ext. Center, Mills River, NC
- 3:55-4:20 Optimizing Captan Programs for the Management of Glomerella Leaf Spot and Bitter Rot  
Dr. Sara Villani, NCSU Dept. of Ent. & Plant Path., Mtn. Hort. Crops. Res. & Ext. Center, Mills River, NC
- 4:20-4:30 Review 2024 Integrated Orchard Management Guide-Sign Up for Pesticide Credits  
Dr. W. Terry Kelley & Panel
- 4:30 Wrap Up and Adjourn
- 4:40-5:00 NCAGA Annual Meeting