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Agriculture Newsletter
Edgecombe County Center
February 13, 2012

EDGECOMBE - NASH PEANUT MEETING
When: Monday, February 20th
Where: East Carolina Ag & Education Center
       1175 Kingsboro Road, Rocky Mount
Who: Dr. David Jordan – NCSU Peanut Specialist
     Dr. Barbara Shew – NCSU Peanut Pathologist

The area peanut meeting for Edgecombe and Nash Counties will begin after lunch and review production practices, weed management (particularly ALS resistance), variety characteristics, disease management and insect management. Pesticide credits have been approved for 2 hours of N, O, D, and X. Please call us so we can plan for the meal at 252-641-7815.

COTTON PRODUCTION MEETING
When: Monday, February 27th @ 12:00 noon
Where: East Carolina Ag & Education Center
       1175 Kingsboro Road, Rocky Mount
Who: Dr. Keith Edmisten, NCSU Cotton Specialist
     Dr. Jack Bacheler, NCSU Cotton Entomologist
     Dr. Alan York, NCSU Weed Specialist

Join us for the county cotton production update. We will focus on newer varieties, insect technology traits, and probably most importantly managing glyphosate-resistant weeds. Pesticide credits have been approved for 2 hours of N, O, D, and X. The meeting will begin with a meal at noon, so please call us so we can plan for the meal at 252-641-7815.

SOIL FUMIGANT UPDATE: NEW REGULATIONS AND NEW LABELS
Fumigants that we commonly use in tobacco, such as Telone C-17 and Chloropicrin, were required to be re-registered with the EPA. EPA was concerned that current practices and labels were not providing workers and bystanders with adequate protection to prevent accidental exposure. With the new labels, there are two phases of implementation, some beginning in 2011 and some planned to begin in 2012.

Phase 1 practices began with new labeled product in January 1, 2011. These practices included:
- Handler respiratory protection
- Re-entry restrictions
- Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs)
- Fumigant Management Plans
- Required safety information for handlers

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February 13, 2012
Phase 2 was scheduled to begin January 1, 2012, but fumigants had to be re-labeled again for this to be effective. There is a delay in the new fumigant labels and the fumigants used this spring should still have the 2011 label. If you are using a fumigant with a 2011 label, you will need to follow the 2011 practices. If you have a new 2012 label, you will need to follow the more restrictive label. These labels will likely be available for fall 2012. How do you tell the difference in the label? New labels will require:

- Buffers and buffer posting
- Restrictions near difficult to evacuate sites
- Registrant provided training for applicators and community outreach programs.

As a reminder, Telone II was not a part of the current re-registration and will not be affected by the new regulations.

**RESPIRATOR MASK FIT-TESTING FOR AGRICULTURAL FUMIGANT APPLICATORS**

**NASH COUNTY AGRICULTURAL CENTER**

**FEBRUARY 23 & 24**

Respirator mask fit-testing and sales will be provided at this event by **Eastern Environmental Management Company** of Rocky Mount, NC

- Agricultural fumigant applicators are now required to have their full face mask respirator fit-tested each year.
- Many of you were fit-tested for the first time last year.

⇒ Please fax or mail the enclosed **Pre-Registration Form** in order to be assigned an appointment time for respirator fit-testing at the Nash County Agriculture Center on February 23 or 24.

- Respirator fit-testing will require approximately 15 minutes per person.
- It is important that we know what brand/model of respirator you have in order that we have testing equipment that fits your mask.
- New respirator mask will be available for purchase if you need one.
- When we receive your **Pre-Registration form**, you will be contacted by phone and given an appointment time.
- Medical clearance is a separate issue and is determined by your physician or through an outline process. Review your paperwork to see if your medical clearance needs updating.

**Come prepared to pay $50 for each person fit-tested**

Purchase of new respirator mask and cartridges will require additional payment.

You will be provided receipts and a rebate form for recovering 50% of your fit-testing and purchase expense.

Rebates are funded by NC Tobacco Trust Fund through NC Agromedicine Institute.

Disclaimer: The use of brand names and any mention or listing of commercial products or services does not imply endorsement by North Carolina State University or discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned. Individuals who use agricultural 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 before applying any chemical. For assistance contact Edgecombe County Cooperative Extension Agent.