Using High Tunnels for Season Extension: Introduction & Special Topics

Date: Monday March 27, 2017
Time: 9:00am – 2:30pm
Location: Morning: Cabarrus County Cooperative Extension Office & Afternoon: Lomax Incubator Farm (both in Concord)
Registration Fee: $25– Includes Lunch
Register Online: http://go.ncsu.edu/high-tunnels-3-27-17

High tunnels are low-tech, low-cost tools that allow growers to extend the growing season of vegetables and small fruit crops, potentially increasing market opportunities and farm profits. Although high tunnels are considered low-tech, maximizing production and profits can be difficult. During this workshop participants will be equipped with the knowledge to increase their high tunnel production efficiency through proper management techniques. A special topic of grafted heirloom tomato production will be discussed and demonstrated at a local farm. Session topics include high tunnel production, transplant production, grafted heirloom tomatoes in a high tunnel, and NRCS high tunnel cost share programs. We’ll also discuss regional marketing opportunities for high tunnel production.

The afternoon hands-on portion will be at the Elma C. Lomax Incubator Farm where research is currently being conducted on grafted heirloom tomatoes in a high tunnel. Greenhouse and transplant production will also be demonstrated.

Speakers Include:
Laura Lauffer, Project Coordinator, Local Farms and Food, N.C. A&T State University, Cooperative Extension Program
Local Representative, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Gena Moore, Organic Research Coordinator, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
Aaron Newton, Lomax Farm Manager, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
Lauren Duncan, Area Horticulture Agent, NC Cooperative Extension

Regional farmers include:
Allen Blake, Owner of Maters and More Farm
Cody Hammel, Hammel Heritage Farm