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## Iredell County Center Iredell Informed Newsletter December 2020 Edition

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### A Farmer's Night Before Christmas

Original by Jo Hart (adapted by Iredell Extension Staff)

'Twas the night before Christmas and out on the farm,  
Not a creature was stirring in stable or barn.  
The hats were all hung after a long day of sowing,  
And just like the song, the cattle were lowing.

The chickens were nestled in roost boxes of hay,  
The old farm dog was snoozing, resting too from the day.  
Both the farmer and wife sat around their kitchen table,  
Relaxing and thinking back on getting done all they were able.

When out in the pasture there was stomping of hooves,  
"Sounds like the cattle are on the move."  
With a quick start, the farmer rose from his chair,  
Wondering what gave his heifers a scare.

The pink and gold sky gave just enough light,  
For the farmer to see a very strange sight.  
An eight-cattle drove pulling a well-used wagon,  
It had been patched with care, and was so full it was draggin'.

The driver's tanned arm, peeked out from under his coat,  
It had to be Santa, just like the one on the town float.

Kicking up dust his meaty steers came,  
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name,  
"On Sausage, on T-Bone, on Rissole, on Stew,  
On Schnitzel, on Beefy, on Rump Roast, on Moo.  
To the top of the hayshed; to the top of the dairy,  
We've got to get moving, there's lots to make merry ."

Then with a thud they crashed on the roof,  
The tin rumbled like thunder under each solid hoof.  
In through the screen door the farmer did race,  
As Santa squeezed out of the old fireplace.

He was dressed in overalls, the hardworking sort,  
His boots were covered in dirt, and the farmer's wife gave a snort.  
His skin was all wrinkled and brown as the earth,  
He had a belly of considerable girth.

The beard on his chin was white as a lamb,  
And the smile on his face as wide as a dam.  
He gave the farmer & his wife a wink and a thumb in the air,  
Then offloaded the presents and got out of there.

He jumped back in his wagon and spurred on his team,  
They roused and grunted, then headed off like a dream.  
He was heard hollering, as he drove out the dirt road,  
"Merry Christmas to all", on to the next farm to unload.

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From all of us at Iredell County Cooperative Extension,  
we wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season.  
As we close out 2020, let us be thankful for all of our many  
blessings and look to the new year as we turn many of the  
challenges into opportunities.



**DROP OFF BY  
DECEMBER  
14TH**

IREDELL COUNTY  
COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION WILL BE  
COLLECTING TOYS FOR

# Matthew 25

WE ARE ASKING FOR TOY  
DONATIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS  
AGES 0-16

PLEASE DROP OFF BY THE IREDELL  
COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE,  
LOCATED AT 444 BRISTOL DRIVE,  
STATESVILLE

QUESTIONS?  
CALL TAYLOR  
JENKINS OR  
KELLY PIERCE  
704-873-0507

**Want to contribute, but can't make it to the store?  
Call the Iredell County Center (704-873-0507)  
to see other ways you can help out!**

## **Continue to catch Extension on WAME**

Extension continues to have daily slots on the local radio station,  
WAME 92.9FM/550AM!

Check them out at 6:40am and 6:40pm  
Mondays- Taylor Jenkins and Kelly Pierce for 4-H and Youth Development  
Tuesdays- Andrea Sherrill for Family & Consumer Science  
Wednesdays- Matt Lenhardt for Horticulture  
Thursdays- Laura Elmore and Jenny Carleo for Crops and Livestock



## COVID Update

Masks are still required: Masks are still required: Please remember that all county offices are still operating under a mask mandate. So be sure to have a mask handy before visiting county office buildings, and if you forget, county offices have some to give out, as needed.



We still have PPE kits (cloth and surgical face masks, hand sanitizer) for agricultural workers available for any farms who want to come and pick them up at the Iredell County Extension Office.

These kits are first come, first serve. Please call (704) 873- 0507 to request kits and to make arrangements to get them.

## Crops and Livestock

### Backyard Poultry Virtual Lunch and Learns, Tuesdays this month!

Breeds & Brooding- Dec. 1  
Nutrition & Housing- Dec. 8  
NC Egg/Processing Laws- Dec. 15  
Health & Disease- Dec. 22


All Lunch and Learns are held on Tuesdays at 12 noon to 1pm, via ZOOM.

[Registration available online!](#)






The results of the 2020 Iredell County Soybean Agent Variety Test are now available. Click on the image or view the [Results pdf](#).




NC

COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION



N.C. A&T

STATE UNIVERSITY




NC STATE

UNIVERSITY

## 2020 IREDELL COUNTY SOYBEAN AGENT VARIETY TEST RESULTS-MG IV

Planting Date	8-May-2020
Seeding Rate	90,000
Spacing	30"
Harvest Date	19-Oct-2020
# of Reps	4



Cleanfinger Grain Farm

Company	Variety	Yield (bu/A)	Test Weight (lb/bu)	Price Received/A*
UniSouth Genetics	USG 7487XT5	54.6	55.2	\$588.04
Asgrow	AG48X9	52.9	55.3	\$569.73
Asgrow	AG43X8	52.8	53.8	\$567.60
DeltaGrow	DG 48E28	48.1	55.0	\$518.04
Mean		52.1	54.8	

### Wheat Production Series - Part 3

## Disease, Insect and Crop Management Updates

NC State Extension Specialists will be presenting online via Zoom.

**January 29, 2021 8 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.**

CCA Credits: .5 NM, .5 CM



**Dr. Angela Post**  
Extension Specialist  
Small Grains  
"Spring Management Strategies for High-Yielding Wheat"



**Dr. Anders Huseth**  
Extension Specialist  
Field Crops and Sweet Potatoes  
"Wheat Insect Pest Management"



**Dr. Christina Cowger**  
USDA Small Grains Pathologist  
"Diseases to Watch for in Wheat"



**Call or go online to register**

Cumberland County Extension Office (910) 321-6860

[tinyurl.com/Wheat2021Part3](https://tinyurl.com/Wheat2021Part3)

Hosted virtually by the  
Cumberland County  
Extension Office



Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made by January 22, 2021 to Jason Weatherington at 910-321-6875 or [jason\\_weatherington@ncsu.edu](mailto:jason_weatherington@ncsu.edu). NC Cooperative Extension prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex (including pregnancy), disability, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, and veteran status.

## Wheat Production Series- Part 3

The third part of the Wheat Production series is scheduled for January 29th, 2021 from 8am to 9:15am.

[Online registration is available.](#)

## Livestock Virtual Meetings

There is still time to catch the last three Livestock Meeting.

The upcoming topics include:

- Cattle Marketing-Tues, Dec. 1
- The Area Beef Conference

Thurs, Jan. 7

- BQA Chute Side Demonstration
- Tues, Feb. 16

[Registration is still available](#) OR watch live on [YouTube!](#)

## Have You Herd?

### Livestock Meetings

via Zoom platform

7:00 -8:00 PM

#### Topics:

September 15, 2020- How to Utilize Winter Annual Forages in Your Beef Herd  
October 20, 2020- Grazing Management  
November 17, 2020- Beef Cattle Efficiency  
December 15, 2020- Cattle Management  
January 7, 2021- Area Beef Conference  
February 16, 2021- RQA Chute Side Demo

Register online: [go.ncsu.edu/haveyouherd](https://go.ncsu.edu/haveyouherd)

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## Dairy

### Waste Training Available

**December 16, 1-4pm**

#### Speakers include:

- Waste in Forestry- (30min)- Colby Lambert, NCSU Extension
- Bermudagrass Fertilization and Issues- (1 hour)- Georgia Love, NCDA Regional Agronomist
- Crop Production- (30min)- NCSU Crop Science Department
- Research on Identifying DNA of Waste Products- (1 hour)- NC Pork Council cooperation

#### Registration is open.

[Use this link to register.](#)

After you register, a zoom link will be sent via email a few days before the class.



## Family and Consumer Science

### Gingerbread Pancakes

## Ingredients:

- 2 eggs
- ¼ cup molasses
- 2 cups buttermilk
- 2 cups white whole-wheat flour
- ½ tablespoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- ¼ teaspoon allspice
- Maple syrup for serving



## Instructions:

1. In a large mixing bowl, add eggs, molasses, and buttermilk, and whisk to combine.
2. In a medium mixing bowl, mix together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, ginger, cinnamon, nutmeg and allspice until combined.
3. Slowly add dry mixture to the wet, whisking just until mixtures are combined.
4. Heat butter on a large skillet over medium-low heat.
5. Add ¼ cup of pancake mixture to the skillet, leaving space in between pancakes. Cook for 3-5 minutes, or until air bubbles begin to form on the surface. Flip over and cook for another 3-5 minutes, until browned.
6. Serve with maple syrup



HOMEGROWN

How to Celebrate the  
Holidays During a  
Pandemic →

## HOMEGROWN: Celebrating during a Pandemic

HOMEGROWN, a division of NC State Extension, has a great article and video on ["How to Celebrate the Holidays During a Pandemic"](#).

Check it out and have a healthy holiday season!



# MyPlate Holiday makeover



visit [choosemyplate.gov](http://choosemyplate.gov) for healthier options during the holidays

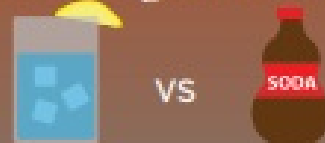
## tweak the sweets



VS

fruits make delicious desserts

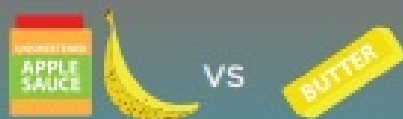
## cheers to good health



VS

drink water to manage calories

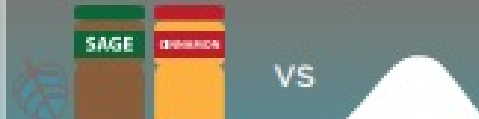
## bake healthier



VS

use recipes with pureed fruits instead of butter or oil

## spice it up



VS

use spices and herbs instead of sugar and salt

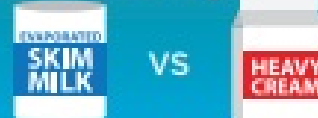
## brighten your meal



VS

fill half your plate with fruits and vegetables

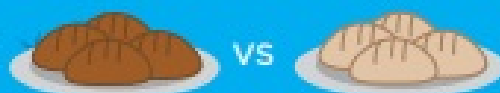
## skim the fat



VS

try skim evaporated milk instead of heavy cream

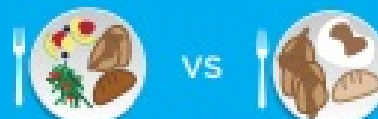
## swap the grains



VS

choose whole wheat flour instead of white flour

## go easy on the gravy



VS

a little bit of gravy goes a long way



# Save the Date

## 2021 Virtual NC Agritunity Conference

Thursday February 11th, 2021  
9:30am-2:30pm EST

### CONFERENCE TOPICS INCLUDES:

Online Marketing Opportunities • Summer Native Warm Season Grasses  
Poultry Production • Season Extension Techniques • Effective Small Tools for  
Small Farm Operations • and more!

Register at [go.ncsu.edu/ncagritunity2021registration](https://go.ncsu.edu/ncagritunity2021registration)



NC Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity provider

Active Registration Link-  
[go.ncsu.edu/ncagritunity2021registration](https://go.ncsu.edu/ncagritunity2021registration)

For more information on this VIRTUAL event check out the  
[NC Agritunity Webpage.](#)

## 4-H and Youth Development

### Iredell County 4-H Blood Drive

#### Give the gift of life!

Iredell County 4-H is hosting a blood drive with the Red Cross on **December 22nd from 2:00-6:30 PM**. Donors are needed!

You can [register and sign up](#) for a time at online or by contacting [Taylor Jenkins](#) via email or by 704-878-3159.



# LIVESTOCK 4-H CLUB INTEREST MEETING

**What?** A meeting for youth ages 5-18 and their parents who are interested in livestock and showing in Iredell County! This is a great way to get your kids involved in a group with others who share their interests!

**Who?** All youth ages 5-18 and their parents will hear from Katie Settle, the club leader, and Taylor Jenkins, the 4-H Agent in Iredell County

**When?** January 12th at 6:00 PM

**Where?** Location TBD

Please register to  
attend at

[go.ncsu.edu/Livestock  
InterestMeeting](https://go.ncsu.edu/LivestockInterestMeeting)



Active link to register: [go.ncsu.edu/LivestockInterestMeeting](https://go.ncsu.edu/LivestockInterestMeeting)

Need to get in touch with Iredell Extension Staff?

--Just click on the person below--

## Agents/Associates:

[Nancy Keith: County Extension Director, Dairy](#)

[Andrea Sherrill: Family & Consumer Science](#)

[Jenny Carleo: Area Specialized Agent, Grain Crops](#)

[Laura Elmore: Livestock and Crops](#)

[Matt Lenhardt: Horticulture](#)

[Taylor Jenkins: 4-H Youth Development](#)

[Kelly Pierce: 4-H Program](#)

## Associate Support Staff:

[Beth Cloninger](#)

[Stephanie Watts](#)

Interested in viewing previous editions of the "Iredell  
Informed Newsletter"?

Check out the [Newsletter Archive Webpage](#).

