**Sign-up For the Insect IPM Series**  
**May - September in Jackson County**

Are you interested in learning more about our pesky Fraser fir insects? Do you struggle with identifying which insect is causing the various symptoms on your discolored needles? Do you desire to spray the cheapest but most effective pesticide for control? Would you like to learn more about when to treat “timing” and even if it’s necessary? These are just a few of the many questions and topics that we will cover at our monthly Insect IPM meetings.

Jackson County’s IPM Series will be conducted by Dr. Jill Sidebottom, NCSU IPM Conifer Specialist, Jeff Owen, NCSU Area Christmas Tree Specialist and Christy Bredenkamp, NCSU Horticulture Agent (Swain & Jackson Counties). This series will meet every 2nd Friday of each month through mid-September. Each month we will meet in different locations throughout Jackson County. If you are unable to attend one meeting but can some of the others... please join us! Just call and let me know. Two pesticide credits will be offered for each series in the “X” subclass category. Growers from neighboring counties are welcome to participate.

**Covered topics include:**
- Balsam Woolly Adelgid
- Balsam Twig Aphids
- Grubs
- Spider Mites
- Hemlock Rust Mites
- Hemlock Elongate Scale
- Scouting
- Pest Life Cycles
- Pesticide Choices
- If and when “timing” to treat and spray effectively
- Ground Cover Management
- Calibration

If you’re interested in this program, contact our office to register at phone # 828 586 4009. We’ll let you know the farm location for the each month’s meeting.
The Jackson County Extension Service is sponsoring an area Christmas Tree Marketing Workshop on Tuesday June 23rd from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. This meeting will be held at the Cashiers Community Center located near Arby’s and the Fire Dept on Hwy. 64 as you head from Cashiers to Highlands. A free meal of pizza and salad will be served. Don’t miss this important meeting!

**Agenda**

- **Develop & Invest Your Own Marketing Plan** - Jeff Owen, NCSU Christmas Tree Specialist

- **Targeting New Wholesale Customer Niches** - Jeff Owen, NCSU Christmas Tree Specialist

- **How to Use Your Association Effectively** - Linda Gragg, NCCTA Executive Director

- **How to Market through the Internet** - John Dorner, NCSU Area Information Agent

- **Word of Mouth or Foot in Mouth** – Bill Glenn, NCDA Marketing Specialist

- **Grower Panel on Marketing**
  How Do You Keep Your Customers Coming back?
  Historical Roots of Fraser fir Marketing.
  Pitfalls to Avoid!

Come and join us! Now is a great opportunity to ask and learn more about ways to market your trees! If interested in attending this workshop, please register by calling the Jackson Extension Center at phone # 828 586-4009.

**Registration deadline is Friday June 19th!**
Fraser fir Schedule

Fraser fir Production Calendar June-July

JUNE

**Pest Control:** Make a thorough spruce spider mite survey. Treat trees for rosette bud mites where necessary. Apply Dimethoate when the new growth is out 4 to 6 inches. Do not mow in areas were grubs are a problem.

**Ground Cover Management:** In areas where weeds were suppressed chemically, watch for weed regrowth to time second herbicide application. Beware of summer weeds such as ragweeds, pigweed, vetch and fieldblind weed growing through cool season annuals. Second application is necessary when weeds green back up and start to grow taller than desired. Post-emergent herbicides work best when weeds are from 4-8 inches up to 18 inches tall. Undirected Round-Up can still harm Fraser fir foliage. (Continue through July).

**Fertility:** Secondary and micronutrient applications based on spring soil and plant tissue analysis can be made.

**Shearing:** Remove double tops and trim. Do not trim terminal until there is 80% or more of terminal growth.

JULY

**Pest Control:** Start scouting trees for balsam woolly adelgid. Look for trees with crooked or flat tops and/or dead shoots and branches. Confirm the presence of the insect by finding the white woolly spots of the adult insect. If found, treat sometime before bud break next year. To avoid injury when treating for balsam woolly adelgid, do not spray during the heat of the day when the temperature + the humidity is greater than 140. Consider adding a miticide to the spray mix if mites are a problem. Be sure to wear all personal protective equipment. Continue scouting for spider mites. If found above treatment thresholds, treat immediately.

**Ground Cover Management:** Monitor recovery of weeds from the second chemical suppression treatment and determine the need and timing of a possible third treatment. Monitor problem areas with weeds like hedge bindweed more closely. Bindweed could escape earlier treatments by growing through the tree to coil around the top of the tree. Treat if necessary. Another chemical mowing application in late July or early August may be a good idea to keep weed height at less than 24 inches for the remainder of season.

**Shearing:** Tag go-to-market trees before shearing. However, prune "keepers" before go-to-market trees to take advantage of increased summer budset for next year’s growth. Market trees should be lightly sheared for most customers. If tops are not straight, delay pruning terminals until August so that they can continue to straighten.

**Marketing:** Tagging and inventory begins. Stay in close contact with buyers. Continue advertising. Start making trucking company contacts for shipping season.
The purpose of the program is to encourage voluntary preservation and protection of farmland from non-farm development.

**Eligibility**
Farmland, forestland, and horticultural lands must meet the following criteria:
- The land must be part of the present-use-value tax program or be determined eligible for present use value.
- The land must be managed in accordance with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service guidelines with respect to highly erodible lands.

**Benefits**
- Public hearings for proposed condemnation of enrolled land;
- Signage to publicize the land’s enrollment in the program;
- Greater public awareness of the local agricultural community and increased pride in its way of life;
- Increased protection from nuisance lawsuits if notice is provided through computerized county land record systems;
- Possible flexibility in city ordinances related to farming operations within a city’s planning jurisdiction; and
- Water and sewer assessments may be suspended or waived if the land is in VAD but not connected to the utility in question.

For more information go to our Jackson Extension website at http://jackson.ces.ncsu.edu and click on Farmland Preservation Program or contact Barry Stevens (Jackson Soil and Water) at phone # 586 5465.

Sincerely,

Christy Bredenkamp, Extension Agent
Agriculture-Horticulture

Jackson County Center
538 Scotts Creek Road, Suite 205
Sylva, NC 28779