# **Fall Fruit and Nut Tree Sale**

All selections of fruit and nut trees, vines, and shrubs offered in this sale are of varieties proven to perform well in Eastern North Carolina. *Some plants will be delivered field dug and bare root (without soil).* ***Plan to plant or heel in plants immediately after delivery.*** *Care instructions will be emailed after ordering and included at time of pick up.*

**All orders are due with payment** to Johnston County Center by ***Wednesday, November 26th, 2025***. *Please plan to pick up your plants at the Johnston County Livestock Arena located at 520 County Home Rd. Smithfield, NC 27577.* ***Plants will be available for pickup on Saturday, February 21st, 2026 between 9am and 4pm.***

**If you have any questions, please call (919) 989-5380.**

Prepared by: Marshall Warren and Seth Ballance

**Johnston County Extension Agents**

Agriculture - Horticulture

Tips and Consideration

### Site Selection

* **Proper site selection** is critical in growing healthy, productive plants. All plants offered produce best in full sun. Blueberries are the most shade tolerant of the fruit plants available, and will produce even at 50% shade.
* **Good air circulation** will help in reducing disease outbreaks. Plant all plants well away from buildings and tall trees. Avoid low-lying areas, or frost pockets, in order to protect spring blossoms.
* **Good drainage** is essential for all fruit plants. If you have poorly drained soil and wish to grow fruit plants, create raised beds by mounding up the soil, amend with compost and /or pine bark mulch, adjust pH and incorporate nutrients according to a soil test.

### Soil Testing

* Once you select the site, take a **soil sample** and submit it to NCDA-Agronomic Division for analysis. More information, boxes, and forms for soil testing can be found at the NC Cooperative Extension service.
* Test results will provide advice on the amount of lime and nutrients needed. Most fruit plants perform best at a pH of 6.0, except blueberries, which need a more acidic soil with a pH of 4.0 to 5.3.
* It is important to **incorporate lime and nutrients into the soil** prior to the time of planting.
* Soil testing is completely free if the samples are sent in between April and Thanksgiving. There will be a $4.00 charge per soil sample if they are sent in during Thanksgiving through March 31st. If you would like Johnston County Agriculture Agents to take your sample to the lab, we need to receive them *the week before Thanksgiving.*

### Nematode Testing

* Nematodes are **microscopic roundworms**, which can adversely affect plant health. Soil samples can be

submitted to NCDA for nematode testing at a cost of $3.00 per sample.

* Figs and peaches can be severely affected by high nematode populations. Populations are highest on sandy soils. If you are considering growing figs or peaches, and have sandy soil, a nematode test is recommended. Guardian rootstock on peaches is resistant to root knot nematodes and peach tree short life.

### Pollination

* Apples, pears, blueberries, and pecans which have the “” symbol next to them require more than one variety for fruit set. **Be sure to order at least two varieties of each of these fruit plants**. Plants marked with an asterisk (\*) are good universal pollinators for that fruit type or pecan tree.

**Chilling Hours**

* Some fruit requires chilling hours, total hours below 45 degrees F, in order for flowers and fruit to develop properly.
* **In North Carolina the minimum recommended chilling hours is 750**. The higher the chill hours, the less likely blooms will be hurt by late frosts.
* **All varieties listed below that require chilling hours exceed that recommendation and should produce fruit well during a normal year.**

**Note: We are providing the best plants possible but we cannot guarantee livability of plant material, because that depends on how well you prepare for and care for your plants after pickup, and weather conditions. Since most plants are bare-root, make plans to plant them immediately after you pick them up on Saturday February 21st, 2026. Fruit and nuts marked with a**  **are from North Carolina suppliers. Fruit marked with \* are good pollinators.**

2025, Sponsored by

**Key:**

**= Requires Pollinator**

**=NC Supplier**

**\*=Good Pollinator Plant**

*Johnston County Cooperative Extension Advisory Council*

### “APPLES” Bee with solid fill $ 25.00 each

#### 3-4 ft. tall Bare-root plants, grafted on M7 rootstock which grows to 60-70% of standard size and pest resistant (fire blight and powdery mildew resistant).

#### Apples perform best on rich soils with good drainage and require full sun. Optimum soil pH is 6.0. You will need more than one apple variety to ensure adequate cross-pollination. For our area,

#### Yellow Delicious is an excellent pollinator.

####  Semi-dwarf trees should be spaced 18-20 feet apart.

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| **Variety** | **Fruit Characteristics** |
|  **Gala** | Mild sweet and vanilla-like with a floral aroma, firm and crisp. Perfect snacking variety. One of the most widely grown. **Needs pollinator.** |
| **Yellow Delicious\*** | **Excellent pollinator source\***. Fine sweet flavor. Good for snacking or cooking. |
| **Fuji** | One of the sweetest apples around. Firm, crisp and very juicy. Long shelf life. **Needs pollinator.** |

### “BLACKBERRIES”  $ 20.00 each

#### 2 yr. old plants, 3 Gal. Container – Staked

#### No need to wait - Enjoy blackberries in the 1st year with these plants!

* Blackberries are among the easiest fruits to grow. They tolerate most soils and fruit best in full sun. Space plants 3’ apart.
* All varieties listed are thornless and self-pollinating.

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| **Variety** | **Type** | **Season** | **Comments** |
| **Twilight** | **Semi-Erect** | **Mid** | Very large berries; very firm and crisp texture. Sweet flavor. |
| **Big Daddy** | **Erect** | **Mid-Late** | Extra-large berries; sweet; Vigorous grower. |
| **Triple Crown** | **Semi-Erect** | **Very Late** | Sweet. Good yields and high producer. |

###  “BLUEBERRIES” Bee with solid fill  $ 25.00 each

#### 3-year-old plants, 3 Gallon Container plants

* Blueberries require a well-drained sandy soil with abundant organic matter and a pH of 4.0 to 5.3. They will bear well in full sun to light shade.
* Amend the soil with f**our to** **six inches deep** **of ground pine bark mulch**. This lowers pH and improves drainage. Mulch with pine straw or pine bark mini nuggets to reduce water stress and control weeds. Under these conditions’ plants produce in abundance.
* The following Rabbiteye varieties produce best when at least two different varieties are planted together.

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| **Variety** | **Ripens** | **Size** | **Fruit Characteristics** | **Comments** |
| **Powder Blue** | **Late** **June-July** | **Med/Lg** | Light blue berries | Sweet flavor, upright, good producer. |
| **Columbus** | **July** | **Large** | Gray-blue berries | 2005 NCSU introduction, High yields, sweet flavor, Bill Cline’s favorite. |
| **Premier** | **Late May -early June** | **Med/Lg** | Medium blue berries | High quality, good flavor, good producer. |
| **Climax** | **Mid May - June** | **Medium** | Medium blue berries | Upright, open plants. Good flavor. |

### “FIGS”  $18.00 each

#### 2-3 ft. tall plants, Bare-root plants

* Figs are as close as it gets to a fruit you can plant and forget. They prefer a moisture retentive, well-drained soil and full sun.
* On sandy soils, be sure to test for nematodes. Incorporate plenty of organic matter and mulch deeply.
* Figs are self-fertile – One bush sets fruit. Space 10 feet apart.

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| **Variety** |  **Ripens** |  **Size** | **Fruit Characteristics** | **Comments** |
| **Brown Turkey** | **Early July- Early Aug** | **Med- Large** | Light coppery brown skin with amber flesh | Also called Texas Ever-bearing; Good fresh or canned. |
| **Violette De Bordeaux** | **Fall** | **Med** | Purple-black fruit with deep red flesh | Naturally dwarf tree; Very sweet and rich taste; good for eating fresh, dried, or as preserves. |
| **Lattarula** | **July-** **Mid Sep** | **Med** | Green-yellow skin with amber flesh | Also called Italian Honey; drought tolerant with maturity; multipurpose culinary uses.Can produce two crops. |

### “JAPANESE PERSIMMON” $ 32.00 each

#### 3-4 ft. tall plants, Bare-root branched plants

* The Japanese persimmon is a non-astringent variety meaning you can eat it while it is mature and firm. It is well adapted and easy to grow with few pest and disease problems.
* The compact spreading growth habit requires 16-foot spacing between trees.
* Grafted on American Persimmon root stock.

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| **Variety** | **Ripens** | **Fruit** | **Fruit Characteristic** | **Comments** |
| **Fuyu** | **Oct – Nov** | **Med – Large** | Reddish-orange skin, sweet and crisp | Excellent for cooking, most popular for fresh eating. |

### “MUSCADINES” Bee with solid fill $ 18.00 each

### 2 yr. old plants, 1 gallon staked

* Our native Muscadines, tolerate a wide range of conditions, but perform best in moisture retentive well-drained soil and full sun, with a deep mulch of organic matter.
* Muscadines produce best and are easiest to manage when trained on a single wire trellis.
* **If you choose a female variety, it must be planted within 50 feet of a self-fertile variety in order to produce fruit.**

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| **Variety** | **Season** | **Color** | **Comments** |
| **Carlos** | **Late** | **Bronze** | **Self-fertile.** Produces smaller fruit. Cold hardy. Fruit is dry scar. Good fresh and for juice. 14% sugar. |
| **Jumbo** | **Mid** | **Purple** | **Female.** Very large fruit size. Very vigorous vine. Lower sugar content. |
| **Triumph**  | **Early/mid** | **Bronze** | **Self-fertile.** Produces medium size fruit with good quality. It’s cold hardy and disease resistant. Fruit is dry scar. 18% sugar. |

### “PEACHES” $ 25.00 each

#### 3-4 ft. tall, Bare-root branched plants

* All these peach varieties offered are grafted on Guardian rootstock. **Guardian Rootstock is resistant to root knot nematode and peach tree short life.**
* Peaches are among the most challenging but rewarding fruits to grow. They require excellent drainage, full sun, good air circulation, and watering during drought.
* A multi-purpose fungicide and insecticide program will be needed during the growing season. Trees should be spaced 20 feet apart.
* Be sure and test for nematodes, especially on sandy soils.
* Peaches require a minimum of 750 chilling hours, all varieties listed below exceed that recommendation.

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| **Variety** | **Fruit Characteristics** |
| **Winblo** |  NCSU variety – Freestone medium to large sized, high quality fruit. 850 chilling hours. Fruit ripens 15 days before Elberta. Winblo is like the “perfect” peach! Sweet, juicy, it melts in your mouth! The flesh does not brown, so it is very well-suited for canning or freezing. |
| **Contender** | NCSU variety, large crops of sweet juicy yellow fruit, Free stone, 1050 chilling hours. Fruits ripen 7 days before Elberta. Disease resistant to bacterial spot. |
| **Carolina Gold** | NCSU variety, very large yellow fruit, texture, flavor and aroma are excellent. Free stone, 1050 chilling hours. Fruits ripen 4 days before Elberta. Disease resistant to bacterial spot. |
| **China Pearl** | NCSU variety, large, mild sweet, white-fleshed fruit, Free stone, 1100 chilling hours. Fruits ripen 4 days after Elberta. |

### “PEARS” Bee with solid fill $ 25.00 each

#### 4-5 ft. tall plants, Bare-root plants

* You will need more than one pear variety to ensure cross-pollination. For our area, Moonglow is an excellent pollen source.
* Trees should be spaced 20 feet apart. Harvest pears after they have reached full size but are still firm and green (about 105 to 130 days after full bloom). You can then ripen them by placing them in a closed bag with a ripe apple and placing the bag in a moderately cool location (60 to 70 degrees) for several days.
* Fire blight is a major problem on pears in the South. The varieties below are resistant to fire blight.

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| **Variety** | **Ripens** | **Size** | **Fruit Characteristics** | **Comments** |
| **Kieffer** | **Early** **September** | **Large** | Yellow skin at maturity; course gritty flesh; knotty, unattractive fruit. |  An old favorite for canning or preserves. Resistant to fire blight. |
| **Moonglow\*** | **Early August** | **Large** | Yellow skin at maturity with soft-textured flesh and few grit cells. | Good fresh or canned. Resistant to fire blight. Excellent pollinator. |

### “PECANS” Bee with solid fill  $ 45.00

#### 5-6 ft. tall plants, Bare-root plants

* Pecans are native to the Mississippi River basin and prefer deep, rich, well-drained soils.
* Nut production requires cross-pollination between a Type I\* and Type II variety.
* Trees in a mature orchard should be at least 70 feet apart.
* Scab is a common disease caused by a fungus that attacks the leaves and the shuck. Manage the disease by choosing scab-resistant varieties, such as the ones below.

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| **Variety** | **Bearing Age** |  **Nuts/lbs.** | **Fruit Characteristics** | **Comments** |
| **Lakota Type II** | **5-7 years** | **56** |  Early nut maturity.  Nuts are 58% kernel. | USDA introduction 2007. High Scab Resistance, yield and nut quality. Excellent tree strength. |
| **Lipan****Type I\*** | **5-7 years** | **45** | Nuts are 55% kernel. Mid harvest date. | Excellent Scab Resistance with high nut quality with little alternate bearing. Strong tree structure.  |
| **Sumner Type II** | **6-8 years** | **54** |  Nuts are 51% kernel. Late harvest date. | Thin shell, easily cracked and shelled. Good Scab Resistance, yield and nut quality. An older variety with proven results. |
| **Mandan Type I\*** | **5-7 years** | **49** |  Early nut maturity and ripening. Nuts are 60% kernel. | USDA introduction 2009. High Scab Resistance, yield and nut quality. Excellent tree strength and late bud break. |

**When deciding which fruit plants to grow in your home garden be sure to think about the following:**

✔ Do you have an appropriate site – full sun, well-drained soil?

✔ Maintenance requirements: pest management; training and pruning requirements; irrigation.

✔ Do you have space for plants to mature?

✔ What is your soils pH? Do you need to add lime or nutrients? Have you done a soil test?

### For More Information:

For more information, consult the following publications online, or stop by the NC Cooperative Extension, Johnston County Center located at 2736 NC Highway 210 in Smithfield to pick up a copy.

**Horticulture Information Leaflets:** [**https://horticulture.ces.ncsu.edu/publications/**](https://horticulture.ces.ncsu.edu/publications/)

Muscadine Grapes in the Home Garden Growing Blueberries in the Home Garden Production Guide for Smaller Orchard Plantings

Southeast Regional Caneberry Production Guide

Muscadine Grape Production Guide for the Southeast

A Step-by-Step Approach to Pruning Carlos Muscadine Grapevines

**Resources from:**

Tree Fruits and Nuts

Training and Pruning Fruit Trees in NC

2025 NC Peach and Nectarine Disease and Pest Management Guide

Growing Pecans in NC

A Gardeners Guide to Soil Testing

Fig Culture in NC

### Have Gardening Questions Master

### Gardener Volunteers?

✔ Email: jcemastergardener@gmail.com to get tips

 from certified Extension Master Gardener Volunteers

✔ Find us on Facebook: @NCCEJohnstonCounty

✔ Sign up for our “Gardener’s Dirt” newsletter

✔ Call our Extension Master Gardener Helpline at

(919) 989-5482

✔ Check out our website: www.johnston.ces.ncsu.edu

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Declaración Completa (Español) “La Extensión Cooperativa de Carolina del Norte prohíbe la discriminación y el acoso independientemente de la edad, el color de la piel, la discapacidad de la persona, el estado civil y situación familiar, la identidad de género, el país de origen, la ideología política, la raza, la religión, el sexo (incluido el embarazo), la orientación sexual y la condición de veterano de guerra. Colaboración entre las Universidades NC State y N.C. A&T State, el Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, y los gobiernos locales.

Contact bmspivey@ncsu.edu or 919-989-5380 for accommodations related to a disability

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| **Name:** | **Phone:** |
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| **Email:****(Please Print Clearly)** | **Payment: Cash [ ] Check [ ]** **Invoice [ ]** |  |
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| **FRUIT** | **VARIETY** | **PRICE** | **# OF PLANTS** | **TOTAL AMOUNT** |  |
| **APPLES** | **Gala:** M7 rootstock 65% standard size | **$25.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Yellow Delicious\*:**M7 rootstock 65% standard size | **$25.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Fuji:** M7 rootstock 65% standard size | **$25.00**  |  |  |  |
| **BLACKBERRIES** | **Twilight (local, 3 gal. container)** | **$20.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Big Daddy (local, 3 gal. cont.)** | **$20.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Triple Crown (local, 3 gal. container)** | **$20.00**  |  |  |  |
| **BLUEBERRIES** | **Powder Blue (local, container grown)** | **$25.00** |  |  |  |
| **Columbus (local, container grown)** | **$25.00** |  |  |  |
| **Premier (local, container grown)** | **$25.00** |  |  |  |
| **Climax (local, container grown)** | **$25.00** |  |  |  |
| **FIGS** | **Brown Turkey** | **$18.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Violette De Bordeaux** | **$18.00** |  |  |  |
| **Lattarula (Italian Honey)** | **$18.00** |  |  |  |
| **JAPANESE PERSIMMON** | **Fuyu** | **$32.00**  |  |  |  |
| **MUSCADINES** | **Carlos: Self Fertile- Bronze 1 gal container** | **$18.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Jumbo: Female- Purple 1 gal container** | **$18.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Triumph: Self-Fertile-Bronze 1 gal container** | **$18.00**  |  |  |  |
| **PEACHES** | **Winblo** | **$25.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Contender** | **$25.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Carolina Gold** | **$25.00**  |  |  |  |
| **China Pearl** | **$25.00**  |  |  |  |
| **PEARS** | **Kieffer** | **$25.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Moonglow\*** | **$25.00**  |  |  |  |
| **PECANS** | **Lakota Type II**  | **$45.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Lipan Type I**  | **$45.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Sumner Type II**  | **$45.00**  |  |  |  |
| **Mandan Type I**  | **$45.00**  |  |  |  |
|  **PAYMENT DUE WITH ORDER FORM TOTAL # OF PLANTS: TOTAL $:**  |  |

MAIL Check TO: Johnston County CES, Attn: Fruit & Nut Tree Sale, 2736 NC Highway 210 Ste. A, Smithfield, NC 27577-9556 **If you have questions, or for other payment options, please call the Johnston County Extension office for help placing your order at 919-989-5380.**