

FEBRUARY-MARCH REGIONAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 2	NC Natural Products Industry Brunch. Wednesday, 8:45-10am at the Irregardless Café, 901 Morgan St., Raleigh, NC. For information see ncnaturalproducts.org . Sponsored by the NC Natural Products Association and Gaia Herbs.
Feb 3	SMNPA Board of Directors Meeting. Thursday, 7-9pm at Stecoah Valley Center. Call Ransom at 479-8788
Feb 7	How to Start a Small Business. Monday, 6-9pm at Center for Applied Technology, Marble, NC. Topics are licenses and permits, taxes and record keeping, business structure, financing, personnel, marketing, location, product and services. Facilitator: Harry Ponder. To register call (828) 835-9564, ext. 203. More Information: www.tricountycc.edu
Feb 10	Smoky Mountain Beekeepers meeting. Thursday 7-9pm at the Jackson County Extension Center. Christine Bredenkamp, NCSU Horticulture Area Agent, Swain County (828) 488 3848.
Feb 11	Annual Black Mountain Chocolate Tour. Friday, 4-6pm, David Mason from Black Mountain Chocolate tells where beans come from, who the farmers are, how the beans are handcrafted into chocolate. Sponsored by Slow Food Asheville. FREE, donations appreciated. For information call (828) 686-5511 or www.blackmountainchocolate.com/
Feb 17	Zero In On Your Farm Market. Monday, 6-9pm at the Center for Applied Technology (CAT) building in Marble. Make YOUR farm more successful by identifying your target market, market demand and competition. Instructor is Joe Hogg.
Feb 17	SMNPA Meeting. Thursday 7-9pm at Stecoah Valley Center. Call Ransom at 479-8788
Feb 22	2011 Flavors of Carolina, Tuesday, at the Charlotte Motor Speedway, Charlotte Sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Contact Myrtle T. Earley, THE FLAVORS OF CAROLINA, (919) 707-3118 Fax: (919) 715-015 or email: Myrtle.earley@ncagr.gov
Feb 23	Conference on Sustainable Viticulture. 9am-4pm Haynes Center, Enka Campus of AB Tech. How to grow grapes sustainably and make a profit, best mountain varieties, developing vineyards on steep slopes, pest management, end product differentiation for organic and biodynamic wines, and nutraceuticals from grapes as value added products. Speakers include Chuck Blethen, Hannah Burrack, Charlie Caldweel, Rudy Mullis, and Jessica Gualano. Cost \$30, includes lunch. For information call Paul Knott at 828-254-1921, ext. 5844 or email pknott@abtech.edu .
Feb 26	ASAP's Marketing Conference for Farmers (MOFF). Saturday at Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC Farmers' marketing workshops focusing on business, marketing, outreach, and regulations. To register for MOFF or learn more, visit: www.asapconnections.org/MOFF2011.html .

Feb 28	SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN FAMILY FARM MEETING (SAFF). Monday, 7pm at Tri-County's Center for Applied Technology (CAT) building in Marble. For information contact Judith F. Johnson, Co-Chair at 828-644-8336.
Mar 3	SMNPA Board of Directors Meeting. Thursday, 7-9pm at Stecoah Valley Center. Call Ransom at 479-8788
March 5-6	18th Annual Organic Growers School, Sat.& Sun at the University of North Carolina Asheville Campus, Asheville, NC. Over 70 down-to-earth, practical classes and hands on workshops on a variety of topics, from starting your first vegetable garden, baking bread, and saving on home energy costs, to raising your own goat herd. Contact Meredith McKissick at 828-582-5039 or meredith@organicgrowersschool.org or visit www.organicgrowersschool.org/content/1505
March 19	Farming Your Forest. Saturday, 9am-4:30pm. Sponsored by Smoky Mountain Native Plants and the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. Free Ginseng Seed and Books. More Information.