

News Article

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Chilton Area Fruit Production Tour

If you would like to learn more about fruit production there is a great opportunity coming up next week. A Chilton Area Fruit Production Tour will be held on Thursday, April 26. This tour is designed to give growers from across central Alabama the opportunity to see a variety of different fruit crops and production systems that are suited to our region of the state.

The tour will begin with registration at 9:30 a.m. at Petals From The Past plant nursery in Jemison. Growers will have a close look at trellised blackberry production and hear Dr. Arlie Powell describe his system, as well as trellised apple production. There will also be discussion on blueberry, fig, and muscadine production, and other crops including oriental persimmons, Asian pears and high-tunnel satsuma production.

The tour will then travel about four miles to the Chilton Research and Extension Center to see peach, nectarine and plum production practices like fruit thinning, as well as kiwifruit production and other aspects of fruit production research. The group will then enjoy lunch at the experiment station. The last stop will be a visit to Henry Williams' strawberry field for a look at plasti-culture strawberry production, and get to taste some ripe strawberries while we're there. The tour should finish up around 3:00 p.m.

**Anyone interested in attending should contact the Chilton County Extension Office (205) 280-6268 to reserve a meal. For more information about the tour contact Gary Gray (334) 539-2128, or e-mail graygar@auburn.edu