

News Article
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Horticulture Classes Offered This Fall

1. Learn to Grow Grapes

Whether you're growing grapes for personal consumption or would like to learn more about processing grapes into jams, juices, jellies or wine, this seminar is for you. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System will host a workshop on "Growing Grapes in Alabama" on Tuesday, October 25, 2005. The program will be conducted at the Beaty Hanna Horticulture Center at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Some of the topics will include: establishing and managing a vineyard, varieties of grapes for Alabama, and the economic impacts of growing grapes in Alabama.

There is a registration fee of \$10 per person if you register by October 18th or you may pay \$15 at the door (space permitting). The registration includes a lunch and refreshments. Contact the Coosa County Extension Office for a registration form.

2. Anyone for Organic Gardening?

Anyone interested in trying organic gardening may want to mark their calendar for the one-day class entitled "Organic Vegetable Production: Growing in Alabama". This workshop will be held on November 15, 2005, at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$15.00, which includes lunch and a C.D. on conference presentations. Our focus will be on production problems facing growers who want to apply organic practices to their operations in Alabama and the Deep South. Guest speakers include Greg Hoyt of North Carolina State University and Don Wambles, Director Alabama Farmers Market Authority.

3. Marketing Vegetables

This summer a new Farmers Market was opened in Alexander City. This creates some new opportunities to buy, grow, and market vegetables. If you are retired or just looking for some extra income, why not grow some vegetables and participate in this new market. It's a great way to get some healthy exercise, meet a lot of nice folks, and make some extra income. The Coosa County Extension Office will host a Vegetable Production and Marketing meeting in Rockford if there is sufficient interest. Anyone interested in attending the Class should contact the Extension Office at 256-377-4713. There will be no charge but pre-registration is required.

Photo: Coosa Extension NEP Agent Sue Pemberton presents a food demonstration at the newly opened Alexander City Farmers Market.