



Organic Growers School Upcoming Events & Opportunities



GROWING ORIENTAL HERBS IN WESTERN NORTH

**CAROLINA: WORKSHOP with JOE HOLLIS,
MOUNTAIN GARDENS**

Missed Joe Hollis' workshop on Oriental Herbs at our 14th annual Spring Conference? Not to worry. Joe will be offering his workshop, entitled GROWING ORIENTAL HERBS IN WNC on Saturday March 31st, 2007 from 2 to 5 PM at Daoist Traditions School of Oriental Medicine in Asheville, NC.

Topics will include:

- The plant-evolutionary and bio-climatological connections between Western North Carolina and Eastern Asia
- Recent developments in oriental herb cultivation in America
- Potential small scale and large scale markets for growers
- Promising species for trial in this area: ecology, cultivation, and possible problems
- Sources for information and planting material (seed or starts)
- Possibilities for (marketing) cooperation among growers

This workshop is offered as a free "Make-up class" for those who had planned to attend at the recent Organic Growers School Spring Conference (all others: a \$5 donation will be appreciated)

The workshop will be in Asheville at Daoist Traditions School of Oriental Medicine, 382 Montford Ave. (approx. opposite to the Acupuncture Clinic, adjacent to Montford Park) 2:00-5:00 PM Saturday March 31st

[Mountain Gardens Website](#)

Contact

Joe Hollis, Mountain Gardens
joehollis@excite.com

**Walter & Wendy Harrill,
Imladrid Farm**
828.628.9377
info@imladrisfarm.com
www.imladrisfarm.com

Organic Growers School
828.342.5333
info@organicgrowersschool.org

www.organicgrowersschool.org



**BACKYARD BERRY
PRODUCTION WORKSHOPS
with WALTER HARRILL,
IMLADRI S FARM**

Don't we all love berries? We're fortunate enough to live in an area that grows great blueberries, raspberries, and blackberries with a minimum of effort. Come learn how to grow these wonderful, healthy fruits from an experienced local farmer on a "backyard" scale.

Naturally adapted to our environment, these three berries do particularly well grown sustainably, needing little to no chemical inputs, organic or otherwise. Topics will include site preparation, selection of varieties, planting, pruning, pest control, pollination, and irrigation (and methods to avoid/minimize irrigation). Focus will be on affordable production of quality fruit for household needs with a minimum of effort. Classes will be given under the shade of an apple tree (weather permitting) and will include time in the orchard (weather notwithstanding). Participants should be prepared to walk, take notes, walk, ask questions, and walk. Good shoes are a necessity (some walking may be required).

Dates:

Sunday, April 29th, 1-6p.m.

Rambles through the Brambles (Blackberries and Raspberries)

Schedule:

12:30-1:30 p.m. Check in/Mingling (Farm Tours of Imladris offered)

1:30-3:00 p.m. Basics of Bramble Management

3:00-4:00 Intensive Tour of Raspberry and Blackberry Orchards

4:00-5:00 "Got my berries – now what?" – Preserve your crop

Registration is \$30 and includes a mid-afternoon snack.

Sunday, May 20th, 1-6p.m.

Find Your Thrill on Blueberry Hill (Blueberries)

Schedule:

12:30-1:30 p.m. Check in/Mingling (Farm Tours of Imladris offered)
1:30-2:00 p.m. Car Pool to Blueberry Orchard
2:00-3:30 p.m. Basics of Blueberry Management
3:30-4:00 p.m. Intensive Tour of Raspberry and Blackberry Orchards
4:00-5:00 p.m. "Got my berries – now what?" – Preserve your crop
Registration is \$30 and includes a mid-afternoon snack.

TO REGISTER: Call Imladris Farm at 828.628.9377 OR email imladrisfarm@bellsouth.net

[Imladris Farm Website](#)

ANNOUNCING THE FIRST ANNUAL TRUE NATURE COUNTRY FAIR

In the spirit of the the Common Ground Country Fair, The Organic Growers School announces the first annual True Nature Country Fair September 28, 29, & 30, 2007 at Deerfields in Mills River, North Carolina, 20 minutes south of Asheville.

The farmers, homebuilders, craftspeople, restaurateurs, social and political activists and healthcare providers of the southern Appalachians are invited to join their neighbors for a celebration of life lived in connection and harmony with the earth. The True Nature Country Fair features vendors of local, organic, and sustainable products and resources from throughout the Southeast, workshops on all facets of sustainable living, a children's program and live music, all in a pristine mountain setting.

The True Nature Country Fair is currently seeking interested food vendors, exhibitors, sponsors, musicians, and volunteers. Contact Karen Vizzina at karen@organicgrowersschool.org or call 828.342.1849.

[Organic Growers School website](#)

COMING SOON! 2nd ANNUAL FARMER TO FARMER MENTORING SERIES

Are you looking to start a farm in our region? Last year the Organic Growers School, NC A&T University, and the NC Cooperative Extension partnered to offer hands-on, weekly workshops on three well-known vegetable farms in Western North Carolina. Participants learned everything from soil management to marketing plans in this 13 week series of courses designed to walk the prospective farmer through one full season of sustainable vegetable production.

This year's Farmer-to-Farmer Mentoring series is coming soon! Stay tuned to the OGS website for details!

[Organic Growers School Website](#)

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