

NC Cooperative Extension - Perquimans County Center

## DID YOU KNOW?

August 2022



### Get to Know Asheton Smith!

Please join us in welcoming Asheton Smith to the Extension family! Asheton is the new 4-H Youth Development Agent.

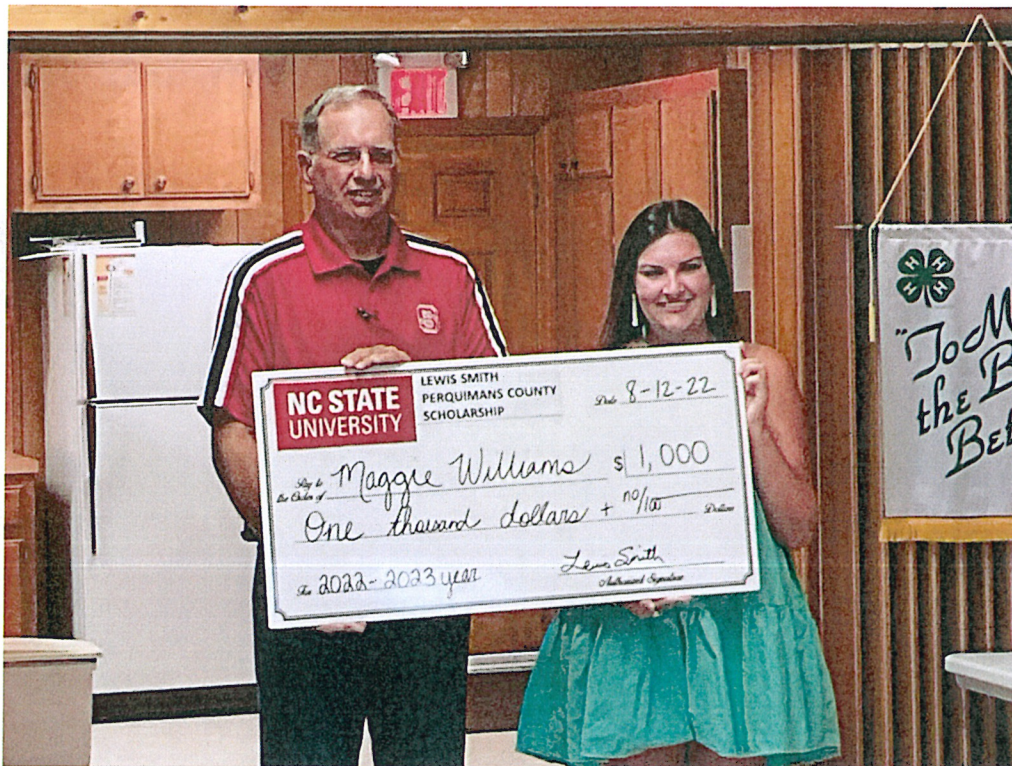
Asheton and her husband Justin reside in Chowan County where they call home. She was an

educator in the public school system for 11 years. She is no stranger to community involvement and serving others. She grew up with a father in the NC Wildlife Commission and a grandfather who farmed and was also active in Extension through numerous roles. Asheton serves in her local church and community organizations. She brings to the table experience, passion, and drive to continue and build the youth development program in PQ. Asheton says, "I am excited to learn and grow in this new role as I meet new people. I hope to make a positive impact on the community."

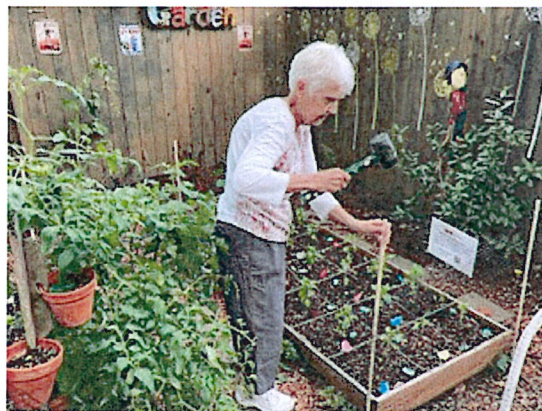
### The Lewis Smith Perquimans County Scholarship

Congratulations to Maggie Williams for receiving the Lewis Smith Perquimans County Endowment. Maggie will be a Junior at NC State this fall semester. The Lewis Smith Scholarship is for students who are currently enrolled at NC State or High School Seniors that have been accepted into NC State for an agriculture based education. A special thank you to Mr. Lewis Smith for this opportunity for our youth in Perquimans County.





### Master Gardeners Participate in Statewide Trial



Three local Extension Master Gardeners from the Chowan, Gates and Perquimans County program are participating in a statewide trial to determine the disease resistance of several new cultivars of basil. Each week, volunteers monitor, measure and care for the provided types. Trials are being repeated across the state, most are in home gardens and at local extension offices. Results of the trial will help breeders know what types of basil appeal to home gardeners based on taste and performance.









### Fall Forages

This time of year the Perquimans Extension office receives many questions regarding planting pastures. The following is a description of some of the forages planted in North Carolina for winter/fall grazing. Before planting any seed always make sure you take a soil sample to know the fertilizer recommendations. In eastern North Carolina we are blessed to have a great climate to plant a wide variety of forages for the fall/winter months. In our area we can plant Oats, Wheat, Triticale,



Rye and Ryegrass, Fescues, Brassicas, Winter Peas and many others. The seeding rate on triticale is between 100 to 150lbs per acre. Over the years we have seen an increase of producers planting ryegrass which is seeded at 35-40lbs per acre. Ryegrass grows quickly once it is planted and is a great source for producers to turn to during fall and spring months. There has also been an increase in producers planting mixes, (2 to 7 varieties) of forages together to help build soil health and used as grazing. These mixes have come about through the research done by the Amazing Grazing team at NC State University to promote a different way of thinking about pastures. We all want as much forage per acre to feed our livestock but we also must think about the soil health as well. These mixes have several varieties of seeds that have different root systems to expand the pores of the soil to create less runoff and more nutrients that can enter into the soil. Most of these mixes need to be planted at a minimum of 40lbs per acre. Fescue also works well in our area and can be planted from September through November depending on weather conditions. Any fescue needs to be seeded at 35 to 40lbs per acre. Fescue is suited more for a clay based soil and not a sandy base soil. It is also recommended to mix clover in with your fescue to promote an added nitrogen source to the soil. If you are going to interseed a clover the seeding rate would be 4 to 5lbs per acre. Turnips and radishes are a great source to use for cover crops in our area. Not only do they work well to sustain the soil through the winter months but they also expand the root systems below the surface to increase nutrient intake into the soil. The seeding rate on these is around 14lbs per acre. With so many varieties to plant for our area make sure you talk to your local extension agent to see what would best suit your farm and the goals you have for each forage season. You can reach the Perquimans Extension Office at 252-426-5428.

## Upcoming Events:

Horse Bowl, Hippology, and Judging Team meetings start September 7, 2022

EGG-cellent Egg Contest -Deadline to register is September 9, 2022

Successful Parasite Control in Sheep and Goats Meeting November 15th, 2022



NC State University and N.C. A&T State University work in tandem, along with federal, state and local governments, to form a strategic partnership called N.C. Cooperative Extension.



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