



NEW ATTRA VIDEO

Mastering Plant Propagation: Division and Grafting Techniques with ECHO Global Farms

In our new 14-minute video, NCAT Sustainable Agriculture Specialist Gabriella Soto-Velez teams up with Lauren Daniels-Judge from ECHO Global Farms to explore plant propagation, focusing on two essential techniques: division and grafting. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced grower, understanding these methods can help you boost crop productivity, preserve plant genetics, and expand your enterprise. Lauren goes through step-by-step instructions, sharing tips on how to divide plants successfully for healthy regrowth and how to graft different plant varieties to achieve stronger, more resilient crops. This video addresses when and how to divide plants for optimal success and covers essential tools and techniques for effective grafting.





NATIONAL AG WEEK

Together We Grow

March 16-22, 2025

Because of farmers' and ranchers' skills, hard work, and perseverance, we have food on our tables and clothes on our backs. NCAT is proud to work alongside producers every day to help them achieve their goals and find sustainable solutions. This National Ag Week, we want to thank farmers and ranchers for all they do, rain or shine.



ATTRA EVENTS

- [Unveiling the Secrets of Soil: A Panel Discussion](#)

March 22, 2025

Fayetteville, Arkansas

(Nina Prater is a panelist.)

- [Northwest Latino Farmer Conference](#)

May 7-8, 2025

Wenatchee, Washington



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[Future Organic Farmers](#)

CCOF Foundation offers \$5,000 grants to support higher education and vocational students pursuing

degrees or certificates in organic agriculture. Applicants must demonstrate financial need and a strong interest in and commitment to a career in organic agriculture.

The application period is open until April 18, 2025.

Texas Young Farmer Grant

This program provides dollar-for-dollar matching grant funds to young agricultural producers that are engaged or will be engaged in creating or expanding an agricultural business in Texas. Grant awards range from \$5,000 to \$20,000 and may not be used for capital purchases.

Applications must be received by April 17, 2025.

Kansas Specialty Crop Block Grant

The Kansas Department of Agriculture expects to receive \$330,000 from the USDA to fund projects to enhance the competitiveness of the Kansas specialty crop industry. Applicants may request up to \$100,000 for projects up to three years in length.

Applications are due March 31, 2025.

DON'T MISS IT

New Farmer U

April 12-13, 2025

Chippewa, Wisconsin

This intensive two-day training from Marbleseed is designed to provide beginning farmers with practical financial, marketing, and business management skills to help their operations thrive.

Accessing USDA Resources / Compost on Rangelands Demonstration

April 9-10, 2025

Tsaile, Arizona

Quivira Coalition presents a two-part workshop with one day on accessing USDA resources (including a local ranch tour) and a second day on how to build an aerated static compost pile.

Explore Farming Workshop

April 1, 2025

Online

This free workshop from New Entry Sustainable Farming Project is designed to help you identify what actions you will need to take towards a career in farming.

IN THE NEWS

- **[Information on Bird Flu and Biosecurity Available Online](#)**

Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT) has posted [information on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza](#) (HPAI), also known as bird flu. FACT notes that it is crucial that farmers take action and personal responsibility to prevent and limit its spread. FACT's web page on the topic discusses how HPAI spreads, how to protect your poultry and other animals from it, and what to do if you suspect bird flu.

- **[Guide Aids Organic Farmers with Wholesale Pricing](#)**

Community Alliance with Family Farmers published [The Farmer's Guide to Organic Wholesale Pricing](#) for organic produce farmers who are pricing crops for wholesale sales. The guide helps farmers understand four different pricing strategies, provides tools to approximate what prices you may reasonably expect in the marketplace for your organic crops, explains how prices are determined in different wholesale relationships, and presents best practices for communicating prices to buyers.

Related ATTRA publication: [Planning for Profit in Sustainable Farming](#)

- **[Study Links Slow-Growing Broiler Breeds with More Positive Animal Welfare](#)**

University of Arkansas [research comparing conventional and slow-growing broiler breeds](#) showed that the slow-growing chickens displayed behaviors more closely associated with positive welfare. In this study, a larger percentage of slow-growing broilers that need up to 12 weeks to reach maturity were observed standing, walking, and preening, while more conventional broilers (raised for six to eight weeks) sat in a lateral posture.

Related ATTRA blog: [Heritage Chickens: A Rare Breed in Modern Coops](#)

- **[Basic Livestock and Poultry Webinars Available On Demand](#)**

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service premiered two [on-demand, two-hour webinars](#), Livestock 101: Livestock Economics and Markets and Livestock 101: Poultry.

Related ATTRA topic area: [Meat Processing](#)

- **[Australian Research Finds Microplastics Contamination in Compost](#)**

A study led by Griffith University researchers in Australia found that [compost applied to agricultural land contains significant amounts of microplastics](#). Over time, accumulated microplastics can alter soil structure, limit plant growth, hinder the cycling of nutrients, and disrupt microbial communities, affecting overall farm productivity. In addition, microplastics can further break down into nanoplastics that plants can uptake, meaning that they could find their way into the food chain.

MORE NEWS

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About Us

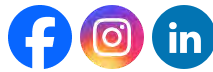
NCAT has been helping people build resilient communities through local and sustainable solutions that reduce poverty, strengthen self-reliance, and protect natural resources since 1976. Learn more and become a friend of NCAT at [NCAT.ORG](https://ncat.org).

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