Voluntary Agricultural Districts (VAD)
## Voluntary Ag Districts – 2023 Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Parcels</th>
<th>Landowners/Farms</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue Ridge</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1320.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edneyville</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1716.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Broad</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>827.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruitland</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>2418.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green River</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3286.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeter Mountain</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Hoopers Creek</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>413.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mills River</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1005.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Page</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>153.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total December 2023</strong></td>
<td><strong>382</strong></td>
<td><strong>153</strong></td>
<td><strong>11143.15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Voluntary Agricultural District Totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Parcels</th>
<th>Landowners/Farms</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 2021</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>10901.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2021</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>11331.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2022</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>11525.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2023</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>11116.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2023</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>11143.15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
02
Present-Use Value
Present Use Value Program

Acreage in PUV

- Agriculture: 38126
- Horticulture: 7894
- Forestry: 8269
- Wildlife: 1459

TOTAL ACREAGE = 55,747
Present Use Value Program

PUV's by Year

Year

PUV Count
Additional Agriculture Data*

41,099 acres of farmland
60,000 including timber
Up 15% from 2012

Average farm size = 90 acres
Up 18% from 2012

$3,286,000 in direct sales
Up 62% from 2012

$67,241,000 total ag products sold
Up 9% from 2012

189 animal farms
Up 8% from 2012

35% increase in per-farm net income

36% “new or beginning” farmers

*2017 USDA Census Data
Agribusiness Henderson County (AgHC)

2004 – Adopted Comp Plan recommends an agricultural proponent

2006 – Board develops strategic plan to focus on Agribusiness

Jan 2011 – Board votes to move forward with the establishment of a 501c6 & the appointment of directors

February 2011 – Agribusiness Development Board & articles of incorporation

March 2011 – Board sets budget for Agribusiness Development Partnership & director
$1.7 million
In the news...

**$1M awarded to BRCC by Golden Leaf Foundation for new greenhouse**

The Golden Leaf Foundation awarded a $1 million grant on April 7 to fund a new greenhouse for Blue Ridge Community College's horticulture program. The new structure will enable students to maintain automated growing systems and teach skills valuable to area growers and agribusinesses.

**New $23M greenhouse operation to bring 50 jobs**

The Golden Leaf Foundation awarded a $1 million grant on April 7 to fund a new greenhouse for Blue Ridge Community College's horticulture program. The new structure will enable students to maintain automated growing systems and teach skills valuable to area growers and agribusinesses.

**US (NC): California company makes $9M investment in Mills River-based greenhouse**

A new 65,000-square-feet, $9 million biotech greenhouse operation, which is developing genetically-engineered potatoes and corn and a variety of other plants, officially went public May 24 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by many Henderson County government and agricultural leaders.
04
The Future of Agriculture
The Future of Agriculture

- Agricultural Conservation Easements
- Farmland Preservation Fund
- Blue Ridge Community College
- Agribusiness Henderson County
Have a question or comment?
Send an email to:
agriculture@hendersoncountync.gov