

Jennifer Gamble

From: Anthony Williams
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Jessica Miller
Cc: William Heath Cain; Shannon Cagle
Subject: Migrant Camp Guidance
Attachments: Recommendations-for-Farms-Packhouses-and-Related-Facilities.pdf

Importance: High

FYI

Anthony Williams, MPA, REHS
Lee County Environmental Health Supervisor
115 Chatham St., Suite 2
Sanford, NC 27330
Phone: 919-718-4641 Ext. 5388
Fax: 919-718-4636

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<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KQH6GYV>

As questions and concerns about coronavirus (COVID-19) increase across North Carolina, we'd like to encourage promotion of the statewide Coronavirus Helpline (1-866-462-3821) for the public, which is answered 24 hours a day/7 days a week. You can also see the latest online about Lee County's response to COVID-19 here: <https://leecountync.gov/>



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Interim COVID-19 Recommendations for Farms, Packhouses, and Related Facilities Adapted from CDC/NIOSH Recommendations April 24, 2020

Introduction

COVID-19 can spread easily in settings where people work in close proximity, such as farms and packhouses where manual labor is critical to production. Farmers, managers and crew supervisors should implement plans to reduce exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19 to prevent the spread of the disease among plant workers. Individuals who are over the age of 65 and people with pre-existing medical conditions such as diabetes, chronic lung or heart disease, or who have a compromised immune system (e.g. cancer or taking immunosuppressant medications) have a greater risk of severe illness due to COVID-19. Complications of COVID-19 infection include the need to be hospitalized, receive mechanical ventilation and death.

These interim recommendations were developed with input from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and have been adapted for use in North Carolina by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) and the Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). They will be updated as new information becomes available. The recommendations are intended to prevent exposure to COVID-19, when possible, and protect the health of North Carolina's communities which includes this important work force. Farms, packhouses, and related facilities are essential businesses and play a critical role in producing a continuous supply of safe and healthy food. These recommendations are intended to provide management options by which the safety of workers can be enhanced. They are not intended to replace any existing worker safety and health plans required by the NC Department of Labor (NCDOL) but should be viewed as an addition to those.

Farms, especially those who employ H2A guestworkers, in NC have historically been regulated by the NCDOL for workplace and housing standards. Recently, outbreaks of COVID-19 at facilities in other states, and now NC, have required the development of guidance for a new type of hazard (transmission of respiratory virus from employee to employee) that has not been historically recognized on farm or in these facilities. With input from the CDC-NIOSH, NCDHHS' Division of Public Health and NCDA&CS have rapidly developed this guidance in an attempt to support farmers and farmworkers.

The key components of a prevention plan include 1) minimizing the risk for exposure to the virus, 2) early detection of people with symptoms of COVID-19, and 3) isolating suspected or positive cases from others until they are no longer infectious.

Create a COVID-19 Infection Control Plan

Reducing the spread of an outbreak and the continuation of operations requires preparing for and implementing modifications at the plant.

- Identify workplace coordinators for COVID-19 issues
- Establish a worksite wellness coordinator to follow the wellness protocols described below
- Determine how you will operate with a reduced workforce
- Implement plans to continue your essential farm business functions
- Institute flexible workplace and paid time off policies that are shared with all workers
- Cross-train workers to perform essential functions to maintain operations
- Implement structural and/or procedural changes to create space and barriers between workers
- Implement thorough disinfecting practices of equipment and shared workplaces
- Secure isolation housing for symptomatic workers who need to be isolated but cannot isolate themselves within normal housing of farmworkers
- Develop a communications plan to share information daily to reinforce educational messages, provide updated information about the number of confirmed cases on the farm, and to share updates about steps being taken to keep the workers safe, including testing and contact tracing

Conduct worksite assessments to identify COVID-19 risks and prevention strategies.

- In addition to work areas, other areas to consider include transportation to and from the worksite, break room, common areas, locker rooms, tool rooms, check-in areas, equipment stations, routes of entry and exit to work areas, and similar areas
- Personal protective equipment (PPE), identified as necessary in these assessments, should be supplied by management and replaced as necessary (for example, when dirty or contaminated)
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer and hand soap should be provided to employees to use

Follow CDC Interim Guidance – Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/critical-workers/implementing-safety-practices.html

See website for details – selected key points below:

- Pre-screen workers for fever (>100.4 F) and symptoms prior to work and prior to beginning the workday, and transportation such as vans and buses
- Workers should report to supervisors if they get sick during work shift
- Workers who are ill should not work and should be referred for medical evaluation and possible COVID-19 testing
- Workers who are ill should be informed that their family members, co-workers, and close contacts may also be assessed for symptoms
- Workers experiencing shortness of breath or inability to stand on their own should be cared for immediately by calling 911 and reporting a suspected COVID-19 case with severe symptoms
- Workers so excluded from work should receive paid time off until results are available and while being isolated if positive
- Workers should wear a mask to cover their nose and mouth.
- Maintain social distance as feasible in the workplace – see section below
- Disinfect and clean workspaces – see section below
- Concerning continuation of work or return-to-work issues for individual workers:
 - For workers who have potentially been exposed to COVID-19:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/Essential-Critical-Workers_Dos-and-Donts.pdf

- For workers who have been ill and must return to work:
 - Non-test-based strategy. Exclude from work until:
 - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed *since recovery*, defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
 - At least 7 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared*
- Workers so excluded from work should have paid time off for duration of exclusion time

Contact Tracing

- Contact tracing should be performed for any cases that are identified. This will be a joint function of the farmer, manager or responsible party, and health and state and local entities. Since workers may be equally exposed at the job site and within housing, it is imperative that commercial and private entities cooperate in this function.

Follow the hierarchy of controls when implementing infection control practices specific to facilities, and include a combination of controls noted below

Field and workplace controls

- Adapt field operations to minimize close contact of workers with other workers
- Utilize methods to physically separate workers when possible to include working areas, break rooms, parking lots, equipment operation stations, and entrance/exit areas
 - Utilize practices such as visual cues (e.g., floor markings, signs), tents or other temporary shelters
- If fans are used in a packing facility or warehouse, ensure that fans blow clean air at the workers' breathing zone

Cleaning/Disinfection/Sanitation

- Disinfect high-touch areas with products meeting Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2 and approved under the facility's sanitation standard operating procedures
- Coordinate cleaning product use with USDA if used in food production and packing areas
- For other high-touch areas, use products that meet EPA criteria, diluted household bleach solutions, or alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and are appropriate for surface disinfection
- If tools are used by multiple workers – disinfect between shared use
- Conduct targeted and more frequent cleaning of high-touch areas of shared spaces (e.g., time clocks, bathroom fixtures, break room tables and chairs, locker rooms, vending machines, railings, door handles)

Administrative controls

- Worker screening – see section above
- Reduce packing line staffing to extent feasible to minimize close worker contact - consider line speed as an important factor in this
- Stagger shifts, start times and break times as feasible
- Provide workers adequate time and access to soap, water and single-use towels for handwashing
- Use no-touch receptacles when possible

- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers containing at least 60% alcohol if soap/water not available

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Source Control

- Workers should continue to be provided and wear PPE required for job tasks being performed
- Use masks as noted above; replace when contaminated or dirty
- Stress proper manner to put on and take off items such as masks to minimize becoming dirty or contaminated
- Emphasize proper hand hygiene after gloves or facial coverings are removed

Provide infection control information and training for all workers

- Communication/training should be easy to understand, in languages appropriate to preferred language(s) spoken or read by the workers, and include accurate and timely information
- Topics including, but not limited to: staying home when ill, social distancing, PPE, hand hygiene practices, and potential routes of transmission (and how to minimize them) in community

Jennifer Gamble

From: Anthony Williams
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Jessica Miller
Cc: William Heath Cain
Subject: RE: Migrant Camp Guidance

FYI, talked to Minda Daughtry with Lee Co. Cooperative Extension and they have been communicating resources out to our migrant farms.

From: Jessica Miller
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:28 AM
To: Anthony Williams
Subject: RE: Migrant Camp Guidance

Looks good

From: Anthony Williams <awilliams@leecountync.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Jessica Miller <jmiller@leecountync.gov>
Cc: William Heath Cain <hcaain@leecountync.gov>; Shannon Cagle <scagle@leecountync.gov>
Subject: Migrant Camp Guidance
Importance: High

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Jennifer Gamble

From: ncdph.lhdirectors-bounces@lists.ncmail.net on behalf of Lovette, Beth
<Beth.Lovette@dhhs.nc.gov>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 9:41 PM
To: local health directors list
Cc: DHHS.dph.section.chiefs
Subject: [EXTERNAL][NCDPH.LHDirectors] NC DHHS COVID Stakeholder Updates
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

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Dear all,

These are the latest updates on North Carolina's COVID-19 response.

- NCDHHS Updates Guidance on Who Should be Tested for COVID-19
- North Carolina Working with Local Manufacturers to Make Critical Supplies
- New PSA on the Ws
- North Carolina's Key COVID-19 Indicators Remain Stable
- Make Sure Water Systems are Safe before Reopening
- Guidance for Overnight Camps Now Available
- Governor Signs Executive Order to Provide Regulatory Flexibility for Health Care System During Response to COVID-19

NCDHHS Updates Guidance on Who Should be Tested for COVID-19

There is updated guidance on who should be tested for COVID-19. The new guidance recommends that clinicians test any patient in whom COVID-19 is suspected and ensure the following populations have access to testing, regardless of symptoms:

- Anyone with symptoms suggestive of COVID-19
- Close contacts of known positive cases, regardless of symptoms
- Persons who live in or have regular contact with high-risk settings (e.g., long-term care facility, homeless shelter, correctional facility, migrant farmworker camp)
- Persons who are at high risk of severe illness (e.g., people over 65 years of age, people of any age with underlying health conditions)
- Persons who come from historically marginalized populations
- Health care workers or first responders (e.g. EMS, law enforcement, fire department, military)
- Front-line and essential workers (grocery store clerks, gas station attendants, etc.) in settings where social distancing is difficult to maintain

[Press Release \[ncdhhs.gov\]](#)

Guidance

North Carolina Working with Local Manufacturers to Make Critical Supplies

The state's Task Force for Emergency Repurposing of Manufacturing has partnered with the [N.C. Manufacturing Extension Partnership](#), [Carolina Textile District](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#) to identify and collaborate with manufacturers statewide who are able to pivot their operations to produce critical personal protective equipment (PPE) including face shields, hand sanitizer, cloth masks, gowns and more. The Task Force has worked with over 300 North Carolina companies.

[Press Release](#)

New PSA on the Ws

Wear. Wait. Wash. As North Carolina eases some COVID-19 restrictions, the NC Department of Health and Human Services is asking people to remember these three things to continue to slow the spread of COVID-19 and flatten the curve. If you leave home, practice your Ws: Wear, Wait, Wash

- Wear a cloth face covering if you will be with other people.

- Wait 6 feet apart. Avoid close contact.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.

Share our new 30-second public service announcement on the 3 Ws.

[Public Service Announcement \[youtu.be\]](#)

North Carolina's Key COVID-19 Indicators Remain Stable

On May 14th, Governor Cooper and Secretary Cohen provided an update on North Carolina's key COVID-19 metrics, which showed that the state remained stable nearly one week into Phase 1.

[Press Release](#)

[Data Presentation](#)

Make Sure Water Systems are Safe before Reopening

To help slow the spread of COVID-19, many buildings have closed to the public or have limited access. Reduced water use for extended time periods can lead to stagnant water, which can increase the risk for growth of *Legionella* and other waterborne pathogens. Owners and operators of buildings with complex water systems such as hotels, dormitories and some recreational facilities should take steps now to make sure that building water and water systems are safe to use and minimize the risk of Legionnaires' disease and other disease associated with water. NC DHHS urges owners and operators of buildings with complex water systems to read and follow the [CDC's Guidance for Building Water Systems \[cdc.gov\]](#).

Guidance for Overnight Camps Now Available

NC DHHS has new guidance available for overnight camps in the state. The guidance includes recommendations on prevention, combatting misinformation, monitoring campers and staff for symptoms, protecting vulnerable populations, cabins and sleeping areas, daily activities, meal service, and cleaning.

[Interim Guidance for Overnight Camp Settings](#)

Governor Signs Executive Order to Provide Regulatory Flexibility for Health Care System During Response to COVID-19

Governor Roy Cooper Issued Executive Order No. 139 to provide additional regulatory flexibility to help ensure capacity in the state's health care system and improve its ability to effectively respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Press Release](#)

[Executive Order](#)

Thank you!

Beth

Beth Lovette, MPH, RN

Deputy Director

Section Chief, Administrative, Local and Community Support

Division of Public Health

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

(919) 707-5001 office

(919) 397-6238 mobile

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beth.lovette@dhhs.nc.gov

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Jennifer Gamble

From: Shannon Cagle
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 3:01 PM
To: Bill Stone
Cc: Anthony Williams
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]Fwd: Invitation to Web seminar: Supporting our Essential Farm-workers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19

Thank you Bill. I have a Preparedness Meeting at 1:00 tomorrow, but maybe Tony will attend.

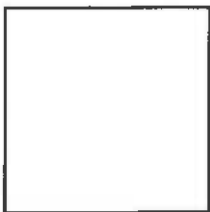
From: Bill Stone
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 10:14 AM
To: Shannon Cagle ; Anthony Williams ; William Heath Cain
Cc: Mitch Williams ; Minda Daughtry
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Fwd: Invitation to Web seminar: Supporting our Essential Farm-workers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19

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Hi guys- Thought this may be of interest, especially in light of recent farm/processing facility outbreaks. We will plan on having staff attend.

Thanks- Bill

William C. "Bill" Stone, Ph.D.
County Extension Director
NC State University, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
NC Cooperative Extension-Lee County
2420 Tramway Road
Sanford, NC 27332
Phone: 919-775-5624
Fax: 919-775-1302



----- Forwarded message -----

From: Noah Ranells <nnranell@ncsu.edu>
Date: Wed, May 13, 2020 at 10:07 AM
Subject: Fwd: Invitation to Web seminar: Supporting our Essential Farm-workers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19
To: localfoodextension@lists.ncsu.edu

see below. thanks shorlette ammons for sharing

Noah Ranells, PhD | NC FarmLink Co-Director | 919-245-2058 | nranell@ncsu.edu | ncfarmlink.ces.ncsu.edu | 306-E Revere Rd | Hillsborough, NC 27278



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Quilici, Gianna N** <gianna.quilici@nc.gov>

Date: Wed, May 13, 2020 at 9:56 AM

Subject: Invitation to Web seminar: Supporting our Essential Farm-workers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19

To:

Please join the Office of the Governor for our seventh COVID-19 Latinx conference call. The call will be facilitated by The Office of Public Engagement and VolunteerNC. Please see the agenda and registration information below:

Welcome Remarks

- **Caroline Farmer**, *Executive Director of Volunteer NC*, Office of the Governor
- **Jeremy Collins**, *Director, Office of Public Engagement, Office of the Governor*
- **Matty Lazo-Chadderton**, *Deputy Director of Outreach, Public Engagement, Office of the Governor*

Supporting our Essential Farmworkers During the Pandemic

- **Elizabeth Freeman Lambar**, *Program Director, NC Farmworker Health Program Office of Rural Health Secretary for Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services of North Carolina*
- **Dr. Gayle Thomas**, *Medical Director, NC Farmworker Health Program, Office of Rural Health, NC Department of Health and Human Services*

Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19

- **Dr. Erica Wilson**, *Medical Director, Vaccine Preventable and Respiratory Diseases, Communicable Disease Branch Division of Public Health North Carolina Department of Public Health and Human Services*

Q&A

Adjournment

Palabras de Bienvenida

- **Caroline Farmer**, *Directora Ejecutiva de Voluntarios NC*, Oficina del Gobernador
- **Jeremy Collins**, *Director, Involucramiento Público*, Oficina del Gobernador
- **Matty Lazo-Chadderton**, *Directora Asociada de Alcance, Involucramiento Público*, Oficina del Gobernador

Apoyando a Nuestros Trabajadores del Campo Esenciales durante la Pandemia

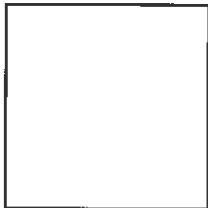
- **Elizabeth Freeman Lambar**, *Directora de Programas*, Programa de la Salud para los Trabajadores del Campo de Carolina del Norte
- **Dra. Gayle Thomas**, *Directora Médica*, Programa de la Salud para los Trabajadores del Campo en Carolina del Norte Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Carolina del Norte

Trabajadores en Plantas Procesadoras de Carne y de Aves de Corral durante COVID-19

- **Dr. Erica Wilson**, *Directora Médica*, Vacunas Preventivas y Enfermedades Respiratorias División de Enfermedades Contagiosas, División de Salud Pública Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Carolina del Norte

Preguntas

Cierre



The Office of Public
Engagement and Volunteer NC

invites you to attend a Webex event.

This event requires registration. After you register, you'll receive a confirmation email message with instructions on how to join the event.

Supporting our Essential Farm-workers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19

Thursday, May 14, 2020 1:00 pm, Eastern Daylight Time (New York, GMT-04:00)

Host: Gianna Quilici (gianna.quilici@nc.gov)

[Register \[ncgov.webex.com\]](#)

3447&IV=E5E48E1A569FE4FBD5998560AEF84467&TT=1589379321003&ESN=69JHg9Qo5gv6sjwX7WbxjkO8frY6ye3pJZBt
bex.com]

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she/her/hers

Shorlette Ammons
Equity in Food Systems Extension Associate
Center for Environmental Farming Systems
NC State University
2013 Food Equity Fellow, Center for Social Inclusion
Email: sammons2@ncsu.edu

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--James Baldwin

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--
Noah Ranells
Farm Better Now!
Efland, NC

Jennifer Gamble

From: NC Response <NCResponse@dhhs.nc.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 3:21 PM
To: Anthony Williams
Cc: Jessica Miller; Angie Licata
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Re: [External] Migrant Camp Resources

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Good afternoon Mr. Williams,

Thank you very much for your question. Please refer to the following DHHS guidance:

<https://files.nc.gov/ncdhhs/documents/files/covid-19/interim-covid-guidance-migrant-farm-workers.pdf>
(March 26)

Interim Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance for Migrant Farmworkers, Their Employers, and Housing Providers
of the virus' incubation period (incubation period is 14 days after last exposure to a confirmed or suspect COVID-19 case). A significant exposure is defined as being within 6 feet of a confirmed or suspect COVID-19 case for at least 10 minutes.
files.nc.gov

We hope this helps. Please let us know if you have any further questions and thank you for your concern for your community's health.

Best regards,

The NC Response Team/CEH

NC Residents and visitors can call: 866-462-3821

Media Inquiries should be directed to: 919-825-2599

Local Health Departments and Health Care Providers with time sensitive questions can contact Epi On-Call at: 919-733-3419

For Public Health Emergencies please call PHP&R: 1-888-820-0520

Please visit the NCDHHS COVID-19 response website for the latest information https://urlprotection-mia.global.sonicwall.com/click?PV=1&MSGID=202005081921190132481&URLID=8&ESV=10.0.6.3447&IV=6A59B34D02086B260952F4251CBA77EE&TT=1588965680136&ESN=P%2Bu3SR88EIy8XsCZbNlpChv8ccM6ryVreCoMHE5908g%3D&KV=1536961729279&ENCODED_URL=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncdhhs.gov%2Fcoronavirus&HK=CCDC103B4061868D55F7468F9815FA46C0461C4BA2EBCDDA0FCE333FA8A368E9 or https://urlprotection-mia.global.sonicwall.com/click?PV=1&MSGID=202005081921190132481&URLID=6&ESV=10.0.6.3447&IV=8EEFCECE4323C3BA5EDE0AE905E28F64&TT=1588965680136&ESN=un6oXuuPo0xsTruaaqKFI1Bm7gmh6SjRelcM8kKEFRM%3D&KV=1536961729279&ENCODED_URL=https%3A%2F%2Fepi.dph.ncdhhs.gov%2Fcd%2Fcoronavirus%2Fproviders.html&HK=D23E4543CB0F00ECE6001B9302A6CCBE8C54E4EC0184F44C2347BF483CF74335



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From: Anthony Williams
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 2:23 PM
To: NC Response
Cc: Jessica Miller ; Angie Licata
Subject: [External] Migrant Camp Resources

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To Whom it May Concern:

Lee County would like some information on available resources for mitigation efforts in the event of an outbreak at a migrant camp. Thank you for your assistance.

Regards,

Anthony Williams, MPA, REHS
Lee County Environmental Health Supervisor
115 Chatham St., Suite 2
Sanford, NC 27330
Phone: 919-718-4641 Ext. 5388
Fax: 919-718-4636

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https://urlprotection-mia.global.sonicwall.com/click?PV=1&MSGID=202005081921190132481&URLID=3&ESV=10.0.6.3447&IV=4401BB50650D310438014B69D427CE45&TT=1588965680136&ESN=CA5BrtUWFmbKe98oix7AyB37F64RCNKDgnxAW4t%2BHrk%3D&KV=1536961729279&ENCODED_URL=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.surveymonkey.com%2F%2FKQH6GYV&HK=AC541003E08A0CB9ADFB3525CDB2AE14DCED866570DC3E64F87778A4E136943B

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https://urlprotection-mia.global.sonicwall.com/click?PV=1&MSGID=202005081921190132481&URLID=1&ESV=10.0.6.3447&IV=9FEDE3DCEAD0764E9B15120978FFB755&TT=1588965680135&ESN=mlUcs0HbI9jA1LGj%2FdROe1ISQUB%2FaP6vH2MhkExKEM%3D&KV=1536961729279&ENCODED_URL=https%3A%2F%2Fleecountync.gov&HK=A4FBB0D743603042CBF7561AEE68A67A92545E532B1996FA8DA6BA72411B0908/

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Jennifer Gamble

From: Minda Daughtry <mtdaught@ncsu.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 9:04 AM
To: Shannon Cagle; Anthony Williams
Subject: [EXTERNAL]COVID-19 Resources and Information

CAUTION: External Email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. For all suspicious emails, please use the **Phish Alert Button** to submit for review. Thank you!

Good morning Folks,

Dr. Hoffmann's team updates this page daily and there is a lot of useful information here. The focus is Agriculture related but some of the resources/guides reach beyond that. Take a look and please share as you see fit. Thanks!

https://urlprotection-mia.global.sonicwall.com/click?PV=1&MSGID=202005081304150130701&URLID=3&ESV=10.0.6.3447&IV=29B272062C6EF74946BEFCCAF0E0BA7C&TT=1588943058328&ESN=0ka5JzBdNKApIRd8w9YM4%2F%2B0a%2FL%2F54eAn0BbVDYJ2gU%3D&KV=1536961729279&ENCODED_URL=http%3A%2F%2Fces.ncsu.edu%2Ffarms-agribusiness&HK=5CCA3069F46E7291518BE06BE5DDD12A889FCBA77890BF4510697E62CEDA6E97/

Take care and be well!

Best regards,
Minda

Minda T. Daughtry
Extension Agent-Horticulture,
NC Cooperative Extension - Lee County Center
2420 Tramway Road
Sanford, NC 27332-9172
Phone 919-775-5624
minda_daughtry@ncsu.edu
lee.ces.ncsu.edu

Jennifer Gamble

From: Anthony Williams
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 2:25 PM
To: 'Minda Daughtry'; Shannon Cagle
Cc: Bill Stone; William Heath Cain; Jessica Miller
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]COVID-19 Information shared with growes

Thanks Minda, I will be in contact once we know more.

From: Minda Daughtry
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 2:02 PM
To: Shannon Cagle ; Anthony Williams
Cc: Bill Stone
Subject: [EXTERNAL]COVID-19 Information shared with growes

CAUTION: External Email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. For all suspicious emails, please use the Phish Alert Button to submit for review. Thank you!

Thank you for speaking with me this morning. NCSU and NC Cooperative Extension have created information resources that we routinely share with the growers we work with. Our COVID-19 Information Outreach efforts have been ongoing since Mid-March 2020.

The produce and strawberry growers that I work with have received information via email announcements, website and social media. These include information from the following resources:

https://urlprotection-mia.global.sonicwall.com/click?PV=1&MSGID=202005061804410032500&URLID=5&ESV=10.0.6.3447&IV=2F9CDE05EED101CE7541452A333B39A3&TT=1588788282166&ESN=fG%2F6qRhUrQvj3cT3nSW9mwQ%2F4foq8Wmp5LK2IKu1eOE%3D&KV=1536961729279&ENCODED_URL=https%3A%2F%2Fstrawberries.ces.ncsu.edu%2F2020%2F05%2Fcovid-19-farmers-update-05-05-2020%2F%3Fsrc%3Drss&HK=AF86129815BA0454A08F597EB14FD07A1D9BE69F85D5C71EAD1892A2FD1D456D

https://urlprotection-mia.global.sonicwall.com/click?PV=1&MSGID=202005061804410032500&URLID=3&ESV=10.0.6.3447&IV=334F0AA762C1E2D9B694F00C824842F9&TT=1588788282166&ESN=u6qt8D1W9FjGVDyEdO%2FXqc0fGXnt1GWrEOX470%2F4vaM%3D&KV=1536961729279&ENCODED_URL=https%3A%2F%2Fstrawberries.ces.ncsu.edu%2F2020%2F03%2Fcovid-19-farming-resources&HK=9EEF112BA6C05D64DA08859AA179C33F43B85A53A5EFA4A9CCFD309AA6478EBC/

The list of area farmers that have agreed to receive these communication efforts from us is attached to this email.

If the situation with the grower that you have been working with is COVID-19 related then the protocols for isolation and healthcare established BY the Lee County Health Dept are paramount to education initiatives that we can provide. Roberto Rosales is

available to connect with a grower virtually for some additional education programs, however, onsite visits are restricted at this time. If you would like to have Roberto provide this training and answer workers questions please let me know as soon as possible so that we can coordinate a planning meeting either Monday or Tuesday to identify some key points that need to be addressed before delivery.

Please let me know what your needs are and how I can help you.

Best regards,

Minda

Minda T. Daughtry
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	skyking@windstream.net		
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	<u>Harrington, Mike</u>	mike.harrington634@gmail.com		

Jennifer Gamble

From: Anthony Williams
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Jessica Miller
Cc: William Heath Cain
Subject: RE: Migrant Camp Guidance

FYI, talked to Minda Daughtry with Lee Co. Cooperative Extension and they have been communicating resources out to our migrant farms.

From: Jessica Miller
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:28 AM
To: Anthony Williams
Subject: RE: Migrant Camp Guidance

Looks good

From: Anthony Williams <awilliams@leecountync.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Jessica Miller <jmiller@leecountync.gov>
Cc: William Heath Cain <hcain@leecountync.gov>; Shannon Cagle <scagle@leecountync.gov>
Subject: Migrant Camp Guidance
Importance: High

FYI

Anthony Williams, MPA, REHS
Lee County Environmental Health Supervisor
115 Chatham St., Suite 2
Sanford, NC 27330
Phone: 919-718-4641 Ext. 5388
Fax: 919-718-4636

Please complete the customer satisfaction survey below to help us better serve our residents:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KQH6GYV>

As questions and concerns about coronavirus (COVID-19) increase across North Carolina, we'd like to encourage promotion of the statewide Coronavirus Helpline (1-866-462-3821) for the public, which is answered 24 hours a day/7 days a week. You can also see the latest online about Lee County's response to COVID-19 here: <https://leecountync.gov/>

Jennifer Gamble

From: Anthony Williams
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Jessica Miller
Cc: William Heath Cain; Shannon Cagle
Subject: Migrant Camp Guidance
Attachments: Recommendations-for-Farms-Packhouses-and-Related-Facilities.pdf

Importance: High

FYI

Anthony Williams, MPA, REHS
Lee County Environmental Health Supervisor
115 Chatham St., Suite 2
Sanford, NC 27330
Phone: 919-718-4641 Ext. 5388
Fax: 919-718-4636

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NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Interim COVID-19 Recommendations for Farms, Packhouses, and Related Facilities Adapted from CDC/NIOSH Recommendations April 24, 2020

Introduction

COVID-19 can spread easily in settings where people work in close proximity, such as farms and packhouses where manual labor is critical to production. Farmers, managers and crew supervisors should implement plans to reduce exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19 to prevent the spread of the disease among plant workers. Individuals who are over the age of 65 and people with pre-existing medical conditions such as diabetes, chronic lung or heart disease, or who have a compromised immune system (e.g. cancer or taking immunosuppressant medications) have a greater risk of severe illness due to COVID-19. Complications of COVID-19 infection include the need to be hospitalized, receive mechanical ventilation and death.

These interim recommendations were developed with input from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and have been adapted for use in North Carolina by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) and the Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). They will be updated as new information becomes available. The recommendations are intended to prevent exposure to COVID-19, when possible, and protect the health of North Carolina's communities which includes this important work force. Farms, packhouses, and related facilities are essential businesses and play a critical role in producing a continuous supply of safe and healthy food. These recommendations are intended to provide management options by which the safety of workers can be enhanced. They are not intended to replace any existing worker safety and health plans required by the NC Department of Labor (NCDOL) but should be viewed as an addition to those.

Farms, especially those who employ H2A guestworkers, in NC have historically been regulated by the NCDOL for workplace and housing standards. Recently, outbreaks of COVID-19 at facilities in other states, and now NC, have required the development of guidance for a new type of hazard (transmission of respiratory virus from employee to employee) that has not been historically recognized on farm or in these facilities. With input from the CDC-NIOSH, NCDHHS' Division of Public Health and NCDA&CS have rapidly developed this guidance in an attempt to support farmers and farmworkers.

The key components of a prevention plan include 1) minimizing the risk for exposure to the virus, 2) early detection of people with symptoms of COVID-19, and 3) isolating suspected or positive cases from others until they are no longer infectious.

Create a COVID-19 Infection Control Plan

Reducing the spread of an outbreak and the continuation of operations requires preparing for and implementing modifications at the plant.

- Identify workplace coordinators for COVID-19 issues
- Establish a worksite wellness coordinator to follow the wellness protocols described below
- Determine how you will operate with a reduced workforce
- Implement plans to continue your essential farm business functions
- Institute flexible workplace and paid time off policies that are shared with all workers
- Cross-train workers to perform essential functions to maintain operations
- Implement structural and/or procedural changes to create space and barriers between workers
- Implement thorough disinfecting practices of equipment and shared workplaces
- Secure isolation housing for symptomatic workers who need to be isolated but cannot isolate themselves within normal housing of farmworkers
- Develop a communications plan to share information daily to reinforce educational messages, provide updated information about the number of confirmed cases on the farm, and to share updates about steps being taken to keep the workers safe, including testing and contact tracing

Conduct worksite assessments to identify COVID-19 risks and prevention strategies.

- In addition to work areas, other areas to consider include transportation to and from the worksite, break room, common areas, locker rooms, tool rooms, check-in areas, equipment stations, routes of entry and exit to work areas, and similar areas
- Personal protective equipment (PPE), identified as necessary in these assessments, should be supplied by management and replaced as necessary (for example, when dirty or contaminated)
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer and hand soap should be provided to employees to use

Follow CDC Interim Guidance – Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/critical-workers/implementing-safety-practices.html

See website for details – selected key points below:

- Pre-screen workers for fever (>100.4 F) and symptoms prior to work and prior to beginning the workday, and transportation such as vans and buses
- Workers should report to supervisors if they get sick during work shift
- Workers who are ill should not work and should be referred for medical evaluation and possible COVID-19 testing
- Workers who are ill should be informed that their family members, co-workers, and close contacts may also be assessed for symptoms
- Workers experiencing shortness of breath or inability to stand on their own should be cared for immediately by calling 911 and reporting a suspected COVID-19 case with severe symptoms
- Workers so excluded from work should receive paid time off until results are available and while being isolated if positive
- Workers should wear a mask to cover their nose and mouth.
- Maintain social distance as feasible in the workplace – see section below
- Disinfect and clean workspaces – see section below
- Concerning continuation of work or return-to-work issues for individual workers:
 - For workers who have potentially been exposed to COVID-19:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/Essential-Critical-Workers_Dos-and-Donts.pdf

- For workers who have been ill and must return to work:
 - Non-test-based strategy. Exclude from work until:
 - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed *since recovery*, defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
 - At least 7 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared*
- Workers so excluded from work should have paid time off for duration of exclusion time

Contact Tracing

- Contact tracing should be performed for any cases that are identified. This will be a joint function of the farmer, manager or responsible party, and health and state and local entities. Since workers may be equally exposed at the job site and within housing, it is imperative that commercial and private entities cooperate in this function.

Follow the hierarchy of controls when implementing infection control practices specific to facilities, and include a combination of controls noted below

Field and workplace controls

- Adapt field operations to minimize close contact of workers with other workers
- Utilize methods to physically separate workers when possible to include working areas, break rooms, parking lots, equipment operation stations, and entrance/exit areas
 - Utilize practices such as visual cues (e.g., floor markings, signs), tents or other temporary shelters
- If fans are used in a packing facility or warehouse, ensure that fans blow clean air at the workers' breathing zone

Cleaning/Disinfection/Sanitation

- Disinfect high-touch areas with products meeting Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2 and approved under the facility's sanitation standard operating procedures
- Coordinate cleaning product use with USDA if used in food production and packing areas
- For other high-touch areas, use products that meet EPA criteria, diluted household bleach solutions, or alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and are appropriate for surface disinfection
- If tools are used by multiple workers – disinfect between shared use
- Conduct targeted and more frequent cleaning of high-touch areas of shared spaces (e.g., time clocks, bathroom fixtures, break room tables and chairs, locker rooms, vending machines, railings, door handles)

Administrative controls

- Worker screening – see section above
- Reduce packing line staffing to extent feasible to minimize close worker contact - consider line speed as an important factor in this
- Stagger shifts, start times and break times as feasible
- Provide workers adequate time and access to soap, water and single-use towels for handwashing
- Use no-touch receptacles when possible

- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers containing at least 60% alcohol if soap/water not available

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Source Control

- Workers should continue to be provided and wear PPE required for job tasks being performed
- Use masks as noted above; replace when contaminated or dirty
- Stress proper manner to put on and take off items such as masks to minimize becoming dirty or contaminated
- Emphasize proper hand hygiene after gloves or facial coverings are removed

Provide infection control information and training for all workers

- Communication/training should be easy to understand, in languages appropriate to preferred language(s) spoken or read by the workers, and include accurate and timely information
- Topics including, but not limited to: staying home when ill, social distancing, PPE, hand hygiene practices, and potential routes of transmission (and how to minimize them) in community

Jennifer Gamble

From: Shannon Cagle
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:08 AM
To: Anthony Williams
Subject: 20 26 March Ag interim-covid-guidance-migrant-farm-workers.pdf
Attachments: 20 26 March Ag interim-covid-guidance-migrant-farm-workers.pdf



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Interim Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance for Migrant Farmworkers, Their Employers, and Housing Providers

March 26, 2020

No one has immunity to the new coronavirus (COVID-19) that is currently causing this pandemic. COVID-19 can spread easily in settings where many people live in close proximity, such as the residential facilities set up to house migrant farmworkers. Farm owners, managers, and all who provide housing for migrant workers should implement plans to prevent exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19, care for individuals with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection and prevent the spread of the disease among their workers.

Individuals who are ≥ 65 years of age and people with pre-existing medical conditions such as diabetes, chronic lung or heart disease, or who have a compromised immune system (e.g. cancer or taking immunosuppressant medications) have a greater risk of severe illness due to COVID-19. Complications of COVID-19 infection include the need to be hospitalized, receive mechanical ventilation and death. Agricultural workers with chronic lung problems associated with exposure to common farming hazards such as pesticides and fungi found in crops, may also be at higher risk of severe illness.

The following recommendations from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services are intended to prevent exposure to COVID-19, when possible, and protect the health of North Carolina's communities which includes this important work force. Farmworkers are a uniquely vulnerable population given the many barriers to healthcare access they experience such as language barriers, lack of independent transportation, lack of insurance, fear regarding immigration status, and unfamiliarity with local resources and systems. The key components of a prevention plan for migrant farmworkers include 1) minimizing the risk for exposure to the virus, 2) early detection of people with symptoms of COVID-19, and 3) caring for individuals with COVID-19 while ensuring that they do not give the infection to anyone else.

If you have questions related to migrant farm worker housing, please contact the North Carolina Department of Labor's Agricultural Safety and Health Bureau at 919-707-7820.

Helpful definitions:

COVID-19 is the infection caused by the novel coronavirus identified for the first time in December of 2019.

A **COVID-19 case** is a person with a laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infection.

A **suspect COVID-19 case** is a person with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection, but without a laboratory confirmed diagnosis.

Isolation is separating confirmed and suspect COVID-19 cases from other workers who have no signs or symptoms of infection.

Quarantine is keeping workers who have been exposed to a confirmed or suspect COVID-19 case, but have no symptoms of infection, away from non-exposed workers (as much as possible) for the duration

of the virus' incubation period (incubation period is 14 days after last exposure to a confirmed or suspect COVID-19 case).

A **significant exposure** is defined as being within 6 feet of a confirmed or suspect COVID-19 case for at least 10 minutes.

Be Prepared, Have a Plan

Have an emergency plan for how you will care for and isolate COVID-19 infected workers.

**Detailed guidance for COVID-19 infection prevention in congregate living settings can be accessed [here](#).*

- ☐ Make sure that you have emergency contact numbers for each of your workers that are willing to provide it.
- ☐ Make sure that you have the phone number of your local health department. OSHA requires "camp superintendents" to report immediately to the local health officer the name and address of any individual in the camp known or suspected of having a communicable disease. (29 CFR 1910.142(l)(1)). The health department will help to guide you on your specific situation, including how, if and when to test farmworkers with symptoms.
- ☐ People with symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g. fever, cough, shortness of breath) are considered suspect cases and must be housed in a separate room with a separate bathroom from people who are not sick. They should not share cooking or eating facilities.
- ☐ Confirmed COVID-19 cases should only be housed with other confirmed cases. They should have separate bathroom, cooking and eating facilities from people who are not sick.
- ☐ When available, provide surgical facemasks and store them near the doors for people with suspected and confirmed COVID-19 infections. Facemasks should be worn by both groups when they are outside of their room, when people are in their rooms, and by the people who enter their rooms to care for them.
- ☐ Ventilate the room where persons with COVID-19 are housed on regular intervals, as much as possible.
- ☐ Your plan should outline how and who will pay for and provide food, water, and medical supplies to symptomatic workers in isolation or exposed but asymptomatic workers in quarantine as they may be unable to provide for themselves during this time.
- ☐ Your plan should outline by whom and how transportation will be provided for ill workers who need medical evaluation or treatment. You must consider how the person doing the transporting is to be protected, where the closest facilities are located and how testing and/or care will be paid for.
- ☐ Create a plan for what to do if many workers are sick at the same time.

Identify the nearest healthcare facility that provides free or low-cost care to uninsured people.

- ☐ Most Migrant and Community Health Centers are able to provide telehealth evaluation, and some can provide COVID-19 testing at sliding scale fees.
- ☐ H2A workers have 60 days from entry into the country to sign up for heavily subsidized and thus affordable health insurance on the national marketplace. Migrant and Community Health Centers have bilingual patient navigators that can assist them in signing up. Contact your closest center to get your H2A farmworkers enrolled in health insurance plans when they first arrive and before anyone becomes ill.
- ☐ To view of healthcare facilities including Migrant and Community Health Centers providing care for uninsured patients, click [here](#).
- ☐ To view of farmworker clinics, click [here](#).

- ☐ If you cannot find a free or low-cost facility in your area, contact your local health department for assistance.

Promote Healthy Habits

Educate workers about hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and emergency response

- ☐ Provide signs in English and Spanish with information about when and how to properly wash hands, physical distancing of at least 6 feet, need to cough and sneeze into an elbow instead of a hand to protect themselves and others from germs.
- ☐ Clean and disinfect farmworker housing, bathrooms and transportation vehicles daily.
- ☐ Transport farmworkers in ways that allow them to stay at least 6 feet apart on the bus even though this may mean multiple trips are required. Disinfect the bus between trips.
- ☐ Arrange beds in farmworker housing at least six feet apart, if possible.
- ☐ Post the address and phone number of your local health department centrally where your workers can find it.
- ☐ Post your camp address centrally so workers will be able to give to 911 operator if needed.
- ☐ Post all documents centrally in both English and Spanish where your workers can read them.

Provide weekly supplies to each farmworker to fight COVID-19 like alcohol-based hand sanitizer (if available), tissues, disinfectants and lined trash cans.

- ☐ Make sure that workers have access to these supplies at the worksite, in common areas, where they sleep, and where they eat.
- ☐ Use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
- ☐ Provide a disinfectant that is active against coronaviruses to sanitize counters, bathrooms and other areas. Create a daily schedule for this to be done.
- ☐ Ensure that field sanitation supplies of soap, single-use paper towels, and water are well stocked in each field location.
- ☐ Require farmworkers to wash hands before and after work, meals and bathroom breaks. Remind them to wash hands upon entering and exiting high-density areas such as stores, laundromats, buses and vans.
- ☐ Make sure that trash cans are emptied whenever full and at least weekly.

Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

Screen arriving workers for symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

- ☐ Workers with symptoms should be housed in the area designated for suspect COVID-19 cases and arrange for them to consult with a medical provider. If the worker needs to be seen at a healthcare facility, call the medical provider in advance so healthcare workers can take appropriate precautionary measures. Be sure that the medical provider knows that this patient lives in a congregate living situation.
- ☐ Workers with symptoms of respiratory illness should take a private vehicle to get to the medical provider. If they do not have their own vehicle, you must assist with transportation. Circulate air by partially lowering windows (weather permitting) and have all people in the vehicle, including the patient, wear a surgical mask.

If a worker starts having symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath:

- ☐ Have the worker stop working immediately and isolate the person from other workers. People with these symptoms should not be working.

- ☐ If there is an onsite room designated for ill workers, suspect COVID-19 cases should be directed to that room at the time of symptom onset until appropriate isolation plans can be enacted.
- ☐ Follow the instructions above to arrange for ill workers to be evaluated by a medical provider.

Let workers who have symptoms of respiratory illness rest until they feel better.

- ☐ Make sure they have enough food and water as they will not be able to go to the store and may not have the funds to buy their own.
- ☐ Check frequently on the ill worker in isolation to monitor for worsening symptoms. About 20% of infected people will develop severe respiratory symptoms that may require hospitalization.
- ☐ Public health officials (e.g., local health department staff) will provide further instructions about isolation and release from isolation.

If a worker is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 infection:

- ☐ Contact your local health department as required by OSHA.
- ☐ Instruct workers who have had close contact* with a COVID-19 patient to self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, or shortness of breath) for 14 days. These exposed workers should be separated from non-exposed workers for 14 days (e.g. sleep in a separate room, work in a separate area, use a separate bathroom and cooking facility). If they develop symptoms of COVID-19, contact your local health department.

**close contact per the CDC is greater than 10 minutes in an enclosed space without personal protective equipment (mask)*

To learn more about caring for people with COVID-19 in a group setting, please read the [NC Congregate Living Guidance](#).

For additional information, please see the following resources:

- [NC DHHS Coronavirus Website](#)
- [CDC Coronavirus Website](#)
- [NC Environmental Cleaning Guidance](#)

Legal Considerations

- ☐ Failure to provide separate housing for infected workers could reasonably be expected to cause death or serious harm to the uninfected workers, which violates the Migrant Housing Act of North Carolina which requires housing providers to immediately provide safe housing.
- ☐ No infected or exposed farmworker should be allowed or forced to return home prior to being cleared by the health department for travel. This would present a public health risk and could be subject to prosecution pursuant to North Carolina's laws governing communicable disease control (G.S. 130A-25)
- ☐ If workers would like to make a CONFIDENTIAL complaint about unsafe working or migrant labor camp living conditions in English or Spanish, they can contact the NC Department of Labor at 1-800-NC-LABOR.
- ☐ It is unlawful for employers and migrant housing providers to retaliate/take any adverse employment action against any worker who files a complaint or otherwise asserts their right to safe working and/or migrant housing conditions in NC under the NC Retaliation Employment Discrimination Act.

Jennifer Gamble

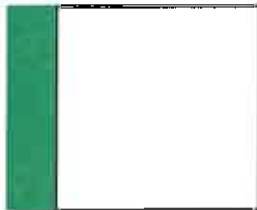
From: Shannon Cagle
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 2:56 PM
To: Anthony Williams
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]RECORDING: Supporting our Essential Farmworkers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19/Apoyando a Nuestros Trabajadores del Campo Esenciales & Trabajadores en Plantas Procesadoras de Carne y de Aves de Corral durante C
Attachments: MeatPoultryWorkers_051320.pptx; Farmworker COVID-19 Latinx Webinar Series - FWs May 14 2020.pptx; Agenda for Farmworker and Processing Plant Workers Webinar.pptx; 2020 NCFHP and MHC Map.pdf

From: Quilici, Gianna N
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 1:27 PM
Cc: Lazo-Chadderton, Matty
Subject: [EXTERNAL]RECORDING: Supporting our Essential Farmworkers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19/Apoyando a Nuestros Trabajadores del Campo Esenciales & Trabajadores en Plantas Procesadoras de Carne y de Aves de Corral durante CO...

CAUTION: External Email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. For all suspicious emails, please use the Phish Alert Button to submit for review. Thank you!

Good afternoon,

Please find below the google form to access our recording from our seventh Latinx webinar Supporting our Essential Farmworkers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19. Powerpoints slides/resources are also attached in this email. Feel free to share within your networks. Thank you!



I've invited you to fill out a form:

Supporting our Essential Farmworkers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19/Apoyando a Nuestros Trabajadores del Campo Esenciales & Trabajadores en Plantas Procesadoras de Carne y de Aves de Corral durante COVID-19
[\[docs.google.com\]](#)

We are excited to have you listen to our recording of our third Latinx community call dated May 14th, 2020. Please be sure to register and once you do you will get an email link to access the video.

Register below to hear the May 14th conference call.

[FILL OUT FORM \[DOCS.GOOGLE.COM\]](#)

[Create your own Google Form \[docs.google.com\]](#)

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Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers
during COVID-19

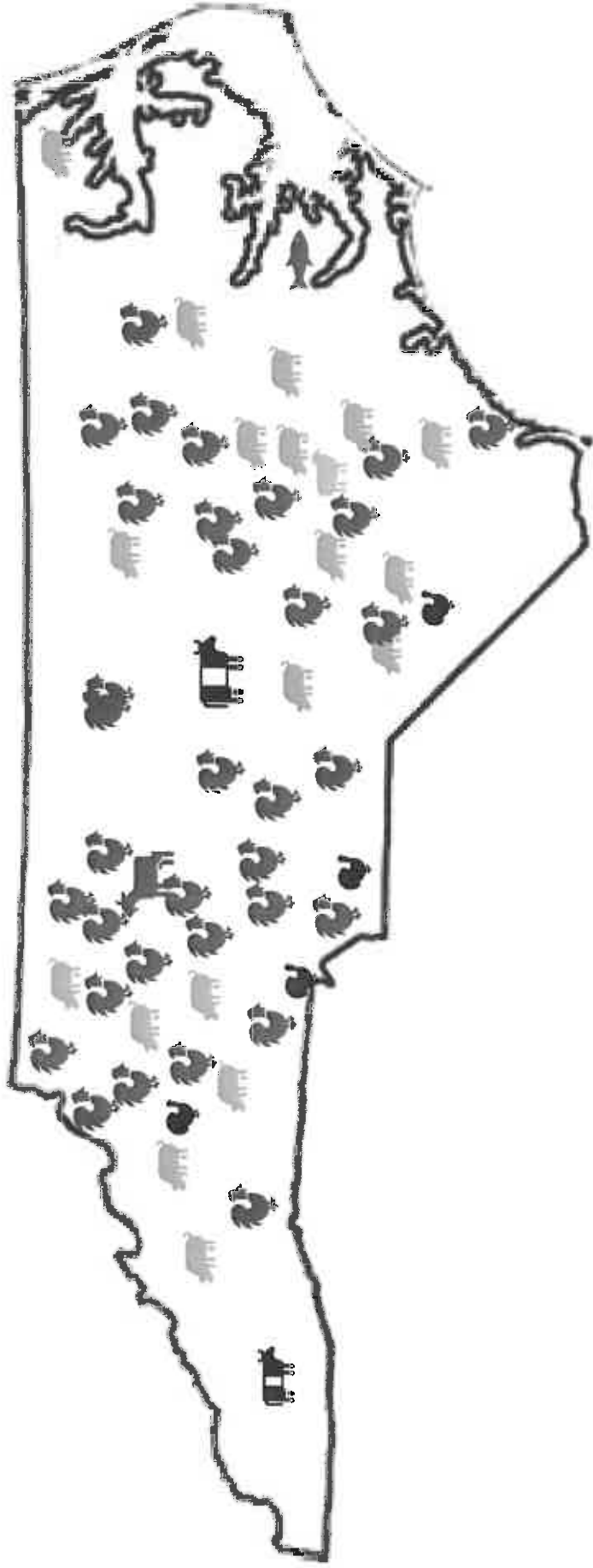
Trabajadores en Plantas Procesadoras de Carne y
de Aves de Corral durante COVID-19

Erica Wilson, MD, MPH
NC Division of Public Health
Communicable Disease Branch

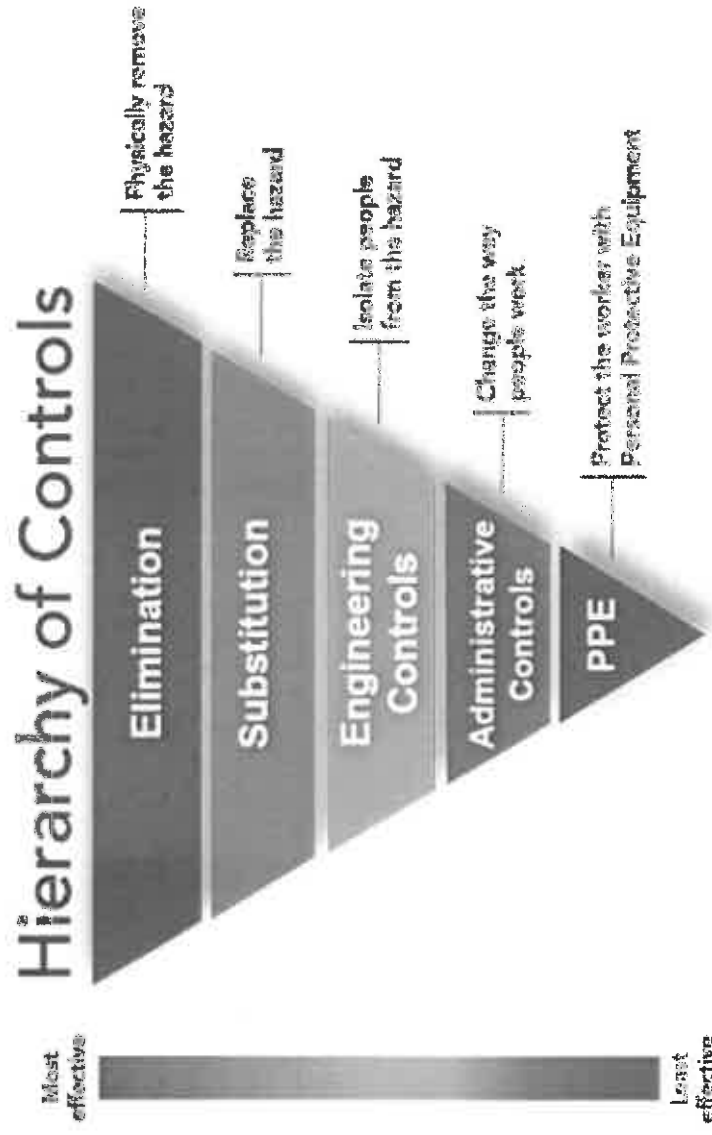
The virus that causes COVID-19 is transmitted through small droplets from the respiratory tract.



There are over 200 meat and poultry slaughter and processing facilities in NC



Multiple
approaches are
needed to
protect workers



Engineering controls are physical changes in the workplace



Increased spacing between workers



Barriers between workers



Handwashing stations and hand sanitizer



Environmental cleaning

Administrative controls change how people move or behave



Sick leave and incentive policies



Staggered arrival and break times



Transportation



Symptom screening

Education teaches
workers how to keep
themselves and those
around them safe both
at work and at home

Ayude a prevenir la transmisión de enfermedades respiratorias como el COVID-19

Evite el contacto cercano con personas que están enfermas.

Cúbrase con un pañuelo desechable al toser o estornudar y luego bórralo en la basura.



How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Cloth Face Covering

WEAR YOUR FACE COVERING CORRECTLY

- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- Do not place a mask on a child younger than 2



How to Protect Yourself and Others

Know how it spreads

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- **The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.**
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
 - » Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
 - » Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
 - » These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.



Extra steps are taken
when an outbreak
occurs

- Environmental health and industrial hygiene evaluation
- Increased testing
- Contact tracing
- Isolation and quarantine

Resources

CDC Guidance for Meat and Poultry Processing Workers and Employers

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/meat-poultry-processing-workers-employers.html>

DHHS Recommendations for Farms, Packhouses, and Related Facilities

<https://files.nc.gov/ncdhhs/documents/files/covid-19/Recommendations-for-Farms-Packhouses-and-Related-Facilities-MF.pdf>

CDC Education Resources (posters and flyers in multiple languages)

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvrp9iO!LTQZdKZTcAaYdyu4wKmhGCJNc>

CDC Spanish Language Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvrp9iO!LTQZdKZTcAaYdyu4wKmhGCJNc>

NIOSH Health Hazard Evaluation Program

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/hhe/default.html>

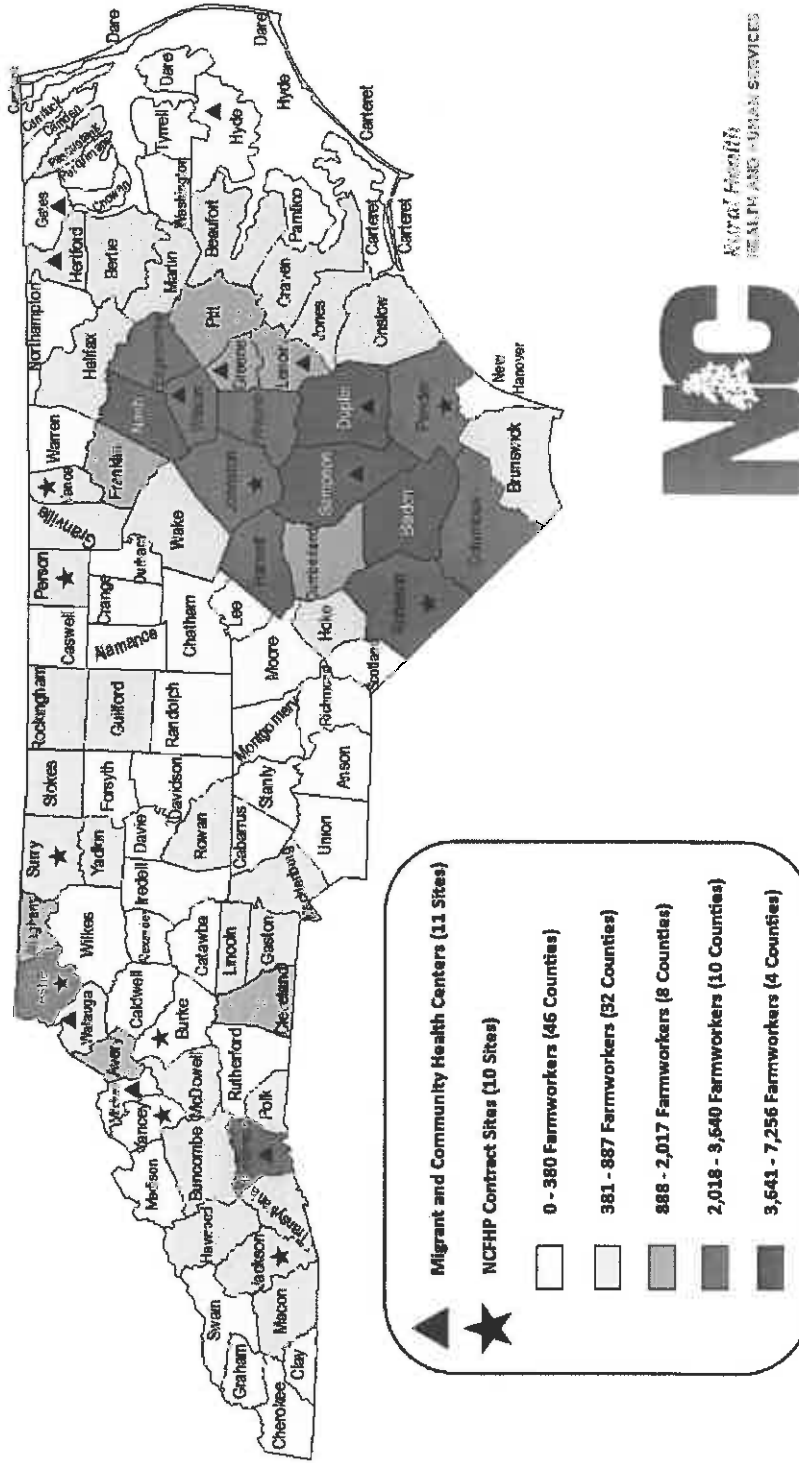


**NC Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Rural Health
North Carolina Farmworker Health
Program**

Supporting our Essential Farmworkers During the Pandemic May 14, 2020

**Elizabeth Freeman Lambar
Program Director
Gayle Thomas, MD
Medical Director**

**Map 1: Department of Commerce Estimate of 2017 Farmworkers by County
with Farmworker Health Program Locations Overlay**



Demographics of Farmworkers in NC



Occupational Hazards

- Pesticide exposure
- Green Tobacco Sickness
- Heat illness
- Musculoskeletal strains and fractures
- Dermatitis
- Eye problems -- pterygium, trauma
- Injuries
- Substandard housing



The North Carolina Farmworker Health Program, ORH



Additional services contracts: dental, telebehavioral health, medical providers, outreach interns, nurse triage line

NCFHP Farmworker Health Service Delivery Sites



Health Care Contracts Applications

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Vecinos Inc. | 5. Piedmont Health Services |
| 2. Black River Health Services | 6. Rural Health Group |
| 3. Ashe Memorial Hospital | 7. NC Farmworkers Project |
| 4. Surry County Health & Nutrition Center | 8. Good Samaritan Clinic |



NOTA: Busque al condado donde vive Ud. en el mapa. El número en cada condado indica el número de la clínica más cercana a Ud. en la lista de clínicas en el lado de atrás.

NOTE: Look for the county where you live on the map. The number in each county corresponds to the closest clinic to you in the list of clinics on the other side.

En caso de emergencia, llame al 9-1-1.
In case of emergency, dial 9-1-1

Para recursos locales: busque al Conéctate Carolina en el Internet a bit.ly/2L4b74Xg
For local resources: Check out Conéctate Carolina online at bit.ly/2L4b74Xg

H2A Farmworkers

- Contracted for specified months (commonly March-October)
- Mostly Mexican, some Haitian
- Roughly half come through the NC Growers Association
- Travel to Monterey, Mexico to board the bus
- Drive 40 hours straight through to Vass, NC



<https://www.fruitoftheirlabor.com/>

Arrival in Vass, North Carolina

- Process paperwork and then transported to a pick-up location near assigned farm



<https://www.fruitoftheirlabor.com/>

Cases Among Farmworkers

- Deemed essential workers, can't stay home from work
- High rates of mobility means more spread of infection
- Congregate living and working, can't self-isolate
- High Infectivity rate



Special Considerations among Farmworkers

- Workers experience disincentives to report symptoms
 - Here to work (used to working injured or sick)
 - Lack of sick pay or paid time off, fearful of not being allowed to work
 - Fear of being sent home/not invited back next year
 - During contact tracing, may be afraid to report symptoms (don't want to be the one to shut down operations)



Special Considerations among Farmworkers

- **Workers have barriers to getting tested**
 - **Lack of transportation apart from employer**
 - **Lack of health insurance**
 - **Very low wages**
 - **Limited familiarity with local health resources or US Healthcare system**
 - **No paid time off to go to clinic**
 - **Work usually sunup to sundown, Monday-Saturday**
-

Recommendations on farmworkers' arrivals

- **Mass testing on arrival**
 - **14 day quarantine on all newly arrived farmworkers (keep separate from others)**
 - **Test all contacts, even those who are “asymptomatic”**
 - **Masking on buses from Mexico**
 - **Help all H2A farmworkers to enroll in ACA Health Insurance within 60 days of arrival.**
 - **Daily Health Checks before work during and after quarantine (symptom screening and temperature checks)**
-

Recommended response to outbreak

- **Help grower to isolate sick from asymptomatic**
 - **Farmworkers qualify to recuperate in FEMA supported isolation housing if grower unable to isolate on farm.**
 - **Help grower to quarantine exposed from nonexposed**
 - **Help grower to ensure daily monitoring of ill workers with telehealth consultations and early identification with pulse oximetry of those needing hospital care**
 - **Establish internet connectivity for all camps, especially those with sick workers.**
 - **Connect farmworkers to farmworker health outreach workers who can support sick farmworkers.**
-

Supporting our Essential Farmworkers & Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19

Welcome Remarks

- **Caroline Farmer**, *Executive Director of Volunteer NC*, Office of the Governor
- **Jeremy Collins**, Director, Office of Public Engagement, Office of the Governor
- **Matty Lazo-Chadderton**, *Deputy Director of Outreach*, Public Engagement, Office of the Governor

Supporting our Essential Farmworkers During the Pandemic

- **Elizabeth Freeman Lambar**, *Program Director*, NC Farmworker Health Program Office of Rural Health Secretary for Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services of North Carolina
- **Dr. Gayle Thomas**, *Medical Director*, NC Farmworker Health Program, Office of Rural Health, NC Department of Health and Human Services

Meat and Poultry Processing Plants Workers during COVID-19

- **Dr. Erica Wilson**, *Medical Director*, Vaccine Preventable and Respiratory Diseases, Communicable Disease Branch Division of Public Health North Carolina Department of Public Health and Human Services

Q&A

Adjournment



PRESENTED BY THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & VOLUNTEER NC

Apoyando a Nuestros Trabajadores del Campo Esenciales & Trabajadores en Plantas Procesadoras de Carne y de Aves de Corral durante COVID-19

Palabras de Bienvenida

- **Caroline Farmer**, *Directora Ejecutiva de Voluntarios NC*, Oficina del Gobernador
- **Jeremy Collins**, *Director, Involucramiento Público*, Oficina del Gobernador
- **Matty Lazo-Chadderton**, *Directora Asociada de Alcance, Involucramiento Público*, Oficina del Gobernador

Apoyando a Nuestros Trabajadores del Campo Esenciales durante la Pandemia

- **Elizabeth Freeman Lambar**, *Directora de Programas*, Programa de la Salud para los Trabajadores del Campo de Carolina del Norte
- **Dra. Gayle Thomas**, *Directora Médica*, Programa de la Salud para los Trabajadores del Campo en Carolina del Norte Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Carolina del Norte

Trabajadores en Plantas Procesadoras de Carne y de Aves de Corral durante COVID-19

- **Dr. Erica Wilson**, *Directora Médica*, Vacunas Preventivas y Enfermedades Respiratorias División de Enfermedades Contagiosas, División de Salud Pública Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Carolina del Norte

Preguntas

Cierre



PRESENTADA POR LAS OFICINAS DE INVOLUCRAMIENTO PUBLIC Y DE VOLUNTARIOS NC

Resources

- www.governor.nc.gov
- <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19>: DHHS Corona updates available in 11 languages
- www.covid19.ces.ncsu.edu: COVID resources for farmers and farmworkers
- Corona Community Helpline to request help with food, shopping, and wellness checks call **919-459-5681** or **1-800-451-1054**
- <https://www.nc.gov/covid-19/covid-19-executive-orders>: Executive orders in English/Spanish
- <https://www.ncdps.gov/storm-update>
- **Hope4NC Helpline (1-855-587-3463)** connects North Carolinians to additional mental health and resilience
- <https://www.nc.gov/covid-19>: COVID-19 State Updates
- <https://www.nc.gov/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities>: Volunteer Opportunities
- **Text FOODNC to 877-877 or COMIDA to 877-877** to find nearby free meal sites for children ages 18 and younger
- <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19/covid-19-nc-case-count>: COVID-19 DHHS Dashboard for Case Count
- <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares>: Info about CARES Act and the Paycheck Protection Program to assist small businesses
- <https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find/>: Finding local Small Business Administration Assistance
- <https://des.nc.gov/>: Resources for unemployment assistance



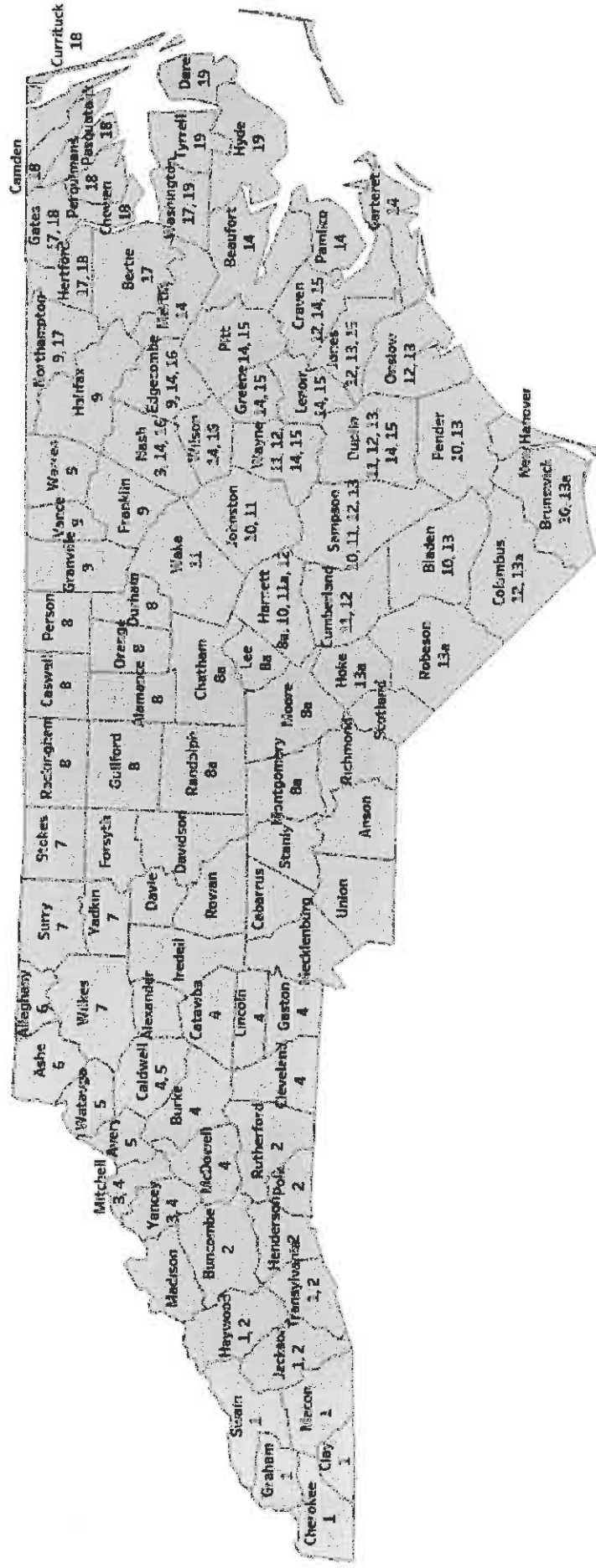
Clínicas de Salud para Trabajadores Agrícolas en Carolina del Norte

Farmworker Health Clinics in North Carolina



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Farmworker Health Clinics in North Carolina

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NOTE: Look for the county where you live on the map on the other side. The number in each county corresponds to the number of the closest clinic.

1. Vecinos Inc. Ciudad/city: Sylva Jessica Rodriguez: (828) 399-0583	8. Piedmont Health Services Ciudad/city: Prospect Hill Nahu Palacios: (336) 583-1004 8(a) Ciudad/city: Moncure Cecilia Gama: (919) 428-4859	13. Black River Health Services/Manos Unidas Ciudad/city: Atkinson Angelica S. Mendez: (910) 889-0291 13(a) Ciudad/city: Whiteville Jocelyn R. Santilan: (910) 789-0582
2. Blue Ridge Health Ciudad/city: Hendersonville Jackie Antiveros: (828) 691-1747	9. Rural Health Group Ciudad/city: Henderson Ricardo Garcia: (919) 339-2019	14. Greene County Health Ciudad/city: Snow Hill Mari Montanez-Gerena: (252) 747-4078
3. Mountain Community Health Partnership Ciudad/city: Bakersville Amber Dillinger: (828) 688-6621		15. Kinston Community Health Ciudad/city: Kinston Melissa Bailey Castillo: (252) 624-7053
4. Good Samaritan Clinic Ciudad/city: Morganton Analia Alvarez: (828) 368 2673	10. Commwell Health Ciudad/city: Newton Grove Andrea Morales: (877) 935-5255 ext. 7126	16. Carolina Family Health Ciudad/city: Wilson Alma Alcantar: (252) 243-9800 ext. 263
5. High Country Community Health Ciudad/city: Boone Mirian Scarlett Chavez: (828) 406-1856	11. NC Farmworkers Project Ciudad/city: Benson Janeth Tapia: (919) 915-2220 11(a) Condado/county: Harnett Amy Elkins: (910) 891-9964 11(b) Condado/county: Duplin Gabriela Elvir: (919) 915-2209	17. Roanoke Chowan Ciudad/city: Ahoskie Brayan Madero: (252) 642-4188
6. Farmworker Health Program of Ashe & Alleghany Ciudad: Sparta Melodie Shepherd: (336) 846-0779	12. Goshen Medical Center Ciudad/city: Faison Sólo para citas: (910) 267-0421	18. Gateway Community Health Ciudad/city: Elizabeth City Marisela Antonacci: (252) 333-1047
7. Surry County Health & Nutrition Ciudad/city: Dobson Alba Gonzalez: (336) 401-0918		19. Engelhard Medical Center Ciudad/city: Engelhard (252) 925-7000

Jennifer Gamble

From: Lee County Center <minda_daughtry@ncsu.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 2:33 PM
To: Anthony Williams
Subject: [EXTERNAL]What To Do If COVID-19 Hits Your Farm

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LEE COUNTY CENTER / AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

What To Do If COVID-19 Hits Your Farm



Responding to a COVID-19 Outbreak on the Farm

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

11:30-1:00

Via Zoom (on-line or by phone - information below)

howing symptoms of COVID-19

or workers

arcom tutorr@ecu.edu to receive the link and share questions you'd like to have answered.

Services (DHHS)

[3447&IV=A735729B49A4C2D5EA783F5D8AF59D4A&TT=1589567576144&ESN=KtSxydATFwVtei1x%2FP%2Fu%2B%2F9657A1EDDF6253FB45099](https://ncchca.zoom.us/j/9657A1EDDF6253FB45099?pwd=3447&IV=A735729B49A4C2D5EA783F5D8AF59D4A&TT=1589567576144&ESN=KtSxydATFwVtei1x%2FP%2Fu%2B%2F9657A1EDDF6253FB45099) [ncchca.zoom.us]

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Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.

sons with limited English proficiency may request accommodations to participate by contacting Bill Stone at 919-775-5624 or bill_stone@ncsu.edu a
y or desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in any of the above activities, please call 919-775-5624 at least th

Lee County Center, 2420 Tramway Rd, Sanford, NC 27332

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