

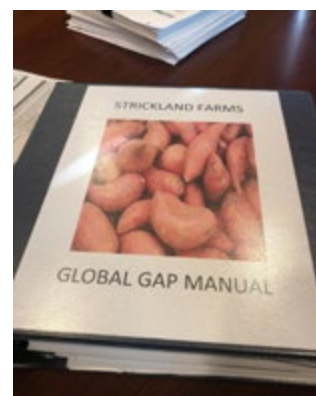
2022 Harvest Wrap Up

The 2022 growing season has ended, and what a roller coaster it has been! This year we had a lack of rain throughout the year. It seemed like a feast or famine when it came to precipitation, and we spent more time in the famine part of the year. When we started corn harvest, we did not have high hopes for big yield numbers but what we ended up seeing was worse than we ever expected for our corn. Unfortunately, it was the worst corn yield in our farm's history, and we weren't the only farmers hit with a lack of yields. It is throughout our farming community. Tobacco was around average, if not a bit below average in yields, but it did not seem to be as profoundly impacted like the corn. With lower-than-average tobacco yields and discouraging corn yields, we did not have high hopes for our soybeans and sweet potatoes, but we were pleasantly surprised when we saw the best-performing soybean yields for us and also had a healthy sweet potato crop!



Prices are good for our crops as well, aside from sweet potatoes. However, while prices are up, so is the cost of growing. The input cost inflation that started in 2020 has remained strong. If anything, it has spread. Fuel, fertilizer, and seed costs are still high. We are diligent in ensuring we are still taking care of each acre we farm while keeping an eye on costs for those inputs without sacrificing the quality of care. One of the ways we help take care of the soil is with a cover crop. In the past, we have only used wheat and oats as cover crops. We are using a new mix this year and are happy with the results thus far. Cover crops help put organic matter back in the soil, which is beneficial on many levels. It naturally puts nutrients back into the ground but also helps with erosion and even helps provide habitat for the little critters of the world during the winter.

We passed another year's rounds of GAP Audits for our Sweet potatoes. We complete these audits every year, and they help ensure that we are growing a safe, consistent product destined for grocery shelves across the globe. This year we got out first 100 score for our sweet potato audit. We are proud of our team for their hard work.



Garrett Update

If you follow us on [Facebook](#) then you know that Garrett, Reggie's father, fell around the end of October and tore the quad tendon in his right knee. We are happy to report he is on the mend! He has a few more doctors' appointments ahead of him as they are still monitoring his healing, but we have hopes that Garrett will be able to get rid of the brace soon and gain back some mobility in his knee.

Ag On Wheels Episode 2

One of our favorite things to do is tell our farm's story and also educate people on where their food comes from. This year we worked with Michelle twice to highlight Syngenta products on our farm and North Carolina Agriculture! Check out our Ag On Wheels Episodes!

Episode 1



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irl7OBDkwBk>

Episode 2



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yn1LXKp-VmI&t=1s>

Remembering Harry Oates

We said goodbye to a longtime family friend and part of the Strickland Farming Group team, Harry Oates, after a long battle with cancer. Harry has been a cornerstone in the daily workings of the team since 1965. So many people came to celebrate his life, and we feel so blessed we were able to be a part of his 76 years. We went back to work after his services that day with heavy hearts but also knowing we were pushing forward as Harry would want. He will be forever missed as a part of our farm.



A reflection from Reggie on Harry Oates.

"It is with great sadness I make this post. Harry T. Oates, 76 years old, passed away early Thursday morning after a long battle with cancer. Harry was my daddy as much as my real daddy. He and his wife Ann moved to our farm the summer I was born...1965. I have probably spent more time with him than anyone in my lifetime. I would not trade any second of that time. He was the most loving, loyal and hard-working man I have ever known. He taught me how to drive a tractor when I was 5 years old. He taught me a lot of things about life. He was always there for me when I needed to cry and also my biggest supporter. He was so proud of our family and the accomplishments we have made together with him and his family by our side every step of the way. He is the reason I was able to complete college. Many farmers experienced financial issues in the '80's and we were no exception. Harry had gone to work for Hog Slat at the time to allow our farm to save some money. Our tobacco crop was running late and Tommy Herring allowed Harry time away from Hog Slat to come and manage our tobacco harvest so I could go back to NCSU to finish my degree. This is just one of the many memories I have of the love he had for our family. Harry, I will forever carry these memories with me. We will continue to be here for Ann and the rest of your family. You always knew how much we loved each other and I am so thankful and proud to have been blessed with you being such an important part of my life. You will never be forgotten. May you now Rest In Peace, my friend. Your work here on earth is finally done. And what a great job you did. I love you!" - Reggie

Don't Forget to Follow The NC Farmer's Daughter on Facebook & Instagram!

Savannah has started her own social media outreach platform, The NC Farmer's Daughter on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to help educate those outside of our farm and agriculture about our farm and North Carolina agriculture. She posts fun and educational things we think you will enjoy.



Reggie's Fall Travels

Savannah and Reggie were able to get off the farm this fall and visit the North Carolina State Fair. While there, they represented the NC Pork association.

Reggie spent a few days in Washington, DC at the USA Poultry & Egg Export Council winter meeting. He is on the Board of Directors this year, representing the United Soybean Board. This group is doing great work on behalf of the poultry and egg industries worldwide. After the meetings, Reggie was able to spend some time in DC and headed to "The Mall" to check out some of his favorite monuments.



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