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News Release

New Director Named for Union County Cooperative Extension

October 8, 2014, Monroe, NC - Kelly Liddington has been named to direct the North Carolina Cooperative Extension program in Union County.

Liddington's appointment as Union Extension director was announced by Dr. Joe Zublena, director of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service at North Carolina State University and Union County Manager Cindy Coto.

Liddington succeeds Richard Melton, who retired in June 2014 after 32 years with Cooperative Extension. Liddington's appointment is effective Oct. 15.

Liddington most recently served as agriculture agent with Richmond County Extension in Warsaw, Va. He also served as advisor to the Richmond County Fair Association and the Northern Neck Vegetable Growers Association, in addition to farming purebred Angus cattle.

In 2014, he received the Alumni Association Excellence in Extension Programming Award from Virginia Tech and in 2010, Liddington won the Wall of Fame Award from the Virginia Association of Agricultural Extension Agents.

He holds a master's degree in occupational and technical science from Old Dominion University, a bachelor's degree in agricultural education from Ohio State University and an associate's degree in applied science from State University of New York at Cobleskill.

"Liddington brings strong leadership skills to the Union County Extension Center," said Clinton McRae, director of Cooperative Extension's South Central District, which includes Union County. "We are extremely excited for the Union County team. Kelly has proven leadership skills with numerous accomplishments, and he will do an outstanding job supporting the goals of Cooperative Extension and Union County government. He has significant experience in building teams, securing resources and developing educational programs, especially in the area of agriculture. Kelly will be a great asset to the county."