

Extension Newsletter Information  
GAPC Training & Certification  
November 2020

### **Growers have Options in 2021 to Complete GAP Training**

Looking towards 2021, tobacco growers will have options for completing their requirements for GAP Training. GAP Training provides growers current information from research and new information from the three pillars of crop, environmental, and labor management practices. GAP Connections is working with our Extension partners in each state to develop training for growers to attend in-person, complete on-line or by mail. For 2021, all GAP Training must be completed by June 30.

In-person Training: Growers may have the option to attend in-person training where offered. In-person training will not be offered in every state. Please check with your county extension office to see if in-person training will be offered or check the GAPC website at <https://shop.gapconnections.com/training> for in-person training near you.

On-line Training: Growers will have the option to complete 2021 training through their Grower Dashboard on the GAP Connections website at [www.gapconnections.com](http://www.gapconnections.com). Growers will need to login with their grower ID number and password.

Growers will have a selection of videos to pick from covering crop, environmental, and labor management topics for flue, air and dark tobacco types and labor courses based on the type of labor hired by the farm. Upon completion of each video, the grower will take a quiz and earn credits toward each management practice. Growers must score a 100% on each quiz for training credits to be recorded. Growers are required to have training from each of the three pillars of training; crop, environment, and labor.

On-line training offers the grower flexibility in completing training. A grower may login and complete crop training one day and come back another day to complete the environmental and labor training. On-line training offers the grower the opportunity to complete training on their schedule, at their leisure and in their office or farm office.

On-line training will launch on January 11 and must be completed by June 30. Growers can check their Training Report to make sure training is completed by checking the Training Report on their Grower Dashboard at [www.gapconnections.com](http://www.gapconnections.com).

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Mail Training: Growers will have the option to complete 2021 GAP Training by mail. GAP Connections is working with our Extension partners to assemble a 2021 Tobacco Information Booklet with information on crop, environmental, and labor management practices.

Growers completing training by mail will complete and return a quiz covering the information from the booklet. Growers must score a minimum 70% on the quiz for 2021 GAP Training to be recorded.

Requests for the 2021 Tobacco Information Booklet and Quiz for mail training can be made by contacting GAP Connections at (865) 622-4606 or emailing [info@gapconnections.com](mailto:info@gapconnections.com). All quizzes must be completed and returned to GAP Connections postmarked no later than June 30.

### **Training and Certification**

All growers listed on the Certification Application (Primary and Associates) and participating in the GAP Connections Certification Program must complete training by June 30. Training can be completed by either one of the three options; in-person, on-line, or mail.

Applications for the 2021 GAP Connections Certification Program will be available on January 11, 2021 on the Grower Dashboard at [www.gapconnections.com](http://www.gapconnections.com) or by requesting a paper application from GAP Connections by calling (865) 622-4606 or emailing [info@gapconnections.com](mailto:info@gapconnections.com).

The application deadline is April 15, 2021.

Information on the GAP Connections Certification Program is available at <https://www.gapconnections.com/services/certification-program> or by contacting the GAP Connections office.