

SERA-45

Since 2014 the CCD has provided leadership to Southern Extension and Research Activity 45 (SERA-45). The SERA 45 collaborative includes a talented and diverse group of researchers and Extension personnel from: Horticulture (fruit, vegetable, & nursery crops), Agricultural Economics, Sustainable Agriculture, and Organic Production. The states participating in this project (Alabama, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Utah, Washington and West Virginia) are home to 533,620 small farms.

CCD-WVU-FS-2
ANR-HORT-21-001

Growing, Harvesting, Preserving Appalachian Heirloom Beans

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 **EXTENSIONSERVICE**
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

 **University of Kentucky**
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Center for Crop Diversification Fact Sheet

What are heirloom beans?

Beans have been grown in central Appalachia for almost 900 years, first by Native Americans and later by early settlers. Today, across Appalachia, beans are widely grown as a garden crop used as fresh snap green beans, shelled beans or dry beans. Heirloom, or heritage, varieties are typically saved and grown by families or communities for many generations. These beans are diverse and include cornfield beans, also known as pole beans, cut short beans that are packed tightly in the pod, greasy beans that lack hairs on the pod and look shiny, pink tips, fall beans, wax beans and butter beans. Heirloom beans have unique seed



The CCD Team has leveraged SERA-45 participation to lead development of a variety of multi-state specialty crop publications including:

- Extended Season Lettuce Production (CCD-WVU-FS-1)
- Growing, Harvesting, Preserving Appalachian Heirloom Beans (CCD-WVU-FS-2)
- Culinary Herb Production in Tennessee (CCD-CPA-CP-1)
- Garden Mum Production in Tennessee (CCD-CPA-CP-2)
- Cut Flower Production in Tennessee (CCD-CPA-CP-3)
- Cider Apples in Tennessee: Basic Considerations (CCD-CPA-CP-4)
- Growing and Marketing Mushrooms in Tennessee: Basic Considerations (CCD-CPA-CP-5)
- Commercial Production of Elderberry (CCD-CPA-CP-6)
- High Tunnel Overview (CCD-CPA-SP-1)
- Garlic (Tennessee, Delaware, North Carolina) (CCD-CP-141)

“From its beginning I utilized the CCD Specialists and resources in my Extension programs. The up-to-date, relevant, and accessible research-based information, publications, price reports, videos, and specialty crop budgets available from the CCD related to the Appalachian area and clientele I served.”

-Brad Bergefurd, Technical Agronomist & Former Ohio State University Extension Professor

The CCD is a regional and national leader in the development of local market price reporting systems. We have advised and supported development of systems in:

- **Tennessee (active)**
- **Illinois**
- **West Virginia**
- **Nebraska**
- **Indiana**
- **Ohio**