

MARKET BULLETIN

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FALL AGRITOURISM IN FULL SWING

BY CHRISTOPHER E. DOVE II, SCDA

As temperatures begin to cool and the leaves start to change, fall traditions are returning to farms across South Carolina.

Autumn is one of the busiest times of year for agritourism in the Palmetto State. From the Upstate to the coast, farms are welcoming visitors for pumpkin picking, corn mazes, hayrides, seasonal foods, and plenty of other reasons to spend a fall day outdoors.

Agritourism brings people to farms and other agricultural settings for recreation, education, and hands-on experiences. During the fall, those experiences often begin with two of the season's biggest staples: pumpkins and corn mazes.

At Stewart Farms in Enoree, the farm's corn maze has been a fall tradition since 2000. Visitors can also walk through a 10-acre U-pick pumpkin patch featuring more than 100 varieties of pumpkins. Thompson Farm at Brickyard Plantation in Conway offers a 6.5-acre corn maze, pumpkin patch, and opportunities to see and feed farm animals.

Of course, fall on the farm is about more than pumpkins and corn. Hayrides give families a chance to slow down and see the farm from a different point of view. Campfires and roasting marshmallows are also staples as the weather cools. Other farms add a little friendly competition with pig races, games, apple or pumpkin cannons, and other attractions. As Halloween approaches, some farms also transform after dark with haunted mazes and other spooky attractions.

Fall also has its own flavors. Apple season is underway in South Carolina, particularly in the Upstate, while cider, caramel apples, cider doughnuts, and other seasonal treats have become part of the experience at many fall destinations. At McLeod Farms in McBee, visitors can take a wagon ride past orchards and strawberry fields before visiting the farm's corn maze and U-pick pumpkin patch.

For visitors, these activities can simply feel like fall fun. For farmers, however, agritourism can serve an important role in the farm business. Agriculture can be unpredictable, and agritourism gives some farmers another way to diversify their operations and earn income from the land. Instead of relying only on traditional crops or livestock sales, farms may also earn revenue through admission, activities, food, farm stores, and direct sales of products.

Just as important is the face-to-face connection agritourism creates between farmers and the public. It gives farmers an opportunity to introduce people to their operation, sell products directly to customers and build relationships that can continue long after the visit is over. Many South Carolinians have little connection to a working farm in their everyday lives. A trip through a corn maze, a wagon ride across a field, or an afternoon picking pumpkins gives visitors a chance to experience farmland firsthand, meet the people behind local agriculture and better understand where food and agricultural products come from.

This fall, farms across South Carolina are opening their gates and inviting the public to experience agriculture for themselves. Whether visitors come for the pumpkins, the food, the outdoor activities or simply a day with family, agritourism offers a chance to enjoy some of the season's favorite traditions while supporting South Carolina farmers along the way.

The South Carolina Agritourism Association's monthly newsletter provides a statewide look at upcoming farm events and opportunities to experience fall on the farm. Visit scagritourism.org to sign up.



COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

HUGH E. WEATHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

A NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

I was in Maine recently for a very productive meeting of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA). Here are some of the hot topics in ag world right now:

Farm Bill prospects: As I write this column, the Farm Bill has expired, and it looks like it'll be several weeks until we get some movement on it in the US Senate. As we work through the bill, it's important we maintain the Specialty Crop Block Grant program, develop better animal disease response, and continue to support farmers as they work to comply with the Food Safety Modernization Act.

There's been some talk recently about whether the Farm Bill era is over. In other words, is there so little common ground that we can't count on handling all these important programs related to agriculture and food in one big bill anymore? It used to be one of the few bipartisan efforts of Congress; not so much anymore.

The state of the ag economy: It's harvest time, and diesel prices are through the roof. States and the federal government are taking various approaches to relief for farmers, from tax rollbacks to allowing untaxed agricultural diesel to be used on highways.

Evolving markets: I moderated a panel titled "Driving Demand: Growing Markets at Home and Abroad."

We discussed emerging markets overseas, how new technologies are affecting markets, and how demand has changed domestically. There was a focus on what the bio-economy will mean for producers.

Canada and Mexico: The Tri-National Agricultural Accord was held late last month, offering an opportunity for us to strengthen our positive agricultural relationships with our North American neighbors. Despite lots of trade drama in the news, these relationships are longstanding and helpful to our ag industries. I suggested we spend some of our energy on attracting the next generation of farmers across the US, Canada and Mexico.

New World Screwworm: As the weather cools for the year, the threat of screwworm is temporarily rolling back, with only a few active cases in Texas. However, this infestation will remain a threat to the livestock industry in the years to come. Here in South Carolina, we are working closely with Clemson Livestock Poultry Health and industry groups to educate producers and the public and stay in touch with federal authorities.

It's good to be back in South Carolina, where diggers and combines are rolling through peanut fields. It won't be too much longer before the aroma of cotton defoliant is in the air—a sure sign of fall.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday U-Pick Flowers
October 17, 24, & 31 • 9 am – 2 pm
Join us every Saturday during flower season for a relaxing morning surrounded by beautiful blooms at Hickman Hollow Farms! Wander through our flower fields, cut your own bouquet, enjoy the fresh air, and experience a slower pace of life on the farm. Whether you're a flower lover, gardener, or simply looking for a unique way to spend a Saturday morning, we'd love to welcome you.
Hickman Hollow Farms
3101 Willow Creek Road, Florence
843-942-9220
hickmanhollowfarms.com

Family Fall Festival
October 24 • 10 am – 2 pm
Enjoy a petting zoo, horse rides, barrel train rides, face painting, local vendors, food, and plenty of family fun. Admission is just \$5 for adults, with a special \$10 Children's Fall Fun Pass that includes admission, a pumpkin, and your choice of a horse ride or barrel train ride.
Chasin Time Farm
2006 Midway Road, Cheraw
chasintimefarm@gmail.com | 843-337-8095
facebook.com/ChasinTimeFarm

Free Children's Program — Archaeology
October 24 • 9 – 11 am
Join us for free 30 minute Saturday activities at the Farm! Children will learn how archaeologists study people in the past. Participants will 'dig' through a box of discarded objects to classify and sort the items to determine what event may have taken place. Parents can sign children up for a half hour session between 9–11 am. Group sizes will be limited.
L.W. Paul Living History Farm
2279 Harris Short Cut Road, Conway
calder.marian@horrycountysc.gov | 843-915-7861

Halloween at the Farm
October 30 • 6:30 – 8 pm
Your Ticket Includes: 'Spooky' stories by the fire, s'mores, hot chocolate, pumpkin decorating (a mini pumpkin will be included with entry cost), and a Halloween Hayride! Costumes are encouraged! Don't miss this special event during the time the farm is normally closed to the public. It will be the perfect place to welcome Halloween as a family under string lights and a moonlit sky with donkeys and goats celebrating right by you! \$20 per person, Families will pay no more than \$60, Children 2 and under are free.
Full Circle Farm
3014 River Road, Johns Island
fullcirclefarm.cc/farm-events-johns-island-sc

Beginner Spur Making
October 30 & 31 • 9 am – 5 pm
Whether you have an interest in the equestrian lifestyle or blacksmithing, our new class taught by Kevin Thompson delves into the art of spur making. This 2-day class covers the basics of producing functional spurs from repurposed farrier rasps, and no prior experience is needed. As well as blacksmithing, basic leather working will be included in the making of the spur straps. All materials are included, students just need to bring a water bottle and safety glasses. Closed toed shoes are a must. These are functional spurs so if you intend to use them, bring your riding boots for proper sizing. 1 hour lunch break (lunch not included). \$425. Class size 4 students. Ages: 18+. Call 770-773-6159 to pay over the phone.
Agricultural Museum of South Carolina
120 History Lane, Pendleton
josh@lakehartwellcountry.com | 864-646-7271

Trunk or Treat
October 31 • 10 am – 5 pm
Come experience fall the way it was meant to be enjoyed—on a local, family-owned working farm! At Lever Farms, fall fun is about more than pumpkins. It's an opportunity to slow down, spend time together, and experience agriculture firsthand while supporting a local farm family. Pick your own pumpkin straight from the farm, navigate your way through our corn maze, take an educational wagon ride through the working farm, visit our farm animals, and enjoy plenty of farm games and activities for the whole family. Along the way, learn a little more about where your food comes from and what it takes to keep a family farm growing from season to season.
Lever Farms
5057 SC Hwy 34, Pomaria
levers@leverfarms.com | 803-321-5952
LeverFarms.com

SALES & AUCTIONS

Fall Cattle Sale
October 30 & 31 • 1 pm Friday / 11 am Saturday
Registered Angus Females and Breeding Age Bulls selling at auction at the farm. Females sell at 1 pm on Friday and the Bull Sale will begin at 11 am on Saturday. There will also be a few SimAngus and Ultrablack cattle in the offering.
Yon Family Farms
318 Aiken Road, Ridge Spring
lydia@yonfamilyfarms.com | 803-685-5048
yonfamilyfarms.com

SCDA State Farmers Markets			
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FARMERS MARKET	GREENVILLE STATE FARMERS MARKET	PEE DEE STATE FARMERS MARKET	VISIT AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV
3483 Charleston Highway West Columbia, SC 29172 803-737-4664	1354 Rutherford Road Greenville, SC 29609 864-244-4023	2513 W. Lucas Street Florence, SC 29501 843-665-5154	Click on the State Farmers Markets button for more information about each location

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10/15/26

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803-667-1161

Fruit & Vegetable Inspection
803-737-4588

Produce Safety
803-753-7267

Market News—Fruit & Vegetable
803-737-4671

Retail Food Safety
803-896-0640

Market News—Livestock & Grain
803-737-4491

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803-734-2185

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803-737-5900

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803-737-0147

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POLICIES FOR ADVERTISING

For our full policies, please visit:
agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin-policies

Only ads pertaining to the production of agricultural products and related items are published. Ads are accepted for South Carolina items, even if the seller lives out of state, provided the item is in state at the time the ad is published and at the time of sale.

Ads are published free of charge and in good faith. The Market Bulletin reserves the right to edit and verify ads but assumes no responsibility for their content.

Ads cannot be accepted from agents, dealers, or commercial businesses, including real estate. Sealed bids, legal notices, or consignment sales are not accepted.

SUBMITTING ADS

No matter the submission method, submissions must include the advertiser's name, complete address with zip code and county, and phone number with area code. While we don't publish the address, we need this information for our records. Do not use all capital letters.

• **Online:** Go to agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin. Select "Submit Market Bulletin Ad" and complete the form. If you include your email address, you will receive an automated reminder for a renewal.

• **Mail:** SC Market Bulletin, PO Box 11280, Columbia, SC 29211. You must use 8.5 × 11 inch paper.

• **Email:** Send ads to marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov. Put the words "Market Bulletin ad" in the subject line.

• **Fax:** 803-734-0659

The deadline for submitting ads and notices is noon on Tuesday of the week **before** the publication date.

NEXT AD DEADLINE

OCTOBER 20 • 12:00 PM

South Carolina Department of Agriculture

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Reminder to Advertisers

Ads are due by noon (12 pm) on the Tuesday after the latest published issue.
Any ads received after the deadline will be considered for a subsequent issue.

AQUACULTURE

STER GRASS CARP
\$12/\$18; Blgill, 65¢; Shlckr and Rdbrst, 75¢; Ch Cats, 65¢
Clay Chappell
Richland
803-776-4923

BLUEGILL
50¢; Bass, \$3; F1 Tiger Bass, \$3; Catfish, 1; Grass Carp, \$10; Minnows, \$25; trout, \$3
Derek Long
Newberry
803-944-3058

CATTLE

RED ANG BULLS
low BW b'line & pure, \$3500
Wayne Owens
Greenwood
864-229-4921
JERSEY COW/HEFR CALF PR
\$2500; 2 reg jersey cows
A2A2, \$2750 ea; Jersey hefrs, \$2000, exposed to bull
Robert Turner
Orangeburg
803-596-6463

YRLG BULL
¾ Ang, ¼Char, ready for light serv, \$2800
Debbie Wade
Chester
803-581-5050
REG ULTRA BLK BULL
proven breeder, good b'lines, B-4/3/23, \$5900
Justin Clamp
Saluda
864-554-3023

HRFRD BULL CALVES
7 & 6 m/o, PB from reg stock, no papers, \$1500 ea
Scott Hornsby
Richland
803-530-8667
REG BRAUNVIEH BULL
B-12/24, \$3500; Lnghn steer, \$2500; can del
James A Langston
Pickens
864-859-6794

REG BLK ANG
and Advancer bulls, 14-20 m/o, all calving ease, data/ BSE avail, \$4000+
Marc Renwick
Newberry
803-271-8691
FB HRFRD BULL
800 lbs, \$3500
Michael Hudnall
Newberry
803-518-5079

REG BLK ANG BULLS
exc feet, nvr trimmed, low input, docile, BSE, \$7500-25,000
Walter Shealy
Newberry
803-924-1000
REG DEXTER BULL
4½ y/o, red, \$2100 obo
Duane Helfrick
Bamberg
803-387-9209

HRFRD BULL
PB, 1 y/o, \$2500
Billy Gallman
Newberry
803-276-7171
FB CHAR BULL
B-1/12, \$1800; Char hefr, B-1/5, \$1600
Boyd Caldwell
Kershaw
803-438-3455

FARM EQUIPMENT

ADS MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED BY COMMERCIAL DEALERS. A CURRENT FARM TAG ISSUED BY THE SCDMV IS REQUIRED ON ALL FARM VEHICLES.

USA HARROWS
20 disc, 3ph, GC, \$1600
Jim Atkinson
Pickens
864-506-9001
JD 4640 TRACTOR
new frt & inside tires, GC, 100 gal tank mntd on frt w/pump seen monitor on dash, \$30,000
Melvin Bolton
Calhoun
803-533-9584

'25 NH TRACTOR
60 hp, remote, canopy, 43 hrs, 4 yr wrnty, \$23,000
Alvin Harlan
Spartanburg
864-316-9636

'50 MCCORMICK FA CUB TRACTOR
w/belly mwr, oper man, \$3500
J R Simpson
Lancaster
803-286-5856

HAY TEDDER
VGC, 2 basket, PB, PTO, Niemeyer brand, \$1750
George Mccoy
Chesterfield
843-307-8866

'01 FEATHERLITE 2H TRL
alum, many features, nvr used, \$10,000
Paula Jones
Barnwell
803-266-4344

LS XR4140GR TRACTOR
5 y/o, 1409 hrs, shed kept, \$20,000, no text
James Comptom
Abbeville
864-340-1084

HAY WAGON/TRL
all metal frame, 16'L, 4' tongue, 2 ramps, 4 tire whls, GC, \$2200
Joan Joyce
Darlington
843-307-4751

5' BHB GROOMING MWR
antiq/vintage '60-64, cuts well, \$200
Robert White
Spartanburg
864-457-2293

JD 4020 HIGH CROP TRACTOR
dsl, pwr shift not running, \$2000
David Evans
Greenville
864-918-1650

JD 2010 DSL HIGH CROP
needs restoration, \$2000
Josh Evans
Greenville
864-360-3252

2 CATTLE SELF-FEEDERS
Apache 16', 300 bu, dual axle, dbl sided, shed kept, \$5000 ea or \$9000 for both
Richard Taylor
Anderson
864-617-8322

INTL 1466
w/canopy & dual whls, \$15,000 obo
Joseph Henson
York
803-448-5287

5' 3PH DISC
not used anymore, 1r of angled disc, good for deer plots, \$450
David Wannamaker
Calhoun
803-682-2117

JD 7000 4R PLNTR
\$4500; 10' field cult, 3ph, \$3500; John Blue applicator, \$2500
Michael Munn
Clarendon
803-309-1221

3PH POST DRIVER
Wheatheart Bandit, PTO driven, 8'T post, 8" dia, \$7000
Leonard Williams
Anderson
864-245-0436

16' LITTER SPRDR
mech Chandler, FR; and high lift high cap litter bucket for skid steer, \$10,500 obo
Drake Kinley
Anderson
864-353-9628

VIRNIG LAND LEVELER
72" w/hyd scarifiers, new, \$3400
H Herlong
Greenville
864-430-0951

MX240 TWD TRACTOR
new tires, \$30,000; 1660 Intl combine, \$5000; Chandler 16' sprdr, \$4000
Mel Brown
Abbeville
803-468-6902

'53 JD 50
new tires, GRC, good sheet metal, \$3500
Curtis Pollard
Anderson
864-933-4049

'07 JD 5225
56 hp, remote, canopy, 2960 hrs, \$14,500; Deutz DX 160, 160 hp, cab, dual remote, 3130 hrs, \$7000
Robert Hurley
Laurens
864-981-5352

8' DISC HARROW
3ph, EUC, \$1500
Joey McLaine
Colleton
843-898-3326

IH 454 GAS TRACTOR
4 cyl, 2wd, GC, \$4700
Jeffrey Poland
Spartanburg
864-580-0066

8 WHL V-RAKE
FR, \$2800
Rickie Evans
Chester
803-209-2714

5×7 HARDEE DUMP TRL
all metal, w/add-on ramp grate, \$500
Otto Williamson
Williamsburg
843-372-2692

4'×7' METAL TRL
w/top, used for goats, GC, \$800
Jack Fogle
Orangeburg
803-331-6675

MF 231S TRACTOR
dsl, 42 hp, 801 hrs, good rubber, canopy, well maint, \$8200
Boyd Caldwell
Kershaw
803-438-3455

SQ HAY LDR
for side of truck or trl, \$400; NH hay crusher, \$300, more, all under shed, cash
Randy Orr
Anderson
864-201-5666

INTL 5100 GRAIN DRILL 21 DD OPENERS
\$5200; Rhino 2160 boom mwr, in GC, \$8500
Jeffrey Gilmore
Chesterfield
843-517-0315

473 DETROIT DIESEL IRIG PUMP
on tongue pull trl, w/1600' of alum 4" pipe, \$4300
Roger McCall
Chester
803-242-4367

'42 AC TRACTOR
EC, antiq, \$4500 obo
Farha Ali
Greenwood
864-554-0041

'07 RHINO TW84 ROTARY CUTTER
7' cut, GC, new blade, \$1500
Stephen Gedosch
Greenville
864-982-4490

JD MAX EMERGE 6R PLNTR
w/row cleaners, \$14,000; JD 6500 spryr w/60' frt fold booms, \$24,000
Joe Phillips Jr
Lexington
803-600-2928

INTL 806 FA TRACTOR
w/cab, \$6000; 140 FA tractor w/side sickle bar, plntr & tool bars, \$4000
Daniel Hughes
Jasper
803-942-1670

11PT CHISEL PLOW
by Athens Plow Co, GC, \$1500 obo
Edward Rentz
Lexington
803-351-0328

MF 281
w/frt end ldr/bucket, bale spear, \$12,000; 3ph bale spear, \$150
Robert Turner
Orangeburg
803-596-6463

BHB SICKLE BOOM
LN, \$7000; HD 84" Land Pride finish mwr, \$4200
Julian Mears
McCormick
864-602-1246

4 WHL HAY FEED WAGON
open bottom, 20' L, \$4750
Bennie Smith
Edgefield
803-215-2551

2R TRNSPLNTR
3ph w/2 water barrels, LN, \$6000; NH273 sq baler, \$1000
Charles Clunan
Anderson
864-245-3803

JD 2350 TRACTOR
w/frt ldr, 1228 hrs, \$11,500
Griffith Barre
Richland
843-991-0121

CUB CADET CS 3310
chipper/shredder, used 1x, \$475
Tom Eason
Colleton
843-991-3962

FORD 9000 DAY CAB
new Cummins 400, wetline kit, 10 spd, exc rd tractor, \$16,000; JD 4230 cab tractor, \$22,000
Scott Langston
Oconee
864-324-1913

FA SUPER A TRACTOR
GRC, 3ph, cutaway disc plow & 6' scraper incl, \$2500
John Lollis
Greenville
864-483-0922

MILLCREEK 27+ MANURE SPRDR
GC, barn kept, poly flr, dolly whl jack, Rhino-coat lining, \$3000
Kristie Lowrey
Laurens
864-414-6891

FORD 8N
restored, \$3000; 1r cult, \$200; 20-disc harrow, \$1000; 6' scrape blade, \$375; more, all 3ph & obo
Otis Hembree
Spartanburg
864-316-1222

HAWK HORSE TRL
5th whl, 24' w/LQ, 3 stall, \$9000 obo; JD 5115 M, ldr, frt hyd, cab, 700 hrs, \$90,000
Ronny Wilson
Anderson
864-356-6959

IH 1066 & CAT D7 17A
\$16,000 ea; JD 830D, \$14,000; Cat D4 7U, \$8500
Ronald McGraw
Lancaster
980-255-8584

FARM LABOR

NOTICES ARE ACCEPTED FOR AGRICULTURAL WORK ONLY AND NOT FOR HOUSEWORK, NURSING, OR COMPANIONSHIP NEEDS.

NEED BUSHHOGGING
plus cut around dam & pond banks; also help w/ poultry, feed/clean, 3 hrs am & 2 hrs pm
Kim Hagen
Lancaster
803-475-1125

EXCAVATOR WORK
digging, stump removal, junk removal, clearing fences or ponds
Jason Nichols
Saluda
864-992-2753

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK
land clearing, ditching, ponds, roads, bush hog, bldg pads
Fred Morris
Florence
843-621-8647
PASTURE MGMT SERV
spray weeds, treat fire ants, fert & lime, plant pastures, Fescue, Ryegrass, Bermuda
Kenny Mullis
Richland
803-331-6612

TREE LIMB TRIMMING
for roads, fence lines, field edges, up to 26', local cos
Damon Archie
Chester
803-517-7436

NEED INDIVIDUALS
to prune vineyard, must have own equip & pole trimmers
Ryan Anderson
Greenville
864-234-2918

BEAVER TRAPPING
and exclusion, Aiken Co and surrounding area
Joe Leonard
Aiken
803-507-4940

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK
build & repair ponds, demo, tree removal, land clearing, roads, free est
James Hughes
Greenwood
864-227-8257

MOBILE SAWMILLING
30"+ dia, 21'L, drop off up to 52"; land clearing, excavator work, veteran owned/insured
John Smith
Pickens
864-982-2249
HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS BY UAV
ag, forestry & aquatic
Joel Cox
Spartanburg
864-706-1495

LAND CLEARING
wildlife mgmt, pond digging & excavation
Jay Lowder
Clarendon
803-473-0646

LIME SPREADING
specialize in bulk Tenn lime, call for est
Drake Kinley
Anderson
864-353-9628

FARM LAND

FARM LAND MUST BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY THE OWNER, NOT AN AGENT. TRACTS MUST BE AT LEAST 5 ACRES UNDER CULTIVATION, TIMBER, OR PASTURE. OUT-OF-STATE OWNERS–NOT REAL ESTATE AGENTS–MAY SUBMIT ADS FOR LAND IN SC.

WANT LAND TO LEASE
for raccoon hunting, willing to purchase hunting insurance
Tony Slice
Lexington
803-600-6256

17+/-A OF CB
Ware Place area, land locked for \$45,000/A
Stephen Gedosch
Greenville
864-982-4490

80.2A EDGEFIELD CO
pine tree land, will subdivide, \$4500/A
John Rhodes
Hampton
803-346-9473

WANT LAND TO LEASE
for hunting, turkey and/or deer, w/equip for repair and help w/other needs
Ray Sealey
Darlington
843-409-1717

56A
timber, recently pine trees were clear cut, \$296,800
Douglass Britt
McCormick
864-391-3334

WANT LAND FOR LEASE
w/in 50 mi of Lex for deer hunting, 3–4 resp hunters
Bob Padowicz
Lexington
803-206-5993

30A TIMBER/PASTURED
w/rd frontage, 18A and 12A tracts, on Dorn Rd, Troy, selling together, \$250,000
Farha Ali
Greenwood
864-554-0041

WANT LAND TO LEASE
for cows or cut hay
Jackson Jones
Chester
803-899-2514

FRESH PRODUCE

PRODUCE MUST BE RAW AND NON-PROCESSED. RAW MILK, BUTTER, AND CHEESE PRODUCTS MUST BE PERMITTED BY SCDA. A COPY OF THE MILK PERMIT MUST BE PROVIDED WITH THE AD. AN EGG LICENSE IS NOT REQUIRED FOR ON-FARM POINTS OF SALE.

FRESH EGGS
\$3/dz
Joe Culbertson
Greenwood
864-229-5254

SUGARCANE
100 stalks/\$100
Freeman Noles
Barnwell
803-383-4066

JUMBO QUAIL
and chicken eggs, \$3–4/dz
Brian Motley
Kershaw
803-315-7598

CHICKEN EGGS
farm fresh, \$3/dz
Ron Handley
Georgetown
843-896-0829

GARDEN

ADS ARE NOT ACCEPTED FROM COMMERCIAL NURSERIES, WHICH HAVE ANNUAL SALES OF \$5,000.

BLUEBERRY PLANTS
3/\$20; figs, pomegranate, elderberry plants, \$20; grapevines, \$10; mulberry trees, \$30
Freeman Noles
Barnwell
803-383-4066

TREES
crab apple, blueberry, fig, pear, pomegranate, persimmon, peach, \$10–20 ea
Joe Culbertson
Greenwood
864-229-5254

EQUINE

THE SELLER MUST PROVIDE A COPY OF A CURRENT NEGATIVE COGGINS TEST WITH THE AD. SCANNED COPIES ARE ACCEPTABLE.

MAMMOTH JACK DONKEY
15.2 hh sorrel, B-6/20/09, 12000+ lbs, \$3500
Dianne Wall
Edgefield
803-480-1261

13 Y/O QH
paint geld, 15 hh, \$4500 obo
Mary Dyches
Allendale
843-812-2138

HOGS / PIGS

FB BERKSHIRE PIGLETS
M/F, males cut, \$150 ea
Jason Painter
Spartanburg
864-641-9855

GOATS / LLAMAS / SHEEP

ND GOATS
un-reg pr, \$400 for both; 4 yng billies, 2–7 m/o, \$50 ea obo
Eric Miller
Greenville
864-684-2260

BLKBELLY/KATAHDIN SHEEP
\$250 ea
Michael Hudnall
Newberry
803-518-5079

SAVANNA BUCKS
1–3 y/o, \$150–250
Amarentha Dill
Florence
843-229-2104

JACOB LAMBS
B-6/26, 4 horned & 2 horned avail, rams, \$200; ewes, \$225, tails not docked, photos avail, text
Allan Clark
Abbeville
864-314-5226

BARBADOS BLK BELLY RAM
2 y/o, \$400; 2 yng rams, 6 m/o, \$200 ea
Charles Judy
Orangeburg
803-614-0533

SAANEN POLLED BUCK
2 y/o, gentle, \$275; 7 m/o doe, Saanen/Nubian mix, \$450; buyer transport
B McColley
Orangeburg
864-494-7643

4 PYGMY/ND MIX
8 m/o males, \$100 ea
Mark Shirey
Lexington
803-348-5002

KATAHDIN SHEEP
ewes and rams, B-'26, gentle, hand raised, vac, wormed, \$225+
Tammy Hodge
Sumter
803-983-5041

ADGA ND DOES
1 y/o, \$300
Ron Handley
Georgetown
843-896-0829

3 JACOBS RAMS
2–4 horn, 1–2 horn, good b'lines, \$225 ea or \$600 all 3, text preferred
Glenn Murphey
Aiken
894-490-0746

KATAHDIN RAMS
pure & worm resistant line, 6 m/o to mature breeders, \$200+
Wayne Owens
Greenwood
864-229-4921

HAY & GRAIN

'26 4×5 COASTAL
twine wrap, dry stored, \$60
B E Stevenson
Allendale
803-383-2825

'26 RND CB
300 bales avail, \$60 ea, or \$55 ea for 20+, cash only, no del
Charles Stewart
Aiken
803-827-3731

'26 4×5 RND CB
all net wrap, \$65/roll
Jackson Jones
Chester
803-899-2514

HQ 4×5 RND CB
no litter, \$80/barn, \$65/field sq, \$8/barn; CQ 4×5, \$40, 10+, \$35
George McCoy
Chesterfield
843-307-8866

'26 4×5 RND CB
net wrap, under shed, well fert, \$75
Hugh Knight
Orangeburg
803-539-4674

'26 CB 4×5 RND
outside HQ, \$50; CQ, \$45; HQ sq, \$8
Anthony Carroll
Anderson
864-314-2111

DEER COB CORN
single bag/\$10 ea; \$9 ea for pallet of 40
Jason Painter
Spartanburg
864-641-9855

DEER COB CORN
in totes, weighing 600 lbs, \$100 ea
Joseph Henson
York
803-448-5287

'26 4×5 RND HQ CB
fert/sprayed, no litter, 1st and 2nd cuts, \$75 ea, del/fee
Dale Blackmon
Lancaster
803-577-9008

'26 OAT STRAW
4000 bales, \$7
Victor Smith
Berkeley
843-688-5353

'26 COASTAL
CQ, twine, shed stored, \$40; \$35/'25; twine, shed stored
Michael F Hallman
Lexington
803-657-5526

'26 4×5 RND CB
net wrap, HQ shed kept, \$80; HQ field kept, \$70; CQ, \$60/roll, del w/fee
Tyler Sanderlin
Barnwell
803-709-2626

4×5 FESCUE
NR, shed kept, \$75
Otis Hembree
Spartanburg
864-316-1222

FESCUE AND RYE GRASS MIX
'25, \$30; '26, HQ, 4×5, string wrap, net wrap, barn stored, no weeds, \$50/bale
Terry Blakely
Greenville
864-483-1920

SQ FESCUE
barn kept, \$7 ea; sq mixed grass, \$5 ea; both NR
Jerry Butler
Laurens
864-697-6343

'26 4×5 RND CB/TIFTON 44
net wrap, shed kept, \$60 ea
William Shealy
Lexington
803-513-3485

'26 4×5 RND CB
HQ, lime and fert, \$70/bale; '26 4×5 rnd CB, CQ, \$60/bale
Jason Williams
Lexington
803-917-5431

'26 SQ CB
fert, no weeds, shed kept, \$8 ea
Zack Taylor
Lexington
803-394-4270

'26 HQ COASTAL
net wrap, rnd, shed kept, \$80/bale, CQ and GQ, field stored, \$60/bale
David Fulmer
Orangeburg
803-917-0467

FESCUE AND MIX GRASS
4×5 bales, \$45 ea, del avail
Michael Wise
Newberry
803-271-4215

'25 HQ CB
shed kept, \$50; CQ, 4 rolls for \$100
Bobby Zimmerman
Lexington
803-317-8681

4×5 RND CQ AND GTQ
fert well, \$50 ea, or 15+, \$40 ea
Pam Mack
Orangeburg
803-518-6701

'26 HQ 4×54" RND CB
\$80; '25 CB, \$70; all net wrap and shed kept
Rickey Meetze
Lexington
803-667-0285

'25 4×5 RND CB
limed, fert, NR, \$45; '26 4×5 rnd CB, fert, rain, \$30, outside on indiv plastic pallets
Eddie West
Aiken
803-507-8205

TIFTON 44 BERMUDA GRASS
HQ, NR, hvy sq bales, \$8 ea
Thomas Thain
Lexington
803-920-7023

'26 COASTAL
limed and fert, shed kept, HQ, \$70/bale; CQ, \$65/bale; sq, \$9/bale, del avail
Eddie Phillips
Sumter
803-486-0081

'26 MIXED GRASS
net wrap, \$50; '25 mixed grass, \$40; grass straw mix for mulch, \$18; all 4×5 bales
Charles Nichols
Saluda
864-992-9292

'26 FESCUE
lrg rnd bales, \$45
Ralph Grant
Saluda
864-445-2439

RND CB
\$70 under shed, \$65 not under shed
Blake Stewart
Aiken
803-761-4787

'26 4×5 HQ CB
net wrap, outside, \$50
Brent Parnell
Anderson
864-449-7269

4×5 OAT/RYEGRASS MIXED
net wrap, shed kept, \$50 ea
Sam Rikard
Lexington
803-892-2630

'26 4×5 RND BALES
fert 1st & 2nd cut, shed kept, no weeds or trash, \$60/HQ, \$50/CQ
James Bullock
Lexington
803-429-3234

COASTAL/FESCUE
net wrap, in barn, \$50
Ronny Wilson
Anderson
864-356-6959

'26 4×5 FESCUE/MIXED GRASS HAY
fert only, no manure put on land, NR, barn stored, \$50
Billy Gallman
Newberry
803-276-7171

'26 4×5 RND MIXED GRASS
net wrap, fert, \$50 ea, qty disc
Danny Leitner
Fairfield
843-200-0887

PLANTS & FLOWERS

ADS ARE NOT ACCEPTED FROM COMMERCIAL NURSERIES, WHICH HAVE ANNUAL SALES OF \$5,000.

MONKEY GRASS
aka Liriope, Hosta, \$4 ea; Iris, Daylily, \$5 ea; Hydrangea, Gardenia, \$10 ea
Woody Ellenburg
Pickens
864-855-2565

HYDRANGEAS
Crepe Myrtle's, \$20; 1 gal Azaleas, \$6; Loropetalum, Tea Olives, Boxwoods, 3/\$20
Freeman Noles
Barnwell
803-383-4066

MURRAY CYPRESS TREES
1 gal, 1000 avail, \$4
Charlie Mills
Edgefield
803-480-4993

BALD CYPRESS TREES
36" T+/- in 3 gal container, \$22
Bryan Black
Lexington
803-331-9276

TN REDBACKS
\$20 ea
Wendell Hicks
Greenville
864-561-3690

LA COTTONTAILS
crossed on MS Cane
Cutters, \$14 ea
Danny Cook
Newberry
803-924-6953

REX
all colors, yng, \$15–20 ea; grown bucks, \$20 ea; does, \$25 ea
Philip Poole
Union
864-427-1589

MISCELLANEOUS

PURPLE MARTIN GOURD POLES winches up/down, \$390–500; gourds, \$4.75 ea Stacy Shealy Lexington 803-727-7535	DET DSL PWR UNIT 4-71 w/Rockford PTO, and Bendix 501 air compressor, \$5000 obo Rick Miller Anderson 864-617-5066	USED STICK-BUILT GOAT HOUSE or fencing materials, \$200 Jim Atkinson Pickens 864-207-8854	HDWD LUMBER incl Hickory, boards 1"×12"×8'L, \$4/bdft, 300 bdft min/del, will custom cut for lrg dels Ryan Anderson Greenville 864-234-2918	WHT OAK TRL FLRNG 8'–21'L, 1", 1½" & 2" thick × 6", 8", 10"W, \$2/bdft; firewood, all hdwd, \$75 p/u load Lecil Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222	55-GAL FG DRUMS metal and plastic open top w/top and rings, \$20+; solid top 55 gal, \$20 ea; more Philip Poole Union 864-427-1589
225 GAL HORIZ LEG TANK used in GC, w/valve and discharge, \$375 obo, text preferred Glenn Murphey Aiken 864-490-0746	5" ALUM MAIN LINE PIPE 45 pc of 30' sections, few shorter ones, 6 fittings at 45° angle, \$4000 Brenda Dorrell Williamsburg 843-372-8829	HYDRO WATER RAM/PUMP by Fleming, \$200 Douglass Britt McCormick 864-391-3334	50 SADDLES western Circle Y, Caldwell, American, Cactus, etc; Eng Toulouse, Stubben, Zaldi, etc, \$100+ Scott Langston Ocone 864-324-1913	(2) 4' ROTARY CUTTER BLADES used 1 season this yr, sharpened in Aug and not used since, \$40 James Freshley Newberry 803-260-4979	WORM CASTINGS FERT 100% organic, Certified SC, no fillers, 30 lb bags, \$20/ bag, \$120/10 bags Maryann Little Lexington 803-530-9219
2 SUGARCANE ROLLERS GUC, \$1000 James Linder Colleton 843-908-3193	POLYHDR DIVIDER SNOUTS JD 600 or 900, 2 sets, \$350/set Jeffrey Gilmore Chesterfield 843-517-0315	CEDAR AND PINE POSTS 4×4, 5×5, 6×6, 8-18' L, \$15–45 ea Charles Counts Newberry 803-924-4665	HDWD LUMBER air dried 20 mos, 6"×10' Wht Oak, \$2.50/bdft; 12"×8' Red Oak, \$2/bdft; cut to your specs Boyd Caldwell Kershaw 803-438-3455	OIL AND SKID TANKS \$225 ea; skid tank w/hand pump, 280 gal, all as is, \$375 cash Randy Orr Anderson 864-201-5666	BRUSH CUTTER/MWR BC26 series Outback, fixed deck, for overgrown/tough field cleanup, gas, \$2000 C Christo York 620-504-8219
SET OF R14 TIRES and rims for Kubota, new, \$1100 Julian Mears McCormick 864-602-1246	4' TUBE GATE \$45; 7'×¾" chain, hook on one end, \$25 Russell Goings Union 864-426-2309	5 HP ELEC MOTOR new, bought for grain elevator, nvr used, \$750 Charles Nichols Saluda 864-992-9292			

POULTRY

5 M/O HENS RIR, Buff Orp, Dominique, wht Leghorn, \$15 ea; peacocks, turkeys, pheasants, geese, \$25–75 ea Joe Culbertson Greenwood 864-229-5254	COTURNIX QUAIL \$6 ea Danny Cook Newberry 803-924-6953	COTURNIX QUAIL F, \$8, pls text first Westin Trotter Saluda 803-924-4115	SEX-LINK PULLETS Blk Copper Marans and jumbo Coturnix quail chicks, \$2–6 ea Brian Motley Kershaw 803-315-7598	GROWN GUINEAS \$20 ea; yng, \$7+; Cochin bantams, \$10+ Philip Poole Union 864-427-1589	BOBWHITE QUAIL full grown, \$6 ea Billy Gallman Newberry 803-276-7171
CHICKENS \$15 ea; pigeons, \$5 ea Walter Creech Bamberg 803-383-1309	DUCKS Mallard, \$5+; Mandarin, \$150/pr; Ringed Teal, \$120/ pr; wht Mandarin, \$275/pr; silver Pheasant, \$80/pr Shane Sease Bamberg 803-824-9124	MUSCOVY DUCKLINGS blk/wht, 1 wk+ in age, bring cage/crate for transport, \$5+ ea, depending on age Barbara Fields Orangeburg 803-378-3600	TURKEYS grown heritage breed, \$25 ea Dan Geddings Sumter 803-938-2793	PEACOCK PRS \$300, lv msg Neal Miles Barnwell 803-300-0716	PB RACING HOMERS Jansen and Ludos, \$50/ mated pr, \$25/squab Scott Turner Greenwood 864-377-4444

WANT-FARM EQUIPMENT

8-10' FIELD CULT older model for garden Otto Williamson Williamsburg 843-372-2692	3PH ROTOTILLER 6' or 7', in GC Randy Orr Anderson 864-201-5666	IH 844 CORN HEAD 4R, 38-40" spacing Randell Wilson Abbeville 864-378-4924
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WANT-LIVESTOCK

YNG RING-NECKED PHEASANTS pls text first Westin Trotter Saluda 803-924-4115	EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.	WHT FANTAIL PIGEONS 1–3 prs, prefer mated pairs Rick Arrowood Newberry 803-940-1265	RABBITS chickens, guineas, peacocks, turkeys, geese, ducks, pheasant Joe Culbertson Greenwood 864-229-5254
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WANT-MISCELLANEOUS

PULPWOOD SAW TIMBER
hdwd pine, all types of
thinning or clear cut,
Upstate cos
Tim Morgan
Greenville
864-420-0251

Delivery issues with your *SC Market Bulletin*?

Contact the U.S. Postal Service at usps.com/help/contact-us.htm or 1-800-275-8777.

FUNDS OFFERED TO RESTORE AND PROTECT WETLANDS AND FLOODPLAINS ON AGRICULTURAL LANDS

BY USDA

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced an investment of \$5 million in partnerships to help agricultural producers and private landowners restore and steward wetlands and floodplains through conservation easements. These projects, funded by USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), deliver Farmers First, direct-to-producer benefits while improving water quality, reducing flooding risks and providing habitat for wildlife.

“Producers and landowners know their land better than anyone, and these partnerships give them extra support to do what they’re already committed to — protecting their fields, keeping water clean, reducing flooding, and building a stronger future for their operations and their communities,” said NRCS Chief Colton L. Buckley.

NRCS is providing funding through the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) and the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program. ACEP received a boost from the Working Families Tax Cut Act that delivered

the largest long-term investment in NRCS conservation programs in decades, including \$625 million for ACEP this year, \$650 million in fiscal year 2027, \$675 million in 2028, and \$700 million per year from fiscal year 2029 through 2031.

These easement programs promote the restoration, enhancement, protection, maintenance, and management of wetland, floodplain, and other habitat and associated uplands that would contribute significantly to functions and values of these habitats.

Awarded work will fall into three main categories:

- **Wetland and Floodplain Easement Restoration:** Awardees will work with NRCS, partners and landowners to develop and implement sound easement restoration plans, to include structural practices, like levees and water control structures, or vegetative establishment practices, like tree planting.
- **Wetland and Floodplain Easement Stewardship:** Awardees are responsible for completing easement stewardship activities

on restored wetland and floodplain easements. Easement stewardship includes repair, maintenance, management, and enhancement of properties.

- **Easement Assessments:** Awardees will complete onsite and offsite easement assessments. These assessments will document the habitat condition of easements and determine their compliance with deed terms and conditions. Awardees will use the data collected to determine the ecological condition of easements and, if necessary, develop repair, enhancement or maintenance plans to improve the condition of the assessed easements.

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on November 19, 2026. NRCS anticipates making selections by December 17, 2026, and expects to execute awards by February 2026. These dates are estimates and are subject to change. Non-federal entities are eligible to apply. For a full list of eligible entity types, additional details, and to apply, search for “Easement Restoration and Stewardship” at [Grants.gov](https://www.usda.gov/grants).

USDA ANNOUNCES \$180 MILLION SEED SOVEREIGNTY INITIATIVE TO STRENGTHEN U.S. AGRICULTURAL SECURITY

BY USDA

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins announced a \$180 million investment to launch the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Seed Sovereignty Initiative, a major effort to both strengthen U.S. agricultural security by protecting the plant genetic resources that underpin American agriculture and enable breakthroughs in U.S. agricultural innovation.

This initiative will provide much-needed investments in USDA’s Agricultural Research Service (ARS) National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS), which houses more than 600,000 accessions representing over 16,000 species. Using this funding, USDA will sequence collections of major crops to unlock the tremendous potential of the plant genetic resources the United States holds and identify critical gaps.

“Since President Trump returned to office, he has made it clear that we are putting American farmers first. For too long, the future of our crops and our seeds has not been a priority. That changes today, because we cannot afford to depend on foreign adversaries for next year’s crop,” said Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins. “Today’s announcement is another example of

this administration focusing on the inputs our agriculture industry depends on and ensuring a future where our farmers are the most productive in the world.”

Foreign competitors are actively acquiring and sequencing plant genetic resources from around the world. Meanwhile, the United States has not yet capitalized on the genetic information within U.S. collections, which is not fully sequenced. The Seed Sovereignty Initiative will help close that knowledge gap and reduce the risk of future foreign dependence.

“America’s agricultural resources are a strategic national asset,” said Deputy Secretary Stephen Vaden. “We need to survey our domestic resources, understand where we are vulnerable, and ensure the United States never has to rely on foreign competitors for critical agricultural resources.”

Over two years, USDA will characterize and sequence numerous NPGS collections and use advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence, to identify valuable traits. This work will help USDA and American researchers respond more quickly to emerging pests and diseases and

support the development of new crop varieties to benefit U.S. farmers and consumers.

“The National Plant Germplasm System contains tremendous untapped potential for American agriculture,” said Dr. Scott Hutchins, USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics and Chief Scientist. “Modern sequencing will allow us to unlock that potential and put it to work for American farmers, providing them a strong advantage.”

The Seed Sovereignty Initiative will move USDA from preserving America’s agricultural genetic resources to fully understanding and strategically using the resources to strengthen American agriculture.

USDA is also expanding its existing Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Department of Justice to strengthen competition in agricultural input markets, with a continued robust emphasis on seeds. The expanded partnership will help ensure American farmers have greater transparency, stronger competition, and more choices in the seed marketplace.

NEW PRESCRIBED BURN NOTIFICATION SYSTEM TOOK EFFECT OCT. 1

BY SC FORESTRY COMMISSION

Citizens who call the Forestry Commission to make notification of their planned prescribed burns — remember, it’s state law! — will notice a few minor changes in the process beginning Oct. 1.

SCFC’s dispatch centers are switching to a new computer system that will greatly improve the agency’s recordkeeping and back-end operations for prescribed burn notifications. While this is a big change for us, longtime prescribed burners will only see two slight differences:

- Callers will now be asked for their burn plan information in a slightly different order than it was requested before; and
- Assigned burn notification numbers will be provided in a different format.

This unique number for each burn will begin with the last two numbers of the current calendar year, followed by “BN,” followed by five numbers that correspond to the order in which a burn notification is approved. For example, the first prescribed burn notification taken Oct. 1 will be assigned the number 26BN00001.

As a reminder, state law requires citizens who conduct wildlife, forestry, and agricultural burns, also known as prescribed burns, to notify the Forestry Commission beforehand by calling 800-777-3473.

Dispatchers take notifications for prescribed burns via phone to assess appropriate weather conditions, fuel loads, smoke-sensitive areas and issue authorization numbers for burns that comply with South Carolina’s Smoke Management Guidelines.



ADEPTUS USA SELECTS ANDERSON COUNTY TO ESTABLISH FIRST SC OPERATION \$215.56 MILLION INVESTMENT WILL CREATE 217 NEW JOBS

Adeptus USA (Adeptus), a wood products manufacturer, announced it has selected Anderson County to establish its first South Carolina operation. The company’s \$215.56 million investment will create 217 new jobs.

Adeptus’ new facility, located at 1205 Hamby Road in Honea Path, will manufacture value-added and processed pine wood products for a diverse range of building products and millwork applications. The company’s primary product offerings include painted and primed moulding, boards, shiplap, and a variety of panel products and grades. A full assortment of Adeptus products can be found at adeptus.com.

Operations are expected to begin in the second quarter of 2027. HTI will support Adeptus’ hiring efforts during the startup phase, with employment opportunities posted as positions become available. Interested applicants can view current openings and apply at htijobs.com/adeptus.

The Coordinating Council for Economic Development approved job development credits related to the project. The council also awarded a \$850,000 Closing Fund grant to Anderson County to assist with the costs of building improvements.

“The tremendous commitment shown by the state of South Carolina, Anderson County and the local forestry community made it clear that this is the right place for Adeptus to invest and grow. We are proud to become part of South Carolina’s well-established wood products industry and look forward to building lasting partnerships throughout the region. This investment represents

far more than a manufacturing operation — it reflects a long-term commitment to our employees, our customers, and the communities of Anderson County and the surrounding area. We are sincerely grateful to the state of South Carolina and Anderson County for their partnership and support throughout this process. We would also like to recognize Atlantic Union Bank; Venturus, a division of Heritage Bank; USDA Rural Development; and Capital Resource Advisors. Their partnership and commitment were instrumental in helping bring this project to fruition.” —*Adeptus USA CEO Billy White*

“Adeptus’ \$215.56 million investment will bring new jobs and opportunity to Anderson County. The company’s decision to invest in South Carolina is a testament to the strength of our workforce and the quality of our manufacturing capabilities.” —*Gov. Henry McMaster*

“I’m pleased to welcome Adeptus to South Carolina’s agribusiness community. Expanding and diversifying opportunities for our forestry sector is a major priority for South Carolina, and Adeptus’ investment is great news.” —*South Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture Hugh Weathers*

“We welcome Adeptus USA’s decision to make South Carolina home for its newest solid wood furniture, panels and moulding manufacturing facility. We’re letting the world know that S.C. forests are open for business, and Adeptus’ announcement is evidence of the sustainable, high-quality, home-grown forest resources we have to offer.” —*State Forester Scott Phillips*

CLEMSON DEVELOPS FIVE FIELD PEA VARIETIES FOR SOUTHEAST GROWERS

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Clemson University scientists have developed five field pea varieties tailored to growing conditions in the Southeast and increasing demand for plant-based food ingredients. The varieties can provide farmers with a winter cash crop on land that might otherwise remain fallow or be used for cover crops.

The work began in 2020 through Clemson’s Pulse Quality and Nutritional Breeding Program, led by Dil Thavarajah, a professor of pulse quality and nutritional breeding.

“These are among the first organically bred field pea varieties developed specifically for Southeast production systems, creating new opportunities for farmers while meeting growing demand for nutritious plant-based foods,” Thavarajah said.

Chris Gesswein, executive director of the Clemson University Research Foundation, said releasing five varieties at once is a significant milestone for Clemson and reflects a decade-long investment in the Advanced Plant Technology program.

“These varieties have the potential to transform how field peas are grown across the Southeast, giving farmers access to new markets while strengthening domestic supplies of plant-based protein,” Gesswein said. “Consistent with Clemson’s public-service land-grant mission, this research-driven work advances agriculture, supports regional rural economies and benefits consumers.”

Most dry peas are grown in Idaho, Washington, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota, with additional production in California and Oregon.



New Clemson pea varieties were tested at WP Rawl farm in Pelion, South Carolina, under working-farm conditions.

Clemson’s varieties were tested at WP Rawl farm in Pelion, South Carolina, under working-farm conditions.

The new varieties are in the process of being certified organic by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. They are resistant to powdery mildew. Seeds are expected to be available in 2027. For more information, email Thavarajah at dthavar@clemson.edu.

NEW VARIETIES

Each variety was developed for different growing conditions and markets.

Carolina Amber is an extra-small yellow pea developed for food processors. Its protein and starch content make it useful in products such as canned vegetables, protein powders and gluten-free foods. Emerald is a green-seeded field pea developed for specialty food and gluten-free markets. It performs particularly well in clay loam soils and is adapted for large-scale mechanical harvesting.

Emerson is an early-maturing yellow field pea designed for coastal regions. It reaches harvest in about 104 days and combines strong yields with a mild flavor.



Dil Thavarajah and Tristan Lawrence showcase five newly released Clemson field pea varieties during the Variety Showcase hosted by the Culinary Breeding Network and the Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming in New York.

Jemini balances yield, protein and starch quality for culinary uses, canning and milling. Pelion produces medium-large yellow peas, adapts to a wide range of soils and contains 22.4% protein, making it suitable for food products and plant protein ingredients.

POTENTIAL SOIL BENEFITS

As legumes, field peas add crop diversity and support nitrogen fixation, microbial activity and gradual nutrient cycling. They do not eliminate the need for fertilizer in crops with high nutrient demands, but provide supplemental nitrogen and contribute to soil health.

“Rather than replacing cover crops, field peas can be used as a complementary tool that can provide both soil-building benefits and a harvestable crop,” said Ashley Rawl, owner of WP Rawl farm. “They may be especially effective when used with other species for weed suppression and erosion control.”

The peas are compatible with organic production systems, may improve soil structure and can dry naturally in the field without moisture-absorbing chemicals. Organic field peas could also generate revenue from land that would otherwise remain fallow or be used only for cover crops, said Francisco Torres, organic farm manager.

Challenges remain, including harvesting equipment, postharvest handling, storage and market development.

“But the outlook is promising as new varieties continue to be evaluated,” said Josh Hall, field operations manager.

This project is funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative.

SOUTH CAROLINA SHELLFISH HARVEST SEASON OPEN

BY CHEYENNE TWILLEY, SCDNR

The 2026-2027 season for recreational harvest of shellfish (clams and oysters) in South Carolina's coastal waters opened one-half hour before official sunrise on Thursday, October 1, 2026. The recreational shellfish season will remain open through May 15, 2027, unless conditions warrant extending or shortening the season.

In the event of a hurricane, major rain event or pollution spill, shellfish beds may be temporarily closed by the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES, formerly SCDHEC). Harvesters should check with SCDES to verify whether any closures are in effect. Closure information is available by calling 1-800-285-1618 or through an interactive map on the SCDES website. SCDES will also use these resources and local newspapers throughout the year to announce

temporary closures resulting from unusual rain events or spills.

Recreational harvesting is permitted on all Public Shellfish Grounds and State Shellfish Grounds within areas of open or approved water quality, as noted on shellfish maps. Twenty Public and seven State Shellfish Grounds are managed exclusively for recreational gathering. An additional 58 State Shellfish Grounds are managed for both recreational and commercial harvest.

Recreational harvesters should obtain updated Public or State Shellfish Ground maps at the beginning of each season, as areas open to harvest may change from year to year. Maps of designated harvest areas may be downloaded from the SCDNR website or accessed through the Recreational

Map Web Application. Printed maps may also be obtained by calling (843) 953-9854 or writing to the Shellfish Management Section, Attn: Andy Hollis, SCDNR, PO Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422-2559. When requesting maps, please specify the general area where you wish to harvest. Maps for the 2026-27 season will be available prior to the season opening on October 1, 2026.

Recreational harvesters must have a Saltwater Recreational Fishing License, available from SCDNR, at many fishing supply stores and online. The recreational limit is two U.S. bushels of oysters and one-half bushel of clams per day, limited to two calendar days per seven-day period. One U.S. bushel is equal to eight gallons. There is a maximum possession limit of three personal limits per boat or vehicle. Clams must be at least one inch thick.

USDA HELPS ORGANIC PRODUCERS WITH CERTIFICATION COSTS

BY USDA

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is helping organic producers and handlers cover certification costs as part of the Department’s effort to put Farmers First and Make America Healthy Again. USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) is accepting applications to help with organic certification costs for the 2025 and 2026 program years through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP), which covers up to 75% of eligible organic certification costs. Producers and handlers must apply by Dec. 31, 2026, for both program years.

COST SHARE ASSISTANCE

OCCSP provides cost share assistance to producers and handlers for the costs of obtaining or maintaining organic certification under the National Organic Program, which is administered by USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service. Producers and handlers are eligible to receive 75% of the costs up to \$750 for each of the following scopes: crops, wild crops, livestock, processing/handling and state organic program fees.

FSA will make payments as applications are received on a first-come, first-served basis until available funds are depleted.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for OCCSP, a producer or handler must have their USDA organic certification for the applicable program year at the time of application and must have paid fees or expenses related to the initial certification or renewal from a certifying agent during the program year. For program year 2025 they must have possessed a

handler’s organic certificate to be eligible for OCCSP. Eligible costs include:

- Application and administrative fees for USDA organic certification
- Inspection fees for USDA organic certification, including travel and per diem costs for organic inspectors
- USDA organic certification costs, including fees necessary to access international markets with which AMS has equivalency agreements or arrangements
- State organic program fees
- User and sale assessment fees for USDA organic certification
- Postage costs for materials related to obtaining or renewing USDA organic certification.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, producers and handlers should contact their local FSA county office. As part of completing the OCCSP application, producers and handlers will need to provide documentation of their organic certification and eligible expenses. Organic producers and handlers may also apply for OCCSP through participating state agencies.

OPPORTUNITY FOR STATE AGENCY PARTICIPATION

FSA will soon announce a 30-day application period for state agencies to apply through grants.gov to administer OCCSP.

If a state agency chooses to participate in OCCSP, both the state agency and FSA county offices in that state will accept OCCSP applications and make payments to eligible certified operations. However producers and handlers may not receive OCCSP payments for the same scope through both the state agency and their FSA county office.

For more information, producers and handlers can visit the OCCSP webpage or contact their local FSA county office.



ASSOCIATION NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR COST SHARE GRANTS

BY ANNE VAUGHN,
SC SPECIALTY CROP GROWERS ASSOCIATION

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture and South Carolina Specialty Crop Growers Association are proud to announce two grant programs to support specialty crop producers in South Carolina.



COLD STORAGE COST SHARE

Through funding from the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant, farmers can be reimbursed up to \$750 for installing a Cool-Bot cooler system. Farmers can receive reimbursements for purchasing and installing up to two (2) Cool-Bot cooler systems.

VALUE-ADDED PACKAGING COST SHARE

Through funding from the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant, farmers can receive reimbursement up to \$1,800 per year, or \$1350 for nonmembers, per farm for packaging costs. An additional \$200 may be requested for the use of value-added packaging, consisting primarily of sustainable materials that are reusable, recyclable, or compostable. This additional reimbursement will be provided at the discretion of the SC Specialty Crop Growers Association and SCDA.

Packaging is an essential part of marketing and selling specialty crops and can be an expensive input for farmers, especially in the early stages of their business. This program is designed to help alleviate some of the financial burden that comes with farming and encourage growers to expand their market outlets. Reimbursements are available on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are depleted. All receipts must be dated after 9/30/2026 to be eligible for reimbursement.

Applications for these programs can be found at scspecialtycrop.com/grants.



SCATE

SOUTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL TAX EXEMPTION

CORNER

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



To claim agriculture sales tax exemptions in South Carolina, you must have a South Carolina Agricultural Tax Exemption (SCATE) card.

Farmers who participate in the agriculture industry for business purposes and purchase eligible products in South Carolina are eligible for a SCATE card.

Before applying and making any purchases, please review the most current SC Department of Revenue Ruling regarding eligible and taxable items. It is linked from dor.sc.gov/farmers.

Apply, renew, verify, and learn more at scatecard.com

I don’t use a computer or laptop. What are my options?

A computer or laptop is the only way to access scatecard.com to apply, renew, request replacement cards, and more.

If you do not have access to a computer/laptop, you can:

- Ask a trusted family member or friend to assist you
- Go to a library to use their computers
- Call to make an appointment at one of SCDA’s three State Farmers Markets and they will confirm an appointment time and which building to go to. For your appointment, you will need to bring:
 - » your SCATE card number,
 - » password, and
 - » a credit/debit card or bank account and routing information to pay the \$24 renewal cost.

- ▶ SC State Farmers Market, West Columbia—803-737-4614
- ▶ Pee Dee State Farmers Market, Florence—843-665-5154
- ▶ Greenville State Farmers Market, Greenville—864-244-4023

From the Field

UPDATES FROM THE
SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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