

MARKET BULLETIN

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ARE CHICKPEAS A SPECIALTY CROP FOR SOUTH CAROLINA FARMERS?

BY ELIZABETH MOSELY-HAWKINS, SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

South Carolina State University's 1890 Research & Extension researchers are evaluating the viability of chickpea production as a potential specialty crop for South Carolina agriculture.

The pea-size legume packs powerful nutrients, such as dietary protein and fiber, in addition to being gluten-free, making it a preferred global superfood.

Chickpea is a staple in Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and Indian cuisines—and growing in popularity in the United States.

India tops the list of countries producing the most chickpeas, followed by Australia and Turkey, according to the USDA's Economic Research Service. The United States has doubled its chickpea imports over the last decade to a record \$69 million, according to a 2022 report. Canada supplies most of the U.S. chickpea imports.

Production in the United States mainly occurs in Montana, Oregon, Wyoming, Washington, Idaho and North Dakota, which is about 1% of the world's production. The crop's increasing demand in the U.S. among consumers sparked interest for the S.C. Department of Agriculture to explore the market potential of chick-peas for the state's small-scale producers and growers. The agency invited

SC State 1890 to submit a competitive grant to investigate the possibility of growing chickpeas in South Carolina.

The state invested in the project, "Examining the Growth and Yields of Chickpeas as a Specialty Crop in South Carolina," with a \$100,000 grant award. As part of the outcomes, researchers hope the project will reveal potential growth and yield of two chickpea varieties (Kabuli and



The SC Department of Agriculture awarded SC State PSA \$100,000 to conduct the pilot study, "Examining the Growth and Yields of Chickpeas as a Specialty Crop in South Carolina."



Dr. Lamin Drammeh, associate vice president of SC State PSA; Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Yochitl Torres Small; and Nana Kusi examine the chickpea crop during Small's visit to the SC State 1890 Research & Demonstration Farm in Olar.

The first trial was in spring 2023. Using a randomized complete block design set up in a split-split plot, the research team sowed approximately one acre of the two varieties (Kabuli and Desi), to take advantage of the crop's preference for cold weather. Chickpea variety was the main plot, planting date was the split plot and seeding rate was the split-split plot. Dr. Kusi indicated that the planting season was cool and produced rainfall that was advantageous for the crop's growth. However, he encountered several challenges such as, the July temperatures in South Carolina (around 90 degrees F), the heat destroyed most of the pods; deer consumed some of the crop and a corn ear worm infestation also occurred.

"That was a learning curve for the team. It gave us an idea of changing the timing of planting," said Kusi.

With this information in mind, the team planted seeds for the next trial in September of the same year. The Kabuli variety was unsuccessful and succumbed to colder temperatures in the winter, but the Desi variety survived the frost in December 2023 and in January 2024. Planting earlier meant the crop would yield before the summer heat could scorch the pods. Electrical fencing was installed around the field as a deer control method. The crop escaped an infestation of corn ear worm, as corn had not yet been planted on the research and demonstration farm for the season.

Desi); help develop a chickpea maintenance and post-harvesting strategy; and lead to the preparation of a chickpea production manual specific to South Carolina.

Dr. Nana Kusi, Research and Extension Agronomist, oversees the project as director and Tillman Ancrum serves as his research assistant. The project also provides research learning opportunities for SC State students, who are actively involved from land preparation to planting, data collection and field management. The study is being conducted on an acre of land at the 200-acre SC State 1890 research and demonstration farm in Olar, South Carolina.

Continued on page 6

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



HUGH E. WEATHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

A DRY EARLY SUMMER

On July 9, the S.C. Drought Response committee declared what a lot of farmers already knew: South Carolina is in a drought.

The committee upgraded the drought designation for all 46 counties in South Carolina, putting 10 counties in the incipient drought category, 21 counties in moderate, and 15 counties in severe drought.

Corn in particular is hurting, especially the unirrigated acres. The areas of the state where we grow the most corn—the Pee Dee, Orangeburg County, and the Lowcountry—have definitely seen these effects, from early tasseling to corn that is burned up and unlikely to recover. I will drive two-lane roads when time permits, mainly to avoid the interstate but also to assess the crops, and it's disheartening to see corn suffering like it is.

As for pasture, that's also in poor shape, with some farmers already feeding stored hay to cattle. Farmers who irrigate their fields have been running their irrigation systems most of the time, which is putting pressure on the aquifers and ponds. The drought has also delayed soybean planting.

Of course, some crops don't mind the dry weather. We've heard some reports that peaches

are doing pretty well, as too much rain can make the fruit bland and watery.

By the time this issue of *Market Bulletin* is published, let's hope things could be looking up. We've already had rain in some areas. I fear irreparable damage has been done to the corn crop, but some regular soaking rain might be enough to stave off further harm. I'll continue to pray for that.

In the meantime, you can do your part to help report on conditions where you live and farm. Each week, the South Carolina State Climate Office provides input to the United States Drought Monitor and helps to make the weekly US drought map as accurate as possible. Agricultural reports are a key part of that, as agriculture often shows the earliest effects of drought. Accurate reports are essential to disaster declaration and government assistance, so we know it's important to pass along information.

To report drought conditions, you can visit our website, agriculture.sc.gov, and click on the Drought Reporting button near the bottom to submit information online to the Drought Monitor. You can also keep your Extension agent posted on conditions, or let our office know.

Hugh E. Weathers

UPCOMING EVENTS

Horse Adventures For Kids

July 21 & 28 • 8 or 9 am

Our horse experience gives kids the opportunity to learn about the responsibilities of horse care, how to keep a horse, be safe around horses, and life on a farm. It also provides an introduction to how to ride and handle horses. Learning horsemanship and horse care leads to responsible ownership of pets while building character traits such as compassion, respect and teamwork. All horse lovers ages 6 to 15 are welcome. No prior horse experience is necessary. Horse Buddy activities include Horse Grooming, Horse Care instruction, Feeding Horses, Tack Instruction, Horse shoe or T-Shirt, Horseback riding lesson or a Guided Lead line horseback ride. Cost: \$120.00 per child, Cash, Zelle or Check, paid the day of the class. Please send in your form (link below) with the Sunday date you want and we will contact you. Families with kids of various ages may participate together. Holiday dates may be scheduled to accommodate kids who are out of school. We can also do this as a Small Group Birthday Party, maximum 6 children.

Eden Wind Farm

3038 Edenvale Road, Johns Island

Contact: Denise

edenwindfarm@aol.com • 843-729-2211

edenwind.com

docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPOwiVMO2N5kPDx1MCbVT8Oenhjugs0UuYjnqtSjdZCB6qQ/viewform

Farm Tour

July 25 • 2 - 3 pm

Tours of Mushroom Mountain include an introduction to fungal ecology and life cycles, laboratory overview, tour of the greenhouse fruiting room, and if there is anything fruiting on the trail, you will get to experience it. Many aspects of mushrooms, including medicinal properties, cooking, and mycoremediation to soil creation, will be discussed along the way! While we love animals, we ask that you DO NOT bring your four legged friends unless they are a certified service or companion animal. We have very limited space inside our facility and ask that you be considerate of this and of other tour attendees who may be allergic.

Mushroom Mountain

200 Finley Road, Easley

Contact: Lizza

864-859-3080

mushroommountain.com/events

Clemson 2024 Corn and Soybean Field Day

July 25 • 8:30 am

Topics covered include double cropping corn and soybeans, corn and soybean nematodes and foliar diseases, insect management, weed management, an on-farm assessment of broiler litter in corn, and irrigation economics. The field day wraps up with lunch.

Edisto Research and Education Center

64 Research Road, Blackville

Contact: Michael Plumble

mplumbl@clemson.edu

Tropical Pitcher Plants: Highland vs. Lowland

July 27 • 9 am - 12 pm

In this class, participants will learn the basics of plant care for Tropical Pitcher Plants, genus *Nepenthes*, focusing on both Highland and Lowland species. Participants will get the opportunity to mix substrates for optimal plant growth and take home their very own plant.

Moore Farms Botanical Garden

100 New Zion Road, Lake City

info@moorefarmsbg.org • 843-210-7582

moorefarmsbg.org

facebook.com/moorefarmsbg

Tickets: eventbrite.com/e/828860422837/preview/

SC Agricultural Council August Meeting

August 8 • 11:30 am - 1 pm

The Census of Agriculture is a census conducted every five years. Jacqueline Moore, SC State Statistician, from USDA NASS will highlight South Carolina agriculture data and trends found in the recent Census of Agriculture released in February 2024. This briefing will include discussions on the history of the census, number of farms, land in farms, economic data, demographic information, and more. \$20 and includes catered lunch.

Farm Bureau Insurance

724 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce

Contact: Steve Slice

scagriculturalcouncil@gmail.com • 803-360-2845

facebook.com/scagcouncil

Classes & Workshops

Schedule a cheese making class or attend a workshop at Jeremiah Farm. Workshops include 'Soap it Up' and 'Goat Keeping 101'.

Jeremiah Farm & Goat Dairy

Platt Road, Johns Island

jeremiahfarmsc@aol.com • 843-276-3115

jeremiahfarm.com/wp/472-2

Market Bulletin Office

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Hemp Farming Program

803-734-8339

Consumer Protection

803-737-9700

Livestock & Grain
Market News

803-737-4491

Fruit & Vegetable Inspection

803-737-4588

Market News Recording

803-737-5900

Fruit & Vegetable
Market News

803-737-4671

Metrology Laboratory

803-253-4052

The South Carolina Market Bulletin

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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 x 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

JULY 23 • 12:00 PM

SCDA State Farmers Markets

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FARMERS MARKET

3483 Charleston Highway
West Columbia, SC 29172
803-737-4664

GREENVILLE STATE FARMERS MARKET

1354 Rutherford Road
Greenville, SC 29609
864-244-4023

PEE DEE STATE FARMERS MARKET

2513 W. Lucas Street
Florence, SC 29501
843-665-5154

VISIT AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV

Click on the State Farmers Markets
button for more information about
each location

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To subscribe with a credit card online, visit agriculture.sc.gov, click on Market Bulletin, select Subscribe to the Market Bulletin, then follow the prompts.
Do not send cash in the mail. Non-refundable. Allow 6 - 8 weeks for processing. Subscriptions may only be purchased for up to 2 years.

Name _____ Paper: \$15 / 1 year Electronic: \$10 / 1 year
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F A R M L A B O R

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

FORESTRY MULCHING

land clearing, wildlife mgmt, ditches, grading, pond digging
Jay Lowder
Clarendon
803-473-0646

WILDLIFE MGMT

nest raiders, coyotes, beaver, hogs, Aiken & surrounding cos
Joe Leonard
Aiken
803-507-4940

LIME SPREADING

specialize in TN, call for prices
Drake Kinley
Anderson
864-353-9628

EXCAVATOR MOWING

landscaping, grading, clearing/brush clean up, drains, sprinklers, sod, etc, all surrounding cos
Derek Drafts
Saluda
803-429-3291

HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS

by ground & drone, aerial seeding, licensed & insured, Ag, forestry & aquatic certified
Joel Cox
Spartanburg
864-706-1495

PASTURE MGMT SERV

spray weeds, treat fire ants, fert & lime, plant pastures, Fescue, Ryegrass, Bermuda, Bahia
Kenny Mullis
Richland
803-331-6612

FORESTRY MULCHING

& mini X brush cutting up to 8" clearing/dozer/Deere work, pond maint, bldg pads, etc
Phillip Hutchins
Lexington
803-422-1329

LAWN CUTTING

leaf blowing, edging, trimming, planting, Kershaw & Lancaster cos, call/text
Michael Shelton
Kershaw
864-457-6813

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

land clearing, ditching, ponds, roads, trackhoe bush hog, bldg pads
Fred Morris
Florence
843-621-8647

HAY HAULING

your location to POD, call for est; also fence installed, per your specs, both statewide
Bruce Thomas
Dorchester
843-636-1699

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

MOBILE SAWMILLING

up to 30" dia & 21'L, drop off up to 52" dia & 16'L
John Smith
Pickens
864-982-2249

LIGHT TRACTOR WORK

incl bush hogging, discing, cut up & removal of downed trees, light landscaping
John Tanner
Lexington
803-422-4714

F A R M L A N D

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 TO LEASE PASTURE

for Ang cows or hay fields to cut & bale
Britton Mccarter
York
704-913-6083

74.8A CALHOUN CO

wooded, 3 creeks w/ culverts, exc hunting, sites for home/pond, map#
044-00-00-016, \$7250/A
Rodney Saylor
Calhoun
803-260-4153

WANT LAND TO LEASE

for turkey hunting, have equip to help w/road repair or exchange for hunting
Ray Sealey
Darlington
843-409-1717

50A CLARENDON CO

E of Manning, off Hwy 261, timber, 2 ponds, used for hunting, \$250,000
David Baynard
Clarendon
803-460-7964

F R E S H P R O D U C E

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

PECANS

shelled & ready to eat, \$12/lb, cracked \$4/lb, p-up in Newberry or Irmo
Russell Shealy
Newberry
803-944-7316

FRESH BLUEBERRIES

\$15/gal bag
Darnell Miller
Aiken
803-507-1926

FARM CHICKEN EGGS

\$3/dz
Ron Handley
Georgetown
843-896-0829

FRESH FIGS

\$12/gal bag
Deborah Worth
Aiken
803-605-4644

G A R D E N

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

BLUEBERRY BUSHES

3/\$20; Blkberry plants, 3/\$25; Figs, Pomegranate, Elderberry plants, \$20
FC Noles
Barnwell
803-383-4066

MUSCADINE PLANTS

purple, lrg fruit & hvy bearing, \$5 ea or 5 for \$20
Brian Gray
Greenville
864-908-9777

If you're having problems with the delivery of your Market Bulletin, contact the U.S. Postal Service at usps.com/help/contact-us.htm or 1-800-275-8777

G O A T S / L L A M A S / S H E E P

F KIKO GOATS

B-2/'24, \$225 ea
George Phillips
Williamsburg
843-992-1964

MINI NUBIAN BUCKLING

22 w/o, \$50
Ron Handley
Georgetown
849-389-6082

YNG BOER/BRIAR BILLIES

5-6 m/o, red & wht mixed, \$100 ea
Ken Evans
Lee
803-464-1370

2 KATAHDIN RAMS

B-6/23, gentle, proven breeder, \$300; B-2/24, \$250; both hand raised
Tammy Hodge
Sumter
803-983-5041

2 F PYGMY GOATS

9 m/o, both w/waddles, \$100 ea, phot avail; 6 m/o
Pygmy billy, \$75
Barry Mauldin
Edgefield
803-606-6579

PB NUBIAN DOE KID

B-4/15, doe disbudded, exc milk line, photo avail by txt, \$350
B McColley
Orangeburg
864-494-7643

BOER & 1/2 MILK GOATS CROSSED

nanny & billies, \$100-200 ea
Philip Poole
Union
864-427-1589

PIGLETS

Kunekune Duroc mix, B-4/17, uncut intact M, \$50; F, \$60, call or text
Paige Hicks
Aiken
803-645-3933

6 YORKSHIRE PIGLETS

\$65 ea
George Phillips
Williamsburg
843-992-1964

6 W/O+ PIGLETS

FB Berkshire & Berkshire/Yorkshire cross, \$150 ea
J Painter
Spartanburg
864-641-9855

H O G S / P I G S

13 W/O PIGLETS

7/8 Kunekune 1/8 AGH, \$85 ea; 2 proven sows, 3/4 Kunekune 1/4 IGH, \$200
Eric Miller
Greenville
864-684-2260

1 Y/O HRFRD BOAR

proven & 2 sows, each farrowed once, gentle, easy keepers, \$500 for all
Randy Epting
Newberry
803-920-8682

HAMPSHIRE BOAR

proven breeder, \$225; BBQ sized hogs, Hamp/Duroc/Yorkshire, \$100 ea
Robert Turner
Orangeburg
803-596-6463

4 PB HRFRD PIGS

gilts, B-7/23, raised on raw cow milk, ready for breeding, \$300 ea
Athena Irland
Berkeley
843-697-3631

H A Y & G R A I N

'24 HQ SQ CB

\$8 ea, del avail
Austin Wood
Anderson
864-993-5012

ALFALFA HAY

locally grown, sm sq bales, \$12 ea
Kemp Wilson
Chester
803-209-0348

'24 HQ CB

\$8/sq; 5x6, 1400 lb rnd, net wrap, \$90/bale
Kevin Yon
Saluda
803-622-4140

WHEAT & TRITICAL STRAW

5x6 rnd, wrapped, 1200 lb, \$55/bale; Bermuda/Mix, 5x6 rnd, 1400 lb, \$70 ea
Sally Harrison
Saluda
803-312-4837

'24 HQ CB

sq, \$9
Bill Martin
Anderson
864-314-3570

SQ HQ

in barn, hvy bales, no litter used, \$8.50; 4x5 rnd CQ, net wrap, 14 left from '23, \$35
George Mccoy
Chesterfield
843-307-8866

'24 HQ SQ CB

shed kept, \$7.50 ea, will del for addl fee
Nathan Oswald
Lexington
803-317-3090

'23 RND CQ COASTAL

stored outside, \$40-50/bale
Allen Ricard
Lexington
803-960-5773

'24 MIXED GRASS

4x5 rnd, fert, no weeds, \$50/bale, can del for addl fee
Quinton Whitener
Union
803-923-2036

'24 SQ FESCUE

horse, NR, in barn, \$7 ea; goat hay, \$6 ea
Jerry Butler
Laurens
864-697-6343

SQ STRAW BALES

\$4; Oats, \$40; Wheat, \$60; both in your 55 gal drum
Jeffrey Gilmore
Chesterfield
843-517-0315

'24 FESCUE/MIXED GRASS

GQ, barn stored, some w/ no herbicides applied, 4x5 net wrap, \$50/roll
Justin Howe
Newberry
803-944-1065

'24 RND BALES 4x5 CB

NR, barn stored, \$70/bale
Mike Cousins
Newberry
803-924-7539

GOOD CLEAN FESCUE

4x5 tight rnd bales, wrapped, \$38/bale, in field, we load, you haul
John C Tribble
Anderson
864-958-1645

'24 RND COASTAL

shed kept, fert & limed, \$70/HQ, \$65/CQ, del avail
Eddie Phillips
Sumter
803-486-0081

'24 HQ 4x5 RND

barn kept, \$80/bale; CQ, net wrap, tight bales, \$55, will del for fee
Tyler Sanderlin
Barnwell
803-709-2626

4x5 WHEAT STRAW

net wrap, \$40 ea
Richard Knight
Kershaw
803-427-6440

1ST CUTTING FESCUE

4x5 net wrap, \$40, bulk disc, del avail, call for more info
Jacob Cathcart
Fairfield
803-603-7322

HQ FESCUE

lrg 5'x4' bales, tight wrap, barn stored, \$45, call/text to schedule loading
Carol Ann Burns
Laurens
864-923-6160

CB

\$70; HQ, \$65, both 4x5 & net wrap; sq \$8/bale, all barn kept
Howard McCartha
Lexington
803-312-3316

RND BALES

\$65/shed kept, \$60/outside
Bobby Zimmerman
Lexington
803-317-8681

'23 4x5 OATS HAY

net wrap, shed kept, \$60/bale
Sam Rikard
Lexington
803-892-2630

'24 HQ BERMUDA

4x5, net wrap, shed kept, NR, \$70; HQ sq, \$8.50
Tom Fink
Lexington
803-622-4678

'24 RND HQ CB

net wrap, in shed, \$70/bale, in field, \$60/bale
David Fulmer
Orangeburg
803-917-0467

'24 SQ HQ FESCUE

fert, NR, in barn, \$6
Don Hall
Greenville
864-593-3938

'24 FESCUE

4x5 rnd, \$42/bale or \$47/bale to del
Suzanne Reed
Anderson
864-293-0363

'23 HQ 4x5 CB

string wrap, stored under cover, 15 bales, \$50 ea
Michael Roberson
Barnwell
803-266-3757

ALFALFA

\$12.50/sq; 4x5 rolls, \$100; Orchard/alfalfa mix, sq, \$10.50
Jackie Rogers
Spartanburg
864-381-5971

'24 MIXED GRASS

\$45; '24 Fescue, \$40; both net wrap
Charles Nichols
Saluda
864-992-9292

4x5 CB

\$70; CQ CB, \$50; sq CB, \$9; sq Rye straw, \$6/bale, shed kept
Larry McCartha
Lexington
803-606-2499

BEWARE OF POTENTIAL HAY SCAMS!

Farmers are urged to be cautious when selling hay to new clients, especially those from out of state. If possible, verify the check before sending the hay. Speak to the buyer in person to verify all information.

MISCELLANEOUS

TROY BILT SP MWR

EC \$200; yard vacuum, EC, \$185; irrig hose, \$75
George Schwab
York
803-493-8021

DRUMS

55 gal FG metal, \$20 ea;
55 gal plastic open, \$25 ea;
30-55 gal solid, \$15-20 ea;
275 gal FG port tow tank,
\$50-60 ea
P Poole
Union
864-427-1589

GARDEN TRACTOR

Cub Cadet 1450, 14 hp
Kohler, hydro trans, hyd
lift, spare frame, tire, mwr
frame, \$450 obo
Ralph Taylor
Chester
803-789-5110

1½ HP TUNNEL FAN MOTORS

used, GWC, \$50 ea; boiler
house heating brooders,
GC, \$40 ea
Michael Wise
Newberry
803-271-4215

TIN

\$3; wooden fence post,
6x6's, \$5 ea
Smittie Smith
Pickens
864-561-5534

1H DR BUGGY

folding top, rubber on
wheels, EC, \$2300
Harry Isbell
Anderson
864-617-2627

5 GAL BUCKETS W/LIDS

\$1.85; wooden pallets, for hay
storage, etc, \$1/reg; \$2.50/HD
F Rowe
Newberry
803-271-7768

4' TUBE GATE

\$45; 7x¾ chain hook one
end, \$20
Russell Goings
Union
864-426-2309

FRUIT/VEG WASH LINE

4 pcs, by TEW mfg, used
little, \$5000
Carey Wilson
Anderson
864-437-9297

SNAPPER ZERO TURN MWR

48" cut, Briggs eng, \$2500
Terry Blakely
Greenville
864-483-1920

HOLE DIGGER

gas, w/8" & 10" augers, all
items nvr used, \$365 cash only
Randy Orr
Anderson
864-295-3736

TOP SOIL/FILL DIRT

\$2/yd
R Adams
Darlington
843-393-7280

G107D GRILLO

walk behind tractor w/tiller
attach, 4 fow, 1 rev, top spd
8 mph, \$1975 obo
John Mahon
Chesterfield
843-910-7352

OEM JD EXHAUST

vertical pipe assembly for
5055D, EC, \$150
David Grooms
Dorchester
843-345-5608

CEDAR LUMBER

1"x6", \$1.50/ft; Cedar posts,
5'-10'L, \$2/ft; util poles,
6'-30'L, \$2-5/ft
James Burns
Laurens
864-918-6308

3 OLD TUBS

exc for water troughs, \$65 ea
Sam Rikard
Lexington
803-892-2630

2 FIRESTONE TIRES

14.9x28", 95%, \$350 ea;
14.9x24" tire, 50%, \$200
Debbie Wade
Chester
803-581-5050

DRY ROUGH CUT PINE

Oak boards, all sizes, Pine,
\$2/bdft; Oak, \$4/bdft
Joel Grubb
Calhoun
803-351-0144

5 HP ELEC MOTOR

new, bought for grain auger,
nvr used, \$750
Charles Nichols
Saluda
864-445-8350

PEACH BASKETS

\$2 ea; plastic barrels, \$10
ea; 2h wagon w/steel whls,
\$500; more
Gary Seay
Spartanburg
864-578-8214

CEDAR

7' rnd posts, \$3 ea; poles,
8'/\$6, 10'/\$8; sq fence post,
4x4x8', \$8; lumber, \$3/bdft;
mulch, \$50/p-up load
Andy Morris
Newberry
803-924-0433

4 MIRAFOUNT AUTO WATERERS

2 hole, 20 gal, \$550 ea; HD
hay ring, \$75; 10' feed trough,
\$75; gates, \$50-75; more
Clyde Smith
Saluda
803-480-1093

RND CEDAR POSTS

cut to var sizes, 4-10" dia,
6-12' L, \$6-12 ea, depend on
size; cut 4x4, \$2/bdft
Douglass Britt
McCormick
864-391-3334

JD A & B PARTS

block, heads, pulley,
pistons, etc, photos avail,
\$125 obo for all, cash
Carroll Shealy
Laurens
864-872-4184

OLD COMP FARM BELL

old, #3, \$350; xl farm bell,
w/wheel, comp, \$1200; #20
hash pots, \$200 ea; #15,
\$150; more
Perry Masters
Greenville
864-561-4792

OLD ANVIL

95 lbs, \$150; lrg farm bell, \$250
Joe Culbertson
Greenwood
864-229-5254

JD LT160 42" MWR

& bagger, EC, \$975; DR
Trimmer H/D, 17 hp,
Kawasaki FH 500V, 30" cut,
LT 100 hrs, \$2100; both obo
Robert Joyner
Lexington
803-231-8958

PLANTS & FLOWERS

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

AZALEAS

Gardenia, Boxwoods, \$6; Tea
Olives, \$8; Crepe Myrtles &
Hydrangeas, Canna Lilies,
\$20; Mulberry trees, \$30
FC Noles
Barnwell
803-383-4066

MONKEY GRASS

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

RABBITS

REX

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

LA COTTONTAILS

crossed on MS cane cutter,
\$12 ea
Danny Cook
Newberry
803-924-6953

FLEMISH GIANTS

snow type, \$25 ea
Joe Culbertson
Greenwood
864-229-5254

SEED

ADS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY
A CURRENT SEED LAB TEST.

SOYBEANS

cleaned & bagged,
P-99.96%, G-98%, D/HD
SD&G-98%, IM-0.04%,
\$20/50 lb bag
Kevin Anderson
Barnwell
803-259-6888

POULTRY

SWEATER COCK

6 y/o, \$125; 2 y/o Sweater/
Kelso cock, \$100; Sweater
hen, \$25; 4 m/o ¾ Kelso ¼
Sweater stag, \$30
Russell Goings
Union
864-426-2309

BOBWHITE QUAIL

1-3 w/o, \$2; 6 m/o, \$5;
Bobwhite eggs, \$6/dz
Lee Erbe
Calhoun
843-789-9645

BALD HEAD ROLLER PIGEONS

\$10; Fantail pigeons, \$12;
King pigeons, \$15; Pharaoh
quail, \$2-5
Randy Stone
Florence
843-621-5641

GAME CHICKENS

grays, blues & muggs, \$100/
cock, \$75/stag, \$50/hen
Jimmy Corbett
Aiken
803-646-3589

GUINEAS

grown, \$20 ea; yng, \$7+;
hatching eggs, \$8/15 eggs;
Cochin bantam, Barred Rock,
more, \$20/hen, \$15/roo
Philip Poole
Union
864-427-1589

BANTAMS

Guineas, Jungle fowl, \$7-15
ea; 4 m/o hens, RIR, Barred
Rock, Buff Orpington,
Golden Comet, \$12 ea
Joe Culbertson
Greenwood
864-229-5254

HOMER PIGEONS

wht yng, \$5; mated prs, \$20;
mixed colors, \$5+
Smittie Smith
Pickens
864-561-5534

LRG HUBBLE PIGEONS

breed is raised commercially
for squab production, solid
wht, \$15+
R Adams
Darlington
843-393-7280

SEX LINKS

Blk Copper Marans, lavender
Orpingtons, Brahmas &
Cochins, jumbo Coturnix &
Bob Whites, \$3-5 ea
Brian Motley
Kershaw
803-315-7598

TOULOUSE GEESE

proven prs, \$100; Wht King
pigeons, \$30/pr
Benson Ray
Georgetown
843-933-5367

DIAMOND DOVES

\$15 ea
Moscovia Faulk
Sumter
803-494-8499

9 ISA LAYING HENS

12-18 m/o, \$75 for all
Rena Harris
York
985-860-5276

COTURNIX QUAIL

9-11 w/o, \$3/roo, \$5/hen, \$8/pr
Rendell Campbell
Lexington
803-315-5290

SARAMA BANTAMS

var sizes, Worlds smallest
bantam, \$15-20 ea, disc if
all taken
Keith Gibbons
Clarendon
843-372-2472

SILVER

wht tailed Diamond Doves,
\$50 ea
James Malphrus
Dorchester
843-821-8172

PEACOCKS

mature breeders, Indian Blue,
sold in prs, 1M/1F, \$400/pr
Tammy Hodge
Sumter
803-983-5041

BUFF ORPINGTON PULLETS

8+ w/o, \$10 ea; wht Leghorn
bantams, \$40/pr; misc
Bantams, \$5+
Marc Renwick
Newberry
803-271-8691

15 W/O PULLETS

3 Cuckoo Marans, 5 Blk
Australorps, \$15 ea, or take
all for \$100
Kirk Kessler
Lee
803-459-3801

PEACHICKS

\$75+; quail chicks, \$3+
Ernie Redmond
Orangeburg
803-535-8038

WANT - FARM EQUIPMENT

LAKELAND SPIN TRIM CHUTE

for sheep, pull-up sheep
sorter gates
Rebekah Olson
York
803-351-4994

USABLE TRACTOR TIRES

18.4.34 for MF 285
Edwin Alexander
Laurens
864-923-5637

Z TRACTOR TIRES

16.9x28 or wider
Thurmond Blackwell
Darlington
843-332-2670

WANT - LIVESTOCK

EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.

CHICKENS

peacocks, turkeys, ducks,
geese, guineas
Joe Culbertson
Greenwood
864-229-5254

BEEF CATTLE

any age or size
Kenneth Satterfield
Laurens
864-304-3172

4 F GUINEAS

Robert Wilson
Greenville
864-233-2769

WANT - MISCELLANEOUS

ANY SIZE WASH POTS

syrup kettle, anvils, lrg coffee
grinder, old lighting rod w/
balls & weathervane, more
Perry Masters
Greenville
864-561-4792

HORSE WAGON

w/orig wood spoke whls,
1 or 2 horse
Harry Isbell
Anderson
864-172-2627

PULPWOOD SAW TIMBER

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

SPOKED RIM

for older model AC Easy
Flow, 15" or 14" in GC
Talmadge Luker
Greenwood
894-941-1703

1 OR 2 FENDERS

for Ford 4000, must fit over
38" tires
William Peake
Richland
803-331-7337

ELEC FUEL PUMP

for 500 gal dsl tank
Charles Nichols
Saluda
864-992-2753

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USDA TO BEGIN ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR EXPANDED EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO HELP DAIRY PRODUCERS OFFSET MILK LOSS DUE TO H5N1

CONFIRMED H5N1 POSITIVE TEST RESULTS REQUIRED FOR RECOVERY ASSISTANCE

BY USDA

WASHINGTON, June 27, 2024 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will begin accepting applications starting on Monday, July 1 through its updated Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP) to provide financial assistance to eligible dairy producers who incur milk losses due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, also known as H5N1 infection in their dairy herds. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) expanded ELAP through the rule-making process to assist with a portion of financial losses resulting from reduced milk production when cattle are removed from commercial milking in dairy herds having a confirmed positive H5N1 test. Positive test results must be confirmed through the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL).

“USDA remains committed to working with producers, state veterinarians, animal health professionals, and our federal partners as we continue to detect the presence of H5N1 in dairy herds and take additional measures to contain the spread of the disease,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. “When something unexpected, like H5N1, threatens the economic viability of the producers we serve, we are committed to finding ways, where we have the authority to do so, to revisit existing program policies and provide the financial support needed to help producers recover and sustain production.”

ELAP provides emergency relief to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish to assist with losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, such as wildfires, that are not covered by other FSA disaster assistance programs.

H5N1 infections have been detected in 12 states including Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas and Wyoming. Dairy producers in all states are reminded to stay vigilant and follow established APHIS biosecurity, detection and testing guidelines. In addition to testing, enhanced biosecurity is critical to containing this virus. USDA works closely with state animal health

official, producers, and industry organizations to provide guidance and resources for cleaning and disinfection not only on affected farms but for all livestock producers as a part of practicing good biosecurity. APHIS has made available a number of biosecurity documents on its landing page.

ELAP ELIGIBILITY

Eligible adult dairy cattle must be:

- Part of a herd that has a confirmed positive H5N1 test from NVSL;
- Initially removed from commercial milk production at some point during the 14-day time period before the sample collection date for the positive H5N1 test date through 120 days after the sample collection date for the positive H5N1 test;
- Milk-producing, currently lactating; and
- Maintained for commercial milk production, in which the producer has a financial risk, on the beginning date of the eligible loss condition.

APPLYING FOR ELAP ASSISTANCE

To apply, producers need to submit the following to FSA:

- Proof of herd infection through a confirmed positive H5N1 test (based on USDA's APHIS H5N1 case definition) on individual animal or bulk tank samples confirmed by NVSL;
- A notice of loss indicating the date when the loss is apparent, which is the sample collection date for the positive H5N1 test; and
- An application for payment certifying the number of eligible adult dairy cows, the month the cows were removed from production, and the producer's share in the milk production.

The final date to file a notice of loss and application for payment for eligible losses is 30 days after the end of the prior calendar year, which is January 30.

CALCULATING ELAP PAYMENTS

The per cow milk loss payment due to H5N1 will be determined based on an expected 21-day period of

no milk production when a cow is removed from the milking herd, followed by seven days when the cow has returned to milking but produces 50% of the normal amount of production.

ELAP payments are determined using a per head payment rate calculated based on the monthly all-milk price and national milk production published by the National Agricultural Statistics Service and a standard number of days with reduced or no production — (per head payment rate x number of eligible adult dairy cows x producer's share in milk production x 90%)

To apply, producers should contact the FSA at their local USDA Service Center.

MORE INFORMATION

Details on updated ELAP policy to provide financial assistance for milk loss due H5N1 will publish in the Federal Register (PDF, 279 KB) on Monday, July 1.

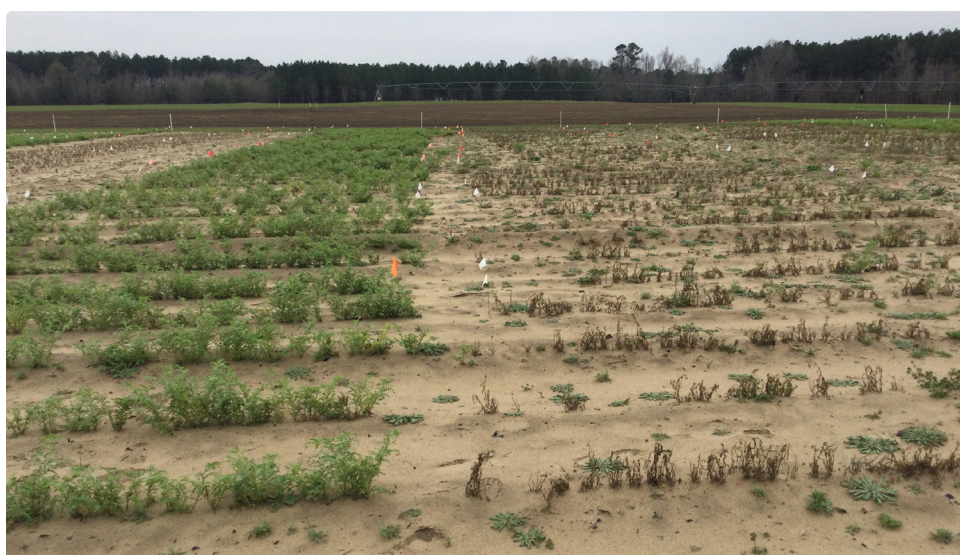
USDA continues to work with the Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and State veterinary and public health officials to investigate H5N1 among cattle. APHIS continues to provide confirmatory testing for samples from livestock as well as guidance for producers, veterinarians, and state animal health officials. Learn more at APHIS' Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Detections in Livestock webpage.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit [usda.gov](https://www.usda.gov).

CHICKPEAS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

For the future, Dr. Kusi and team are exploring other funding opportunities to scale the project. He speculates the Desi chickpea variety has the potential to be used in regenerative agriculture as a fall cover crop due to its biomass and nitrogen-fixing capability. This will help improve resilience to climate variability. Further, Desi chickpea variety can be used as a forage legume due to its nutritional quality and crude fiber (about 22%) as indicated from our tissue analysis results. Kusi further contemplates the future of chickpea as a contender for the state's large peanut industry, which generated \$73 million in 2022.

“When you diversify the crops that you are producing, you produce more benefits for agriculture. When you keep growing the same crops over and over, you're going to deplete your



Desi chickpea (survived the December 2023 and January 2024 frost) and Kabuli chickpea (died as a result of frost).

nutrients for that crop within the soil. For example, chickpea as a fall legume can help increase yields of succession crops with little to no nitrogen fertilizer. Like what peanuts have done for South Carolina's economy, chickpea could eventually compete with peanuts as the preferred legume,” said Kusi.

In April 2024, the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Xochitl Torres Small visited the ongoing chickpea research at the SC State 1890 re-research and demonstration farm and was impressed. Kusi and his team have disseminated preliminary findings to targeted audiences through conferences and workshops. The research has also received attention from other interest groups in the agricultural sector.

While more research is required to better understand the potential impact of chickpeas on South Carolina agriculture, its potential as an emerging crop could produce countless economic benefits to small-scale farmers through diversifying their crops with value-added crops, expanding markets for these producers and growers, and ultimately increasing profits.

DROUGHT STATUS UPGRADED FOR ALL OF SOUTH CAROLINA AMID HOT, DRY START TO SUMMER

BY SCDNR

July 9, 2024 — All of South Carolina has been upgraded to some level of drought as the effects of recent hot and dry conditions are being felt throughout the state.

The S.C. Drought Response Committee, during its meeting via conference call July 9, upgraded the drought designation for all 46 counties, which had previously been normal—or no drought. The committee upgraded 10 counties to incipient, 21 counties to moderate, and 15 counties to severe drought (see map).

Impacts to crops and livestock producers, rapidly declining streamflows and an elevated number of wildfires helped drive the decision.

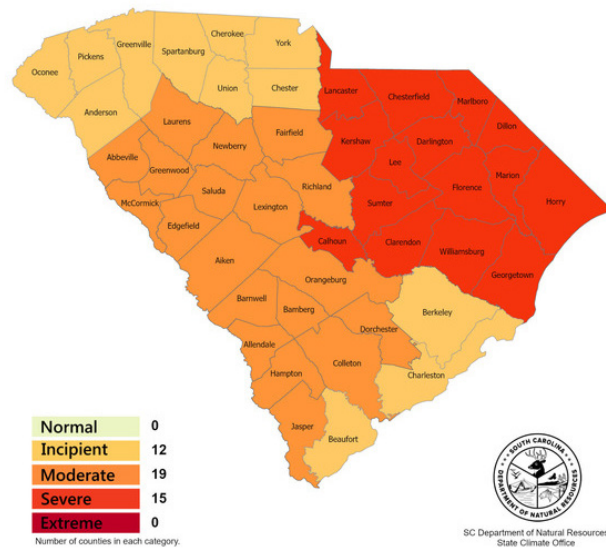
The three-level increase for those 15 counties—from no drought to severe—is unprecedented, State Climatologist Hope Mizzell said. The committee tries to avoid even a two-level increase, but for the counties that were upgraded to severe, there was strong support across multiple indicators.

“The weather hasn’t exactly followed the rules over the last month,” Mizzell said. “We experienced a wet winter, a relatively wet spring and then June hit: The rain stopped, and the thermostat soared.”

Since early June, many locations received less than 2.5 inches of rain (25 percent of normal), combined with temperatures ranking in the top 10 warmest on record in South Carolina for the month. There were multiple reports of 100-degree temperatures, with a maximum of 106 degrees at the University of South Carolina station on June 25. Not only were the daytime temperatures elevated, the night-time lows registered much higher than normal. There may have been less convergence of the indicators for the counties upgraded to incipient and moderate drought, but the flash drought is taking its toll statewide. There are “hot spots” of severe drought in counties statewide.

Joe Ghent, Lancaster Conservation District chair and drought committee member representing the Pee Dee, stressed the importance of upgrading the drought to severe based on information he received from farmers, agricultural entities and conservation districts across the area. He said most early planted corn has already been lost due to drought, corn planted later is stressed, soybean planting is delayed, and cattle producers are feeding hay because summer grass production has stopped.

Drought Status: 07-09-2024



The U.S. Farm Service Agency in South Carolina confirmed the drought has severely impacted the corn crop, with many counties looking at greater than 50 percent yield loss. The lack of beneficial rain for the past several weeks has compounded the issue, leaving fields dry and unproductive, said Farm Programs Chief Linda Williams.

If many areas do not receive rainfall within the next few weeks, the 2024 cotton, soybean, and peanut crops will also be negatively affected, she said.

Livestock producers are facing similar challenges. Due to deteriorating pasture conditions, many have resorted to feeding hay as early as the end of June and are concerned about having enough hay

to get through the winter months. Some producers have been selling overstock to reduce feeding cost.

Yvonne Kling, Aiken Soil and Water Conservation District chair and a drought committee member representing the western part of the state, pointed out that even though some areas are receiving heavy downpours, the excessive rainfall in a short period of time can also be damaging to producers.

Another factor in the committee’s decision to upgrade was the increase in wildfire activity.

From June 1 – July 7, the S.C. Forestry Commission responded to more than 200 wildfires that burned more than 1,200 acres. These numbers represent fire occurrence 77 percent higher than the state’s 10-year average, and the acres burned was 214 percent above our 10-year average.

The high number of fires and much higher acreage burned in these fires is due to dry and hot conditions that have led to rapid evaporation of moisture in forest fuels and the soil.

Joe Koon, director of water resources with the Department of Environmental Services, reported that currently some systems have implemented proactive measures to alleviate and avoid supply issues. “SCDES will continue to communicate with drinking water systems on any supply issues that arise during these flash drought conditions,” Koon said.

Due to the intensifying drought, the committee requests that all water systems review their Drought Response Plans and ordinances and implement as needed.

The committee is closely monitoring conditions statewide and will reconvene on July 24 to reevaluate the drought status.

2024 PUBLIC NOTICE

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR CANDIDATES TO FILL VACANCIES ON THE SOUTH CAROLINA SOYBEAN BOARD

Pursuant to the provisions of the “Agricultural Commodities Marketing Act” of 1968, and as amended, the “Marketing Order No. 1a for South Carolina Soybeans” issued by the Agriculture Commission of South Carolina, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the terms of office of approximately 1/3 of the board members of the South Carolina Soybean Board, expire on December 31, 2024, and, therefore, the listed vacancies shall occur at that time.

As a board member for the South Carolina Soybean Board, your primary focus is to help determine the funding spent for research, education, and advertising and sales promotions for the soybean market in the State of South Carolina.

There is one board seat open in each of the following highlighted Districts (1, 2, 3, 4 & 5):

District 1 includes the Counties of Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Chester, Chesterfield, Fairfield, Greenville, Greenwood, Kershaw, Lancaster, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, Oconee, Pickens, Saluda, Spartanburg, Union, and York.

District 2 includes the Counties of Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Edgefield, Hampton, Lexington, Orangeburg, and Richland.

District 3 includes the Counties of Clarendon, Darlington, Florence, Lee, Marlboro, and Sumter.

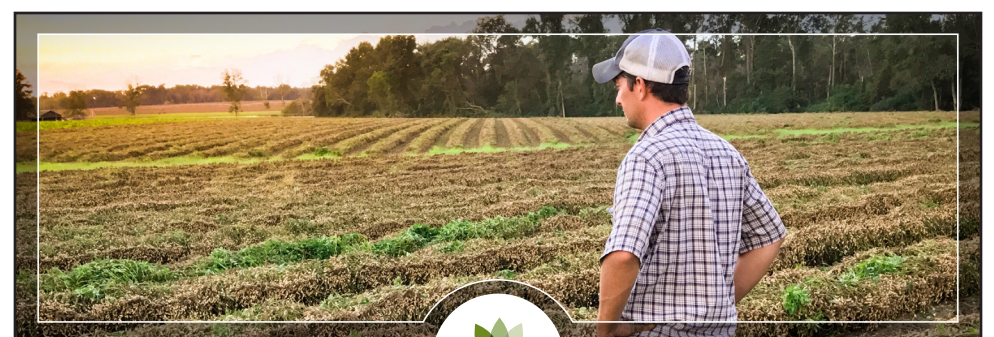
District 4 includes the Counties of Dillon, Georgetown, Horry, Marion, and Williamsburg.

District 5 includes the Counties of Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, and Jasper.

If you are interested in becoming a SC Soybean Board Member, you will need to request a petition. This petition can be requested by calling 803-734-9807, 803-734-2217 or by emailing elloyd@scda.sc.gov. All petitions must be received by Thursday, August 8, 2024. For a petition to be eligible/accepted, it must be signed by no less than five soybean producers from the counties of the district seat you are petitioning for. (See Districts/Counties below)

Terms of office are for 3 years. To qualify, a candidate must be a resident of South Carolina and be actively engaged in producing soybeans within the State of South Carolina for a period of no less than one year. Additionally, during that one-year period, candidate will have derived a substantial portion of his/her income from soybean production and shall continue to do so from the production of soybeans during their term of office. The SC Soybean Board holds approximately 4 quarterly meetings per year to conduct business. Reimbursement for mileage is paid for travel to and from meetings. In addition, a \$50 per diem is paid per meeting attended.

Frances Price, Chair
The Agriculture Commission of South Carolina
P. O. Box 11280, Columbia, South Carolina, 29211
Ph. # 803-734-9807



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Union County Ag Center | 3230-D Presson Rd

AUG 22: Batesburg-Leesville, SC

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Heather.Brannen@AgSouthFC.com

CLEMSON SMALL GRAINS SPECIALIST STUDIES NEW SORGHUM TECHNOLOGY FOR WEED CONTROL

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Weed control is a problem for grain sorghum growers and a Clemson researcher is determining if a new technology can help South Carolina growers knock out weeds.

Alex Coleman, Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service small grains and sorghum specialist, is testing a new sorghum, Double Team (DT), from Sorghum Partners.

“I was getting questions from growers about what this new sorghum was and if it worked,” Coleman said. “I’m testing it so that I can answer those questions.”

Double Team sorghum contains a trait added by conventional breeding practices that works with FirstAct herbicide to control grass weeds. FirstAct contains the active ingredient Quizalofop.

“There are other herbicides with the same active ingredient,” Coleman said. “But, according to the technology-use agreement, growers can only use FirstAct.”

NON-GMO CROPS AND WEED CONTROL

Sorghum is a water-efficient, non-GMO, gluten-free crop commonly used as livestock feed in the United States. Coleman is looking at how DT technology controls stubborn grass weeds like Texas panicum. Other objectives of Coleman’s study include determining yield potentials of varieties containing the DT trait and how these varieties handle southeastern United States disease pressures.

Alex Coleman, Clemson Extension Small Grains and Sorghum specialist, is studying a new technology that could help grain sorghum grow more profitably in South Carolina.

“Weed control is a main problem that farmers contend with in non-GMO crops,” said Coleman,



who graduated from Clemson with a master’s degree in plant and environmental sciences and a bachelor’s degree in agricultural mechanization and business. “With sorghum being a grass, it can be difficult to use herbicides to control grass weeds without injuring the sorghum crop.”

According to the FirstAct label, growers can make two applications during the growing season in South Carolina. So far, the herbicide appears to be doing its job.

“We’ve just had to apply the herbicide one time to the crop,” Coleman said. “We’re waiting to see if we will need a second application.”

Yield drag, or yield reduction, is another factor Coleman is looking at.

“My concern with yield drag is often when a new trait is introduced, it is at the cost of another trait, which is sometimes yield or disease tolerance,” Coleman said. “This year, I’m able to compare a Double Team variety to a traditional variety, side by side in the same growing conditions.”

Most of the United States grain sorghum is grown in Kansas, Texas and Colorado. Current varieties

are targeted for environments in these states. Southeastern states have higher moisture and humidity, as well as higher disease pressure.

Coleman’s study will help determine if sorghum containing the Double Team trait can be profitably grown in the southeastern region. He estimates 15,000 to 20,000 acres of grain sorghum are grown in South Carolina.

“What we’re looking for in this study is to make a challenging crop easier to grow and give South Carolina farmers a new crop for their portfolios,” Coleman said.

This is the first year of the study, which is taking place at several South Carolina locations. Information about this study will be posted at bit.ly/CU_GSVT.

EFFECTS ON LIVESTOCK

Sorghum is a major feed grain for livestock. Herbicides must receive approval by the Environmental Protection Agency before they can be registered for use by the public.

All pesticides used on feed grains and forage crops must go through a strict approval process.

“The FirstAct product label has a 45-day harvest and a 45-day grazing restriction,” said Brian Beer, a Clemson Extension Livestock and Forages agent. “This means the required testing and screening to establish a harvest restriction interval was conducted, and interval was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency.”

Commercial animal feed products manufactured or distributed in South Carolina are vetted by the South Carolina Department of Agriculture’s Feed Safety Program.

CLEMSON EXTENSION OFFERS STORMWATER POND PREPARATION TIPS

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

GEORGETOWN, S.C. – Hurricanes are churning in the Atlantic Ocean and the Clemson Cooperative Extension Service says now is the time to start preparing stormwater ponds.

Amy Scaroni, assistant professor of watershed management at the Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science, said property owners should start now to ensure these ponds are in good health.

“Stormwater ponds are probably the most common practice we use in our communities to manage flood events,” Scaroni said. “As part of your annual preparations for hurricane season, it is important to make sure your pond is in good health so it will be able to manage these large flooding events without impacting residents’ properties and roadways.”

Stormwater ponds are designed to receive runoff and mitigate flooding. Scaroni said residents can take some simple steps before a storm to help ensure these ponds operate efficiently.

The first step is to ensure all inlets and outlets, which control flow moving into the pond and flow moving out, are clear of vegetation, sediment or debris that could block flow into and out of the pond.

Next, community residents should ensure that storm drains and ditches around neighborhoods are clear to allow water to flow smoothly to the stormwater pond designed to receive it.

“Often during dry weather, storm drains can get blocked with leaves and lawn debris, or sometimes people dump things down there that they are not supposed to,” Scaroni said.

“When a big rainstorm comes, you want the water to freely flow into the storm drain. If storm drains are blocked, you could end up with localized flooding on streets and throughout neighborhoods. And the same thing with ditches, which can fill in with sediment and vegetation and may have less capacity to channel water downstream.”

Some large stormwater ponds or reservoirs, particularly those in inland locations off the coast, have dams that the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services regulates. Pond owners unsure of what actions to take to ensure their dam is safe should contact the Department’s Dams and Reservoirs Safety Program.

Residents preparing for a large storm should also take the proactive step of bagging any yard waste and debris around their properties to prevent this waste from ending up in the storm drain.

“A lot of our ponds performed pretty well in past storms, but I’ve seen situations where people have put wood up in front of their pond’s outlet to create a higher pond level, or they’ve been dumping down the drain and it has inhibited flow,” Scaroni said. “So, if there was a hurricane on top of those situations, it can really cause a lot of damage in the community.”

To help property owners with questions about water resources, such as stormwater ponds, the Clemson Extension Service has the Water Resources Team.

Additional online resources for residents who need more information on problem-solving for stormwater ponds and management recommendations include:

Clemson Extension S.C. Stormwater Pond Management website: clemson.edu/extension/water/stormwater-ponds/index.html

Clemson Extension Home and Garden Information Center fact sheets: hgic.clemson.edu/category/water

South Carolina Coastal Information Network Flood Resources Guide: sccoastalinfo.org/resources/sccin-flood-resources-guide