

# MARKET BULLETIN

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## A GREAT PEACH SEASON HITS ITS PEAK 2024 BROUGHT LOTS OF VARIETIES, VOLUME FOR SC GROWERS

BY EVA MOORE

In mid-July, peach trees across South Carolina were heavy with fruit, and picking crews and packing sheds were running at high volume.

For growers and peach eaters alike, the 2024 season has been a welcome change from last year. And it offered consumers the opportunity to explore more varieties of South Carolina's state fruit.

The state's peach industry had a rough 2023. A warm January and February coaxed trees into blooming early, so when temperatures plunged in March—and stayed low for several days—the crop was devastated. Final USDA reports show that South Carolina's 2023 peach production was down 49 percent from the year before. (In neighboring Georgia, the situation was even worse, with production down 78 percent from 2022.)

This year, things went much better. There were no late freezes. And now peach growers are seeing the results.

"After last year's losses, growers are thankful for an abundant crop," says Blakely Atkinson, marketing specialist for the South Carolina Peach Council.

Atkinson notes that South Carolina is the No. 2 peach producing state in the nation, second only to California, so a strong peach crop is an important contributor to the state's agricultural economy.

For peach lovers, 2024 offers more than simply volume.

Melissa Gross, manager of the produce market at Wingard's Market in Lexington, says South Carolina peaches aren't just prolific this year—they're also extra-delicious.



"The taste is great, especially now as we're getting into freestone peaches and the late-season peaches. They're excellent—they're sweet, they're juicy," Gross says.

In May and early June, the peaches that ripen are generally clingstone and semi-freestone varieties. Clingstones are usually smaller and the flesh is harder to separate from the pit, though they taste great. Later, the freestone peaches ripen. They're usually larger and easier to cut and eat because of the free pit.

Most grocery stores label peaches as either yellow or white, along with what state they're from. But if you visit a farm stand, farmers market,

or Certified Roadside Market, you might learn more about the particular kind of peach you're buying depending on what's being picked that week.

According to Gross, peach buyers at Wingard's Market are asking for particular varieties by name more than ever this year.

"We educate our consumers because we want them to know they're getting good quality peaches and exactly what it is they're eating," she says. "They find the ones they really like and they come back asking for them."

At McLeod Farms in McBee, shoppers also ask for their favorite peaches by name, or inquire about certain qualities.

"When it comes to specific variety requests, customers may be looking for a certain size, color, or texture," explains Rachel McCormick, marketing coordinator at McLeod Farms. "For instance, the Winblo variety is a 'melting' variety and is very soft and juicy, where other peach lovers prefer the firmer texture and redder color of the O'Henry variety."

"I always tell our customers, no matter which one is your favorite, you really can't go wrong with any peach variety harvested in the month of July in South Carolina," McCormick adds.



### COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

HUGH E. WEATHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA  
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

## WELCOMING RAIN, PROTECTING LAND

There's nothing quite like the relief a farmer feels when, after weeks of drought, it starts to rain. Two weeks ago on a Saturday afternoon I had just parked my utility vehicle in the barn. The rain started and continued for 45 minutes. I dropped the tailgate and just sat and enjoyed it and say a prayer of thanks.

These past few weeks have brought some much-needed rain to many parts of the state. The good news is it looks like the slightly wetter weather will continue. The bad news is that a lot of damage was done through late June and early July that can't be undone. Corn in particular took a hit. The latest NASS crop progress report has two-thirds of the corn in the state in either "very poor" or "poor" condition.

From what I'm seeing, pastures have greened up and are starting to do a bit better, while cotton, peanuts, and soybeans are also doing better with the rain.

In mid-July, the US Drought Monitor upgraded eight South Carolina counties to D3 status, which triggers an automatic disaster declaration and some relief for farmers. Low-interest emergency loans are available through FSA to eligible producers in those and contiguous counties. The Livestock

Forage Program is also available, providing payments to eligible producers whose forage has suffered due to a qualifying drought.

Now, let me tell you a little about one of my newest duties. As a result of the Working Ag Lands act signed by Gov. McMaster, I sit on the board of the South Carolina Conservation Bank as an ex-officio member. I was on the board over 20 years ago before coming to the office of Commissioner. It's good to be back. We have some important tools to help protect farmland in South Carolina, and I'm excited to get to work.

The chief way the Conservation Bank can protect working farmland is by creating conservation easement opportunities for farmers. An easement is an agreement a landowner enters into with a land trust or other organization that maintains the land as farmland or other undeveloped space. In exchange, the landowner or farmer realizes some of the development value of the land. When developers come calling, it can be hard to say no, and this gives farmers a potential option to keep farming.

You can also visit [scltn.org](https://scltn.org) to learn more, and we'll have more information in upcoming issues of the Bulletin.

*Hugh E. Weathers*



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Kindergarten Farm Days**  
August 7-9 • 8 am – 2:30 pm  
Lexington School District One will start Kindergarten on a staggered start for the 2024-2025 academic school year. We are offering Kindergarten farm days for students who will not be in school on those days. Days will be a mix of fun and education. Think of these days as a bridge between summer camp and school starting.  
**THE FARM 1780**  
1127 Corley Mill Road, Lexington  
hello@thefarm1780.com • 803-356-4978  
facebook.com/THEFARM1780

**The Summer Garden**  
August 8  
Learn about the summer flowers we grow and fill a mason jar to take home. If you would like to do this class for your private group of 6 or more, please email us your request and we will try to accommodate!  
**The Purple Tuteur Farm**  
Blythewood  
purpletuteur@gmail.com • 803-413-2573  
facebook.com/PurpleTuteur

**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

**Farm Tour**  
August 8 & 22 • 2 – 3 pm  
During your visit, you will learn about mushroom biology and ecology—how mushrooms work in and for our environment—as well as how they can be used for medicinal uses and many other innovations. We will also briefly discuss foraging for mushrooms and cultivating mushrooms. There will be a demonstration for inoculating logs with plug spawn. Your tour will last approximately 90 minutes and will include a walk on our wooded mushroom trail.  
**Mushroom Mountain**  
200 Finley Road, Easley  
864-859-3080  
mushroommountain.com/events

**Volunteer Days**  
August 17 • 8 – 11 am  
Join us on the farm to help with jobs like weeding, planting, harvesting, or building. We'll supply the tools and food!  
**Morning Glory Homestead Farm**  
42 Robert And Clara Trail, St Helena Island  
morninggloryhomestead@gmail.com • 843-812-0344  
facebook.com/morninggloryhomesteaders

**Pick Your Own Muscadines**  
We have a wide variety of highly-productive established muscadine vines that are open to the public during muscadine season, August through October. Check Facebook for dates and hours.  
**Borders Farm**  
1970 Gordon Road, Rock Hill  
bordersfarmupick@gmail.com  
bordersfarmupick.com  
facebook.com/bordersfarm

**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

CERTIFIED  
SOUTH CAROLINA

What's  
In Season

AUGUST

BASIL	FIGS	PEACHES
BEANS (SNAP/ POLE/VARIETY)	HERBS	PEANUTS (GREEN)
BUTTER BEAN	KALE	PEAS (SNAP/SUGAR)
CANTALOUPE	MICROGREENS	PEPPERS (VARIETY)
CILANTRO	MUSHROOMS	SQUASH (VARIETY)
COLLARDS	MUSCADINE	SWEET CORN
EDAMAME	GRAPES	SWEET POTATOES
EGGPLANT	OKRA	WATERMELON
	ONIONS	ZUCCHINI

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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8/1/24

Market Bulletin Office

Monday – Friday • 8 AM – 4:30 PM

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[agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin](http://agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin)

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803-734-2190

Certified SC Program

803-734-2207

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

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Market Bulletin

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POLICIES FOR ADVERTISING

For our full policies, please visit:  
[agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin-policies](http://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](http://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](mailto:marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov). Put the words “Market Bulletin ad” in the subject line.

• **Fax:** 803-734-0659

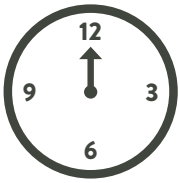
The deadline for submitting ads and notices is noon on Tuesday of the week **before** the publication date.

NEXT AD DEADLINE

AUGUST 6 • 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

### STERILE CARP

\$12; LM Bass, \$3; Ch Cats, 65¢; 3-5" BG, \$1.40; 1-" BG/SC mix, 65¢; Mosquitofish, 40¢ Clay Chappell Richland 803-776-4923

### KOI FISH

3-4", \$1 ea; 6-8", \$10 ea, all colors Tommy Sherman Laurens 864-546-2778

### BLUEGILL

50¢; Catfish, 75¢; Carp, \$12; Bass, \$2; Minnows, \$20/lb Derek Long Newberry 803-944-3058

## CATTLE

### BFMSTR REG BULLS

& PB bulls, yrlgs, \$1700+ John Steele Lancaster 803-283-7720  
**WEANED BEEF CALVES** 3-5 m/o, vac/wormed, \$450+ Casey McCarty Newberry 803-924-5239  
**ANG/CHAR MIXED BULL** 8 m/o, \$1100 Suzanne Reed Anderson 864-293-0363

### REG BRAHMA BULL

6 y/o, \$3000; reg Red Ang bull, 7 m/o, \$2700; Blk Ang bull, 16 m/o, \$2200; all gentle Steve Sease Anderson 864-304-6313

### POL HRFRD BULL

12 m/o, from reg stock, no papers, \$1250 Scott Hornsby Richland 803-530-8667

### REG ANG BULL

18 m/o, sired by Deer Valley Growth Fund, reg# 20601556, \$1900 Lynn Shealy Lexington 803-513-5818

### 2 BLK ANG BULLS

18 m/o, \$1500 ea or \$2800 for both David Grooms Dorchester 843-345-5608

### F1/F2 WAGYU/ANG COWS

bred to polled/reg Wagyu bull, due to calve '24, F1 cow, \$2250; F2 cow, \$2750 James Boatwright Spartanburg 864-430-9943

### REG ANG BULLS

Niagara & Hoover Dam b'lines, exc EPD, gentle, \$2500+ Bobby Baker Lancaster 803-804-2230

### 11 M/O BLK ANG BULL

3<sup>rd</sup> generation, raised on grass feed operation, good genetics, \$2500 Dmitriy Zuyev Greenville 864-420-6296

### REG BLK ANG BULLS

yrlgs, good EPDs, good b'lines, \$2500 Britton Mccarter York 704-914-6083

### REG & COMM BLK ANG

& SimAng hefrs, vac/tattoo, 9-14 m/o, \$1500+ Marc Renwick Newberry 803-271-8691

### BUCKING BULLS

& calves, Code Blue & Panhandle Slim b'lines, \$800-6500 Phillip Hutchins Lexington 803-422-1329

## FARM EQUIPMENT

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

### FORD 755A BACKHOE-LDR TRACTOR

2540 hrs, substantial value specs, photos & details avail, \$38,000 Oliver Powers York 803-367-7064

### '01 BOBCAT 873 SKIDSTEER

1300 hrs, whl machine, \$13,500 obo Doug Clark Edgefield 706-830-6900

### JD 328 BALER

Hoelscher 10 bale accumulator & grapple, \$8500 Herbert Clark Berkeley 843-209-6446

### KUBOTA B3030HSD

3 fwd spd, 30 hp, pre-emis, EC, frt ldr, skid hitch, 3d func, removable backhoe, \$21,800; more Henry Herlong Greenville 864-430-0951

### 2 GRAIN AUGERS

both w/motors & in GC, 8"×50', \$3900; 8"×30', \$1700 Charles Horger Calhoun 803-707-1493

### '01 AGRI-VAC

Walinga Inc 5614DLX, comp rebuild '16, \$21,500 Clarence Criswell Sr Darlington 843-861-1756

### JD 4030 540

1000 PTO, 4 post canopy, 2 remotes, 7600 hrs, frt tires, new rear 60%, GRC, \$12,000 Steve Sease Anderson 864-304-6313

### '08 JD 3320 W/CAB

heat/ac, 4 wd, 459 hrs, used to mow, frt ldr LN, \$28,500 Gordon Bowers Beaufort 843-521-7064

### WOODS 750 3PH BACKHOE

16" & 24" buckets, bucket cyl, rebuilt last of '23, \$3200 cash only Randy Orr Anderson 864-295-3736

### KUHN SR 110 10 WHL RAKE

GC, ready for work, \$3800 neg Eddie Phillips Sumter 803-486-0081

### GREAT PLAINS 15' NO TILL DRILL

w/coulter cart, EC, \$15000; JD 454A row crop head, EC, \$4000 Jeffrey Gilmore Chesterfield 843-517-0315

### FINISH MWR

3ph, \$1000; single hay prong, LN, \$115; fert sprdr, LN, \$150 Smittie Smith Pickens 864-561-5534

### '20 JD 450E BALER

1 owner, shed kept, 525 orig bales, monitor, twine wrap, LN, FR, \$21,000 Ronald Demeter Kershaw 803-310-8410

### JD 535 RND BALER

\$5000; Morra hay tedder, \$2000; N1 mwr, \$3000; McCormick Intl 400, \$2500 Mike Crot Lancaster 803-289-8002

### 3000 FORD TRACTOR

\$6000; hay trl, \$100; bush hog, \$50; disc harrow, \$100; more Gary Seay Spartanburg 864-578-8214

### '10 JD 5083E TRACTOR

4wd w/553 ldr, cab, AC, heat, pwr reverser, 1995 hrs, \$40,000 David Ridgeway Aiken 803-507-2480

### JD 4020

\$13,500; MF 1105, \$15,000; Cat D7E, \$27,000; Ford 3930, \$13,500 Ronald McGraw Lancaster 980-255-8584

### JD 4 WHL WAGON

w/16' steel bed, \$800 Terry Blakely Greenville 864-483-1920

### JD 350 HAY RAKE

\$700; 2r cult, \$650 R Adams Darlington 843-393-7280

### LANDPRIDE 6' FINISH MWR

GC, \$1550 Stephen Bonnette Orangeburg 803-707-5093

### NH 258 ROLLER BAR RAKE

GWC, needs new tires & tines, \$3500 obo Lauren Ray-McCarley Aiken 803-508-2581

### '23 JD BAT WING

12' rotary cutter, \$14,000 Stephen Gedosch Greenville 864-982-4490

### 3PH DIRT PAN

\$300; 12' Ponderosa GN trl, \$2000 Russell Goings Union 864-426-2309

### 20'×7' ENCL TRL

Tandem axles, loading ramp, new tires, EC, \$10,750 Jerry Comeaux Spartanburg 864-992-3869

### ABI TR3E TRACTOR

driveway grader & tractor landscape rake, property edition, \$2700 Greg Darnell Greenville 864-325-0766

### NH 849 BALER

GC, \$2500; LH 820 combine hdr auger, 15', \$400; 3pt scoop pan, \$125 Charles Nichols Saluda 864-445-8350

### FORD 3000

dsl, \$6500 obo; Bush Hog brand rotary cutter, mod 3210, \$9500 obo; Ford 7740 w/ldr, \$16,000 obo Lecil Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222

### '21 JD 5090E

EC, 74 hrs, pass door entry, side view mirrors, ldr prep, LN, \$50,000 Phillip Hutchins Lexington 803-422-1329

### GRASS WORKER WEED WIPER

12' tow behind unit, \$1000 Brice Stephenson York 803-684-3418

### BIG TEX 10PI TRL

LN, nvr used, 7'×20', 7600 lb cap, dual brakes, more, \$5450; 5' bush hog, \$600 James Burns Laurens 864-918-6308

### JOHN BLUE NITRO APPL

\$1000 obo; (2) 90"×24 pt cotton trls, \$300 obo Gary Bryant Darlington 843-858-3865

### '53 8N FOR PARTS

'54 Ford Jubilee w/scrape & plow, needs carb & timing set, \$2200 Angie Robinson Laurens 276-233-4019

### CASE IH CPX420 COTTON PKR

KBH modular builder, KBH boll buggy, all FR, \$25,000 Jeff Millen Chester 803-209-0893

### NIEMEYER HAY TEDDER

2 basket, PB, PTO, VGC, \$1750 George McCoy Chesterfield 843-307-8866

### 14' FINISHING HARROW

\$1500; 12' pull type cattle trl, \$1000; JD 220 15' harrow, \$2000 Clyde Smith Saluda 803-480-1093

### MF RND BALER

w/monitor, \$11,500; Chisel Plow, \$1500; 7R Cult, \$750; del avail James Porter Lancaster 803-371-7574

### JD 348 SQ BALER

EC, FR, shed kept, 1 owner, \$15,000 Victor Smith Berkeley 843-870-8522

### FORD 3910 DSL

VGC, runs good, w/roll bar, LN tires, new batt, FR, 52 hp, low hrs, 2 owners, \$9000 M Wilson Spartanburg 864-595-1136

### 1000 GAL ALUM TANK

w/trl & motor, GC, \$1200 Samuel Cribb Williamsburg 843-558-2256  
**KMC 6R BOLL BUGGY** \$2500; 2 KMC auto module bldr, \$1200 ea; JD 8300 13' Grain Drill, \$3300; more Carl Brown Aiken 803-640-0281

### NH TN65 TRACTOR

w/ldr, \$14,800; JD 28 disc offset harrow, \$3500; Vicon 8' cut disc cutter, \$2500 Robert Hurley Marion 864-981-5352

### JD 1700 6R MAX EMERGE PLNTR

row cleaner, fert tanks & spray, \$16,500; JD 6500 60' frt fold boom, \$25,000 Joe Phillips Jr Lexington 803-600-2928

### JD 444 36" CORN HDR

GC, \$2000 C J Bishop Newberry 803-271-6551

## FARM LABOR

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

### MOBILE SAWMILLING

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

### LIME SPREADING

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

### PASTURE MGMT SERV

spray weeds, treat fire ants, fert & lime, plant pastures, Fescue, Ryegrass, Bermuda, Bahia Kenny Mullis Richland 803-331-6612  
**EXCAVATOR MOWING** landscaping, grading, clearing/brush clean up, drains, sprinklers, sod, etc, all surrounding cos Derek Drafts Saluda 803-429-3291

### LIGHT TRACTOR WORK

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

### FORESTRY MULCHING

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

### DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

### LAWN CUTTING

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

### HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS

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

### 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

### WILDLIFE MGMT

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



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 buy or for a 10 year lease, will be used for a small animal sanctuary  
Deborah Smith  
Beaufort  
404-414-1282  
**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

EQUINE

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

**2 MINI M DONKEYS**  
choc, will be 30" when grown, B-3/10/24 & 3/18/24, ready to train, \$650  
Barney Gause  
Williamsburg  
843-356-1671  
**MINI HORSE STUD**  
wht, 32½" tall, rides, \$800  
Morris Douglas  
Fairfield  
803-397-4280

**MINI NUBIAN BUCKLING**  
6 m/o, \$50  
Ron Handley  
Georgetown  
849-389-6082  
**2 WHT GOATS**  
nannie & billy, \$150 for both  
Donald Blackwelder  
York  
803-548-0983  
**F KIKOS**  
6 m/o, \$225 ea  
George Phillips  
Williamsburg  
843-992-1964  
**GOATS**  
\$125/nannies, \$70/kid  
Bill McAlister  
Greenwood  
864-991-7853

FRESH PRODUCE

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.

**FRESH BLUEBERRIES**  
\$15/gal bag  
Darnell Miller  
Aiken  
803-507-1926  
**FRESH FIGS**  
\$12/gal bag  
Deborah Worth  
Aiken  
803-605-4644

**FARM CHICKEN EGGS**  
\$3/dz  
Ron Handley  
Georgetown  
843-896-0829  
**EXT LRG BRN EGGS**  
free range, \$4/dz  
Adrienne Mitchell-Heath  
Lancaster  
215-791-9252

GARDEN

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

**ELEPHANT GARLIC BULBS**  
\$30; Foundation apple, thin shell pecan & fig trees, \$20 ea  
Francis Shiver  
Kershaw  
803-669-1979  
**MUSCADINE PLANTS**  
purple, lrg fruit & hvy bearing, \$5 ea or 5 for \$20  
Brian Gray  
Greenville  
864-908-9777

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

GOATS / LLAMAS / SHEEP

**2 KATAHDIN RAMS**  
B-6/23, gentle, proven breeder, \$300; B-2/24, \$250; both hand raised  
Tammy Hodge  
Sumter  
803-983-5041  
**BOER/BRIAR BILLIES**  
5–6 m/o, red & wht, \$100 ea, photos avail  
Ken Evans  
Lee  
803-464-1370  
**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

**KADAH DIN SHEEP**  
\$150+; lambs, ewes & rams; lrg rams, \$300  
Francis Black  
Barnwell  
803-259-8428  
**KATAHDIN SHEEP**  
7 m/o M/F, solid wht, dewormed & vac, \$180 ea  
Barney Gause  
Williamsburg  
843-356-1671  
**3 KATAHDIN EWES**  
\$200 ea; 2 Kiko does & 2 Spanish does, \$150 ea; all  
B-3/24  
Brian Baldwin  
Kershaw  
803-337-6070

**REG ROYAL WHT LAMBS**  
pasture raised, rotated 3-5 days to new pasture, good genetics, \$600/ram, \$550/ewe  
Dmitriy Zuyev  
Greenville  
864-420-6296  
**BOER & ¾ MILK GOATS CROSSED**  
nanny & billies, \$100–200 ea  
Philip Poole  
Union  
864-427-1589  
**PB NUBIAN DOE KID**  
B-4/15, doe disbudded, exc milk line, photo avail by txt, \$350  
B McColley  
Orangeburg  
864-494-7643

**6 W/O+ PIGLETS**  
Berkshire/Yorkshire cross, \$150 ea  
J Painter  
Spartanburg  
864-641-9855  
**13 W/O PIGLETS**  
¾ Kunekune ⅛ AGH, \$85 ea; 2 proven sows, ¾ Kunekune ¼ IGH, \$200  
Eric Miller  
Greenville  
864-684-2260  
**PIGLETS**  
Kunekune Duroc mix, B-4/17 & 6/12, cut & uncut  
M, \$50; F, \$60, call or text  
Paige Hicks  
Aiken  
803-645-3933

HAY & GRAIN

**'24 FESCUE**  
4×5 rnd, \$42/bale or \$47/bale to del  
Suzanne Reed  
Anderson  
864-293-0363  
**'24 4×5 MIXED GRASS**  
\$45/bale; '24 4×5 Fescue, \$40/bale; both net wrap  
Charles Nichols  
Saluda  
864-992-9292  
**'24 HQ SQ CB**  
shed kept, \$7.50 ea, will del for addl fee  
Nathan Oswald  
Lexington  
803-317-3090  
**'24 HQ CB**  
\$8/sq  
Kevin Yon  
Saluda  
803-622-4140  
**ALFALFA HAY**  
locally grown, sm sq bales, \$12 ea  
Kemp Wilson  
Chester  
803-209-0348

**'24 RND HQ CB**  
net wrap, shed kept, \$80/bale  
Carlisle Kinard  
Bamberg  
803-267-5762  
**4×5 WHEAT STRAW**  
net wrap, \$40 ea  
Richard Knight  
Kershaw  
803-427-6440  
**WHEAT**  
\$10/bu bag  
Clayton Culler  
Orangeburg  
803-622-9790  
**'24 4×5 RND CB**  
NR, barn stored, \$70/bale  
Mike Cousins  
Newberry  
803-924-7539  
**SQ HQ**  
in barn, no litter used, \$8.50; net wrap 5×4 rnd, \$70 in field, \$80 in barn; CQ, \$45; 14 from '23, \$30  
George McCoy  
Chesterfield  
843-307-8866

**RND BALES**  
\$65/shed kept, \$60/outside  
Bobby Zimmerman  
Lexington  
803-317-8681  
**'24 MIXED GRASS**  
4×5 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  
**'24 RND COASTAL**  
shed kept, fert & limed, \$70/HQ, \$65/CQ, del avail  
Eddie Phillips  
Sumter  
803-486-0081  
**FESCUE MIXED GRASS**  
\$25/bale, in field, can del  
Neil Jackson  
Spartanburg  
864-706-0829

**'24 HQ 4×5 CB**  
EQ, net wrap, shed kept, fert, \$80/bale, qty disc; HQ sq CB, \$8/bale, in field  
Liz Jordan  
Edgefield  
803-315-0549  
**LRG 5'×4' HQ FESCUE**  
tight wrap, barn stored, \$45/bale, call/text to schedule loading  
Carol Ann Burns  
Laurens  
864-923-6160  
**WHEAT & TRITICALE STRAW**  
5×6 rnd, wrapped, 1200 lb, \$55/bale  
Sally Harrison  
Saluda  
803-312-4837  
**FESCUE**  
'24 4×5, \$60/bale; '23 rnd, \$25/bale; both net wrap, outside, fert  
Roger Snyder  
Spartanburg  
864-580-9311

**CB**  
\$70; HQC, \$60, both 4×5 & net wrap; sq \$8/bale, all barn kept  
Howard McCartha  
Lexington  
803-312-3316  
**4×5 CB**  
\$70; CQ CB, \$50; sq CB, \$9; sq Rye straw, \$6/bale, shed kept  
Larry McCartha  
Lexington  
803-606-2499  
**'23 OATS HAY**  
\$60/bale; '24 oats hay, \$64/bale; all 4×5, net wrap, shed kept  
Sam Rikard  
Lexington  
803-892-2630  
**SQ STRAW BALES**  
\$4; Oats, \$40; Wheat, \$60; both in your 55 gal drum  
Jeffrey Gilmore  
Chesterfield  
843-517-0315

**'24 HQ BERMUDA**  
4×54, net wrap, shed kept, NR, \$70; HQ sq, \$8.50  
Tom Fink  
Lexington  
803-622-4678  
**'24 4×5 RND CB**  
HQ, \$65 ea; GQ cow hay, \$50 ea  
Carroll Harmon  
Lexington  
803-359-3956  
**ALFALFA**  
\$12.50/sq; 4×5 rolls, \$100; Orchard/alfalfa mix, sq, \$10.50  
Jackie Rogers  
Spartanburg  
864-381-5971  
**'24 PREM COASTAL**  
HQ, rnd, \$70; sq, \$10; shed kept  
Allen Ricard  
Lexington  
803-960-5773

PLANTS & FLOWERS

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

**AMARYLLIS**  
\$10 ea  
Francis Shiver  
Kershaw  
803-669-1979  
**MULTIPLYING ONION BULBS**  
Old timey wht, \$15/lb + ship  
Steve Swaney  
Abbeville  
864-376-3556  
**PERENNIALS**  
Cast Iron plants, Forsythia, Turks Cap, Easter Rose, \$10; Loquat, \$15  
Karen Speer  
Lexington  
803-603-4316

**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

POULTRY

**HOMING PIGEONS**  
wht & other colors, \$5  
Donald Fisher  
Chesterfield  
843-634-2022  
**2 PEACOCK PRS**  
mature breeders, Indian Blue, sold in prs, 1M/1F, \$400/pr  
Tammy Hodge  
Sumter  
803-983-5041  
**BOBWHITE QUAIL**  
1–3 w/o, \$2; 6 m/o, \$5; Bobwhite eggs, \$6/dz  
Lee Erbe  
Calhoun  
843-789-9645  
**LRG HUBBLE PIGEONS**  
breed is raised commercially for squab production, solid wht, \$15+  
R Adams  
Darlington  
843-393-7280

**SILVER**  
wht tailed Diamond Doves, \$50 ea  
James Malphrus  
Dorchester  
843-821-8172  
**DIAMOND DOVES**  
\$15 ea  
Mosco Faulk  
Sumter  
803-494-8499  
**TOULOUSE GEESE**  
proven prs, \$100; wht King pigeons, \$30/pr  
Benson Ray  
Georgetown  
843-933-5367  
**HOMER PIGEONS**  
wht yng, \$5; mated prs, \$20; mixed colors, \$5+  
Smittie Smith  
Pickens  
864-561-5534

**SARAMA BANTAMS**  
var sizes, Worlds smallest bantam, \$15–20 ea, disc if all taken  
Keith Gibbons  
Clarendon  
843-372-2472  
**SWEATER COCK**  
6 y/o, \$100; 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  
**BALD HEAD ROLLER PIGEONS**  
\$10; Fantail pigeons, \$12; King pigeons, \$15; Pharaoh quail, \$2–5  
Randy Stone  
Florence  
843-621-5641

**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  
**BUFFORPINGTON PULLETS**  
8+ w/o, \$10 ea; wht Leghorn bantams, \$40/pr; misc Bantams, \$5+  
Marc Renwick  
Newberry  
803-271-8691  
**SEX LINKS**  
Blk Copper Marans, lavender Orpingtons, Brahmas & Cochins, jumbo Coturnix & Bob Whites, \$3–5 ea  
Brian Motley  
Kershaw  
803-315-7598

MISCELLANEOUS

<b>OLD BATHTUBS</b> exc for water troughs, \$65 ea Sam Rikard Lexington 803-892-2630 <b>SNAPPER ZERO TURN MWR</b> 48" cut, Briggs eng, \$2500 Terry Blakely Greenville 864-483-1920 <b>RND CEDAR POSTS</b> 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 <b>HOLE DIGGER</b> gas, w/8" & 10" augers, all items nvr used, \$350 cash only Randy Orr Anderson 864-295-3736 <b>OEM JD EXHAUST</b> vertical pipe assembly for 505D, EC, \$150 David Grooms Dorchester 843-345-5608	<b>TIN</b> \$3; wooden fence post, 6x6's, \$5 ea Smittie Smith Pickens 864-561-5534 <b>TOP SOIL/FILL DIRT</b> \$2/yd R Adams Darlington 843-393-7280 <b>G107D GRILLO</b> walk behind tractor w/tiller attach, 4 fow, 1 rev, top spd 8 mph, \$1975 obo John Mahon Chesterfield 843-910-7352 <b>4' TUBE GATE</b> \$45; 7x3/8 chain hook one end, \$20 Russell Goings Union 864-426-2309 <b>DR BUGGY</b> w/folding top, EC, shaves & dbl pole, \$2000 Harry Isbell Anderson 864-617-2627	<b>2 LAWN GARDEN TRACTORS</b> Sears Suburban, early models, w/3ph & mower decks, \$1500 for both D L Dimery Lexington 803-796-2995 <b>1½ HP TUNNEL FAN MOTORS</b> used, GWC, \$50 ea; boiler house heating brooders, GC, \$40 ea Michael Wise Newberry 803-271-4215 <b>MILK CRATES</b> & 5 gal buckets w/no lids, \$5 ea obo; Skil battery powered weed eater, \$125 obo Lawrence Hoffman Richland 803-422-3970 <b>HONEY BEES</b> \$160, 5 frames; lrg colonies & queens, \$45, frames only, must have own box David Gainey Darlington 843-861-2745	<b>BRASS RAINBIRD SPRINKLERS</b> EC, \$20 ea; yard vacuum, EC, \$185; irrig hose, \$75 George Schwab York 803-493-8021 <b>CEDAR</b> 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 <b>OLD COMP FARM BELL</b> old, #3, \$350; xl farm bell, w/wheel, comp, \$1200; #20 hash pots, \$200 ea; #15, \$150; more Perry Masters Greenville 864-561-4792 <b>CHICKEN LITTER</b> tractor trl qty, \$500/load w/ in Newberry Co, \$500/load + del fee outside Newberry Co Evan Horne Newberry 803-960-2699	<b>GARDEN TRACTOR</b> Cub Cadet 1450, 14 hp Kohler, hydro trans, hyd lift, spare frame, tire, mwr frame, \$450 obo Ralph Taylor Chester 803-789-5110 <b>5 HP ELEC MOTOR</b> new, bought for grain auger, nvr used, \$750 Charles Nichols Saluda 864-445-8350 <b>CEDAR LUMBER</b> 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 <b>ARIENS RIDING LAWN MWR</b> B&S eng, 22 hp, 46" cut, new belt, spindle, blades, hyd drive, EC, \$950 obo Lecil Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222	<b>DRY ROUGH CUT PINE</b> Oak boards, all sizes, Pine, \$2/bdft; Oak, \$4/bdft Joel Grubb Calhoun 803-351-0144 <b>DRUMS</b> 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 <b>4 MIRAFOUNT AUTO WATERERS</b> 2 hole, 20 gal, \$550 ea; gates, \$50-75; more Clyde Smith Saluda 803-480-1093 <b>JD LT160 42" MWR</b> & bagger, EC, \$975; HD DR brush cutter, 17 hp, Kawasaki FH 500V, 30" cut, LT 100 hrs, \$2100 Robert Joyner Lexington 803-231-8958
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RABBITS

<b>REX</b> 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	<b>LA COTTONTAILS</b> crossed on MS cane cutter, \$12 ea Danny Cook Newberry 803-924-6953	<b>10 W/O LIONHEAD MIX</b> & Lops w/7 w/o Rex, \$15-25 Cherie Garrison Edgefield 706-495-4614
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SEED

ADS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CURRENT SEED LAB TEST.	<b>SOYBEANS</b> cleaned & bagged, P-99.96%, G-98%, D/HD SD&G-98%, IM-o.04%, \$20/50 lb bag Kevin Anderson Barnwell 803-259-6888
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WANT - LIVESTOCK

EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.	<b>NUBIAN BUCK</b> naturally polled, yng but grown Brian Baldwin Kershaw 803-337-6070	<b>BEEF CATTLE</b> any age or size Kenneth Satterfield Laurens 864-304-3172
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WANT - FARM EQUIPMENT

<b>USED FRT WHLS/TIRES</b> for Ford Jubilee/8n/9n tractor Daniel McMahan Greenwood 864-223-9497 <b>GRAIN CLEANER</b> rotary type, prefer one that will clean wheat Henry Gunter Lexington 803-260-5502	<b>LAKELAND SPIN TRIM CHUTE</b> for sheep, pull-up sheep sorter gates Rebekah Olson York 803-351-4994
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WANT - MISCELLANEOUS

<b>BEE EQUIPMENT</b> woodenware, boxes, frames, will pay reasonable price David Gainey Darlington 843-861-2745 <b>SPOKED RIM</b> for older model AC Easy Flow, 15" or 14" in GC Talmadge Luker Greenwood 894-941-1703	<b>ELEC FUEL PUMP</b> for 500 gal dsl tank Charles Nichols Saluda 864-992-2753 <b>ANY SIZE WASH POTS</b> syrup kettle, anvils, lrg coffee grinder, old lighting rod w/ balls & weathervane, more Perry Masters Greenville 864-561-4792	<b>HOOD FOR JD LT 155 RIDING MWR</b> any LT model will fit William Davis Lexington 803-730-8004 <b>HORSE WAGON</b> w/orig wood spoke whls, 1 or 2 horse Harry Isbell Anderson 864-172-2627	<b>PULPWOOD SAW TIMBER</b> hdwd pine, all types of thinning or clear cut, Upstate cos Tim Morgan Greenville 864-420-0251
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USDA DESIGNATES 8 SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTIES AS PRIMARY NATURAL DISASTER AREAS

NINE CONTIGUOUS COUNTIES ALSO ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE

BY USDA

This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through emergency loans. Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation, or to refinance certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

Impacted Area: South Carolina

Triggering Disaster: Drought (Fast-Track)

Application Deadline: 03/17/2025

Primary Counties Eligible: Clarendon, Florence, Lee, Sumter, Darlington, Horry, Marion, and Williamsburg.

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

South Carolina: Berkeley, Calhoun, Chesterfield, Dillon, Georgetown, Kershaw, Marlboro, Orangeburg, and Richland.

North Carolina: Brunswick, Columbus, and Robeson.

MORE RESOURCES

On [farmers.gov](#), the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet, and Loan Assistance Tool can help you determine program or loan options. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local USDA Service Center.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.



# TY WOODARD NAMED 2024 SOUTH CAROLINA FARMER OF THE YEAR

BY SUNBELT AG EXPO

Ty Woodard, of Woodard Farms, Inc., is a third-generation diversified farmer and agribusiness owner in Darlington County. Ty’s grandfather, Frank Woodard, Jr., always dreamed of returning to his agricultural roots after his parents’ Latta farm became a casualty of the Great Depression in the 1930s. When a local plot of land came up for sale in 1962, he bought it, eventually rented more acreage, and began Woodard Farms along with his full-time job as a route salesman.

Today, Ty, his father, Frankie Woodard, III, and Ty’s brother, Wes, partner in the family-owned operation that was incorporated in 1980 and now grows peanuts, cotton, corn, soybeans, timber, and beef cattle on over 5800 acres of rented and owned land. All three Woodard men are Clemson University graduates. Frankie has a 1979 BS degree in Agronomy; Wes has a 2004 BS degree in Agricultural Mechanization; Ty has a 2007 BS degree in Biological Sciences.

Ty said, “My older brother and I grew up on the farm, working from the time we could hold a tractor wheel steady. I spent my high school and college summers working on the farm but didn’t feel the call to come back full-time until I got away to Clemson. After graduation in 2008, I began full-time farming. Later that same year I married my wife, Tracy.” Hailing from Lexington, SC, Tracy earned her degree in 2008 in Graphic Communications with a minor in Business from Clemson University, where the two met through a mutual friend.

Ty said, “We’ve been tremendously blessed on our farm and in our family—we now have Tate, age 11, and twins, Tobin and Tyson, age 8—and have enjoyed many bountiful years on the farm. Besides my father, my brother, and myself as owners, we have four full-time employees and currently one to two H2A and seasonal workers.”

With the continued implementation of technology and sustainable growing methods over the years, crop yields have continued to improve. In 2022, Woodard Farms had the highest peanut yield in the state and set personal records in corn and peanuts. Ty also helps manage 120 head of beef cattle and over 2000 acres of timber.

In 2018, Ty and his wife Tracy began an agribusiness called Covered in Cotton that cultivates and crafts 100 percent locally grown cotton products—throw blankets, baby blankets, hand towels, and table linens—made exclusively from cotton grown on the family farm.

As Tracy noted, “The whole idea for Covered in Cotton came from a dream the Lord gave me in 2017. Not only were we supposed to make cotton products from our own cotton, but we also had a mission inspired by our then-newborn son Tobin’s life-threatening bout with bacterial meningitis in 2015. During a lengthy hospital stay and surgery, one of the nurses gifted us a comforting blanket—a

gesture of kindness we never forgot.” She added, “A unique feature of this enterprise is that it is the result of a nearly 500-mile round-trip journey through the Carolinas, from a South Carolina gin to a yarn spinner and pleyer in North Carolina and back to our facility on the farm for packing and shipping.”

An online store ([coveredincotton.com](https://coveredincotton.com)) is responsible for around 90 percent of sales whose growth necessitated the building of a large dedicated order fulfillment center on the farm. Tracy said, “Our ‘Cotton with a Cause’ mission

till practices whenever possible. We plant using strip-till and incorporate cover crops for nutrient benefits and erosion control.” Other conservation techniques include precision application of fertilizer, swath control on spray and planting applications, GPS technology on tractors, and precision soil sampling. In 2023, Woodard Farms enrolled in the Climate-Smart Grown in South Carolina program through Clemson University and South Carolina State University.

Ty commented, “One of the most urgent challenges to agriculture in our state now is the preservation of working agricultural land. To that end, I intend to invest in additional tracts of land in the future and hope to provide opportunities for our children to join the farm’s operations by continuing to diversify, increase H2A labor, partner with programs like the US Cotton Trust Protocol and Climate-Smart Grown in SC, and explore new ways to scout crops and monitor cattle with advances in drone technology.”

Weather has been especially at odds with this part of South Carolina since 2015. That’s when

a thousand-year flood hit and eliminated the harvest of all Woodard Farms’ planted cotton. The next year brought hurricanes and more flooding. Hurricanes Florence and Michael roared through in 2018 and destroyed half the cotton crop. In 2020, Ty reported, “Due to the wet conditions that spring, we couldn’t get 400 acres planted, and 400 of the acres we had already planted didn’t come up.”

One way Ty responded to these challenges was to get involved in promoting and supporting the state’s Farm Aid Bill, making legislative contacts, and spotlighting awareness on social media. In hands-on fashion, he prepared for any future flooding by clearing away ditch banks where water flow was restricted and making improvements to existing drainage tiles. He said, “I diversified risk with earlier maturing varieties of soybeans and peanuts and replaced grain sorghum with corn acreage to avoid a late harvest season.”

The problem of a declining workforce faced by so many farmers hasn’t spared Woodard Farms either. Ty recalled, “In 2019, I created our first internship program that brought onboard a college student who wanted to learn more about row crop production. We hired him full-time after graduating from Clemson in 2020.” He has also initiated and led the process of contracting South African labor through the H2A program.

On the beef herd side of things, Ty obtained financial and technical assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Environmental Quality Incentives Program to install cross fencing, water troughs, water lines, and sprigging additional pastureland. He said, “I also partnered with Purina Animal Nutrition to improve feed and reproductive efficiency. And I’m happy to report We’ve made

*Continued on page 7*



Commissioner Weathers visits the Woodards in 2022.

includes donating one throw to a local children’s hospital for every ten we sell and one baby blanket to a local family ministry for every ten we sell. Since 2018, we’ve donated over 1300 blankets to families in South Carolina and beyond and shipped our products to every state in America.”

In 2012, Ty also started a small beef processing venture to deliver flash frozen and vacuum-sealed beef products to customers on a bulk and individual basis. He said, “This enterprise connects our community to our farm and provides an avenue for agricultural education and building relationships. We also manage a private hunting preserve that acts as another revenue stream and helps promote genetic diversity of the local wildlife.”

As for marketing of Woodard Farms’ crops, Ty said, “We’ve used a marketing cooperative in the past but now we sell our own cotton crop, working closely with our cotton gin to research all the market factors. We’ve also added six grain bins since 2008 to store 172,000 bushels of grains, along with a loop system for loading and unloading, a wet bin, and a dryer. These improvements allow us to store additional bushels, dry, and transport grains when markets are most favorable. We also invested in our own trucking operation to haul our grains.”

Woodard-grown peanuts are contracted with multiple local peanut buyers who market the crop worldwide. As for the beef cattle, Ty said, “The most functional and profitable channel has been the Beef Quality Assurance Program through a nearby livestock market. It provides a premium for my commitment to the overall health and investment in my herd.”

Ty says, “We try to keep something growing on the land and work toward our goal of minimum



FARMER OF THE YEAR, CONTINUED

great strides in improving overall herd health with these changes.”

On the county level, Ty has served as president of the Darlington County Young Farmer and Agribusiness Association, vice president and president of the Darlington County Farm Bureau board, chair of the Darlington County Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee and is currently on the board of and serving as a coach for a Florence Little League baseball team. On the state level, he won the award for South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation Achievement in Agriculture and was elected to the South Carolina State Cotton Board in 2023. On the national level, Ty was selected as Ross Chastain’s Ag to Asphalt featured farmer.

On the county level, Tracy Woodard currently serves as a Darlington County Clemson Extension Advisory Board member; a co-chair of the Darlington County Farm Bureau Women’s Leadership Committee; a church volunteer, and a coordinator for Food Check-Out Week food drive events. On the state level, she is a member of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Women’s Leadership State Committee and was given the South Carolina Farm Bureau Grass Root All-Star Legislative Advocacy award in 2023. On the national level, Tracy has been an American Farm Bureau Federation ACE Summit participant and has been featured in Successful Farming magazine’s “In Her Field” article and podcast in 2023.

Alongside work duties, the Woodard family has a great love for sports, especially baseball, which Ty coaches. Living between the mountains and the ocean, they enjoy trips to each when time allows.

Ty recalled, “In recent years, we’ve been privileged to take two trips to Israel where, as it’s said, that country takes the Bible from black and white to color. They were truly inspiring experiences.” Locally, they are active members of NewSpring Church in Florence.

Farming has given Ty Woodard a different perspective on life from what he envisioned as a young college student. “Growing up, farming was not my dream. But, moving away from the farm in college and then experiencing the Lord’s transformation of my heart, I found that this is what I was supposed to do all along. It is an honor to steward the land that not only supports my family but also provides the food, fuel and fiber for the world.” The lessons of persistence and grit have seen him through many unexpected challenges. “When you’re on the brink of being overwhelmed by tough times and are able to get through them with faith and determination,” he said, “you can find meaning and joy on the other side.”

Ty Woodard was nominated South Carolina Farmer of the Year by Clemson Cooperative Extension’s David B. DeWitt, CCA, Area Row Crop Agent, Lee, Sumter, and Kershaw – New and Emerging Crops. He said, “I am delighted to nominate Woodard Farms this year. The entire family is dedicated to sound, modern farming practices, and they are committed to conservation. Ty and Tracy enhance their row crop and cattle operation with Covered in Cotton, and their strong family story deserves to be celebrated. They are excellent farmers who are always willing to work with Extension programs. They also host different events for Agent tours, Women in Ag conferences,

and teachers for Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom project. I’m proud to have collaborated with the Woodard family for many years.”

Harper Family Holdings, the Alabama Farmers Federation, Arkansas Farm Bureau, Florida Farm Bureau, Georgia Farm Bureau, North Carolina Farm Bureau, Tennessee Farm Bureau, and Virginia Farm Bureau have joined together to generously sponsor the 2024 program.

State winners of the Sunbelt Expo award will receive a \$2,500 cash award and an expense-paid trip to the Sunbelt Expo from the sponsors. A vest from the sponsors will be given to each state winner and nominator. The Moultrie Colquitt Co. Chamber of Commerce will give each state winner a local keepsake.

The state winners are now eligible for the \$15,000 cash prize awarded to the overall winner by the sponsors. Massey Ferguson North America will provide each state winner with a gift package and the overall winner with the use of a Massey Ferguson tractor for a year or 250 hours (whichever comes first). A jacket from the sponsors will be given to the overall winner. Hays LTI will award the overall winner with a HAYS Smoker/Grill. In addition, the overall winner will receive a Henry Repeating Arms American Farmer Tribute Edition rifle from Reinke Irrigation.

The Sunbelt Expo is coordinating the Southeastern Farmer of the Year awards for the 34th consecutive year. A total of \$1,324,000 in cash awards and other honors have been awarded to 296 southeastern farmers since the award was initiated in 1990.

MAKE THE HONOR ROLL IN FOOD SAFETY AND ALLERGEN AWARENESS

BY USDA

Parents and caregivers will soon begin the familiar routine of preparing and packing school lunches for their children. Parents and caregivers play a crucial role in safeguarding their children’s health by ensuring these lunches are safe from foodborne illness and allergens for those with food allergies. The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service encourages you to follow these food safety tips and be allergen aware for a wholesome, worry-free return to the classroom.

“Children are particularly vulnerable to foodborne illness as their immune systems are still developing and they have limited ability to combat infections. This susceptibility is made worse by the increasing prevalence of food allergies that affect one in 13 children, or about two students per classroom,” said Under Secretary for Food Safety Dr. Emilio Esteban. “It is vital that parents and caregivers practice the four safe food handling steps when preparing and packing school lunches, as well as understanding how to identify food allergens.”

FOOD SAFETY HONOR ROLL TIPS

Safe and wholesome school lunches begin with four simple safe food handling practices that everyone should always follow to avoid foodborne illness and minimize the risk of cross-contact with food allergens.

- 1. **Cleanliness is key.** Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before, during and after handling food. Clean countertops with hot, soapy water, then sanitize with a commercial or homemade solution. An easy

homemade sanitizer can be made by mixing one tablespoon of unscented, liquid chlorine bleach in one gallon of water. Let the solution stand on the surfaces for a few minutes; then air dry or pat dry with clean paper towels. This will ensure that harmful bacteria don’t cross-contaminate other foods and that food allergens are not transferred to a food meant to be allergen free.

- 2. **Separate foods.** Keep raw meat, poultry and foods with allergens separate from ready-to-eat foods like fruits and vegetables by using different cutting boards and utensils. If possible, prepare items without allergens first to prevent cross-contact.
- 3. **Cook meats to a safe minimum internal temperature as measured with a food thermometer.** Cooking to safe minimum internal temperatures is the only way to ensure the food is safe to consume. Never rely just on the color.
- 4. **Refrigerate foods promptly.** Bacteria grow most rapidly in the range of temperatures between 40°F and 140°F, doubling in number in as little as 20 minutes. This range of temperatures is often called the Danger Zone. When packing your child’s school lunch in an insulated soft-sided lunch bag, it is important that you keep cold foods cold (at 40°F or less) by adding two frozen gel packs (not smaller than 5×3 inches each) or combine a frozen gel pack with a frozen juice box or frozen bottle of water. If you will be packing hot lunches, use an insulated container to keep food like soup, chili and stew hot. Keep the insulated container closed until lunchtime to keep the food hot—140°F or above.

THE “BIG 9” FOOD ALLERGENS

The nine leading causes of food allergies identified in the U.S. are **milk, eggs, fish, shellfish, tree nuts, peanuts, wheat, soybeans and sesame**. These allergens are required to be listed on a food label when present.

The best prevention of an allergic reaction is the strict avoidance of food allergens. Consider these tips for managing foods with potential allergens:

- Always read ingredient label statements thoroughly, even if you are familiar with the product or have bought it before. If a food product does not have an ingredient label, it is safest to avoid consuming it.
- Prepare items without allergens first to prevent cross-contamination.
- If your child has food allergies, teach them which foods they should avoid and what they look like.
- Educate your child about the importance of washing their hands before eating, not sharing food with friends and the rules of allergen-safe zones if their school has one.
- Clearly label your child’s lunchbox, food items, or containers with their name and allergen information to alert others of their dietary restrictions.

If you have food safety questions, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854), email [MPHotline@usda.gov](mailto:MPHotline@usda.gov) or chat live at [ask.usda.gov](https://ask.usda.gov) 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. Available in English and Spanish.

# SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR NOW ACCEPTING ENTRIES FOR 2024 COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

The South Carolina State Fair is now accepting entries for its annual competitive exhibits, which will be on display Oct. 9-20, 2024 during the S.C. State Fair. Exhibitors from across South Carolina are invited to submit their entries now through Sept. 1 in a variety of categories for a chance to compete at the state’s largest event.

“We are thrilled to once again bring together the incredible talent and creativity of South Carolinians at this year’s South Carolina State Fair,” says General Manager Nancy Smith. “Our competitive exhibits, a cherished tradition and the heart of our fair, highlight the exceptional skills and artistic achievements of our community. We eagerly anticipate celebrating South Carolina’s rich heritage and showcasing the outstanding works of our talented exhibitors.”

Talent of all ages and backgrounds are encouraged to participate in the competitions. More than \$300,000 in premiums will be offered for award-winning exhibits in agriculture, art, home and crafts, flowers, livestock and more. To enter the 2024 competitive exhibits, participants can visit [sccstatefair.org/competitions](https://sccstatefair.org/competitions) and find detailed instructions on how to submit their entries, along with a comprehensive list of categories available for participation.



The S.C. State Fair is a charitable organization dedicated to preserving and promoting South Carolina’s agricultural roots while supporting statewide education. Earlier this year, the S.C. State Fair awarded its largest amount of scholarship money, totaling \$530,000 in Ride of Your Life Scholarships to 53 South Carolina high school students to pursue their studies at any public or private college, university or technical college in the state.

The theme for the 2024 S.C. State Fair is “46 Reasons to Celebrate SC.” This year, the S.C. State

Fair invites residents and visitors to embark on a remarkable journey to celebrate the very essence of what makes the Palmetto State such a special place to live, work and play — the 46 counties that collectively make up South Carolina. In collaboration with this year’s theme, additional categories and divisions have been added to the S.C. State Fair’s 2024 competitive exhibits, including the “Spirit of Carolina” awards, showcasing the best of South Carolina’s beauty and creativity.

## ABOUT THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR

The South Carolina State Fair, a self-supporting 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, was organized in 1869 and is dedicated to preserving and promoting South Carolina’s agricultural roots while supporting statewide education. In addition to the 12-day South Carolina State Fair, the charitable organization manages annual football parking, is a popular event venue, and has awarded more than \$5 million in scholarships since 1997.

More information can be found at [SCStateFair.org](https://SCStateFair.org).

## LEARN THE BASICS OF ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Are you a South Carolina farmer or someone who wants to learn about organic certification?

If so, the Clemson University Department of Plant Industry’s Organic Certification Program, in partnership with the Southeast Transition to Organic Partnership Program, invites you to attend the Organic Certification Basics class.

Registration is underway for this class, slated for September 11, 17, and 19.

### WHAT TO EXPECT

Learn about organic certification and tools for new and transitioning organic farmers.

Learn about inspections and record keeping requirements by participating in a mock inspection.

This event is targeted toward agricultural service providers, farmers or gardeners interested in organic certification or in transitioning to organic production. But anyone who is interested is encouraged to register.

Topics include:

- Organic System Plans (OSP)
- Organic regulations
- Organic crop practices
- Addressing misconceptions about organic certification
- Inspections
- Record keeping requirements

Please bring a laptop or pen and paper to take notes.

### EVENT DETAILS

Cost: Free

Dates:

**Classroom Instruction**  
**Wednesday, September 11, 2024**  
Phillips Market Center  
117 Ballard Court, West Columbia, SC 29172

**Lower State Inspection**  
**Tuesday, September 17, 2024**  
Clemson University Coastal REC  
2865 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29414

**Upstate Inspection**  
**Thursday, September 19, 2024**  
Clemson University Organic Research Center  
101 Ag Services Center, Clemson, SC 29634

Contacts:

Gavin Berry  
[organic@clemson.edu](mailto:organic@clemson.edu) / 864-646-2129

Catherine McGuinn  
[cpmcgui@clemson.edu](mailto:cpmcgui@clemson.edu) / 864-646-2121

To attend a mock inspection, you must attend the classroom learning portion. For inspections, please dress for a farm visit.

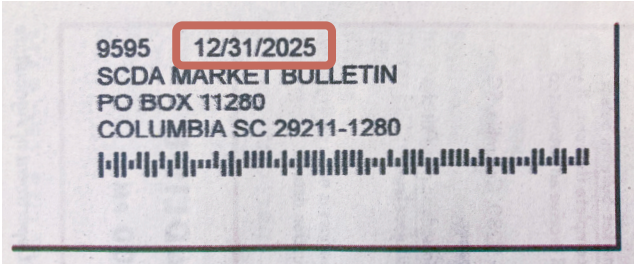
### HOW TO REGISTER

Visit [bit.ly/CU\\_Organic\\_Certification](https://bit.ly/CU_Organic_Certification)

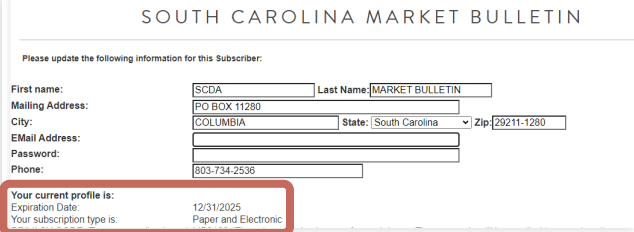
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## LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA PORK BOARD AND THE NATIONAL PORK BOARD

The election of pork producer delegate candidates for the 2025 National Pork Producers Pork Act Delegate Body will take place at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 8, 2024, at the Cypress Creek Clubhouse, 5520 Bethel Church Road, Pinewood, SC 29172. Any pork producer, who is a resident of the state and has paid all assessments due and is 18 years or older may be considered as a candidate and participate in the election. All eligible producers are encouraged to bring with them a sales receipt proving that hogs were sold in their name and the checkoff deducted.

For additional information contact the South Carolina Pork Board, P.O. Box 11280, Columbia, SC 29211. Telephone: 803-734-5229.