

Local Food Purchase Assistance

Quarterly Newsletter

December 2024



COST SHARE OPPORTUNITIES

- [GAP](#)
- [Produce Safety Rule Farm Improvement](#)
- [Water Quality Analysis](#)

QUARTERLY REVIEW

In Quarter 3 (Jul 1 – Sept 30), 13 aggregators including Batesburg-Leesville and Charleston County District Schools purchased from 130 producers. Out of 130, 82 of those producers identified as socially disadvantaged, and 42 were non socially disadvantaged.

In Quarter 3, \$745,559.11 was spent on food purchases. \$511,402.97 went towards food purchases from socially disadvantaged producers, and \$234,156.14 went toward food purchases from non-socially disadvantaged producers.

In Quarter 3, aggregators spent \$693,823.92 on food purchases from 117 South Carolina producers, and \$49,972.94 went toward food purchases from 13 producers in North Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee.

PRODUCER SPOTLIGHTS

Visit SCDA on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to learn more about your local producers.

Marvin Ross, Owner
Peculiar Pig | Dorchester

[Peculiar Pig](#) is a family-owned, heritage livestock farm operating for 14 years. They raise a variety of animals, including pigs, cows, goats, chickens, geese, and ducks, using sustainable practices like planting cover crops, and purchasing grain from local farmers.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Peculiar Pig, and feel free to leave a comment congratulating Marvin Ross on continuing his family legacy.



John Warren, Owner
Spade & Clover Gardens | Charleston

Founded by sculptor-turned-farmer John Warren, **Spade & Clover Gardens** is a sustainable farm located on Johns Island, SC, that cultivates a variety of vegetables, from tomatoes and kale to exotic crops like turmeric, ginger, and galangal. Established in 2013 through the Dirtworks Incubator Program, they focus on environmentally-conscious practices, including cover cropping to enrich the soil, and are committed to farming with minimal ecological impact.

Since enrolling in the LFPA program, they have been able to move even more product through Lowcountry Street Grocery.



UPCOMING EVENTS

South Carolina DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

2024 LFPA Workshops
 Local Food Purchase Assistance Program

Business Development- NRCS EQIP & CSP PROGRAMS

SC STATE FARMERS MARKET
 Buddy Jennings Building
 Friday, December 06
 9 AM - 12:30 PM
FREE!

117 Ballard Court West
 Columbia, SC 29172

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED APPLYING FOR NRCS EQIP & CSP PROGRAMS BUT ARE NOT SURE HOW TO START?

IF SO, THIS WORKSHOP IS FOR YOU!

LEARN
 NRCS PROGRAMS:
 Technical Assistance
 Financial Assistance

INTERACT
 State and Local
 NRCS & FSA
 Employees

NETWORK
 Current
 NRCS Customers
 & Other Producers

QUESTIONS?
 Jason Smith jsmith@scda.sc.gov
 Gail Westcot gail.westcot@usda.gov

REGISTER TODAY!

www.eventbrite.com/e/business-development-nrcs-eqip-csp-registration-10774944679597aff-oddtdcreator

Save the Date

2025 SOUTH CAROLINA FARMER RESOURCE RODEO
January 30 2025

An in-person networking gathering of resource providers for aspiring, beginning, and small-scale farmers at a single event!

2025 South Carolina Farmer Resource Rodeo
 Thursday, January 30, 2025
 9:00 AM — 4:30 PM
 Senate's End
 316 Senate Street
 Columbia, SC 29201
 Event Contact
 Jessica Thompson
 thompson.jessica@richlandcountysc.gov
 More information coming soon to scnewfarmer.org

Organizations Represented

- ✓ Extension and Education Providers
- ✓ Financial and Business Services
- ✓ Grants and Cost-Share Programs
- ✓ State Resources
- ✓ Federal Resources
- ✓ Regulatory Agencies
- ✓ Non-Profit and Community Support Organizations
- ✓ Land and Production Resources

South Carolina New and Beginning Farmer Program

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
 College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences

A Clemson University Cooperative Extension SC New and Beginning Farmer Program event held in collaboration with the following organizations

Highland South West LOCAL FOOD

SOUTH CAROLINA SBDC

USDA NIFA

Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. This study is funded by USDA-NIFA award No. 2022-20033-19707. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USDA-NIFA. Should you require special accommodations due to a disability, please notify our office ten days prior to the event.