

MARKET BULLETIN

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SENN BROTHERS PRODUCE GROWS SC FOOTPRINT WITH NEW OPERATION IN JASPER COUNTY

\$2.9 MILLION INVESTMENT WILL CREATE 19 NEW JOBS

BY SCDA AND SC DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Senn Brothers Produce, a produce distributor, announced Dec. 12 that it is growing its South Carolina footprint with a new operation in Jasper County. The company's \$2.9 million investment will create 19 new jobs.

Founded in 1944 and based in West Columbia, Senn Brothers Produce is a family-owned distributor of locally sourced produce. The company delivers fresh, high-quality fruits and vegetables sourced from local farmers and producers.

Senn Brothers Produce's new facility, located in the Cypress Ridge Business Park in Ridgeland, will have cold storage and office space to allow for expanded service to the Hilton Head and Savannah markets.

Operations are expected to be online in the third quarter of 2026.

The Coordinating Council for Economic Development awarded a \$75,000 Set-Aside grant to Jasper County to assist with the costs of site preparation and building construction.

The project was also supported by a grant from the Growing Agribusiness Fund administered by the South Carolina Department of Agriculture.

"With the growth in South Carolina, especially in the Lowcountry, we recognized a need for a locally owned South Carolina produce distributor. Not only will Senn provide produce for end users but one of our goals is to make it easier for farmers in the area to get their products to market. We are looking forward to building a strong agricultural distribution network that will benefit South Carolina." —*Senn Brothers Produce President Gregg Senn*

"Agribusiness has long been one of South Carolina's leading industries, and today's announcement



is further proof that it continues to flourish. We congratulate Senn Brothers Produce on this \$2.9 million investment and look forward to the impact these 19 new jobs will have in Jasper County." —*Gov. Henry McMaster*

"We are delighted Senn Brothers Produce is growing its presence in South Carolina and building on the strength of our thriving agribusiness industry. This new operation in Jasper County will expand the company's reach and create meaningful opportunities for the people of our state." —*Secretary of Commerce Harry M. Lightsey III*

"Senn Brothers' expansion, supported by a Growing Agribusiness Fund grant, will provide more opportunities for farmers in our state and connect more people to local food. I'm proud of the continued success and service of this homegrown South Carolina company." —*Commissioner of Agriculture Hugh Weathers*

"We welcome Senn Brothers Produce to Jasper County and thank them for their investment and the new jobs they are creating. Jasper County Council looks forward to providing the most business-friendly environment so that Senn Brothers Produce and other industries can flourish and grow here in our community." —*Jasper County Council Chairman Marty Sauls*

"Senn Brothers Produce is a leader in the distribution of premium fresh produce, and their family-owned company shares the values of hard work, quality and excellence that our region of South Carolina is known for, so their company will be an asset and a terrific fit for our business community. Every job Senn Brothers Produce creates here improves the quality of life for a local family. We are grateful that they chose the Southern Carolina region, and we look forward to working with them." —*Southern Carolina Alliance President and CEO Danny Black*

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



HUGH E. WEATHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

A GREAT YEAR FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

While many South Carolina farmers will remember 2024 as the year of Debby, Helene, and the drought, it was also an important year for growth in our agricultural economy.

In 2023, we announced the Growing Agribusiness Fund. And in 2024, we were able to start putting that money to work.

The South Carolina General Assembly appropriated \$40 million to launch the fund, which helps existing South Carolina businesses engaged in the processing, packaging, manufacturing, distribution, storage, and transportation of agricultural products, in turn providing more markets for agricultural producers.

Let me share some examples.

Senn Brothers' expansion into Jasper County, which you can read about in this issue, is one great example of how this funding is helping homegrown South Carolina businesses keep more food dollars in our state. They purchase a lot of fruits and vegetables from SC growers.

Another Growing Agribusiness Fund project announced this year was the expansion of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Marketing Association Grain Elevator in Anderson. By nearly doubling its grain storage capacity and adding new office and warehouse space, Farm

Bureau can better serve Upstate farmers.

Here's a unique one. Lowcountry Oyster Company is also expanding with the help of the Growing Agribusiness Fund, building a \$6.4 million seafood processing and cross-dock facility in Green Pond, South Carolina. The LowCo Oyster expansion will benefit not just that company but other South Carolina seafood companies that can use the facility. In addition, we saw a slew of other expansions and openings that will benefit the state's agribusiness industry. Here are a few highlights:

- Knockout Butchery is building a beef processing facility in Spartanburg County. Their \$2.6 million investment is supported by a \$600,000 grant from our department. The new Knockout Butchery facility is one of seven beef processing projects receiving funding as part of a round of nearly \$3.5 million in grants.
- Two craft beer manufacturers made economic development news this year: Low Tide Brewing is investing \$22.2 million and expanding its operations in Charleston County, while 357 Brewers is investing \$6.4 million and establishing operations in Horry County.
- Luray Peanut Co., a producer of packaged

Continued on page 2

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, CONTINUED

boiled peanuts, announced plans to expand its operations in Hampton County. The company's \$5.25 million investment will create 16 new jobs. You can't ever have enough boiled peanuts around.

- McEntire Produce is investing \$26.2 million to continue development of its state-of-the-art facility in Richland County. Like some of the others, a second-generation agribusiness operation.

I applaud all these companies for their success and their commitment to our state, and I'm glad we could play a role in their future.

Happy New Year.

CERTIFIED SOUTH CAROLINA What's In Season

JANUARY

BEETS
CABBAGE
CILANTRO
COLLARDS
KALE
MICROGREENS
MUSHROOMS
MUSTARD & TURNIP GREENS
RUTABAGAS
TURNIPS

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803-737-5900

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803-737-9700

Metrology Laboratory
803-253-4052

Fruit & Vegetable Inspection
803-737-4588

Milk Safety
803-667-1161

Hemp Farming Program
803-734-8339

Produce Safety
803-753-7267

Market News—Fruit & Vegetable
803-737-4671

Retail Food Safety
803-896-0640

Market News—Livestock & Grain
803-737-4491

Wholesale Food Safety
803-737-0147

UPCOMING EVENTS

Restaurant Week South Carolina

January 9 – 19

An 11-day celebration at hundreds of participating restaurants. From fine to casual dining, participating restaurants will feature new menu items, offer fan favorites, and multi-course menus during Restaurant Week South Carolina.

restaurantweeksouthcarolina.com

Anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens

January 18 & 19 • 10 am

Join us in observing the 244th anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens with guest speakers, ranger guided Battlefield Walks, calvary demonstrations, historic weapons demonstrations, 18th century music, and more! Throughout the day on Saturday and Sunday, the park will host free activities include guest speakers, Ranger Battlefield Walks, calvary demonstrations, historic weapons demonstrations, music, and lantern walks!

Cowpens National Battlefield

4001 Chesnee Hwy, Gaffney

nps.gov/cowp/index.htm

Sunday Oyster Roast

January 18 & 19 • 11 am – 5 pm

All-You-Can-Eat oysters brought to you by Reeds Catering and Lowcountry Oyster Co. Music: DJ CabanaVibez, Food Truck: Pizza da Michelino. \$35.

Firefly Distillery

4201 Spruill Avenue, North Charleston

info@fireflyvodka.com • 843-557-1405

fireflydistillery.com/event/sunday-oyster-roast-november

Lowcountry Creamery Group Tours

Offered by appointment only. \$15 dollars per person (cash or check only).

Lowcountry Creamery

2714 Landsdowne Road, Bowman

lowcountrycreamery.com/tours

facebook.com/lowcountrycreamery

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

SC Market Bulletin Subscription & Renewal Form

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Name _____ Paper: \$15 / 1 year Electronic: \$10 / 1 year
*Active email address required

Address _____ Paper & Electronic: \$20 / 1 year
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City _____ State _____ Zip _____ New Renewal

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NEXT AD DEADLINE

JANUARY 7 • 12:00 PM



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 GRASS CARP

\$12; Chan Cats, 65¢; 3-5" BG, \$1.40; 1-3" BG, 65¢; Threadfin Shad, \$1800/load
Clay Chappell
Richland
803-776-4923

TROUT

\$3; Tiger Bass, \$3; Bluegill, 50¢; Redear & Catfish, 75¢; Carp, \$12; Bass, \$2; Minnows, \$20/lb
Derek Long
Newberry
803-944-3058

CATTLE

10 SIMANG CROSS HEFRS

700+ lbs, \$1550 ea
Natalie Gruber
Orangeburg
843-560-0019

BLK ANG BULLS

Yon sired, \$2000
Harry Musselman
Spartanburg
864-316-5381

WEANED BEEF CALVES

3-5 m/o, vac/wormed, \$450+
Casey McCarty
Newberry
803-924-5239

REG HRFRD BULL CALF

10 m/o, polled, reg, \$1500
Rebecca Hudson
Sumter
803-305-8483

REG BLK ANG BULLS

14-15 m/o, \$2250+; hefrs, \$1500+
Marc Renwick
Newberry
803-271-8691

2 OPEN BLK ANG HEFRS

\$1600 ea
Debbie Wade
Chester
803-581-5050

BLK ANG BULL

10 m/o, parents Yon Family
Farm, \$1800
Angela Fincher
Aiken
803-640-4537

YNG BLK BALDY COW

w/sm Blk Baldy hefr calf,
\$1800; (4) 7 m/o Blk Ang
hefrs, from reg Blk Ang bull,
\$5000 for all 4
Terry Gibert
Greenwood
864-993-4212

18 M/O REG ANG BULL

Fescue resistant, forage
developed, AI sire & solid dam
in herd, Genomic EPDs, \$3500
Eddie Martin
Anderson
864-305-7992

REG BLK ANG BULLS

8-14 m/o, good EPDs &
b'lines, \$2500
Britton Mccarter
York
704-913-6083

REG BLK ANG BULLS

exc EPDs, 15-29 m/o, gentle,
Niagara, Traction & Hoover
Dam b'lines, \$2500-3000
Bobby Baker
Lancaster
803-804-2230

BLK ANG BROOD COW

6 y/o, \$2500; 4 y/o Blk Ang
breed bull, \$3800
Suzanne Reed
Anderson
864-293-0363

2 POLLED HRFRD BULLS

14 m/o, Kneese J-45 &
Hometowne, VG & exc
markings/color, \$2000 ea
John Gossett
Spartanburg
803-222-7786

2 Y/O BLK ANG HEFR

halter broke, open, pure, good
pedigree, gentle, \$2550 firm
Jim Williams
Anderson
864-556-9811

FARM EQUIPMENT

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

JD 400BU GRAIN CART

\$4800; IH 12' vibra-shank
field cult, \$1200; 3pt finish
mwr, \$500
Travis Collier
Anderson
864-617-1966

CIRCLE M HORSE TRL

GC, new tires & elec, solid
floor w/rubber mats, \$2500
Sarah Way
Colleton
843-270-3783

2 POST HOLE DIGGERS

1 Ford, both 3ph, \$300 ea;
pallet fork, \$300
Robert Hurley
Laurens
864-981-5352

'83 FORD F350

w/12' bed, GRC, gas 351W,
good tires & seat, 4 spd,
\$3500, text preferred
Glenn Murphey
Aiken
864-490-0746

JD 401 B TRACTOR

w/145 ldr, 2 sets remotes, \$5000
obo; ldr for JD 40 tractor,
w/trip bucket, \$500 obo
Wayne Faulkenberry
Lancaster
803-804-3246

'41 FA M

older restoration, well
cared for, used in shows &
parades, \$4000 obo
John Hunter
Greenville
864-979-2102

ALAMO FLAIL MWR

super HD w/ext knives,
\$1200; AerWay HD aerator,
8 tine, \$1000
Bill Rauton
Edgefield
803-480-0039

5' BHB GROOMING MWR

antiq/vintage '60-64, cuts
good, lrg 18 3/4" spoke whl on
deck, more, photos avail, \$400
Bob White
Spartanburg
864-457-2293

FORD TRACTOR

harrow, chisel plow, bush
hog, scrape blade, cult, tractor
needs work to run, \$5000
Carroll Dorn
Saluda
864-980-7483

3PH HAY UNROLLER

HD & will accommodate
4-5' bale, \$1150
Robert Ivey
Spartanburg
864-505-5330

15' NO TILL DRILL

Great Plains w/coulter cart,
EC, \$14,000
Jeffrey Gilmore
Chesterfield
843-517-0315

JD 4020

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

9' HD 3PH DISC HARROW

20" disc, nvr used, mfg by
Prime, \$1950 obo
Tommy Hayden
Lexington
803-447-4787

20'x7' ENCL TRL

Tandem axles, loading
ramp, new tires, EC, \$7750
Jerry Comeaux
Spartanburg
864-992-3869

'03 KUBOTA 3000DT

4WD, 350 hrs, GWC, \$11,000
Dmitriy Zhev
Greenville
864-420-6296

JD 922F HEADER

GC, \$9500 obo
Drake Kinley
Abbeville
864-353-9628

NH 258 ROLLER BAR RAKE

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

IH 820 COMBINE HDR AUGER

15', \$400; 3pt scoop pan, \$125
Charles Nichols
Saluda
864-992-9292

2R TRNSPLNTR

3ph w/2 water barrels, LN,
\$8500
Charles Clunan
Anderson
864-245-3803

MF 510 COMBINE

\$2500; MF 14' Leveling
harrow, \$1000
Arthur Hall
Aiken
803-334-5357

ALL METAL HD 5x12 TRL

8000 lb cap, brakes, 2 axle,
new 8 ply tires, photos avail,
\$4500
Denious Dimery
Lexington
803-796-2995

FORD 532 SQ BALER

\$1950; Hesston haybine
PT-7, runs, \$750; 6' 3ph
pinestraw rake, \$500
F Rowe
Newberry
803-271-7768

6' BHB BUSH HOG

\$700 obo; 10 1/2' BHB mod
3210, \$7777 obo; Ford 3000
tractor, dsl, new tires/rims
\$6500 obo
Lecil Hembree
Spartanburg
864-316-1222

DIRT 'SUPER PAN'

\$300; 2r cult, \$650
R Adams
Darlington
843-393-7280

JD 450C CRAWLER DOZER

broken hyd hose, frt push
open bucket, \$7000; 7'
boom pole, \$125
Franklin Brown
Charleston
843-224-4711

NH TC34DA TRACTOR

35 hp, HST, 4wd, 288 hrs,
ldr, quick att bucket, new
hyd hoses, EC, \$20,900; 5'
HD tiller, \$1490
Bob Vickery
Anderson
864-420-1079

3000 FORD TRACTOR

\$6000; farm trl, \$150; bush
hog, \$50; btm plow, \$150; more
Gary Seay
Spartanburg
864-578-8214

5' WOODS FINISH MWR

for FA Cub, \$600; IH 48" belly
mwr, for FA Cub, \$200; 12'
Finco spryr tank, 1ph, \$200
Robert Yonce
Aiken
803-685-7240

'17 KIOTI TRACTOR LDR

60 hp w/cal, 513 hrs,
\$32,000 obo
GL Williams
Aiken
803-663-3909

1050 GAL NURSE TANK

on frame, 4 new tires, new
pump, \$1800
James Bullock
Lexington
803-429-3234

'10 MF 1540 TRACTOR

4 wd, auto, frt end ldr, canopy,
675 orig hrs, \$12,000
Justin Clamp
Saluda
864-554-3023

'39 JD MOD H TRACTOR

restored, EC, \$3750; JD 963
wagon running gear, \$500;
DB 2r btm plow, 3pt, \$250
Jimmy Whittle
Lexington
803-422-9775

1R 3PT TREE PLNTR

\$800; Massey 231S, 1400
hrs, \$6500; 12' JD disc, \$900
Jack Hurst
Chesterfield
853-921-8574

JD 55 SQ BACK COMBINE

w/13' hdr & p-up reel, \$2000
Mike Greer
Spartanburg
864-419-9047

7' KING CUTTER MWR

pull type w/cylinder, \$1000
Melvin Barr
Pickens
864-360-5176

'23 JD BAT WING

12' rotary cutter, \$13,000
Stephen Gedosch
Greenville
864-982-4490

FARM LABOR

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

TREE LIMB TRIMMING

for roads, fence lines, field
edges, Chester & nearby cos
Damon Archie
Chester
803-517-7436

CUSTOM SPRIGGING CB

& Tifton 85 forage grass,
statewide, call for est &
schedule planting
Timmy Benton
Colleton
843-908-3222

PASTURE MGMT SERV

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

FORESTRY MULCHING

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

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

HAY HAULING

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

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

EXCAVATOR WORK

clean up after storm, stump
removal, brush clearing,
cleaning around fields &
fences
Jason Nichols
Saluda
864-992-2753

MOBILE SAWMILLING

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

SKID STEER WORK

storm clean-up, shop pads,
ponds, driveways, clearing,
irrig & water lines, serving
all of SC
Joe Leonard
Spartanburg
843-701-6804

TRACTOR/DUMPTRL WORK

incl brush cutting, grading,
fence post auger, disc, rock/
dirt del, tree clean up, etc
Benjamin McGill
Richland
803-381-2871

WANT SOMEONE

to trap or hunt hogs in
lower Greenwood co
John Lamb
Greenwood
864-980-8812

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

LIGHT TRACTOR WORK

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

MOBILE SAWMILL

custom milling, rough cut
lumber sales, qual work,
serving Lexington & nearby cos
Dakota Hollman
Lexington
803-687-6382

FENCE CONSTRUCTION

& repair
Sam Rasner
Dorchester
843-789-0874

MOBILE SAWMILL SERV

statewide, capable of sawing
logs from 8-20'L & 36" dia
Lowell Fralix
Barnwell
803-707-5625

EQUINE

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

14 Y/O BUCKSKIN QH GELD
good trl horse, intermediate rider, requires pasture buddies, easy keeper, \$5000
Aimee McCord
Greenville
864-915-8573

62.7 A LEXINGTON CO
wooded, 2 creeks, big lumber, exc hunting, pond/home sites, \$5250/A
Bobby Livingston
Richland
803-518-8702

132A SUMTER CO
timber, Pocatigo Swamp, w/gov easement, duck & deer hunting, \$800/A
Horace Roberson
Sumter
803-972-4800

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.

FARM LAND

LAND LEASE
to reputable Honey Bee keeper, for small harvest share, land has abundant nectar sources
George Key
Aiken
803-480-0076

80.2A EDGEFIELD CO
wooded, creek, map #024-00-00-073-00, \$4200/A
John Rhodes
Beaufort
803-346-9473

WANT PASTURE LEASE/RENT
5-10+/-A for grazing in S Greenville co, flex on terms/\$
Lance Turner
Greenville
706-490-4229

WANT LAND TO BUY
high & low for hunting, w/ in 90 mi of Moncks Corner
Harry Stroock
Berkeley
843-860-4667

WANT TO LEASE PASTURE
for reg Ang cows, no bull; or cut & bale hay from Britton Mccarter
York
704-913-6083

WANT 50-150A TO LEASE
for mature hunter in Saluda, Newberry, or Fairfield cos
Ted Brewer
Lexington
803-238-8888

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

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.

SUGARCANE
Blue Ribbon, \$75/100 stalks or 10 stalks for \$15
Freeman Noles
Barnwell
803-383-4066

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

GARDEN

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

BLKBERRY PLANTS
3/\$25; Figs, Pomegranate, Elderberry plants, \$20; grapevines, \$10
Freeman Noles
Barnwell
803-383-4066

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

GOATS / LLAMAS / SHEEP

DAIRY GOATS
wethers & does, mixed Lamancha, Alpine, Nubian, not disbudded, \$125+
Beverly Ammons
Berkeley
843-761-2962

8 M/O ND KIDS
1 buck, 2 does, \$150-250
Deborah Reed
Orangeburg
843-312-5018

LRG KATAHDIN RAMS
\$300; ewes, \$250
Francis Black
Barnwell
803-259-8428

F KIKOS
diff ages, some reg, \$200+
George Phillips
Williamsburg
843-992-1964

ST CROIX RAM LAMBS
low FEC, well-muscled, no disease, MGS for low FEC, \$425-450
Eddie Martin
Anderson
864-305-7992

6 M/O KATAHDIN RAM
gentle, hand raised, \$200
Tammy Hodge
Sumter
803-983-5041

REG ROYAL WHT RAM
8 m/o, exc genetics, rotational grazing, sire over 240 lbs, \$750
Dmitriy Zye
Greenville
864-420-6296

BLKBELLY SHEEP
yng & bred, \$300 ea
Thomas Waters
Colleton
843-696-6627

LAMBS
\$100
Rufus Genobles
Spartanburg
864-431-5651

5 DORPER X KATAHDIN EWES
1 y/o, bred to Dorper, \$250 ea
Benny Goff
Kershaw
803-269-8189

KATAHDIN RAM
B-4/22, proven breeder, \$300
Rebekah Olson
York
803-351-4994

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

YORKSHIRE/DUROC PIGS
30-40 lbs, \$70
Clayton Culler
Orangeburg
803-622-9790

PIGLETS
Berkshire/Yorkshire, \$75 ea
Michelle Langston
Anderson
864-325-0880

GUINEA HOG FEEDER PIGLETS
fixed M & F, \$50+, disc on 4+
Phillip Porter
Chester
803-558-7470

AGH BOARLINGS
B-10/9/24, Dam- DT MS
Opalescent Winner, \$200 ea
Kate Peake
Kershaw
803-420-0600

HAY & GRAIN

HQ 4x5 RND COASTAL
net wrap, no litter used, \$65 in field, \$80 at barn; sq, \$8.50 in barn; more
George Mccoy
Chesterfield
843-307-8866

LRG & SM RND CB BALES
\$75+; SQ HQ, \$10, del avail
Timmy Benton
Colleton
843-908-3222

'24 4x5 RND CB
net wrap, under shed, \$55/bale, in field, \$50/bale
Josiah Williams
Bamberg
843-693-1970

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

4x5 RND MIXED GRASS
\$55 ea
Darrell Baldwin
Laurens
864-876-3372

'24 CRABGRASS HAY
\$45/lrg rnd, \$30/sm rnd
Joseph Johnson
Berkeley
843-567-7774

'24 SQ FESCUE
NR, in barn, \$7 ea; goat & cow, \$6 ea
Jerry Butler
Laurens
864-697-6343

MOSTLY CRAB GRASS HAY
4x5 net wrap, 300 bales, \$40
James Livingston
Lexington
803-530-3169

'24 RND HQ COASTAL
\$70/bale; CQ, \$60/bale, shed kept, limed/fert, del avail
Eddie Phillips
Sumter
803-486-0081

COW HAY
\$50 ea; Wheat straw, \$40 ea; both 4x5 & net wrap
Richard Knight
Kershaw
803-427-6440

'24 4x5 RND CB
NR, barn stored, \$70/bale
Mike Cousins
Newberry
803-924-7539

'24 HQ COASTAL
\$8/sq bale
Michael Barton
Calhoun
803-707-4095

'24 4x5 RND CD
\$50/bale
Johnnie Legree
Bamberg
803-614-4665

'24 4x5 FESCUE
net wrap, \$45
Jason Nichols
Saluda
864-992-2753

'24 4x5 MIXED GRASS
net wrap, \$45/bale
Charles Nichols
Saluda
864-992-9292

'24 4x5 MIXED GRASS
GTQ & CQ, \$25/bale
F Rowe
Newberry
803-271-7768

'24 RND HQ CB
net wrap, in shed, \$70/bale; in field, \$60/bale
David Fulmer
Orangeburg
803-917-0467

CB
\$70; HQC, \$60, both 4x5 & net wrap; Rye straw, \$5/bale, all barn kept
Howard McCartha
Lexington
803-312-3316

'SUDEX HAY
\$50; 4x5 roll Wheat straw, \$5/bale, del avail
Travis Collier
Anderson
864-617-1966

CB W/SOME CRAB GRASS
\$55; Fescue, \$50; both '24 4x5 net wrap & in barn, east of Fountain Inn
Curtis Cooper
Laurens
864-270-7619

'24 4x5 NET COW HAY
\$50/bale; HQ net, \$60/bale; HQ Silage wrap dry Fescue, \$75/ea; silage wrap haylage, \$75/ea
Allen Kellett
Greenville
864-607-7444

'24 FESCUE/CLOVER MIX
4x5 rnd net wrap, \$45; 4x5 film wrap baleage, \$60
Jonathon Watkins
Saluda
864-980-6877

SQ CB
fert & sprayed, barn stored, \$8/bale
Austin Cathcart
Fairfield
803-603-7346

ALFALFA/ORCHARD GRASS BLEND
2 string, 36"x18"x14" sq bale, local del avail, \$22/bale
Matthew Knippen
Pickens
843-409-5060

'24 MIXED GRASS
barn kept, \$35/bale, outside, \$25/bale; barn kept Rye Grass, \$45/bale
Ron Jones
York
803-526-6308

'24 SQ FESCUE
fert, NR, in barn, \$6
Jan Hall
Greenville
864-525-9701

'24 FESCUE
in barn, \$60; Wheat straw, \$45, \$6.50/sq; Sudan grass & Millet, outside on tarp, \$40
Melvin Barr
Pickens
864-360-5176

'24 4x5 RND HQ CB
barn kept, \$80; field kept, \$65; CQ, \$55; net wrap, will del for fee
Tyler Sanderlin
Barnwell
803-709-2626

24 4x5 CQ COASTAL
net wrap, \$40
Gary Bryant
Darlington
843-858-3865

'24 SQ HQ CB
in barn, limed & fert, \$8 ea
Heyward Berry
Edgefield
803-480-2996

RND HQ CB
\$70/net wrap, \$40/twine wrap; Brn Millet hay, \$40; all shed kept
Clayton Leaphart
Lexington
803-892-2642

'24 HQ RND CB
800-900 lbs, net wrap, can del for fee, \$70
Charles Howle
Darlington
843-250-1636

'24 MIXED GRASS BERMUDA
Fescue & other summer grasses, 4x5 rnd, no weeds, \$50/bale
Quinton Whitener
Union
803-923-2036

PLANTS & FLOWERS

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

AZALEAS
Gardenia, Boxwoods, \$6; Tea Olives, \$8; Camellias & Carolina Sapphire, \$20; Little Gem Magnolia, \$35
Freeman 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

PEACH TREES
wht & yellow flesh free stone, \$20 ea, lv msg w/ name & number
Kenneth Marsengill
York
803-981-7559

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

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

HORSE HAY RING

\$400
Deborah Worth
Aiken
803-605-4644

4½×7 PORTA HUTS

livestock shelters, \$100+
Cecil Hooks
Marion
843-430-4906

GARDEN TRACTOR

Cub Cadet 1450, 14 hp
Kohler, hydro trans, hyd
lift, spare frame, tire, mwr
frame, \$425 obo
Ralph Taylor
Chester

803-789-5110

WHT OAK LUMBER

2"×6" & 8"×12'L, \$4/bdft;
Ariens 46" riding lawn mwr,
B&S 22 hp, EC, \$700 obo
Lecil Hembree
Spartanburg
864-316-1222

3PH TO BTM PLOW

\$200
Kenneth Mack
Orangeburg
803-534-8100

OAK FIREWOOD

freshly cut & split, \$8/12 pcs
bundle; or \$150/full truck bed
Nolan Harmon
Saluda
864-992-3190

JD 2755 SHORT BLOCK

\$1200
Robert Hurley
Laurens
864-981-5352

100' ¾" HDWE CLOTH

\$90; 55 gal wooden barrel,
\$300; red oak lumber, \$2/
bdft; 4×8 particle board,
\$9/sheet
Billy Eddins
Chesterfield
843-623-2427

CHICKEN LITTER

tractor trl qty, \$500/load w/
in Newberry Co, \$500/load +
del fee outside Newberry Co
Evan Horne
Newberry
803-960-2699

4' TUBE GATE

\$40; 7'×¾" chain hook one
end, \$20
Russell Goings
Union
864-426-2309

OAK FIREWOOD

long bed p/up, del & stack,
cut to size, \$150
Ronald Wright
Richland
803-606-1666

MEAT SAW

GC, needs motor, \$300
Joseph Johnson
Berkeley
843-567-7774

FIREWOOD AND/OR LOGS

hdwd trees on the ground,
\$5/load
Clyde Bridges
Greenville
864-354-7619

HDWD LUMBER

boards 1"×12"×8'L, \$4/
bdft, 300 bdft min/del, will
custom cut for lrg dels
Ryan Anderson
Greenville
864-234-2918

5 HP ELEC MOTOR

new, bought for grain auger,
nvr used, \$750
Charles Nichols
Saluda
864-992-9292

LRG 2 MAN CROSS-CUT SAW

\$75
R Long
Newberry
803-924-9039

TOP SOIL/FILL DIRT

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

GOURDS

for Purple Martin houses
or crafting, \$6/lrg, \$4/med,
\$2/sm
Glen Camp
Lexington
803-673-8013

5' T POST

\$3
Jack Hurst
Chesterfield
853-921-8574

2H WAGON

\$500; plastic barrels, \$10 ea;
more
Gary Seay
Spartanburg
864-578-8214

3 SPINDLES

used high-tinsel wire, 100
used T-post, insulators &
tighteners, \$500
James Bullock
Lexington
803-429-3234

55 GAL FG DRUMS

metal & plastic open top
w/top & rings, \$20+; solid
top 55 gal, \$20 ea; 275 gal
portow tanks, \$60 ea
Philip Poole
Union
864-427-1589

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

POULTRY

BOBWHIT QUAIL

& TN Red quail, flight cond,
\$6 ea
Dwight Gilliland
Saluda
864-941-0958

LAVENDER ORPINGTONS

& jumbo Coturnix quail,
\$5 ea
Brian Motley
Kershaw
803-315-7598

LRG HUBBLE PIGEONS

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

BOBWHITE QUAIL

flight/weather cond, 12 w/o,
\$4; 20 w/o, \$5.60
John Reed
Sumter
803-464-5757

GROWN GUINEAS

\$20 ea; yng, \$7+; Cochin
bantams, \$10+
Philip Poole
Union
864-427-1589

BANTAMS

Single Comb Wht Leghorns,
Blk Rosecombs, \$40/pr;
Show qual misc, \$5+, more
Marc Renwick
Newberry
803-271-8691

PIGEONS

\$10 ea; Splashed Sumatra
roos, \$30 ea
James Malphrus
Dorchester
843-821-8172

SWEATER/KELSO COCK

2 1/2y/o, \$50; sweater
pullets, \$20
Russell Goings
Union
864-426-2309

WHT KING PIGEONS

\$15 ea; Toulouse & Emden
geese, \$100/mated prs
Benson Ray
Georgetown
843-933-5367

PEACOCKS

4 Pieds, 4 Blk Shoulders,
\$300 ea
Sherrell Jackson
Lexington
803-796-1741

PIGEONS

Blk Eagles, \$10 ea; Wht
Racers, Blue Bars & Blue
Checks, \$5 ea; Made it Wht
prs, \$20
Smittie Smith
Pickens
864-561-5534

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

WRENS ABRUZZI RYE

P-99.34%, G-80%, \$18/bag;
Oats, P-99.78%, G-97%,
\$15/bag; both in 50lb bags,
pallet disc
Joshua Waters
Lexington
803-429-6114

PARTRIDGE PEA SEED

for quail restore, cleaned &
bagged, P-99.12%, G-21%,
D/HS-28%, D/HS&G-49%,
\$250/25lb, \$450/50 lb
Mark Jackson
York
803-222-5600

BROWN TOP MILLET

G-88%, D/HS&G-88%,
cleaned, in 50 lb bags, \$35/
bag
Jeffrey Gilmore
Chesterfield
843-517-0315

BLK OATS/COSAQUE

combine run, P-99.60%,
IM-0.40%, G-99%, \$8/bu
Trent Jamison
Barnwell
803-300-2255

WANT - FARM EQUIPMENT

15' BUSH HOG

root or landscape rake, 6-7',
3ph, both in usable cond
F Rowe
Newberry
803-271-7768

FA B

in GRC w/GC sheet metal
Robert Yonce
Aiken
803-685-7240

USED TRACTOR TIRE

11.5×38, on rim or not
Earl Mackey
Colleton
843-709-3677

JD 4230

running
William Griffin
Richland
803-776-6984

OLD 460 LONG TRACTOR

for parts
R Scoggins
York
803-839-9030

SMALL EXCAVATOR

firt bumper for 3000 Ford
Judy Wright
Cherokee
864-838-4763

BOX SCRAPE

Gill/Gannon/Woods roll-
over type, state size/cond/
price, photos helpful
Thomas McArdle
Greenville
864-270-4824

EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.

BEEF CATTLE

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

MODENA PIGEONS

yng & healthy
Thomas Waters
Colleton
843-696-6627

WANT - MISCELLANEOUS

PULPWOOD SAW TIMBER

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

ANY SIZE WASH POTS

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

ANY SIZE FARM BELLS

blksmith anvils, broken
bells for parts
R Long
Newberry
803-924-9039

FEED BAGS

empty
Lowe Sharpe
Lexington
803-422-3442

HOG TRAP

John Lamb
Greenwood
864-980-8812

Download
the listing of
abbreviations

[AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV/
MARKET-BULLETIN/
ABBREVIATIONS](https://www.agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin/abbreviations)

PROGRAM HELPS YOUNG PEOPLE EXPLORE AG CAREERS

BY SCDA

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture's Agribusiness Center for Research and Entrepreneurship (ACRE) is sponsoring a program called Agriculture Career Pathways that aims to introduce young people to a variety of careers within the agriculture sector. This program is a fantastic opportunity for those who may not be connected to school or who are exploring career options beyond traditional routes. It provides not only valuable industry experience, but also includes a cash stipend upon completion.

This program is suited for high school seniors, college students, and young adults who may be interested in exploring new career paths, specifically within the agricultural industry.

Applications for the Agriculture Career Pathways program are open now and close Jan. 17. This program is designed to showcase the diversity of careers within agriculture, beyond just farming, and can help participants gain valuable skills that will set them up for success in their future careers.

The classes are all online and start Jan. 29, 2025. The application process is simple, and more information can be found on the program's website, acre-sc.com/programs/career-pathways

Contact Kyle Player, 803-734-2324, kplayer@scda.sc.gov, with questions.

SC BOLL WEEVIL ASSESSMENTS CAN NOW BE PAID ONLINE

BY JONATHAN VEIT, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

South Carolina cotton growers can now pay their Boll Weevil Eradication Program assessment by visiting bollweevilsc.org.

The new online payment platform was designed through a collaboration between Clemson University's Department of Plant Industry and the farm accounting software company AgStar. The online system was developed in response to a request by the South Carolina Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Board.

"It was time to modernize the payment process. Farming is a tough business, and farmers are busy people. Our hope is that this online platform will save cotton producers a little time, so they can get back to the work at hand," said Steven Long,

assistant director of Clemson Regulatory Services who oversees and state's invasive species programs.

Invoices were emailed to the state's 543 cotton growers Nov. 13, and the assessment is due Dec. 15. The total statewide assessment is expected to be \$275,749.63.

The S.C. Boll Weevil Eradication Program monitors the state's cotton crops for boll weevils through an intricate system of traps.

While some people think the boll weevil is a problem of the past, the insect still infests cotton at the southern tip of Texas, as well as Mexico, Central America and South America, and needs to be taken seriously.

"The boll weevil is the most devastating insect pest of cotton, and profitable production of cotton in the U.S.A. is not possible unless we continue to monitor and eradicate it. While there are rules that equipment coming into the state must be cleaned and disinfected, all it would take is a few 'hitchhikers' to cause a big problem," said Long

South Carolina is part of Southeastern Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, which includes South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Missouri, North Carolina and Virginia. According to U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service, South Carolina harvested 210,000 acres of upland cotton in 2023 with a value of \$208.7 million.



NEW CLEMSON LABORATORY WILL HELP FARMERS CONTINUE SPECIALTY CROP EXPORTS

BY JONATHAN VEIT, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded Clemson University \$5 million to fund research and design projects that will develop food packaging to meet emerging Canadian and European packaging regulations.

The Clemson University Sustainable Packaging Innovation Lab (SPIL) will partner with private industry and other academic institutions to finalize sustainable packaging solutions, enabling South Carolina and U.S. farmers to continue exporting fruits and vegetables valued at \$143 billion in 2023.

The new international regulations aim to eliminate single-use and small-quantity packaging in favor of bulk bins for produce quantities under 1.5 kg. According to the regulations, plastic used in packaging must contain more post-consumer recycled content. The regulations also seek to eliminate shrink wrap and require compostable labels on produce, so everything can be composted together, enhancing sustainability.

These regulations follow efforts by the United Nations to reduce plastic waste globally and work toward a Global Plastics Treaty.

"Governments have begun setting targets and regulations associated with packaging waste, especially since studies have found that up to 40 percent of plastic waste comes from packaging. SPIL will help ensure our specialty crops packaging meets these new requirements and can continue to be exported," said James Sternberg, Clemson University assistant professor of sustainable packaging.

A preliminary analysis of 207 specialty crops identified by the USDA showed that plastic use in export packaging is primarily found in clamshells, mesh bags, plastic bags, plastic tubs, bulk bins and plastic sleeves with direct food contact labeling.

"In many cases, the requirements can be met by substituting more recyclable materials; however, significant challenges remain in designing packaging for recycling and incorporating post-consumer content in subsequent generations of the material," Sternberg said.

SPIL will unite Clemson's Department of Food, Nutrition and Packaging Science (FNPS) faculty with expertise in areas such as chemical synthesis and recycling of polymers; organic composting and lifecycle analysis; antimicrobial and biodegradable films; active and intelligent packaging; package and material testing; polymer processing and mechanical recycling; and postharvest biology. The lab will also include international faculty from

Germany, Ukraine, and Canada. Clemson faculty members include:

- James Sternberg, assistant professor of sustainability
- Andrew Hurley, professor, director of research for Clemson FRESH
- Paul Dawson, professor, Food, Nutrition, Packaging Science
- Kay Cooksey, Cryovac Endowed Professor
- Greg Batt, associate professor, director of Packaging Dynamics Lab
- Duncan Darby, professor, director of the Center for Flexible Packaging
- Scott Whiteside, professor, FDA & USDA Process Authority for LACF
- Karin Albornoz, assistant professor, Post-Harvest

The Clemson faculty will team with Clemson FRESH, a collaboration of academic and industry experts addressing challenges across the food value chain. FRESH will use its national platform and industry network to promote requests for proposal and notices of funding.



Faculty members James Sternberg (L) and Andrew Hurley (R) will lead the new Clemson laboratory.

A preliminary step towards receiving funding is filling out the Sustainable Packaging Innovation Lab (SPIL) intake form at shorturl.at/4SzFC.

"It's imperative that we keep these valuable markets open to specialty crop producers across South Carolina and the U.S. Clemson FRESH looks forward to bringing its experience convening experts from academia and industry to help with the administration and marketing of this exciting opportunity," said Anne Barr, Clemson FRESH executive director.

COMMERCIAL SEAFOOD APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR 2025

PHOTOS BY HAILEY MURPHY, S.C. SEA GRANT CONSORTIUM

Are you interested in working on the water, becoming part of a hard-working, close-knit community, and providing healthy, locally sourced food?

The South Carolina Commercial Seafood Apprenticeship Program is your entry to a fulfilling career in commercial fishing and mariculture!

S.C. Sea Grant Consortium and Clemson Extension, together in partnership with the Town of McClellanville, the McClellanville Watermen's Association, and the McClellanville Community Foundation are thrilled to offer the second session of this exciting new program.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR YOU?

- **Hands-On Learning:** Blend classroom instruction with real-world experience in commercial fishing and mariculture.
- **Local Expertise:** Tap into our rich heritage and knowledge to learn the art of shrimping, crabbing, growing oysters, clams, and more.
- **Community Roots:** The majority of our instructors are local captains, fishermen and farmers. Classes will be held in the historic, old middle school, at both local commercial seafood docks and at sea.

The upcoming session is scheduled for May 5 – May 30, 2025. Classes will be held Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm, and you must be able to commit to attending for the full duration of the program.

Ready to embark on this exciting journey? Applications are now open until February 18, 2025! For more information or to get involved, contact Angela Treptow at 843-823-4866 or angela.treptow@scseagrant.org. Scan the QR code to visit us online.



SCAA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JANUARY 26 – 28, 2025

KERSHAW, LEXINGTON, AND NEWBERRY COUNTIES

Don't miss out on the South Carolina Agritourism Association's 2025 Annual Conference, tailored specifically for farmers and Agritourism professionals like you! This conference offers a valuable opportunity to gain practical insights, learn from top industry experts, and connect with fellow farmers. You'll hear inspiring success stories, explore fresh ideas to enhance your Agritourism business, and discover innovative ways to promote local agriculture. Take this chance to boost your farm's growth and potential. Secure your spot today and be part of an exciting journey towards Agritourism success.

Last day to register is January 15, 2025.

Visit scagritourism.org/events/scaa-annual-conference to download the registration form or register online.





2025

Annual Conference

JANUARY 26 – 28, 2025 | KERSHAW | LEXINGTON | NEWBERRY

The South Carolina Agritourism Association is excited to invite you to the Midlands for the 2025 SCAA Annual Conference! The conference will include a welcome reception with silent auction, vendors, and networking, followed by two days of touring outstanding agritourism farms and with fantastic educational speakers at each stop.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 26	Monday, January 27	Tuesday, January 28
<p>Check into host hotel Hampton Inn Newberry Opera House 1201 Nance St, Newberry, SC</p> <p>Warm Up Social</p> <p>Silent Auction</p> <p>Vendors</p> <p>Networking</p>	<p>Breakfast</p> <p>Tour Enoree River Winery</p> <p>Lunch and Tour Lever Farms</p> <p>Tour Bowers Farm</p> <p>Tour Carolina Pride Pastures</p> <p>Cocktails & Members' Business Meeting and Farm to Table Dinner at Enoree River Winery</p> <p>Return to hotel</p>	<p>Breakfast</p> <p>Tour Goat Daddy's Farm</p> <p>Lunch and Tour Farm 1780</p> <p>Return to hotel</p>

REGISTRATION

HOTEL

\$125 for SCAA members | **\$225** for Non-members

Cost of the conference includes bus transportation and all meals and snacks

Register online at scagritourism.org/events/scaa-annual-conference

Pay online by credit card or mail a check to:
Jackie Moore, SCAA, PO Box 11280, Columbia, SC 29211

Early Bird Special: Registrations received by December 15, 2024 will receive an event T-shirt. Be sure to enter your t-shirt size with your registration!

Last date to register is January 15, 2025

Hampton Inn Newberry Opera House
1201 Nance St, Newberry, SC

Special \$114 (standard) / \$160 (suite) room rate honored until January 10, 2025

Call 803-276-6666 to book

Room Block Name: "SC Agritourism Assoc"

Parking, breakfast, & internet included

QUESTIONS? Contact Jackie Moore at jmoore@scda.sc.gov / 803-734-2144

USDA ANNOUNCES NEW FEDERAL ORDER, BEGINS NATIONAL MILK TESTING STRATEGY TO ADDRESS H5N1 IN DAIRY HERDS

BY USDA

On Dec. 6, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced the start of its National Milk Testing Strategy (NMTS), which builds on measures taken by USDA and federal and state partners since the outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 in dairy cattle was first detected in March 2024.

USDA is issuing a new Federal Order, as well as accompanying guidance, requiring that raw (unpasteurized) milk samples nationwide be collected and shared with USDA for testing. This new guidance from USDA, which was developed with significant input from state, veterinary and public health stakeholders, will facilitate comprehensive H5N1 surveillance of the nation's milk supply and dairy herds.

"Since the first HPAI detection in livestock, USDA has collaborated with our federal, state and industry partners to swiftly and diligently identify affected herds and respond accordingly. This new milk testing strategy will build on those steps to date and will provide a roadmap for states to protect the health of their dairy herds," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "Among many outcomes, this will give farmers and farmworkers better confidence in the safety of their animals and ability to protect themselves, and it will put us on a path to quickly controlling and stopping the virus' spread nationwide. USDA is grateful to our partners who have provided input to make this strategy effective and actionable, and we look forward to continued collaboration in seeing this through."

This NMTS is designed to increase USDA's and public health partners' understanding of the virus' spread in the United States through a structured, uniform, and mandatory testing system that will help swiftly identify which states, and specific herds within them, are affected with H5N1; support the rapid implementation of enhanced biosecurity measures to decrease the risk of transmission to other livestock; and importantly, inform critical efforts to protect farmworkers to help lower their risk of exposure. USDA believes this additional step is needed to proactively support effective biosecurity measures, which is key for states and farmers to contain and eliminate H5N1 infections from their livestock and to eliminate HPAI in livestock across the U.S. dairy population.

"This testing strategy is a critical part of our ongoing efforts to protect the health and safety of individuals and communities nationwide," said HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra. "Our primary responsibility at HHS is to protect public health and the safety of the food supply, and we continue to work closely with USDA and all stakeholders on continued testing for H5N1 in retail milk and dairy samples from across the country to ensure the safety of the commercial pasteurized milk supply. We will continue this work with USDA for as long and as far as necessary."

The Federal Order makes three new requirements. First, it requires the sharing of raw milk samples, upon request, from any entity responsible for a dairy farm, bulk milk transporter, bulk milk

transfer station, or dairy processing facility that sends or holds milk intended for pasteurization. Second, the Federal Order requires herd owners with positive cattle to provide epidemiological information that enables activities such as contact tracing and disease surveillance. Finally, like USDA's April 24 Federal Order, it requires that private laboratories and state veterinarians report

positive results to USDA that come from tests done on raw milk samples drawn as part of the NMTS. The first round of silo testing under the Federal Order and the NMTS is scheduled to begin the week of Dec. 16, 2024, although some states are already conducting testing compatible with the NMTS.

This new Federal Order

does not override or supersede USDA's April 24 Federal Order, which still requires the mandatory testing of lactating dairy cows prior to interstate shipment and requires that all privately owned laboratories and state veterinarians report positive test results connected with those tests. The new Federal Order announced today is intended to complement and enhance this existing order.

NATIONAL MILK TESTING STRATEGY

As part of the National Milk Testing Strategy, APHIS will work with each state in the contiguous United States to execute testing in a way that works for the state and that aligns with the NMTS standards. Once a state begins testing under the NMTS, APHIS will place that state into one of five stages based on the HPAI H5N1 virus prevalence in that state. As states move to another stage, we will have a stronger picture of our progress towards eliminating HPAI H5N1 at state, regional and national levels. These stages include:

STAGE 1: STANDING UP MANDATORY USDA NATIONAL PLANT SILO MONITORING

USDA will immediately begin nationwide testing of milk silos at dairy processing facilities. This national sample will allow USDA to identify where the disease is present, monitor trends, and help states identify potentially affected herds.

STAGE 2: DETERMINING A STATE'S H5N1 DAIRY CATTLE STATUS

Building on the results of silo monitoring, in collaboration with states, USDA will also stand up bulk tank sampling programs that will enable us to identify herds in the state that are affected with H5N1.

STAGE 3: DETECTING AND RESPONDING TO THE VIRUS IN AFFECTED STATES

For states with H5N1 detections, APHIS will work quickly to identify specific cases and implement rapid response measures, including enhanced biosecurity using USDA's existing incentives programs, movement controls and contact tracing.

STAGE 4: DEMONSTRATING ONGOING ABSENCE OF H5 IN DAIRY CATTLE IN UNAFFECTED STATES

Once all dairy herds in a given state are considered to be unaffected, APHIS will continue regular sampling of farms' bulk tanks to ensure the disease does not re-emerge. Bulk tank sampling frequency will progressively decline as the state demonstrates continual silo negativity (e.g., weekly, monthly, quarterly if continually negative). If a state becomes affected, USDA will re-engage detection and response activities, and the state will return to Stage 3.

STAGE 5: DEMONSTRATING FREEDOM FROM H5 IN U.S. DAIRY CATTLE

After all states move through Stage Four, APHIS will work with the states to begin periodic sampling and testing to illustrate long-term absence from the national herd.

As of this announcement, the following six states will be included in the first round of states brought into the program for testing: California, Colorado, Michigan, Mississippi, Oregon, and Pennsylvania.

As states begin testing under the NMTS and as they move through the five stages, their progress will be shared at USDA HPAI in Livestock Testing. While the majority of states will enter the NMTS at Stage 1, we anticipate states with ongoing testing may meet the testing requirements described above in Stages 2-4. USDA will work closely with states to determine each state's status. While the majority of states will enter the NMTS at Stage 1, we anticipate states with ongoing testing may meet the testing requirements described above in Stages 2-4. USDA will work closely with states to determine each state's status.

WEBINARS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

USDA will co-host information sessions for all state animal health officials and state dairy regulators the week of Dec. 9 to learn more about the National Plant Silo Monitoring and sampling procedures. These sessions are scheduled for Tuesday Dec. 10 and Wednesday Dec. 11 to allow multiple opportunities for dairy regulators and industry stakeholders to participate.

APHIS has been working diligently to educate and inform key state and animal health partners about this Federal Order and National Milk Testing Strategy, as well as to establish written agreements with states to support how they can work with USDA under the new strategy.

APHIS has also sought and received input from state animal and public health partners about potential needs for the strategy and implementation across their various states, particularly for standardized sampling tools, outreach, and potential personnel and fiscal resources from USDA.

In the coming weeks, APHIS will include additional states in the NMTS. Throughout this process APHIS will continue to support and offer resources to states that develop bulk milk testing plans in a way that meets the needs of each state and the importance of the response. APHIS will work with each of the 48 contiguous states to participate in the program.

To learn more about USDA's response to HPAI in dairy cattle, visit aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-detections/livestock.

