MARKET BULLETIN

Vol. 99 | Num. 4

— February 20, 2025 ———

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DROUGHT STATUS UNCHANGED THROUGHOUT SC; FIRE RISK REMAINS CONCERN

BY SCDNR

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The drought status remains unchanged across South Carolina after wintry weather passed through the state, though risk of forest fires remains a concern.

The S.C. Drought Response Committee, meeting via conference call Jan. 31, decided to maintain incipient drought — the lowest level on a scale from incipient, moderate, severe to extreme — for 32 counties that include the Upstate, Pee Dee and down to parts of the Lowcountry. Normal drought conditions were maintained for 14 counties from the Midlands to the southeast corner of the state.

Two of the state's drought management areas did not have enough representatives for a quorum, which is required for a vote, however, there was support among the attending members to maintain the current status.

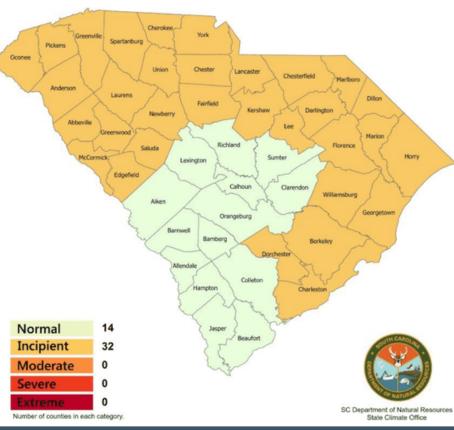
Winter rainfall has been below normal for most of South Carolina, State Climatologist Hope Mizell said.

During December the driest conditions were reported across the Pee Dee and Coastal plain, with above normal rainfall recorded across portions of the Upstate. January brought dry conditions statewide, with the lowest precipitation totals (less than 50 % of normal) across the Upstate and Pee Dee.

The state saw a higher-than-normal number of wildfires and more acres burned than usual in both December and January, according to the S.C.

Forestry Commission.

As of Jan. 30, the Forestry Commission responded to 200 wildfires that burned more than 531 acres. The number of fires in January was twice the five-year average, and the number of acres burned were 41% above the five-year average. Wildfire activity in the state typically peaks in February through April, since vegetation from last growing season has gone dormant and been killed by frost.



The drought status remains unchanged across South Carolina after wintry weather passed through the state, though risk of forest fires remains a concern. (SCDNR)

Most wildfires start in dead, cured grass and leaves on the ground, and this time of year normally brings lower relative humidity and frontal passages that bring higher winds.

"We are particularly concerned with the high amounts of fuel on the ground because of Hurricane Helene," said Darryl Jones, with the S.C. Forestry Commission. "We will have trouble accessing areas with all of the large trees and debris down on the ground, and there will be a lot of potential for larger wildfires and more extreme fire behavior as trees downed by Helene dry out and become available to burn."

Jones reminded residents that more than half of the wildfires in South Carolina every year start because of outdoor debris burning. He encouraged burning only on days when the weather is suitable, making sure to notify the Forestry Commission and to follow all required precautions for burning yard debris.

Though groundwater conditions and lake level elevations are generally in good shape across the state, the persistent, below normal streamflow levels in the Upstate, Pee Dee, and lower Santee regions supported maintaining the incipient drought status for counties in those regions, according to the S.C. Department of Environmental Services. Streamflow levels are modestly better in the central and lower parts of the state and support those counties remaining in a no drought status, the agency said.

The Drought Response Committee will next meet Feb. 26.



AG PRIORITIES IN WASHINGTON

ur agency is a member of the National **Association of State** Departments of Agriculture, and this is the time of year when we lay out our policy priorities for the year. It's especially important this year with priorities and systems shifting rapidly in Washington, DC under the new administration. We have to make sure farmers' needs are front and center.

Of course, there are areas in which I disagree with other agriculture commissioners. Each state is unique, and we all come from different political perspectives. But farm policy often cuts across political lines, and we can find common ground on key issues. Here are the common priorities we've come up with for the year:

- Farm Bill Congress must pass a Farm Bill this year. This bill shapes agricultural policy, supports farmers, ensures food security and promotes sustainable natural resource management.
- Food Systems —
 NASDA will advocate
 for policies and programs
 that fortify U.S. food
 systems, enhance supply
 chain resilience, and
 improve reliable access
 to nutritious foods.
- Pesticide Regulation —
 We will engage with EPA
 to ensure science-based
 standards and state
 input are incorporated
 in regulatory initiatives
 such as the Endangered
 Species Act Workplan.

- PFAS Per-and-polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) - and the degree of risk they present — are a hot topic across communities and industries including agriculture. We need federal strategies to measure and address the risk of PFAS on agricultural land. NASDA will advocate for federal programs that will support farmers and ranchers in maintaining the health and productivity of their land and livestock.
- State Cooperative
 Agreement Funding —
 We will advocate for
 Congress to restore and increase funding for cooperative agreements.
 Cooperative agreements are designed to increase coordination when addressing complex regulatory issues and sharing resources between state and federal governments.

At the end of February, some of our executive staff will be attending NASDA's Winter Policy Conference in DC to hammer out some of these issues.

Although I didn't get to attend the South Carolina Watermelon Association's annual meeting, it was nice to get to visit at the annual meeting of the South Carolina Agritourism Association, and at the Southeastern Wildlife Exposition, or SEWE, in Charleston. Hope to see you somewhere down the road.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Black History Month Celebration

February 1 - 28

Our second annual Celebrating Black History Month, presented by the Settlement Community Committee, features celebration displays, an exciting lineup of guest speakers and a delicious taste of Gullah cuisine throughout the month. A portion of the proceeds will benefit local churches and charities.

Boone Hall Plantation Gin House 1235 Long Point Road, Mt. Pleasant

jwright4223@yahoo.com

boonehallplantation.com/special-events/black-historymonth

Sunday Oyster Roast

February 23 • 11 am - 5 pm

These ticketed events on select Sundays offer music by local DJs as you shuck All-You-Can-Eat oysters brought to you by Reeds Catering and Lowcountry Oyster Co.

Firefly Distillery 4201 Spruill Avenue, North Charleston

info@fireflyvodka.com • 843-557-1405 fireflydistillery.com/event/sunday-oyster-roast-february

Girls Night Out

February 26 • 6 – 8:30 pm

We are a family-run craft winery and vineyard focused on producing high-quality small batches of local, innovative wines you can't find anywhere else. Join us for Girls Night Out the last Wednesday of every month. \$25.

City Scape Winery 589 Dunklin Bridge Road, Pelzer

facebook.com/cityscapewinery

864-329-0615 cityscapewinery.com

Farm Chores with Macy

February 28 • 3 – 5 pm

This delightful event is designed for kids aged 10 and under, offering them a unique opportunity to get hands-on experience in farm life. Macy will lead young guests through a variety of engaging activities, where they can help with daily farm chores, learn about the animals, and discover the importance of sustainable farming practices. From feeding the animals to collecting eggs and tending to the garden, children will gain valuable insights into where their food comes from and how to care for the land. Cost: \$15.

Outside Inn Camp + Farm 1074 Woolbright Road, Santee

stay@outsideinncampground.com • 803-974-8585 eventbrite.com/e/farm-chores-with-macytickets-1082804941729

Lowcountry Creamery Group Tours

Lowcountry Creamery now offering group tours of the dairy and facility. Offered by appointment only. \$15 dollars per person (cash or check only). Great for anyone aged 8 and up. Groups of at least 10 and no more than 30 people. I-I.5 hours for general tours, 2 hours for field trips. Available activities depend on the age, day of the week, and weather.

Lowcountry Creamery 2714 Landsdowne Road, Bowman

lowcountrycreamery.com/tours facebook.com/lowcountrycreamery

Market Bulletin Office

Monday - Friday • 8 AM - 4:30 PM 803-734-2536 • marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin

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Commissioner's Office 803-734-2190

Certified SC Program 803-734-2207

Consumer Protection 803-737-9700

Fruit & Vegetable Inspection 803-737-4588

Hemp Farming Program 803-734-8339

Market News-Fruit & Vegetable 803-737-4671

Market News-Livestock & Grain 803-737-4491

Market News Recording 803-737-5900

Metrology Laboratory 803-253-4052

> Milk Safety 803-667-1161

Produce Safety 803-753-7267

Retail Food Safety 803-896-0640

Wholesale Food Safety 803-737-0147

The South Carolina Market Bulletin

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POLICIES FOR ADVERTISING

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

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

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.

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

- Online: Go to agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin. Select "Submit Market Bulletin Ad" and complete the form. If you include your email address, you will receive an automated reminder for a renewal.
- · Mail: SC Market Bulletin, PO Box 11280, Columbia, SC 29211. You must use 8.5 × 11 inch paper.
- Email: Send ads to marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov. Put the words "Market Bulletin ad" in the subject line.
- Fax: 803-734-0659

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

> **NEXT AD DEADLINE FEBRUARY 25 • 12:00 PM**



SCDA State Farmers Markets

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FARMERS MARKET

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

GREENVILLE STATE FARMERS MARKET

1354 Rutherford Road Greenville, SC 29609

864-244-4023

PEE DEE STATE FARMERS MARKET

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

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

\$12; Chan Cats, 65¢; 3-5" BG, \$1.40; 1-3" BG, 65¢; Shlckr, 1-3", 65¢ Clay Chappell Richland 803-776-4923

F1 BASS

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

CATTLE

11 M/O HEFR

dam-full Holstein, sire-Jersey, photo avail, \$700 Sharon Payne Oconee 864-888-7916

REG HRFRDS

bred to reg Red Ang bull & to reg South Poll bull, calving in Apr, \$2000/head A Williams Edgefield 803-215-8146

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, 14-18 mo, gentle, Traction & Hoover Dam b'lines, \$2500-3000 Bobby Baker Lancaster 803-804-2230

BUCKING BULLS

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

WEANED BEEF CALVES

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

2 WAGYU/ANG COWS

both bred to reg polled Wagyu bull, F3 calves due mid '25, \$2750 ea James Boatwright Spartanburg 864-430-9943

RED ANG BULLS

2 y/o, AI sired BSE, \$4000+ David Miller Edgefield 706-840-3709

LINE ONE HRFRD BULLS

\$2500+ James Drake Anderson 864-352-3774

24 M/O REG ANG BULL

Fescue resistant, BSE, CE, cow maker, Genomic EPDs, \$3500 Eddie Martin Anderson 864-305-7992

2 Y/O REG RED ANG BULL

proven, from Bull Hill Farm, \$3200; Blk Ang Bull, 10 m/o, parents Yon Family Farm, \$1800 Angela Fincher Aiken 803-640-4537

FARM EQUIPMENT

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

81/2 MORRA HAY RAKE

\$1500; 5' Aerator, 14" drum, 2" spikes, \$375; both in EC Bob Morgan Dillon 843-845-7914 **3PH HAY TETHER**

2 basket, PTO drive, \$1550; PT-7 Hesston haybine, needs roller, \$800; 6' 3ph pine straw rake, \$750 F Rowe Newberry 803-271-7768

JD 8300 GRAIN DRILL

GC, \$4500 obo David Shumpert Lexington 803-920-8710

KUHN GF 5001T TEDDER \$2900; JD 752 tedder, \$1800;

Woods RD72 3pt finish mwr, \$1200 Michael Brown Newberry 803-924-1556

JD 435 4×6, \$4400; JD 328 sq baler,

\$4000; JD 702 rake, Kuhn 18 bale accum & grabber, \$15,500; more Halleck Butts 803-480-9760 **BHB GROOMING MWR** antiq/vintage '60-64, 5',

cuts good, lrg 18¾" spoke whl on deck, more, photos avail, \$400 Bob White Spartanburg 864-457-2293

MF 1359 MWR COND

9' 3" cut, rubber rolls, EC, \$11,500 Harry Mcmillan Spartanburg 864-327-7369

'58 MF TO35 DELUXE

GRC & GWC, \$4000 obo Cathy Sanders Darlington 843-383-1958 JD 4840 CAB

AC, pwr shft, 9917 hrs,

\$28,000 obo Christian Richburg Clarendon 803-460-4385

JD 5115M W/540M LDR

self-leveling, cab H/A, radio, 700 hrs, more, \$95,000 Ronny Wilson Anderson 864-356-6959

8'×16' ALL STEEL TRL

w/2 ldr pads, 2 axles w/4 tires, \$4000, no text Jimmy Wilson Anderson 864-923-2348

'39 JD MOD H TRACTOR hand crank, restored,

VGC, \$3500; JD 963 wagon running gear, \$500 Jimmy Whittle Lexington 803-422-9775

TRANSPORT GRAIN AUGER

Hutchinson 8"×40', GWC, \$6000 Jack Sandifer Bamberg 803-793-3389

IH 820 COMBINE HDR AUGER

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

'23 JD BAT WING

12' rotary cutter, \$15,000 obo; 24' triaxle trl, loading ramps, VGC, new tires \$5600 Stephen Gedosch Greenville 864-982-4490

15' NO TILL DRILL Great Plains w/coulter cart.

EC, \$13,000; JD 918 flex head, \$12,000 Jeffrey Gilmore Chesterfield 843-517-0315

FORD 3000 DSL w/6' BHB bushhog, new

battery, starter, tires, \$6800 obo; BHB 10' bushhog mod 3210, \$7775 Lecil Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222

NH TC34DA TRACTOR 35 hp, HST, 4wd, 293 hrs,

ldr, quick att bucket, new hyd hoses, I owner, EC, \$20,900 **Bob Vickery** Anderson 864-420-1079 20'×7' ENCL TRL

Tandem axles, loading

ramp, new tires, EC, \$7250 Jerry Comeaux Spartanburg 864-992-3869

4' HARDEE BUSH HOG \$800; 18'×7' dual axle trl,

\$4100; 1ph carrier, \$300 Leslie Tucker Chesterfield 843-634-7744

3PT HITCH DIRT 'SUPER PAN'

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

2 basket, PTO, VGC,

Neimeyer brand, \$1750 George Mccoy Chesterfield 843-307-8866

2R TRNSPLNTR

3ph w/2 water barrels, LN, \$7500; NH273 sq baler, \$1000 Charles Clunan Anderson 864-245-3803

'03 4×4 F250

reg cab, V8, gas, 6 spd man, 162k mi, GC, \$9250 obo Drake Kinley Anderson 864-353-9628

JOHN BLUE 300 GAL

30' boom, pull type nitrogen appl, VGC, \$2000 Steve McAlhany Orangeburg 803-682-3834

3000 FORD TRACTOR

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

FACUB

w/48" Woods belly mwr, all plow attachs, \$1750 Terry Rhodes Spartanburg 864-304-2407

JD 4020

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

NH 258 ROLLER BAR RAKE

GWC, needs new tires & tines, \$3000 obo Lauren Ray-McCarley Aiken 803-508-2581

MF 510 COMBINE \$2500

Arthur Hall Aiken 803-334-5357 **HAY SPEAR**

frt end bucket mount, LN, \$175

Jeremy Shealy Lexington 803-351-1283 FRANKLIN 595 SKIDDER

& Rome bedding plow, GC,

\$10,000 Samuel Cribb Williamsburg 843-558-2256

JD 8410 TRACTORS \$75,000; JD 4710 spryr,

\$37,000; Hopper btm, \$12,000 Jimmy Sikes Calhoun 803-707-3049

JOHN BLUE 320 GAL N2 APPL

21' boom, \$600 Dan Alt Chester 803-412-1601

'06 INT 4300 TRUCK

w/24' ref body unit, needs repairs, 285,000 mi, \$18,000 Mike Keisler Lexington 803-730-6528

'95 ADAM STOCK TRL 20' w/tack room, \$4500

Matt McGinn Lancaster 704-363-1099

150 GAL JD SPRAY TANK on mntg frame, \$300; IH 4r

plntr w/seed rings, \$750; 12' hyd leveling disc, \$800 obro William Shealy Lexington 803-513-3485

MARKET BULLETIN

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MARKET-BULLETIN/ **ABBREVIATIONS**

AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV/

FARM LABOR

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

MOBILE SERVICES for truck & tractor repair,

metal & welding work John Wren Orangeburg 803-308-0097

MOBILE SAWMILL SERV statewide, capable of sawing

logs from 8-20'L & 36" dia Lowell Fralix Barnwell 803-707-5625

FORESTRY MULCHING

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

LIME SPREADING

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

SKID STEER WORK

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

PASTURE MGMT SERV

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

TREE LIMB TRIMMING

for roads, fence lines, field edges, up to 26', all surrounding cos Damon Archie Chester 803-517-7436

MOBILE SAWMILLING

up to 30" dia & 21'L, drop off up to 52" dia & 16'L; & land clearing, more, insured w/ref John Smith Pickens 864-982-2249

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

EXCAVATOR MOWING landscaping, grading,

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

EXCAVATOR WORK digging, stump removal,

brush clearing, cleaning around fields & fences Jason Nichols Saluda 864-992-2753

HAY HAULING your location to POD, call

for est; also fence installed, per your specs, both statewide **Bruce Thomas** Dorchester 843-636-1699

FORESTRY MULCHING

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

LIGHT TRACTOR WORK incl bush hogging, discing,

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

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK land clearing, ditching,

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

CUSTOM SPRIGGING

CB & Tifton 85 forage grasses, call for pricing & scheduling Timmy Benton Colleton 843-908-3222

MARKET BULLETIN

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.

35+A TO PURCHASE

not recently timbered, in Aiken Co, prefer w/house or cabin, no MH Bernadette Belisle Aiken

910-639-3115 **62.7 A LEXINGTON CO**

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

WANT TO LEASE PASTURE

for reg Ang cows, no bull; or cut & bale hay from **Britton Mccarter** York

704-913-6083 140A COW/CALF

& horse hay, 1/2 mi lanes w/ hydrants, 60×36' & 50×21' barns, shed, silos, coral, 6A pond, \$7925/A Halleck Butts Aiken 803-480-9760

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

80.2A EDGEFIELD CO

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

132A SUMTER CO

timber, Pocotaligo Swamp, w/gov easement, duck & deer hunting, \$975/A Horace Roberson Sumter 803-972-4800

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 PRODUCE

PECANS

in the shell, \$2/lb; brn & wht eggs, \$\$2/dz; Collards, \$1.50 ea Joe Culbertson Greenwood 864-229-5254

SUGARCANE

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

FARM CHICKEN EGGS

\$4/dz Ron Handley Georgetown 843-896-0829

RAW JERSEY COW MILK

w/all the cream, \$12/gal Sam Stevens Aiken 803-645-5111

GARDEN

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

RABBITEYE BLUEBERRY PLANTS

4-10' T, well established roots, \$2+ or p-up load, \$60, you dig Mary Brooks Orangeburg 803-614-5397

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

HOGS / PIGS

PIGS

\$70 ea Gary Alveshire Lexington 803-530-4456

Review our ad policies online

AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV/ MARKET-BULLETIN-POLICIES

GOATS / LLAMAS / SHEEP

2 INTACT M GOATS

1 y/o tan Alpine, 3 y/o blk/ wht Alpine/Ngn mix, \$180 ea obo Miriam Westbrook Chester

704-298-3021 **ALPACAS**

16 m/o wht M & tan F, & 6 m/o, \$1000 ea Lisa Scott Lexington 803-331-8309

Y/O SAANEN/BOER BUCK

selling to prevent inbreeding, \$200 **Emmanuel Kargiatlis** Spartanburg 864-279-7950

100% NZ KIKO GOAT

CDT & dewormed, (2) 9 m/o bucks, (1) 7 m/o doe, (1) 20 m/o doe, \$325 ea Jane Cooper Greenville 843-693-9099

DAIRY GOATS

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

ADGA ND GOATS

open & bred does, \$150-300; yng bucks, \$150 & \$250 Deborah Reed Orangeburg 843-312-5018

7 M/O KATAHDIN RAM

ı y/o Katahdin ewes, gentle, hand raised, \$200+ Tammy Hodge Sumter 803-983-5041

2 MATURE ST CROIX RAMS

low FEC, well-muscled, no disease, MGS for low FEC, \$450 Eddie Martin Anderson 864-305-7992

BARBADOS BLKBELLY EWE

w/I-2 lambs at her side, \$300; Barbados rams, \$200 ea Thomas Waters Colleton 843-696-6627

8 M/O LAMBS

\$100 Teresa Wiegert Spartanburg 864-270-0090

KIKO DOES

\$175+, 5 m/o+, some reg George Phillips Williamsburg 843-992-1964

F NUBIAN GOAT

\$150 Beverly Weatherford 803-840-1685

'24 4×5 RND CB

Johnnie Legree

803-614-4665

rnd CQ, shed kept, \$40; sq

SQ MIXED RYE GRASS/

HQ, \$8; rnd HQ, \$70

Warren E Coker

\$50/bale

Bamberg

Florence

843-319-1884

BERMUDA

Don Todd

803-209-2823

LRG/SM RND CB

qual; sm sq, \$8-12

Timmy Benton Colleton

843-908-3222

\$65+ depending on size &

Chester

well fert, \$5/bale

CB

HAY & GRAIN

HQCB

\$10/bale; Oat straw, \$6/bale Victor Smith Berkeley 843-870-8522

'24 HQ FESCUE/ORCHARD

4×5 rnd, in barn, \$70 ea Joseph Henson York

803-448-5287

'24 4×5 RND FESCUE

fert, net wrap, stored outside, \$55/bale, vol disc, 28 bales avail Roger Snyder Spartanburg 864-580-9311

4×4 RND BALES

Mixed grass, outside, \$30 ea; Ryegrass, in barn, \$45; Fescue, in bard, \$40 Ron Jones York 803-526-6308

FESCUE & RYE HAY

barn stored all year, 4×5 net wrap, NR, \$55 ea Rogers Fowler Union 864-426-3281

(35) 3' PEACH TREES

both free stone, \$20 ea

Kenneth Marsengill

MONKEY GRASS

Gardenia, \$10 ea

Pickens

864-855-2565

Woody Ellenburg

803-981-7559

York

1/2 wht flesh, 1/2 yellow flesh,

aka Liriope, Hosta, \$4 ea; Iris,

Daylily, \$5 ea; Hydrangea,

COMBINE RUN WHEAT

or shelled corn, \$10/50 lbs Larry Green Spartanburg 864-303-7004

'24 4×5 RND CB

net wrap, under shed, \$55/ bale, in field, \$50/bale Josiah Williams Bamberg 843-693-1970

'24 SQ FESCUE

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

'24 MIXED GRASS BERMUDA

Fescue & other summer grasses, 4×5 rnd, no weeds, \$50/bale Quinton Whitener Union 803-923-2036

TWINED CB

AZALEAS

Freeman Noles

803-383-4066

Barnwell

PLANTS & FLOWERS

ADS ARE NOT ACCEPTED FROM COMMERCIAL NURSERIES,

WHICH HAVE ANNUAL SALES OF \$5,000.

Oat & Rye grass mixed, net wrap, all '24, 4×5 & shed kept, \$60/bale Sam Rikard Lexington 803-892-2630

Gardenia, Boxwoods, \$6;

Tea Olives, \$8; Camellias

& Carolina Sapphire, \$20;

Little Gem Magnolia, \$35

MOSTLY CRAB GRASS HAY

4×5 net wrap, 300 bales, \$40 James Livingston Lexington 803-530-3169

'24 4×5 RND CB

NR, barn stored, \$70/bale, buy 6 & get I more at no chrg Mike Cousins Newberry 803-924-7539

'24 RND HQ COASTAL

\$70/bale; CQ, \$60/bale, shed kept, limed/fert, \$8/sq, del avail **Eddie Phillips** Sumter 803-486-0081

HQ 4×5 RND COASTAL

net, no litter used, \$65 field, \$80 barn; sq, \$8.50 barn; rnd cow, \$40 George Mccov Chesterfield 843-307-8866

RND BALES

REX

Philip Poole

864-427-1589

Tirzah Fellows

803-443-8572

PB LIONHEADS

7 w/o, friendly, \$25 ea

Union

Aiken

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

all colors, yng, \$15-20 ea;

grown bucks, \$20 ea; does,

bucks, \$20 ea; does, \$25 ea

\$25 ea; LA cottontail grown

'24 4×5 FESCUE

net wrap, \$45 Jason Nichols Saluda 864-992-2753

COW HAY

\$40 ea; Wheat straw, \$40 ea; both 4×5 & net wrap Richard Knight Kershaw 803-427-6440

'24 HQ RND CB

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

HQ 5×6 RND COASTAL

wrapped, dry stored, \$180/ ton, 5 bale min p-up Sally Harrison Saluda 803-622-8597

'24 4×5 MIXED GRASS/

barn stored, NR, no manure on land, fert only, \$50/bale Billy Gallman Newberry 803-276-7171

FLEMISH GIANT

Joe Culbertson

Greenwood

864-229-5254

Danny Cook

803-924-6953

Newberry

\$12 ea

& Cottontail, \$15-25 ea

LA COTTONTAILS

crossed on MS cane cutter,

RABBITS

RND FESCUE

Matt McGinn Lancaster 704-363-1099

'24 CQ 4×5 CB

net wrap, fert & lime, located Chesterfield & Lancaster Co, \$45 Gilbert Small Lancaster 803-320-9073

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

'24 4×5 CQ HAY

net wrap, baled w/o rain, \$45/roll Henry Welch Berkeley 843-709-0488

'24 CRABGRASS HAY

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

RATITES

EMUS

\$250 ea Joe Culbertson Greenwood

SEED

ADS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CURRENT SEED LAB TEST.

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

864-229-5254

BROWN TOP MILLET

Beware of **Potential Hay Scams**

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

4

MISCELLANEOUS

5 FRAME HONEYBEE NUC

in waxed cardboard nuc box, \$200 Sam Bolick Fairfield 704-900-4580

4' TUBE GATE

\$40; 7'×3% chain hook one end, \$20 Russell Goings Union 864-426-2309

CAST IRON COOK POT

Baltimore 12 gal, EC, \$150 Douglas Cooper Richland 803-315-2454

CARPENTER BEE TRAPS

sold & mailed in lots of 5 for \$85 ppd William F Timmerman Aiken 803-640-6265

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 OAK FIREWOOD

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

HONEYBEES

5 frame Ital honeybee nucs, \$180 Dale Staners Lancaster 803-577-7871

2 REAR WHL CTR DISC RIMS

for older mod Ford tractor, 8 bolt hole w/no bolts, \$175 ea David Fralix Dorchester 843-560-1013

HARDEE SPRAY TANK ONLY

200 gal, FC, \$100 William Shealy Lexington 803-513-3485

8' SHEET METAL BRAKE

EC \$3900 Bob Morgan Dillon 843-845-7914 **GOURDS**

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

(3) 7500 BU GRAIN BINS

GC, \$10,000 for all 3 John Till Orangeburg 803-707-5646

FIREWOOD AND/OR LOGS

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

HORSE MANURE COMPOST

you load, we will help, \$20/ truck load Stephanie Scharf Kershaw 864-992-6131

5 HP ELEC MOTOR new, bought for grain auger,

nvr used, \$750 Charles Nichols Saluda 864-992-9292 8' CEDAR RND POSTS

6-3" dia, \$8 ea Douglass Britt McCormick 864-391-3334

CHICKEN LITTER

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

GARDEN TRACTOR

Cub Cadet 1450, 14 hp Kohler, hydro trans, hyd lift, spare tire, mwr frame, \$400 obo Ralph Taylor Chester 803-789-5110

HAND LIFT ATTACH

for man FA cub, \$40; lrg Hobart coffee grinder, EC, \$800 R Long Newberry 803-924-9039

TOP SOIL/FILL DIRT

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

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

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

55 GAL FG DRUMS

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

RED OAK

Pecan, Maple, Pine, Wht oak lumber, I-2" thick × 6" & 8"W × up to 20'L, \$4/bdft obo Lecil Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222 OAK FIREWOOD

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

LIQUID LICK TANK

\$100; Pecan wood, \$10/bundle Billy Gallman Newberry 803-276-7171

MEAT SAW

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

SUCTION HOSE

for water pump, 4"×20', \$70 L E Fogle Orangeburg 803-747-2755

21 GALV CORRAL PANELS

12', I w/gate, makes 80' rnd pen, used I× & stacked, \$3600 Jack Griffin Laurens 864-876-0168

POULTRY

RIR & DOMINIQUE

roos & hens, \$12 ea; Wood & Mandarin ducks, \$45 ea; Bantams, Jungle Fowl, Guineas, more, \$7-12 ea Joe Culbertson Greenwood 864-229-5254

4 YNG SILKY CHICKENS

\$10 ea Wilbur Edgerley Saluda 803-685-5613 **JACOBIN PIGEONS**

\$75 ea; Samaritan chickens, \$60/pr James Malphrus Dorchester 843-821-8172

BOB WHT & TN RED QUAIL

all flight cond, transport boxes provided, \$6 ea Dwight Gilliland Saluda 864-941-0958 3 ROOS

raised from var hen types, big Red, big Wht, med sized speckled, \$1 ea Gerald F Barks Jr Abbeville 864-554-0686

4 SAPPHIRE SPLASH ROOS

\$10 ea Kenneth Marsengill York 803-981-7559 HUBBLE PIGEONS

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

BOB WHITE QUAIL

flight & weather cond, \$5.75 ea John Reed Sumter 803-464-5757 WHT KING PIGEONS

\$15 ea Benson Ray Georgetown 843-933-5367

GROWN GUINEAS \$20 ea; yng, \$7+; Cochin bantams, \$10+

bantams, \$10+ Philip Poole Union 864-427-1589 **LAVENDER ORPINGTONS**

Sex Links, Blk Copper Marans & jumbo Coturnix quail, \$5 ea Brian Motley Kershaw 803-315-7598

WANT - FARM EQUIPMENT

15' BATWING BUSH HOG

in useable cond F Rowe Newberry 803-271-7768

TRANSPORT AUGER

10" 30-40" Jimmy Sikes Calhoun 803-707-3049 GRAPPLE TRUCK

light-med sized w/dump cap, trucks only, no trlrs Ryan Anderson Greenville 864-234-2918

BOAR TO RENT
Berkshire or Red Wattle to breed sow
Rebekah Olson
York
803-351-4994

WANT - LIVESTOCK

BOAR GOAT

non-trad colored buck, prefer LT 12 m/o Dennis Childs Richland 803-429-9054

EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.

MODENA

& wht Homer pigeons Thomas Waters Colleton 843-696-6627 BEEF CATTLE

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

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 FARM WAGON

w/wood spoke whls, I or 2 horse Harry Isbell Anderson 864-617-2627 NON GMO CORN

low aflatoxin, 800 bu David White Darlington 843-687-7349 RABBIT OR QUAIL PENS

call/text Bradley Moore Newberry 803-924-4931

ANY SIZE FARM BELLS & wash pots, blksmith anvils R Long Newberry 803-924-9039

LEARN TO IMPROVE QUAIL HABITAT AT SCDNR SEMINAR MARCH 6-7

BY SCDNR

The S.C. Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) will host its annual Wild Quail Management Seminar March 6–7 at the James W. Webb Wildlife Center and Management Area in Hampton County.

The registration fee is \$95 per person and includes meals, overnight accommodations and seminar materials. The deadline to register is Friday, Feb. 14. Registration is limited to 30 participants. For more information, contact the SCDNR Small Game Program in Columbia at 803-734-3609, e-mail Patty Castine at CastineP@dnr.sc.gov or visit dnr.sc.gov/education/quail.html.

Field demonstrations and classroom instruction will focus on habitat practices including firebreak establishment, prescribed burning, forest

management, brush control, discing for native foods and supplemental food patch plantings. Presentations will be given on wild quail natural history, biology, predation and other factors that may be contributing to the population decline. An update on current research will also be presented. Speakers will include wildlife and forestry professionals from state and federal agencies.

Bobwhite quail populations in the Southeast, including South Carolina, have been declining steadily over the past 60 years due to major land use change and reduction in suitable habitat. The annual Wild Quail Management Seminar is designed to instruct landowners and land managers in the proper techniques of creating habitat that



will support native populations of bobwhite quail.

"The annual quail management seminar is a great place to meet and learn from many experts in the natural resources field," said Michael Hook, SCDNR wildlife biologist and Small Game Project supervisor. "So if you have any interest in creating better habitat for bobwhite quail

and the other assorted species that use these early successional habitats, this seminar is for you."

More than 1,500 people have attended the seminar since its inception in 1987. These sportsmen and sportswomen have positively affected thousands of acres across South Carolina by applying basic techniques to improve habitat on their lands.

RUSTGI SEEKS TO IMPROVE COTTON, PEANUTS AND WHEAT

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Sachin Rustgi directs the molecular breeding program at Clemson University's Pee Dee Research and Education Center in Florence, South Carolina, where his work in the Advanced Plant Technology Program seeks to improve the nutritional profile of small grains and legumes.

Sachin Rustgi

Rustgi's small grains and legumes research targets antinutritional elements. His team is developing peanut and wheat varieties with reduced allergenic proteins.

"Wheat and peanuts are major sources of energy and protein for millions, yet they also rank among the top food allergens," Rustgi said. "Our goal is to breed safer crops for people affected by foodborne disorders."

A native of Uttar Pradesh, India, where wheat is a primary crop, Rustgi is no stranger to the impact of foodborne illnesses. He noted that wheat contains gluten,

a trigger for celiac disease—a condition affecting about 1.04% of India's population and roughly 3.2 million Americans. Peanut allergies impact more than 6 million people in the United States.

Rustgi emphasizes student involvement in his research.

"I work with students to build a strong foundation in plant breeding, research techniques and ethical practices," he said. "We combine basic science with practical applications to benefit both producers and consumers."

Graduate student Zachary Jones is collaborating with Rustgi on a project to develop wheat with lower levels of gluten proteins. Jones said he believes what he has learned under Rustgi's guidance will help him in his career.

"Dr. Rustgi has helped shape me into a well-rounded scientist who can take on complex challenges in molecular biology and use the problem-solving skills I have strengthened under his tutelage to achieve my objectives and reach my career aspirations," Jones said. "One of the most valuable lessons I have learned from him is the importance of thinking critically and not limiting myself to a single discipline. Instead, incorporate knowledge from multiple aspects of science in my

While research is important to humans and the planet, Rustgi also believes that research must go together with public awareness.

Sachin Rustgi discusses his research to improve nutritional quality and yield in plants.







Sachin Rustgi, a Clemson molecular biologist, analyzes plant genes in an Advanced Plant Technology lab at the Pee Dee REC.

work to help solve challenging problems.

"He regularly encourages me to use ideas from my medical background or other areas and apply them to plant sciences to work towards developing innovative solutions to improve human health."

In another study, researchers in Rustgi's lab compared gluten-free products with their gluten-containing counterparts. Graduate student Tariq Alam and postdoctoral researcher Gautam Saripalli worked with Rustgi on a study that found, on average, gluten-free products available to consumers in the U.S. contained significantly less protein and more sugar and calories than their counterparts that contain gluten. They also found gluten-free products tend to be more expensive than those containing gluten.

The researchers believe their findings may be used to help individuals with celiac disease, wheat allergy and non-celiac wheat sensitivity, as well as those who choose a gluten-free lifestyle based on personal preference rather than medical necessity.

"Scientific breakthroughs should be paired with an understanding of public opinion and ethical responsibility," he said. "I strive to instill these values in my students."

In addition to studying wheat and peanuts, the researchers are also exploring the use of nucleic acids in managing the parasitic fungi of Armillaria species in peaches and aphids in sorghum.

Rustgi's research includes creating cotton genotypes with reduced regrowth after defoliation and enhanced lint yield. Cotton is a perennial plant with a growth

habit and structure that supports regrowth after defoliation, which impacts productivity, profitability and management strategies for production.

He and his team are determining how to develop an annual variety that can produce higher-yielding cotton with high-quality fiber.

The researchers are looking at how plants use environmental and hormonal cues to transition from vegetative growth to reproduction.

In addition to being director of the molecular plant breeding program at the Pee Dee REC, Rustgi is a faculty scholar for the Clemson School of Health Research and Center for Human Genetics. He is also an adjunct associate professor for the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at Washington State University, and the Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding at Chaudhary Charan Singh University in Meerut, India.

SC AGRITOURISM ASSOCIATION 2025 CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

The South Carolina Agritourism Association held its 2025 Conference January 26–28 in the Midlands region of the state, visiting six farms in Newberry, Kershaw, and Lexington countries. Speakers covered topics including risk management, marketing, land trusts, Clemson Extension, and working with tourism agencies. Commissioner Weathers visited Lever Farms and addressed the group, too.







South Carolina Department of Agriculture

AFBF PRESIDENT DUVALL SHARES AGRICULTURE CHALLENGES WITH SENATE

BY AMERICAN FARM BUREAU

America's farmers and ranchers need a new, modernized farm bill, a strengthened farm safety net, and open trading markets. American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall traveled to the Capitol to emphasize those priorities to the Senate Agriculture Committee today as he testified in the hearing "Perspectives from the Field: Farmer and Rancher Views on the Agricultural Economy, Part I."

"Farm families across the country are grateful that you recognized the incredibly hard times across the agricultural economy and included much-needed economic assistance and emergency aid for communities devastated by natural disasters in December's Continuing Resolution," Duvall said. "Despite the assistance in the CR, farmers still are looking to you all to pass a modernized, five-year farm bill as soon as possible."

President Duvall took questions from lawmakers, including Chairman John Boozman (R-AR), who asked about the challenges farmers face without a new, modernized farm bill. Duvall said, "We are hearing that maybe 20% or more of our farmers are having difficulties getting operating loans. We're in a time where that should have already been done, and they should have seed in the barn, ready to start planting. And, it's really hitting them at a hard, difficult time. They're telling us they're losing money per acre – corn over \$100 an acre losing. They're having to make a decision to plant and not to plant."

Ranking Member Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) asked about the impact of tariffs. "We need more access, not less," replied Duvall. "We need this administration—because we haven't seen it for almost a decade—really getting fair trade deals to be put in place and stick with good rules and keep

people working under it. The other issue is the cost of production. I think you said it yourself, over 80% of the potash comes out of Canada that goes on our cropland. And, that would be devastating to our farmers – just that one example is difficult for our farmers."

As public discussions increase about efforts to make the food system healthier, Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) asked President Duvall to elaborate on the importance of maintaining scientifically proven farming methods. He responded, "It is absolutely critical that we continue to have faith in the system that provides the science-based tools that we use on our farm... It takes almost 11-years to get a product to the market. They got 350 scientists at the EPA... making sure that those things are safe. And, our farmers apply it according to the label."

Sen. Adam Schiff (D-CA) observed that some farmers are not eligible for risk management assistance. President Duvall said access to the farm safety net needs to be expanded, "Any farmer out there that's putting a crop in the land, and depending on the good Lord to give him things to grow it with, and with the markets like they are deserve to have some risk management program. Now, the difficulty comes by making it very complicated. And, the smaller farm it is, the more difficult it is. It needs to be simplified. A lot of people aren't going to do it because it's just too difficult. They're in the field working. A lot of these are farm to table, farm to market people, and they deserve a shot to be able to have that risk management tool, too."

Read President Duvall's testimony as prepared at <u>fb.org</u>.

CATTLE AND BISON IMPORTS FROM MEXICO RESUME UNDER NEW PROTOCOL

PROTOCOLS ENSURE SAFE MOVEMENT OF ANIMALS WHILE MITIGATING THE THREAT OF NEW WORLD SCREWWORM

BY USDA

WASHINGTON, D.C., February I, 2025 – The United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is announcing the resumption of cattle and bison imports from Mexico. Imports are scheduled to resume within the next several days.

To protect U.S. livestock and other animals, APHIS halted shipments of Mexican cattle and bison in November 2024 after a positive detection of New World screwworm (NWS) in southern Mexico. After extensive discussions between representatives from the countries, APHIS and Mexico agreed to and implemented a comprehensive pre-clearance inspection and treatment protocol to ensure safe movement and mitigate the threat of NWS.

APHIS' top priority is to protect American livestock from foreign pests. As part of the protocol signed between the countries, Mexico identified and prepared pre-export inspection pens in San Jeronimo, Chihuahua, and Agua Prieta, Sonora, which APHIS has now visited, inspected, and approved. Cattle and bison will be inspected and treated for screwworm by trained and authorized veterinarians prior to entering the pre-export inspection pens, where they will again undergo inspection by Mexican officials before proceeding to final APHIS inspection then crossing at the Santa Teresa and Douglas Ports of

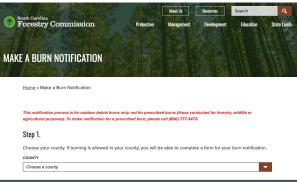
Entry, respectively. Cattle and bison approved for importation will also be dipped in a solution to ensure they are otherwise insect- and tick -free. The United States and Mexico are working closely to approve additional pre-export inspection pens and reopen trade through other ports of entry.

To support our efforts to keep NWS out of the United States, APHIS will continue working with partners in Mexico and Central America to eradicate NWS from the affected areas and to reestablish the biological barrier in Panama, which we have worked to maintain since 2006.

In the last two years, screwworm has spread north of the barrier throughout Panama and into Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Belize and now Mexico. This increase is due to multiple factors including new areas of farming in previous barrier regions for fly control and increased cattle movements into the region. APHIS is releasing sterile flies through aerial and ground release at strategic locations, focusing on Southern Mexico and other areas throughout Central America. A complete list of regions APHIS recognizes as affected by screwworm as well as more detailed information on trade restrictions can be found on the USDA APHIS Animal Health Status of Regions website.

CITIZENS CAN NOW MAKE OUTDOOR DEBRIS BURN NOTIFICATIONS ONLINE

BY SC FORESTRY COMMISSION



Citizens who live outside of city limits can now make their legally required notification of an outdoor debris burn on the agency's website.

COLUMBIA—The South Carolina Forestry Commission is making it easier for the public to conduct safe residential yard debris burns. Citizens who live outside of city limits can now make their legally required notification on the agency's website at scfc.gov/notify.

State law requires people who live in unincorporated areas to notify the Forestry Commission before they conduct an outdoor debris burn. For decades the only way to make such notification was by calling a tollfree number and leaving a voicemail with the burner's name, address and phone number.

"The notification system is in place to help the Forestry Commission quickly determine if a detected fire is a wildfire or a legal debris burn that is being conducted safely," said SCFC Fire Chief Darryl Jones. "Not only is this new method faster and easier for citizens, but our ability to see these notifications instantly in real time adds greatly to our wildfire response capabilities."

The existing phone/voicemail notification process is still available for citizens who would rather call in their burns, but agency officials believe the convenience of the new online system will eventually make it the preferred method.

"It's important to note that this notification system does not apply to prescribed burns," said Jones. "People who are planning these larger kinds of agricultural and forestry burns must call (800) 777-3473 and speak to a Forestry Commission dispatcher, who will walk them through the approval process."

In addition to notifying the Forestry Commission before conducting a residential yard debris burn, citizens must also take the proper precautions:

- Limit fires to vegetative material like leaves, pine straw, limbs and branches that originate from the property of the burn;
- Clear a wide firebreak around the burning site;
- Have the right equipment water, rakes, etc. available to keep the fire under control; and
- Stay with the fire until it is completely out.

As the only state agency responsible for wildfire suppression in all unincorporated areas of the state, the South Carolina Forestry Commission protects nearly 13 million acres from wildland fire. More than 500 county, municipal and volunteer fire departments operate more than 1,100 fire stations in South Carolina. The Forestry Commission cooperates with these departments to prevent and control structural and wildland fires, employing highly trained firefighters and specialized equipment when fires burn into forested areas that are difficult to reach.

7

MARKET BULLETIN

LEARN SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS AT THE 2025 FORAGES AND LIVESTOCK FIELD DAY

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

BLACKVILLE, S.C. — Several factors, including livestock nutritional requirements, forage species, climate and land conditions, influence sustainable forage management.

Livestock producers in and around South Carolina can learn how to address these factors during the 2025 Clemson Extension Forages Field Day, set for March 13 at the Edisto Research and Education Center, 64 Research Road, Blackville, South Carolina, 29817.

On-site registration starts at 8:30 a.m. Online registration is encouraged. To register online, visit Clemson Forages Field Day. The fee is \$25. This event ends at 4:30 p.m. Participants are eligible for one pesticide credit.

The morning session begins with remarks by John Andrae, director of the Edisto Research and Education Center. Liliane Silva, Clemson Cooperative Extension Service livestock and forages specialist, will give a keynote presentation on climate change and management strategies for adaptive forage.



Matthew Fischer, a livestock economist with the Clemson Cooperative Extension Service, will provide updates on the livestock market and cattle inventory.

The morning session concludes with producers sharing their practical experiences and insights about the importance of sustainability in livestock

operations. They will also discuss the challenges associated with adopting these practices and the economic feasibility of integrating these efforts into their operations.

A trade show featuring sponsors and poster presentations will also be included.

Lunch will follow the morning session and include presentations by sponsors. Silva will also discuss her forage and livestock program.

Afternoon activities include tours of demonstration plots, where experts Silva and Clemson Extension weed scientist Michael Marshall will provide updates on research for using cover crop forage systems, weed management practices,

nutrition strategies and nutrient cycling in year-round forage systems.

For more information, contact Liliane Silva at Iseveri@clemson.edu.

ACRE NURTURES INNOVATION IN SC AGRIBUSINESS

EIGHT YEARS IN, THE AGRIBUSINESS CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IS STILL LOOKING AHEAD

BY EVA MOORE | PHOTO BY JARED BRAMBLET

When Kyle Player moved back to South Carolina from Washington, DC to help launch the Agribusiness Center for Research and Entrepreneurship (ACRE), she thought she'd be working with a lot of agriculture technology startups.

Instead, ACRE has turned out to be much more.

"We're working with more industry segments than I expected, and also more age ranges — we have participants from college students to post-retirement," Player says.

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture created ACRE in 2017 with the goal of advancing agribusiness in the state. Since then, ACRE has awarded more than \$1.4 million to 131 entrepreneurs, funded 49 industry-driven research projects, and led dozens of business workshops throughout the state.

Launched with an allocation from the South Carolina General Assembly, ACRE has continued its work with the help of grants from USDA Rural Development and the Duke Energy Foundation, and the ongoing support of the Legislature.

In addition to agriculture technology companies, ACRE has helped entrepreneurs develop businesses involving dairy farming, food distribution, livestock, oyster farming, produce farming, ag education, value-added products, and more.

Some notable participants over the years include Covered in Cotton, a Pee Dee family farm business that developed a local supply chain for its high-end cotton textiles; Project Victory Gardens,



which helps train military veterans to start a post-retirement career in agriculture; nationally famed heritage pork producer Peculiar Pig Farm; award-winning goat dairy Split Creek Farm; and Sakhar Jams, which makes artisanal products using South Carolina fruit — a prime example of a value-added business that supports local agriculture.

The centerpiece of ACRE is its two business development programs. One track helps guide beginning entrepreneurs through creating a business, including marketing, financial planning, value-added processes, legal requirements, state and federal grant opportunities, and writing a business plan. Upon completing the program, each participant has the chance to compete for one of seven \$5,000 grants.

The other track is for experienced entrepreneurs, those who already have a business plan and proof of concept. South Carolina entrepreneurs selected for the program pitch their business to a panel of judges, competing to earn business mentoring and funding. The awardees can be granted up

to \$25,000 for their company or product. (Applications for the 2025 Advanced program are open through March 7.)

More than one-third of those who participate in ACRE's beginning program end up applying and getting accepted to the advanced track.

Thousands of dollars would certainly be a boon to any budding agribusiness. But participants tell Player that the support and business training they get through ACRE is key.

"It's not just about the money," Player says. "People are finding lots of things valuable besides the funding."

Some evidence of ACRE's impact comes from a recent survey of past participants. It showed that 51 percent of participating businesses have added new jobs after ACRE, an average of 1.95 jobs per company. Those aren't huge numbers, but they show that ACRE is helping entrepreneurs succeed and grow.

ACRE continues to till new ground. Four years ago, ACRE partnered with Dr. Najmah Thomas to create the Career Pathways program, which incentivizes young professionals to explore careers in agribusiness. And last year, Player worked with South Carolina FFA to create a high school-level ACRE Pitch Day, which recently had its second successful event. The Center also funds agriculture research in South Carolina, working with businesses to develop crops that thrive in South Carolina and other key technologies.

To learn more about ACRE, visit <u>acre-sc.com</u>.