# MARKET BULLETIN

Vol. 99 | Num. 7



April 3, 2025

1913

# NRCS CONNECTS WITH LOCAL FARMERS

WALKING THE LAND, STRENGTHENING THE FUTURE

BY ALICIA N. ALLMOND, USDA NRCS

In the heart of South Carolina's Lexington County, the Natural **Resources Conservation** Service (NRCS) is making significant strides in promoting sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship. At the forefront of these efforts are Joshua Boatwright, the District Conservationist, and Jamie Tyler, a Soil Conservationist, whose dedication exemplifies NRCS's mission to "Help People Help the Land."

Joshua Boatwright, a Clemson University alumnus, has been with NRCS for over 14 years and assumed the role of District Conservationist in October 2024. Balancing his professional commitments with family life—he is a father to two girls—Joshua remains passionate about his work. He believes that NRCS's mission is "important to the future of our country" and emphasizes that "everything we do is for the betterment of the environment and natural resources." For Joshua,

the agency's motto is more than just words; it's a guiding principle that shapes his daily interactions with landowners.

Jamie Tyler joined NRCS in December 2023 after graduating from Virginia Tech. In her short tenure, she has been struck by the openness and enthusiasm of local landowners. "People are so willing to share," she notes. "They want you to 'see this and see that' on their property. They are really proud of NRCS coming out and walking

> the land with them." This mutual respect and collaboration have been instrumental in fostering strong relationships between NRCS staff and the community.

> A typical day for Joshua and Jamie involves joint visits to local farms, providing technical assistance and



conservation practices. During a recent visit to a 92-acre property, they walked the land with the owner, discussing potential conservation strategies. Joshua

clarified NRCS practices, explaining, "We don't do perimeter fencing," and outlined the necessary prerequisites for implementing certain conservation measures. The landowner, having previously benefited from NRCS assistance, expressed appreciation for their continued support.

In Lexington County, NRCS's efforts predominantly focus on supporting poultry operations, addressing energy efficiency, managing animal waste, and promoting the cultivation of longleaf pine—a species native to the southeastern United States. These initiatives align with South Carolina's broader agricultural landscape, where poultry farming plays a significant role.

The commitment of NRCS employees like Joshua and Jamie ensures that South Carolina's natural resources are preserved and enhanced for future generations. Through their expertise and genuine care for the land and its stewards, they embody the essence of conservation, making a lasting impact on the community and the environment.



View the list of Certified SC Strawberry Farms on page 8.



A LOOK AT FOOD

**INDEPENDENCE** 

The United States imports a lot of fresh produce; 59 percent of our fruit and 35 percent of our vegetables are grown somewhere else in the world. That number has increased a lot over the last two decades. According to the USDA **Economic Research** Service, in 2023, Mexico and Canada supplied 51 percent and 2 percent, respectively, of U.S. fresh fruit imports, and 69 percent and 20 percent, respectively, of U.S. fresh vegetable imports in terms of value.

Looking beyond produce, an astonishing 80 percent of U.S. consumption of seafood comes from abroad—primarily from Canada, Chile, India, Indonesia, and Vietnam.

These trends are partly a result of agreements like the 2008 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and later the 2020 United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which eliminated barriers to the free flow of produce across borders. It was supposed to level the playing field. Not sure of that with some of the restrictions on US producers.

Now, trade agreements have opened lots of opportunities for US

farmers. And there's a lot to be said for the safe, affordable, readily available, year-round fresh produce and other foods we enjoy in this country. But I've been talking for a long time about the national security importance of growing more of our own food. Just like energy independence, food independence is part of a safe and secure future.

COMMISSIONER'S

**HUGH E. WEATHERS** 

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

CORNER

SOUTH CAROLINA

Yes, we are part of a global agricultural economy, and I don't see that changing. US farmers do rely on imports of farm equipment and fertilizer components to grow our crops. Consumers have wanted and will continue to want certain foods that are only produced and grown outside the US.

Will tariffs and other trade policies change the landscape of global agriculture? Maybe. Regardless of what happens globally, I'd like to see people in our country buying more local food and US farmers growing a larger share of our food.

Statistics say South Carolina is doing things right. Vegetable acreage has increased in the state; we're seeing farmers diversifying; and the Certified SC program is successful in connecting with consumers. As we have this conversation at a national level, let's build on what's working right and let's build up where we can do better.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### "It's All About Herbs" 13th Annual Herb Festival

April 5 • 9 am – 3 pm

Buy plants, herbs, and shop local vendors and food vendors. The Herb Bunch will be having free classes on learning about herbs. The Herb Bunch raises money for scholarships from this event to help local students in the fields of agriculture. We will also be collecting plant, herbs, or vegetables seeds for NC hurricane victims so look for our donation table.

**Lexington County Museum** 231 Fox Street, Lexington

herbbunchoflex@gmail.com • 803-309-7534 theherbbunch.com

### **Annual Honeybee Festival**

April 10 & 11 • 5 - 10 pm

April 12 • 10 am - 10 pm | April 13 • 1 - 6 pm This family-friendly event features fun carnival rides, educational bee displays, delicious food, unique craft vendors, and a variety of activities for all ages. Whether you're a bee enthusiast or just looking for a fun weekend outing, there's something for everyone. Let's come together to celebrate, support local artisans, and honor the important role bees play in our ecosystem!

The FARM Center

2063 Sandifer Blvd, Seneca

farmcenterseneca@gmail.com

# Ole Patchwork Gathering

April 12 • 10 am - 3 pm

A fun day of arts, crafts, music and food. Join us for a day of farm fun and fellowship. Parking \$5. Please

**Patchwork Farm** 110 Dairy Lane, Saluda

patchworkfarmllc@gmail.com • 803-317-7291

# Spring Means Babies Festival

April 19 • 10 am - 3 pm

We are thrilled to have Spare Parts Bluegrass Band and Friends Catering coming back again this year! Of course, the ever popular Baby Pen will be open, we will have a photographer to take some Easter photos and we hope to add a few other exciting events this year. Adults \$9, 12 and under \$6, under

**Split Creek Farm** 

3806 Centerville Road, Anderson

info@splitcreek.com • 864-287-3921 splitcreek.com

# SPRING 2025 Plant & Flower **Festivals APRIL** Midlands **Plant & Flower Festival** 10-13 Thurs - Sat **SC State Farmers Market** 10 am - 5 pm 3483 Charleston Hwy, West Columbia, SC EVENT CONTACT: Sonia Brazell | 803-737-4664 | sbrazell@scda.sc.gov

APRIL Pee Dee Plant & Flower Festival

Thurs - Sat Pee Dee State Farmers Market 8 am – 6 pm 2513 W. Lucas Street. Florence. SC 10 am - 5 pm

**EVENT CONTACT:** Bob Sager | 843-665-5154 | bsager@scda.sc.gov

Piedmont **Plant & Flower Festival** 

Thurs - Sat 1354 Rutherford Road, Greenville, SC EVENT CONTACT: Lia Sanders | 864-244-4023 | Isanders@scda.sc.gov

# SC Market Bulletin Subscription & Renewal Form

Mail completed form with check or money order payable to the SC Department of Agriculture to: SC Market Bulletin, PO Box 11280, Columbia, SC 29211

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# 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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**ADS & CIRCULATION** COORDINATOR

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Commissioner's Office 803-734-2190

Certified SC Program Market News Recording 803-734-2207 803-737-5900

**Consumer Protection** Metrology Laboratory 803-253-4052 803-737-9700

Fruit & Vegetable Inspection Milk Safety 803-737-4588 803-667-1161

Hemp Farming Program **Produce Safety** 803-734-8339 803-753-7267

Retail Food Safety

803-896-0640

Market News—Fruit & Vegetable 803-737-4671

Market News-Livestock & Grain Wholesale Food Safety 803-737-4491 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  $8.5 \times 11$  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**

**APRIL 8** • 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

BLUEGILL

50¢; bass, \$2.50; catfish, \$1; redear, \$1; tilapia, \$2; grass carp, \$10; crappie, \$2 Derek Long Newberry 803-944-3058

STERILE GRASS CARP \$12; Chan Cats, 65¢; 3-5" BG,

\$1.40; 1-3" BG, 65¢; Shlckr, 1-3", 65¢; Gambusia 40¢ Clay Chappell Richland 803-776-4923

4-8" KOI FISH

all colors, \$5-10 ea Tommy Sherman Laurens 864-546-2778

## CATTLE

**REG BLK ANG BULL** 

26 Blk Ang 6-8 y/o brood cows, \$2250 ea, if all taken Terrill Brown Cherokee 864-804-8329

**WEANED BEEF CALVES** 

3-5 m/o, vac/wormed, \$600+ Casey McCarty Newberry 803-924-5239

**5 M/O BULL CALF** 

Jersey/Hrfrd cross, \$800 Robert Turner Orangeburg 803-596-6463

**BFMSTR REG BULLS** 

2 red & 1 blk, 21 m/o, \$1900+; yrlgs, \$1600+ John Steele Lancaster 803-283-7720

**5 Y/O SG BULL** 

nice colors, on ground, \$2500 Ed Heath Anderson 607-745-2221

**RED ANG BULLS** 

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

16 M/O POLLED HRFRD **BULL** 

Kneese J-45 & Hometowne b'lines, VG & exc markings/ color, \$2000 John Gossett Spartanburg 803-222-7786

**RED ANG BULLS** 

w/comp perf records, calving ease, growth, maternal, carcass traits, \$3500+ Raymond Prescott Laurens 864-981-2080

**REG BLK ANG** 

low input, exc feet & udders, bred cows & open hefrs, \$4000+ Walter Shealy Newberry 803-924-1000

**BUCKING BULLS** 

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

**REG RED ANG BULL** 

4 y/o, sired by Bieber Stockman, exc EPDs, selling to prevent inbreeding, \$5000 Ashlev Williams Edgefield 803-215-8146

**EG BLK ANG BULLS** 

& hefrs, exc EPDs, 14–18 m/o, gentle, Traction & Hoover Dam b'lines, \$2500-4000 **Bobby Baker** Lancaster 803-804-2230

**RYRLG CHAR BULLS** 

low BW & high weaning weights, \$2500 ea Lane Keasler Anderson 864-965-8666

YNG BLK BALDY

& Red Baldy w/200 lb calves, \$2500/pr Terry Gibert Greenwood 864-993-4212

# FARM EQUIPMENT

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

NH 273 SQ BALER

good for parts or repair, missing part of PTO shaft, \$500 Wade Parnell Anderson 864-338-5678

FRONTIER 6' FINISH MWR

4 y/o, quick hitch, shed kept, little use, \$2800 Faye Boyd York 803-372-4403

**4R HI-SPD COLE PLNTRS** 

on 4r Pittsburg cult, auto row markers, insect appl, gauge whls, gears & plates, GC, \$3000 cash Harold Brown Horry 843-397-3618

**ROLLING CULT FOR FA 150** 

5 gang left & right plus 2 cult shanks, \$400 for all W D Kirkland Kershaw 803-518-4268

5' TILLER

King Kutter TG-60-Y, gear drive, EC, \$750 John Coker Calhoun 803-422-9613

5' DISC HARROW

& 5' spring tooth plow, GC, \$300 ea Sammy Spencer York

803-925-2471 MF 165

dsl, \$7000; 2 Hesston 530 baler, FR & a parts baler, \$6500. Beefco 8 whly rake \$2500; 3ph disc, \$700 Rickie Evans Chester 803-209-2714

MF 550 GRAIN HDR

GC, \$245 Bobby Zimmerman Lexington 803-317-8681

NH 311 SQ BALER w/Hoelscher accumltr, EC, \$11,000 for both, or \$5500 ea Travis Collier Anderson 864-617-1966

**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

H & S 2108 ACTION RAKE

8 whl, EC, \$4850 obo Talmadge Luker Jr Greenwood 864-993-7064

'56 FA 130

exc tires, running when parked, minimal implements, \$1100 Harry Mcmillan Spartanburg 864-327-7369

**NH 273 HAY LINER** 

sq baler, \$3500 Debbie Wade Chester 803-581-5050

**IH 820 COMBINE HDR AUGER** 

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

JD 1700 6R MAX EMERGE **PLNTR** 

row cleaner, fert tanks & spray, 30" r; JD 6500 60' frt fold boom, \$25,000 Joe Phillips Jr Lexington 803-600-2928

**JD 5115M W/540M LDR** self-leveling, cab H/A, radio,

700 hrs, more, \$95,000 Ronny Wilson Anderson 864-356-6959

15' NO TILL DRILL

Great Plains w/coulter cart, EC; & JD 918 flex head, \$12,000 ea Jeffrey Gilmore Chesterfield 843-517-0315

MF 175 W/FRT END LDR

mod 236 w/3ph, \$6300 Tommy Knight Calhoun 706-631-0333

**2R JD PLNTRS** 

w/row markers, mod 51, w/manual, extra plates & gears, \$1500 Kenneth Long Lexington 803-603-4007

15 MACK R600 TRUCK

299,000 mi, 40KR, 10 spd; & '18 Trinity Eagle SS 45' Trl-pkg, \$125,000, will sep Gary Alexander Anderson 864-483-4669

JD 4020

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

2 DISC DEARBORN PLOW

mod 10-80, shed kept, \$900; 6' 3ph pine straw rake, \$125 Arthur Johnston Dorchester 843-636-4083

JD 750 NO TILL DRILL SET

for 15" soybean rows, units avail to convert back to 71/2", \$15,000 John Spann Sumter 803-469-8727

3PH SCRAPPER BLADE

& ID sickle bar mwr, \$500 ea John Grinstead Greenville 864-277-3389

20'×7' ENCL TRL

Tandem axles, loading ramp, new tires, EC, \$6750 Jerry Comeaux Spartanburg 864-992-3869

'10 JD 458 RND BALER

net & twine, mega wide +, 4×5 bales, high flotation tires, \$14,250 orbo Annette Sanders Aiken

803-331-1295

6'×12' STOCK TRL

GC, tires; 5'×16' horse trl, need tires/floor work, both dbl axle, \$850 ea William Shealy Lexington 803-513-3485

'06 INT 4300 TRUCK

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

**'03 CLAAS VARIANT 280** 

was used '24, bales up to 4×6, net & twine wrap, mega wide p-up, \$12,500 Nelson Oswald Lexington 803-532-4001

'39 JD MOD H TRACTOR

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

14' DISC HARROW

good blades, \$2750 Gene Weatherford Lee 803-840-4512

3PH DIRT 'SUPER PAN'

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

JD 2010 TRACTOR

w/canopy, new tires, w/3r cult & plntrs, in GC, \$7500; more Jimmy Wilson Anderson 864-923-2348

'08 HURST GN TANDEM TRL

14,000 gvwr, \$3400 Franklin Lancaster Greenville 864-608-5242

**2R TRNSPLNTR** 

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

**KUTOTA 5030 GST** 

ROPS, canopy, ldr w/4 in 1 bucket, 1066 hrs, 3<sup>rd</sup> func valve, quick attach, \$19,500 Lisa M Wilson Aiken 803-663-3909

**USED MULCH BEDDER** 

Rain-Flo mod 2600-Ro-Track, drip tape, you load, \$7000 Bradley Orr Anderson 864-353-6909

**AC WD45 TRACTOR** 

gas eng, w/manure bucket, \$5000 Thomas Waters Colleton 843-696-6627

JD TRACTORS FOR PARTS

(2) mod A's; (3) mod B's, \$1000 cash Carroll Sheal Laurens 864-872-4184

**COVINGTON TP66** 

2r planters on Pittsburgh frame, w/sweeps & fiberglass fert hoppers, \$1200 Art Boyer Richland 803-600-3652

JD 435

4×6, \$3250; JD 328 sq baler, \$3625; Kuhn 18 bale accum & grabber, \$15,550; 4r subsoiler, \$875 Halleck Butts Aiken 803-480-9760

**FA CUB DISC** 

\$200; Cult parts, 6 wedge clamps/bolts, \$20 ea; (2) 12"disc hillers w/shanks, \$30 ea; more David Blocker Colleton 843-908-5379

**RHINO TW84 ROTARY CUTTER** 

\$4500; 24' triaxle trl, loading ramps, VGC, new tires, \$5600 Stephen Gedosch Greenville 864-982-4490

**CENTER PIVOT IRRIG** 

Valley mod 4000 w/auto reverse, end gun, turf tires, walks straight, 1000' 5 towers, \$5000 Craig Henry Beaufort 843-521-3826

FORD 3000 DSL

w/6' BHB bush hog, new battery, starter, tires, \$6400 obo; BHB 10' bush hog mod 3210, \$7500 Lecil Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222

NH TC34DA TRACTOR

35 hp, HST, 4wd, 293 hrs, ldr, quick att bucket, new hyd hoses, mid & rear PTO, EC, \$19,900 **Bob Vickery** Anderson 864-420-1079

FARM LAND

FARM LAND MUST BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY THE OWNER, NOT AN AGENT. TRACTS MUST BE AT LEAST 5 ACRES UNDER CULTIVATION, TIMBER, OR PASTURE. OUT-OF-STATE OWNERS—NOT REAL ESTATE AGENTS—MAY SUBMIT ADS FOR LAND IN SC.

WANT TO LEASE PASTURE

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

**80.2A EDGEFIELD CO** 

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

74.8A CALHOUN CO

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

WANT LAND TO LEASE

for hunting Upstate Sid Lewis Pickens 864-483-5058

**125.68A UNDEV LAND** 

in Calhoun Falls, land & timber appraisal, \$489,000 Marie Mitchell York 803-627-6261

**WANT 50-100A** hunting lease for 2-4

mature hunters, w/35 mi of Lexington **Bob Padowicz** Lexington 803-206-5993

**10A OPEN LAND** 

for planting W/(2) 5000 sf comm grnhs, 2 hoop houses on 1A, loading dock, \$750/ mon lease Bradley Orr Anderson 864-353-6909

140.58A COW/CALF

& hay, 1/2 mi lanes w/ hydrants, 60×36' & 50×21' barns, shed, silos, coral, 6A pond, \$7965/A Halleck Butts Aiken 803-480-9760

**62.7 A LEXINGTON CO** 

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

MARKET BULLETIN

3

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

#### **NEED FARMER**

to plant soybean or clover, on 25A of farm land Marilyn Grist Greenville 864-244-1658

#### DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

#### HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE **APPLS**

& seeding by ground or UAV, Ag, forestry & aquatic Joel Cox Spartanburg 864-706-1495

## EQUINE

#### 14 Y/O TWH BLK MARE

#### **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

#### MOBILE WELDING SERVICE

metal work & fabrication, reasonable prices John Wren Orangeburg 803-308-0097

#### **EXCAVATOR WORK**

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

#### LIGHT TRACTOR WORK

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

#### **FORESTRY MULCHING**

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

# LEARN TO TIMBER FRAME

learn to build your own barn or shed using rough sawn lumber, \$450 Angel Nunez Aiken 786-271-9021

#### DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

#### **NEED SOMEONE**

to bale pasture this year in Anderson Co, rnd or sq bales Charles McCuen **Pickens** 864-952-7964

#### **HORSE BOARDING**

avail for 1 or 2 horses, 15 min of downtown Greenville & downtown Travelers Rest Alex Cochrane Greenville 803-513-4946

#### **EXCAVATOR MOWING**

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

#### **PASTURE MGMT SERV**

spray weeds, treat fire ants, fert & lime, plant pastures, Fescue, Ryegrass, Bermuda, 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

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

very gentle, loads & clips, \$500 William Yarborough Colleton 843-708-3665

## FRESH PRODUCE

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

#### **FRESH FARM EGGS**

\$4/dz Crystal Jordan Orangeburg 678-628-2729

#### **SUGARCANE**

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

#### **FRESH EGGS**

all colors, \$4 in carton provided, \$3.50 in your carton Lucinda Ouzts Pickens 864-752-8397

#### **FARM CHICKEN EGGS** \$4/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

# HAY & GRAIN

## '24 HQ COASTAL

shed kept, limed/fert, \$70/ rnd, \$8/sq **Eddie Phillips** Sumter 803-486-0081 CQ CB

## in field, \$50

Bud Herndon Colleton 843-510-3021

# '24 HQ SQ CB

21 bales/bundle, \$150/bundle Michael Roberson Barnwell 803-266-3757

# **HQ 5×6 RND COASTAL**

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

# **FESCUE**

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

# '24 4×5 RND CB

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

## **COW HAY**

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

#### '24 4×5 TWINE CB

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

#### '24 4×5 MIXED GRASS/ **FESCUE**

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

# '24 HQ RND CB

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

# '24 4×5 RND CQ HAY

net wrap, annual Rye Grass, \$30; Mixed Summer Grass, \$40; del avail for fee John Michael Parimuha Sumter 803-968-6400

### **RND BALES**

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

# '24 CB

4×5 rnd HQ, shed kept, \$65 ea; CQ, \$50 ea, w/NR Carroll Harmon Lexington 803-359-3956

# **CB 4×5**

net wrap, \$70; Rye straw, \$5/bale, all barn kept Howard McCartha Lexington 803-312-3316

# '24 CQ 4×5 RND CB

twine, in shed, \$50 Michael F Hallman Lexington 803-917-9044

# '24 4×5 RND CB

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

# **RND CB**

Tom Thornton Lexington 803-960-4068

# **4×5 RND BALES**

under shed, \$75-\$80; other bales, \$45-\$65 Alex Nobles Barnwell 803-793-6867

# '24 CRABGRASS HAY

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

# '24 4×54 BERMUDA

net wrap, shed kept, \$70 Tom Fink Lexington 803-622-4678

# '24 4'×66" CB

net wrap, 130 bales, \$50/bale Halleck Butts Aiken 803-480-9760

# '24 SQ FESCUE

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

# '24 HQ CB 4×5

shed kept, net wrap, 800-900 lbs, \$65 Nelson Oswala Lexington 803-532-4001

# GOATS / LLAMAS / SHEEP

# **ND BUCKS**

bred & open does, \$150-350 Deborah Reed Orangeburg 843-312-5018

#### **2 ND NANNY GOATS**

\$75 ea; Pygmy billy goat, \$50; willing to bundle for all 3 Corey Cook Newberry 803-944-1893

# **20 KIKO DOES**

diff ages, \$175+ George Phillips Williamsburg 843-992-1964

#### **JACOB SHEEP**

(1) 4 horn ram, \$350; 2 Jacob wethers, 1 y/o, \$275 ea Glenn Murphey Aiken 864-490-0746

#### **KIKO GOATS**

weaning age, \$85/M, \$105/F Ronald Simons Edgefield 706-840-4954

# 3 Y/O ND NANNY

wht in color, \$100 William Yarborough Colleton 843-708-3665

# 2 PYGMY BILLIES

3 m/o, \$100 ea Earl Mackey Colleton 843-709-3677

#### **ND YRLG DOE**

in milk, 2 toned color, stands well on stand, tested clean herd, \$300 Lisa Aman Pickens 704-756-2532

# **KATAHDIN EWES & RAMS**

3 m/o-1 y/o, gentle, hand raised, \$200+ Tammy Hodge Sumter 803-983-5041

#### 100% NZ KIKO GOATS

CDT & dewormed, (2) 1 y/o bucks, \$325 ea Jane Cooper Greenville 843-693-1949

#### **BARBADOS BLKBELLY EWE** w/lambs at side, Barbados

rams & ewe, \$200 ea Thomas Waters Colleton 843-696-6627

# **DWARF KIDS**

twin M/F pr & I M, can neuter males if desired, \$125 ea or \$300 for all 3 **Bob Willis** Edgefield 803-634-1467

# **2 Y/O RAM**

Dorper/Royal Wht cross, proven breeder, \$400 Edward Holliday Laurens 864-684-7075

# PLANTS & FLOWERS

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

# **FIG TREES**

\$10/2'; \$15/3' Deborah Worth Aiken 803-605-4644

# **MONKEY GRASS**

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

# **AZALEAS**

Gardenia, Boxwoods, \$6; Tea Olives, \$8; Camellias & Carolina Sapphire, \$20; Little Gem Magnolia, \$35 Freeman Noles Barnwell 803-383-4066

# POULTRY

# **HUBBLE PIGEONS**

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

**BUFF ORPINGTON CHICK** 

I-2 W/O, \$5

Lee Erbe

Calhoun

843-789-9645

# 3 ROOS

type unknown, \$1 ea Gerald F Barks Jr Abbeville 864-554-0686

# **BANTAMS CHICKS**

Barbu de Watermael, \$20 ea: OE, Mille Fleur, Silver quill, day old, \$5 ea Tim Boozer Newberry 803-924-3922

# **BOBWHITE QUAIL**

flight & weather cond, \$5 ea Dennis Ballentine Newberry 803-960-3991

# **GROWN GUINEAS**

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

# **BUFF ORPINGTON**

& blk Australorp hens, laying since Nov, \$40 ea Robert Turner Orangeburg 803-596-6463

# SEED

ADS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CURRENT SEED LAB TEST.

# **DIXIE LEE PEAS**

cleaned, G-91%, D/H S-1%, D/H S & G, 92%, good for garden, deer food plots, \$50/50 lb bag Jeffrey Gilmore Chesterfield 843-517-0315

# RABBITS

# **REX & NZ**

bucks & does, grown, \$10 ea Crystal Jordan Orangeburg 678-628-2729 5 NZ

2 blk bucks, I brn/wht doe, 2 blk/wht & gray/wht, 7 m/o, \$15 ea Brian Jenkins Saluda 803-553-5774

# **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

# BEWARE OF AD SALES SCAMS

meet in person, and may offer to pay with an easily falsifiable payment method like a money order. Protect yourself by buying and selling in person, verifying the payment, don't give out personal information, and trust your gut.

# Often suspicious buyers are located in another state or country and refuse to

## MISCELLANEOUS

#### **MEAT SAW**

Globe-Stimpson mod # 72, I hp motor, I15V, GRC, needs top pulley, \$750 obo Robin West Newberry 803-924-0275

#### **PECAN TREE LOGS**

varies lengths, sev semiloads, \$25/ton Tom Harmon Lexington 803-530-3348

#### **5 FRAME HONEYBEE NUC**

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

## LAWN MWR FOR PARTS

Husqvarna YTH 24V54, eng seized, \$25 Robbie Dunaway Anderson 864-314-4314

# 1H BUGGY

rubber on new whls, full cut under, ready to hook & drive, easy pull, \$875 Harry Isbell Anderson 864-617-2627

#### TOOLED WESTERN SADDLE

GC, chilo seat on back, \$100 Faye Boyd York 803-372-4403

#### 2 WATER PUMPS

5 hp, \$500; 2 hp garden, \$325; (16) 3" PVC valve cut offs, used in GC, \$10 ea; more Thomas Moore Oconee 864-247-6528

#### **PLASTIC NURSERY POTS**

mostly new, \$2 ea/5 gal, \$1.25 ea/3 gal, 25¢ ea/1 gal Carol Elliott Richland 803-261-1666

#### 2 TRUCK TIRES

Dayton whls, IIR22.5, VGC, \$250 ea; 5 gal buckets, used, GC, \$2 ea Caleb Hallman Lexington 803-730-4673

#### **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

#### **HONEY BEES**

5 frame nucs for p-up in April, must reserve, \$180 Dale Starnes Lancaster 803-577-7871

#### MILLER BOBCAT 225G

welder/8000 KW gen w/ Onan P216G on trl, \$3500 obo; wht oak lumber, 8–20'L, \$4/bdft obo Lecil Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222

#### 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

#### GARDEN TRACTOR

Cub Cadet 1450, 14 hp Kohler, hydro trans, hyd lift, spare tire, mwr frame, \$375 obo Ralph Taylor Chester 803-789-5110

#### 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

#### FIREWOOD AND/OR LOGS

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

# REDDICK FRT MOUNT TANK

300 gal w/frame & cradle, VGC, \$2000 Steve McAlhany Orangeburg 803-682-3834

#### **OAK FIREWOOD**

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

#### LIQUID LICK TANK

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

#### **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

#### PINE TREE LOGS

10–13' in length, greater than 8" diameter, \$1 for all Gerald F Barks Jr Abbeville 864-554-0686

## 6500 BU GRAIN BIN

24' dia w/fan & unloading auger, \$2500 Carl Brown Aiken 803-640-0281

#### JD STX38 RIDER MWR

13 hp, hydro trans, 38" cut, GRC, new battery/tires, EC, \$600 obo Tom Williams Greenville 864-423-1854

#### GOURDS

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

## HORSE HAY RING

\$300 Deborah Worth Aiken 803-605-4644

#### (3) 7500 BU GRAIN BINS

GC, \$10,000 for all 3 John Till Orangeburg 803-536-4883

#### TOP SOIL/FILL DIRT

\$2/yd; Walnut log, \$300 R Adams Darlington 843-393-7280

#### **HDWD**

air dried 2–5 yrs, wide boards 1"–3" thick, 8'–16'L, \$2–3/bdft; Walnut & Cherry, \$3–7/bdft Luther Wilson Lancaster 803-448-4477

#### 4' TUBE GATE

\$40; 7'×3'8" chain, hook on one end, \$20 Russell Goings Union 864-426-2309

#### **GERMINATION CHAMBER**

SS, holds 24 flats, \$1700; Seed EZ Seeder w/vacuum system & 4 plates, \$500 Louise Neal Spartanburg 864-590-3568

# (12) WELDED FENCE PANELS

16'×4' ea, \$300 for all; rear mount 3ph bucket & Vann 50 gal spray tank, \$300 ea John Grinstead Greenville 864-277-3389

#### OAK FIREWOOD

p-up load, you haul, \$100 Melvin Abell Newberry 803-440-0062

#### **COMM ZERO TURN MWR**

Torro Z-tech, 52" cut, \$2800 Robert Hurley Laurens 864-981-5352

# COLE CORN PLNTR

mule pulled, \$25 Marshall Oshields Union 864-426-8021

# WANT -FARM EQUIPMENT

#### 3PH STUMP GRINDER

PTO driven, any cond, text/photos ok George Long Richland 803-920-3883

#### 3PH TRACTOR PLOWS

Thomas Moore Oconee 864-247-6528

## 28' 8R WIDE DO-ALL

Jeff Millen Chester 803-209-0893

#### SET OF SM GRAIN GRATES

for Case IH 1660 combine Joseph Johnson Berkeley 843-567-7774

# EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.

# GEESE MOD

& turkey eggs Thomas Moore Oconee 864-247-6528

# BEEF CATTLE

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

# MODENA

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

# SILVER SEBRIGHT BANTAMS

Tim Boozer
Newberry
803-924-3922
Thom

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

# WANT - MISCELLANEOUS

#### FILL DIRT

Ashley Riddle Laurens 864-313-8684

# TIRES & RIMS

for MH Ken McSwain Laurens 864-872-9787

# 6' TEE FENCE POSTS

Thomas Moore Oconee 864-247-6528

# CANNING JARS

64 oz, ½ gal, standard neck (narrow), Mason/Ball/Atlas, lv msg Adam Finkelstein Anderson 864-348-3026

#### ANY SIZE WASH POTS

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

# PULPWOOD SAW TIMBER

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

# JERUSALEM ARTICHOKES ROOTS

(tubers) for planting Talmadge Luker Greenwood 864-941-1703

# SC AG COUNCIL SPRING TOUR SET FOR MAY 16

BY STEPHEN SLICE, SC AG COUNCIL

Enjoy the spring weather in Upstate South Carolina at a Clemson University athletic field, the SC Botanical Garden, and City Scape Winery! Join the South Carolina Agricultural Council for an unforgettable Spring 2025 Bus Tour of the Upstate. Mark your calendars for Friday, May 16, and prepare for a day filled with discovery, delicious treats, and delightful sips. Our adventure kicks off at 7:30 a.m. from the South Carolina Farm Bureau Office and concludes at 6 p.m., promising a full day of exploration and enjoyment.

**r**<sup>st</sup> **Stop:** We'll begin with a tour of a Clemson University athletic field to see how they manage their turfgrass. After visiting the athletic field, we'll have lunch at Sole on the Green restaurant in Clemson University's Madren Center.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Stop:** After enjoying lunch at Sole on the Green, we'll visit South Carolina Botanical Garden's Natural Heritage Garden. Step back in time as we embark on a guided tour of the Natural Heritage Garden. This unique experience will transport you to the days when explorers first set foot on South Carolina's coastal sands, buffalo roamed the Piedmont prairies,

and Native Americans skillfully managed the landscape. Learn about the ecological, social, and cultural history of the region, from the art of African American basket weaving to the critical role of fire in land management. Before we leave, we'll visit the Visitor Center and Gift Shop, where you can learn about the SC Native Plant Certificate, Garden Membership, and Volunteer opportunities.

3<sup>rd</sup> Stop: Our final destination takes us to City Scape Winery in Pelzer, South Carolina. Unlike many other wineries, City Scape produces and bottles 100% of its wines on-site. During our exclusive behind-the-scenes tour, you'll explore their new, expanded facility, including a 6,400 sq. ft. underground production area, tasting room, and vineyards. Winemaker and owner Josh Jones will guide us through the winemaking process, from grape growing to bottling. After the tour, you'll have the opportunity to purchase a glass of wine or a flight to savor as you relax and reflect on the day (NOTE: wine is not included in tour price).

Don't miss this chance to experience the best of South Carolina's agricultural heritage. Reserve

your spot today for a day of learning, tasting, and toasting in the beautiful Upstate!

If you are farmer, friend, or anybody else interested in agriculture, we welcome you to explore South Carolina agriculture with us on this upcoming tour!

The tour will begin at 7:30 am and end at 6:00 pm at the South Carolina Farm Bureau Office (724 Knox Abbott Dr, Cayce, SC 29033). Contact Stephen Slice at 803-360-2845 for additional information. The cost of the tour is \$95. If you register online, Eventbrite will add a processing fee to the \$95. Visit Eventbrite.com and search "South Carolina Agricultural Council Spring Tour 2025" to find the online registration page.

Participants may also pay by mailing a check payable to the SC Agricultural Council for \$95 per person attending the tour to:

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South Carolina Agricultural Council Columbia Main Post Office P.O. Box 2683 Columbia, SC 29202-2683

MARKET BULLETIN

# **USDA EXPEDITING \$10 BILLION IN DIRECT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE** TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

BY USDA

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins, on National Agriculture Day, announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is issuing up to \$10 billion directly to agricultural producers through the Emergency Commodity Assistance Program (ECAP) for the 2024 crop year. Administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), ECAP will help agricultural producers mitigate the impacts of increased input costs and falling commodity prices.

"Producers are facing higher costs and market uncertainty, and the Trump Administration is ensuring they get the support they need without delay," said Secretary Rollins. "With clear direction from Congress, USDA has prioritized streamlining the process and accelerating these payments ahead of schedule, ensuring farmers have the resources necessary to manage rising expenses and secure financing for next season."

Authorized by the American Relief Act, 2025, these economic relief payments are based on planted and prevented planted crop acres for eligible commodities for the 2024 crop year. To streamline and simplify the delivery of ECAP, FSA will begin sending pre-filled applications to producers who submitted acreage reports to FSA for 2024 eligible ECAP commodities soon after the signup period opens on March 19, 2025. Producers do not have to wait for their pre-filled ECAP application to apply. They can visit fsa.usda.gov/ecap to apply using a login.gov account or contact their local FSA office to request an application once the signup period opens.

# **ELIGIBLE COMMODITIES AND PAYMENT RATES**

The commodities below are eligible for these per-acre payment rates:

- Wheat \$30.69
- Corn \$42.91
- Sorghum \$42.52
- Barley \$21.67
- Oats \$77.66
- Upland cotton & Extralong staple cotton - \$84.74 • Large Chickpeas -
- rice \$76.94
- Peanuts \$75.51
- Soybeans \$29.76
- Dry peas \$16.02
- Lentils \$19.30
- Small Chickpeas -
- \$31.45

• Long & medium grain \$24.02

#### **ELIGIBLE OILSEEDS**

- Canola \$31.83
- Rapeseed \$23.63 • Safflower - \$26.32 • Crambe - \$19.08

- Flax \$20.97
- Sesame \$16.83
- Mustard \$11.36
- Sunflower \$27.23

#### PRODUCER ELIGIBILITY

Eligible producers must report 2024 crop year planted and prevented planted acres to FSA on an FSA-578, Report of Acreage form. Producers who have not previously reported 2024 crop year acreage or filed a notice of loss for prevented planted crops must submit an acreage report by the Aug. 15, 2025, deadline. Eligible producers can visit fsa.usda.gov/ ecap for eligibility and payment details.

# **APPLYING FOR ECAP**

Producers must submit ECAP applications to their local FSA county office by Aug. 15, 2025. Only one application is required for all ECAP eligible commodities nationwide. ECAP applications can be submitted to FSA in-person, electronically using Box and One-Span, by fax or by applying online at fsa. usda.gov/ecap utilizing a secure login.gov account.

If not already on file for the 2024 crop year, producers must have the following forms on file with FSA:

- Form AD-2047, Customer Data Worksheet.
- Form CCC-901, Member Information for Legal Entities (if applicable).
- Form CCC-902, Farm Operating Plan for an individual or legal entity.
- Form CCC 943, 75 percent of Average Gross Income from Farming, Ranching, or Forestry Certification (if applicable).
- AD-1026, Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification.
- SF-3881, Direct Deposit.

Except for the new CCC-943, most producers, especially those who have previously participated in FSA programs, likely have these forms on file. However, those who are uncertain and want to confirm the status of their forms or need to submit the new Form-943, can contact their local FSA county office.

If a producer does not receive a pre-filled ECAP application, and they planted or were prevented from planting ECAP eligible commodities in 2024, they should contact their local FSA office.

# **ECAP PAYMENTS AND CALCULATOR**

ECAP payments will be issued as applications are approved. Initial ECAP payments will be factored by 85% to ensure that total program payments do not exceed available funding. If additional funds remain, FSA may issue a second payment.

ECAP assistance will be calculated using a flat payment rate for the eligible commodity multiplied by the eligible reported acres. Payments are based on acreage and not production. For acres reported as prevented plant, ECAP assistance will be calculated at 50%.

For ECAP payment estimates, producers are encouraged to visit fsa.usda.gov/ecap to use the ECAP online calculator.

#### MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about FSA programs, producers can contact their local USDA Service Center. Producers can also prepare maps for acreage reporting as well as manage farm loans and view other farm records data and customer information by logging into their farmers.gov account. If you don't have an account, sign up today.

FSA helps America's farmers, ranchers and forest landowners invest in, improve, protect and expand their agricultural operations through the delivery of agricultural programs for all Americans. FSA implements agricultural policy, administers credit and loan programs, and manages conservation, commodity, disaster recovery and marketing programs through a national network of state and county offices and locally elected county committees. For more information, visit fsa.usda.qov.

# SOPAKCO EXPANDING MARLBORO COUNTY OPERATION

COMPANY INVESTING \$22.8 MILLION IN MANUFACTURING OPERATION

BY SC DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

COLUMBIA, S.C. - SOPAKCO, a world leader in processed foods, announced it is expanding its operations in Marlboro County. The company is investing \$22.8 million to grow its Bennettsville manufacturing operation.

SOPAKCO's investment will include the renovation of an existing facility and construction of an additional facility to expand the company's food products manufacturing operation located at 320 Broad Street in Bennettsville.

- Founded in 1943 and headquartered in Mullins, SOPAKCO specializes in the design, processing and packaging of ready-to-eat meals and is a leading supplier of combat rations to the U.S. military.
- The company's customers include federal, state and local agencies, as well as commercial retailers.
- Operations are expected to be online in Oct. 2025.



# **QUOTES**

"SOPAKCO has experienced great success in South Carolina. The value that Marlboro County brings through its business-friendly climate and quality workforce has allowed us to thrive here, and we look forward to continuing our partnership." — SOPAKCO President Lonnie Thompson

"SOPAKCO's \$22.8 million investment in Marlboro County reinforces a strong commitment to South Carolina. We congratulate SOPAKCO on this expansion and look forward to supporting the company as they continue making a positive impact in our state."— $Gov.\ Henry\ McMaster$ 

"SOPAKCO's ongoing success in Marlboro County underscores that South Carolina has the resources businesses need to continually grow and thrive. We applaud SOPAKCO's latest investment in our state and celebrate the company's decision to grow its footprint in one of our rural communities."— Secretary of Commerce Harry M. Lightsey III

"There is a reason why we have two ears and one mouth. It's because we're supposed to listen twice as much as we talk. We are listening to our industries and getting results. We want to thank SOPAKCO for choosing Marlboro County for their next expansion." - Marlboro County Council Chairman Anthony Woods

# RESIDENTS CAN HELP DPH TRACK WEST NILE VIRUS BY SAFELY SUBMITTING DEAD BIRDS FOR TESTING

MOSQUITO MANAGEMENT AND BITE PREVENTION ARE KEY TO LIMITING EXPOSURE TO WEST NILE VIRUS

BY SC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Residents can help the South Carolina Department of Public Health (DPH) track West Nile virus this spring, summer and fall by taking steps to safely submit certain species of dead birds for lab testing.

DPH's dead bird surveillance program helps the state identify where and when there is an increase in West Nile virus (WNV) activity. A high rate of birds infected with the disease indicates an overall increase of the virus in a certain area. DPH notifies local officials if there is indication of increased WNV activity within their community so they can take appropriate actions to reduce the risk of WNV infections in both people and animals.

"By submitting dead birds, you help provide an early warning so that local government or local mosquito control providers can safeguard the health of residents," said Dr. Chris Evans, DPH State Public Health Entomologist. "Timely mosquito control, preventing mosquito bites, and eliminating mosquito breeding is the best way to protect your community from illness."

Mosquitoes become infected with WNV when they feed on infected birds that carry the virus in their blood. After one to two weeks, infected mosquitoes can transmit WNV to people and other animals.

"Most people infected with West Nile virus have no symptoms, and although the risk of serious illness is low, it is possible for potentially fatal inflammation of the brain to occur in infected people, a condition known as encephalitis," said Dr. Linda Bell, DPH State Epidemiologist. "The primary way to get West Nile virus is from the bite of an infected mosquito, which is why mosquito bite prevention and control are so important in reducing human exposures."

The amount of WNV activity varies from year to year. In 2024, 30 birds were tested from 12 counties, six of which tested positive for West Nile virus. Getting accurate data indicating mosquitoborne disease activity relies on adequate numbers of dead birds being submitted. DPH's Mosquito-Borne Disease

Viewer map shows current and historic county-level information for identified non-human instances of WNV and other mosquito-borne diseases.

DPH doesn't perform mosquito control. However, the agency does provide current information that helps individuals, communities and local mosquito control programs take action to reduce mosquito populations and prevent bites. Mosquito control programs are managed at the local level.

Specifically, DPH asks residents to submit recently deceased crows, blue jays, house finches, house sparrows and other songbirds that appear not to have been injured and are not decayed. These species of birds are more susceptible to WNV than other species, making them good candidates for testing. Birds of other types will be tested on a case-by-case basis.

Deceased birds can be reported or submitted to DPH at local public health departments March 17 through November 30. To safely collect a dead bird, residents should:



- Use gloves or pick up the bird with doubled, plastic bags. Do not touch a bird, dead or alive, with bare hands.
- Keep the bagged bird cool until it can be placed on ice or in a refrigerator. If you can't deliver the bird carcass to DPH within 36 hours of collection, freeze it until you are able to deliver it or have it shipped.
- Download and complete a Dead Bird Submission and Reporting Sheet for West Nile Virus and take the sheet and dead bird to a local DPH Health office during normal business hours (8:30 am – 5 pm, Monday–Friday). See a list of available DPH offices for drop-off; WIC-only public health departments can't accept birds.

For more information, including locating a local DPH office for submitting deceased birds, visit <a href="mailto:dph.sc.gov/birdtesting">dph.sc.gov/birdtesting</a> or contact the Vector-Borne Diseases Laboratory at 803-896-3802 or <a href="mailto:vector@dph.sc.gov">vector@dph.sc.gov</a>.

Additional information about WNV and mosquito management tips are available at <a href="https://doi.org/dph.sc.gov/mosquitoes">dph.sc.gov/mosquitoes</a>.

# 9<sup>TH</sup> "FEEDING THE ECONOMY" REPORT DEMONSTRATES IMMENSE IMPACT OF THE AMERICAN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY AMIDST ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

AMERICAN AG CONTRIBUTES \$9.5 TRILLION IN ECONOMIC VALUE AND 1 MILLION JOBS TO NATIONAL ECONOMY

On March 18, 2025, 36 food and agriculture groups released the ninth annual Feeding the Economy report, a farm-to-fork study of the entire agricultural supply chain. The report analyzes the robust direct and indirect economic contributions of one of America's most essential industries to U.S. jobs, wages, economic output, and taxes.

The 2025 report confirms the agriculture industry is at the heart of the U.S. economy, generating more than \$9.5 trillion in economic value, which amounts to 18.7% of the overall national economy. While these findings highlight the enormous impact of the agriculture industry, this is a modest decrease compared to 2024, when agriculture contributed more than \$9.6 trillion to the economy, about 20% of total economic output.

Additional highlights from the 2025 Feeding the Economy report include:

- The agriculture industry has shown significant growth since the pandemic, increasing its economic output by close to 25% and demonstrating the industry's resilience and innovation amidst global supply chain challenges.
- Direct employment in food and agriculture has grown by more than I million jobs since 2020, contributing to overall American job growth and high U.S. employment rates.
- The United States exports nearly \$183 billion in food and agriculture products, critical to the strength and growth of our industry.

Despite these considerable gains and notable contributions to the U.S. economy, certain emerging trends represent an industry under pressure. Direct and indirect industry wages have grown year-over-year but have failed to keep pace with inflation, reflecting nationwide economic stressors and the high cost of labor for employers. Additionally, the number of agricultural manufacturing jobs has fallen year-over-year and is down nearly 30,000 jobs since 2020.

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, of which the South Carolina Department of Agriculture is a member, was among the 36 sponsoring organizations of the report. The full list of organizations is available online.

Learn more and read the full study at feedingtheeconomy.com.

2007

47,181,643

JOBS



\$2.8 T

WAGES



\$1.3 T



\$182.8 E

EXPORTS



\$9.5 T

7

OUTPUT

MARKET BULLETIN



# C

# Certified South Carolina Strawberry Farms

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Strawberries are one of the earliest and most exciting spring agriculture products in South Carolina. Some farms are U-pick, while others sell their berries at roadside stands and local markets. Some farms may shift business models mid-season, inviting guests on the farm for U-pick only during the busiest times. In fact, some are not quite open yet for the year, but will be soon. It's best to track these farms on Facebook or Instagram and/or contact them before you visit.

🍪 KINGS FARM MARKET

Facebook: Kings Farm Market

Instagram: kingsfarmmarket

CHESTER CO.

**©** COTTON HILLS FARM

Facebook: Cotton Hills Farm

Instagram: cotton\_hills\_farm

CHESTERFIELD CO.

**MCLEOD FARMS, INC.** 

29247 Highway 151 South

Facebook: Mcleod Farms

Instagram: mcleodfarms

CLARENDON CO.

**®** RICHBURG FARMS

davidrichburg@yahoo.com

Facebook: Richburg Farms

COLLETON CO.

**BRELAND HILL FARM** 

Facebook: Breland Hill Farm

Instagram: brelandhillfarm

**WIGGINS FARMS** 

1660 Possum Corner Road

Facebook: Wiggins Farms

417 Quiet Brook Road

Darlington, SC 29540

843-731-4679

DARLINGTON CO.

**®** QUIET BROOK PRODUCE

Facebook: Quiet Brook Produce

DORCHESTER CO.

shulerpeachcompany.square.site

Facebook: ShulerPeachCompany

Instagram: shulerpeachcompany

**SHULER PEACH CO.** 

118 Meyers Mayo Road

StrawberriesandPeaches

**WESTBURY FARMS** 

Facebook: Westbury Farms

Westburyfarmsstrawberries

**STRAWBERRIES** 

683 W. Main Street

843-560-2311

Strawberries

Instagram:

Harleyville, SC 29448

Ridgeville, SC 29472

Walterboro, SC 29488

4553 Paxville Highway

Manning, SC 29102

849 Spencer Drive

Ruffin, SC 29475

843-866-7560

843-631-0914

803-473-0755

McBee, SC 29101

macspride.com

843-335-8611

2559 Highway 174

843-869-9600

Edisto Island, SC 29438

kingsfarmmarket.com

2575 Lowrys Highway

cottonhillsfarm.com

Lowrys, SC 29706

803-581-4545

#### AIKEN CO

# **®** GUROSIK'S BERRY PLANTATION − AIKEN BYPASS MARKET

1310 East Pine Log Road at Aiken Senior Life Aiken, SC 29803 gurosiksberryplantation.com

# ANDERSON CO.

#### **© CALLAHAM ORCHARDS**

559 Crawford Road Belton, SC 29627 864-338-0810 Facebook: Callaham Orchards Instagram: callahamorchards

# BEAUFORT CO.

#### **BAREFOOT FARMS**

939 Sea Island Parkway Saint Helena Island, SC 29920 843-838-7421 Facebook: Barefoot Farms

# **DEMPSEY FARMS**■ 1576 Sea Island Parkway

St. Helena Island, SC 29920 843-838-3656 dempseyfarmsupick.com Facebook: Dempsey Farms Instagram: dempseyfarms

# BERKELEY CO.

# **MANNIE-LYNN FARMS**

1663 Main Street Bonneau, SC 29431 843-729-2694 Facebook: Annie-Lynn Farms Instagram: annielynnfarms

# HICKORY BLUFF BERRY FARM

245 Hickory Bluff Lane
Holly Hill, SC 29059
843-812-5332
<u>hickorybluffberries.com</u>
Facebook: Hickory Bluff Berry Farm
Instagram: hickorybluffberryfarm

# 🏶 WABI SABI FARM

685 Anderson Lane Cordesville, SC 29434 843-336-4995 Facebook: Wabi Sabi Farm Instagram: wabisabifarm

# CHARLESTON CO.

# **MATERIAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARK**

2349 Black Pond Lane Wadmalaw Island, SC 29487 843-559-0988 stonofarmmarket.com Facebook: Ambrose Family Farm Instagram: ambrosefamilyfarm

# **BOONE HALL FARMS**

2434 North Highway 17 Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464 843-856-5366 boonehallfarms.com Facebook: Boone Hall Farms Instagram: boonehallfarm

# **BUGBY PLANTATION**U PICK

Bugby Plantation Road Wadmalaw Island, SC 29487 843-209-3246 Facebook: Bugby Plantation U-Pick

# **WESTBURY FARMS**STRAWBERRIES AT MARY MEADE MARKET

East 9<sup>th</sup> North Street and Berlin G. Myers Parkway Summerville, SC 29483 843-560-2311 Facebook: Westbury Farms Strawberries Instagram: Westburyfarmsstrawberries

#### EDGEFIELD CO.

# **©** COOKS ROADSIDE MARKET

1236 Augusta Road Trenton, SC 29487 803-275-2970 Facebook: Cook's Roadside Market

#### **BELLE**

1500 SC Highway 191 Johnston, SC 29832 803-685-7735 Facebook: Dixie Belle, Inc. Instagram: dixiebellepeaches

# **©** GUROSIK'S BERRY PLANTATION, INC.

345 Briggs Road North Augusta, SC 29860 803-278-0594 / 803-292-3622 gurosiksberryplantation.com Facebook: Gurosik's Berry Plantation Check website for other locations

### **SARA'S FRESH MARKET**

5150 Edgefield Road Trenton, SC 29487 803-275-1983 titanfarms.com/saras-fresh-market Facebook: SarasFreshMarket Instagram: SarasFreshMarket

# FLORENCE CO.

# **©** COTTLE STRAWBERRY FARM

3712 W. Palmetto Street
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843-317-0031
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# ₱ POSTON'S STRAWBERRY FARM ■ PROPERTY FARM ■ PROP

4472 Mill House Road Johnsonville, SC 29555 843-493-2463 jpostoniii@frontier.com Facebook: Poston's Strawberry Farm

# GEORGETOWN CO.

# **BLACK MINGO PRODUCE**AT BAXLEY FAMILY FARMS

4490 Rose Hill Road Georgetown, SC 29440 843-325-6146 Facebook: Black Mingo Produce at Baxley Family Farms

# GREENVILLE CO.

# **BUCK AND ANN'S STRAWBERRY PATCH**

139 Pearson Road Greer, SC 29651 864-879-4612 Facebook: Buck and Ann's Strawberry Farm

# © CERON BROTHERS FARMS

401 Old Settlement Road Marietta SC 864 836-6075 <u>ceronbrothers@aol.com</u> Facebook: Ceron Brothers

# PINEBREEZE FARM

10059 Augusta Road Pelzer, SC 29669 864-915-8223 pinebreezefarm@gmail.com Facebook: Pinebreeze Farm & Produce Instagram: pinebreeze\_farm

# SANDY FLAT BERRY PATCH

4715 Locust Hill Road Taylors, SC 29687 864-895-4780 / 864-895-2019 sandyflatberrypatch@gmail.com Facebook: Sandy Flat Berry Patch Instagram: sandyflatberrypatch

#### GREENWOOD CO.

## **BERRY'S FARMS**

3503 Highway 246 South Ninety Six, SC 29666 Facebook: Berry Farms 2

# HORRY CO.

#### **\*** ANDERSON FARMS

5700 Privetts Road Conway, SC 29526 843-839-3993 jba2600@gmail.com

#### **BELLAMY FARMS**

4347 Highway 9 East Loris, SC 29569 843-756-6741 bellamyfarmsproduce@gmail.com Facebook: Bellamy Farms

## **\*** HOME SWEET FARM

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# **B** LYNN'S BERRIES

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# KERSHAW CO.

# **MARSHALL FARM**

1327 Old Georgetown Road East Bethune, SC 29009 803-272-9940 marshallfarmsc@yahoo.com

# LANCASTER CO.

# HALL FAMILY FARM

445 W. Rebound Road Lancaster SC 29720 704-562-4021 <u>hallfamilyfarm.com</u> Facebook: Hall Family Farmnc

# **THE IVY PLACE**

8525 Van Wyck Road Lancaster, SC 29720 803-403-1104 ivyplaceevents.com Facebook: The Ivy Place Berry Farm Instagram: ivyplaceberryfarm

# RICH HILL FARMS

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# LAURENS CO.

# **B** LUSHACRES FARM

1875 West Maple Street Ext. Clinton SC, 29325 864-938-2800 <u>lushacresfarm@thornwell.org</u> Facebook: LushAcres Farm and Market

# **STEWART FARMS** 6600 Highway 92

Enoree, SC 29335 864-969-7270 stewartfarms@prtcnet.com stewartfarms.net Facebook: Stewart Farms Instagram: stewart\_farms

#### LEXINGTON CO.

# CLAYTON RAWL FARMS

Calks Ferry Road and Highway I Lexington, SC 29072 Facebook: Clayton Rawl Farms Inc.

# **B** LUCAS RIDGE FARMS STRAWBERRIES

7668 Edmund Highway Pelion, SC 29123 803-347-5521 Facebook: Lucas Ridge Farms Strawberries

#### **MCKENZIE FARMS**

348 Clover Road Leesville, SC 29070 803-528-5499 Facebook: McKenzie Farms Strawberry Patch Instagram: McKenzie Farms Strawberry Patch

#### MARION CO.

# **TATKINSON FARMS**

1921 South Highway 917 Mullins, SC 29574 843-430-7544 Facebook: Atkinson Farm Strawberries & Produce

#### MARLBORO CO.

#### **MCARTHUR FARMS**

1708 Highway 38 South Bennettsville, SC 29512 843-479-3849 mcarthurfarms.com Facebook: McArthur Farms Instagram: mcarthurfarmssc

## NEWBERRY CO.

# **B** LEVER FARMS

5057 Highway 34 Pomaria, SC 29126 803-321-5952 <u>leverfarms.com</u> Facebook: Lever Farms Instagram: leverfarms

# ORANGEBURG CO.

# MCCURLEY FARMS

8840 North Road North, SC 29112 803-928-0287 Facebook: McCurley Farms Instagram: mccurleyfarms

# SHULER PEACH CO.

4983 Old State Road Holly Hill, SC 29059 shulerpeachcompany.square.site Facebook: ShulerPeachCompany StrawberriesandPeaches Instagram: shulerpeachcompany

# PICKENS C

# **ESTRADA FARMS**

1428 Table Rock Road Pickens, SC 29671 864-430-9441 mexilind097@gmail.com Facebook: Estrada Farms

# **HUNTER FARMS** 607 Jameson Road

Easley, SC 29640 864-859-2978 hunterfarmsonline.com Facebook: Hunter Farms Easley

# MILE CREEK FARM MARKET & GENERAL STORE 3020 Walhalla Highway

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864-481-5206
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Facebook: Mile Creek Farm
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Instagram: milecreekfarmmarket

#### RICHLAND CO.

# **©** COTTLE STRAWBERRY FARM

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#### SALUDA CO.

#### **B** DIXIE BELLE

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#### SPARTANBURG CO.

#### **B** GREYROCK FARMS

5750 Anderson Mill Road Moore, SC 29369 864-576-2784 Facebook: Greyrock Farms and Green Acres Produce Instagram: greyrockfarmssc

#### **STRAWBERRY HILL USA**

3097 Highway 11 West

Chesnee, SC 29323 864-461-7225 strawberryhillusa.com Facebook: Strawberry Hill USA Farm Instagram: strawberryhillusa

#### SUMTER CO.

# **B** DORR FARMS

5225 Dorr Acres Road Gable, SC 29051 803-495-2639 Facebook: Dorr Farms Instagram: dorrfarms

# WILLIAMSBURG CO.

# \*THORNTREE AGRICULTURE

7161 US Hwy 521 Salters, SC 29590 843-312-0880 william@thorntreeag.com Facebook: Thorntree Agriculture Instagram: thorntreeagriculture

# YORK CO.

# **BLACK'S PEACHES**

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# **BUSH-N-VINE FARM**

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# CHERRY PLACE FARM 1922 Oakdale Road

Rock Hill, SC 29730 803-207-5624 cherryplacefarm.com Facebook: Cherry Place Farm Instagram: cherryplacefarm

# SPRINGS FARM

1010 Springfield Parkway
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