

MARKET BULLETIN

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March 5, 2026

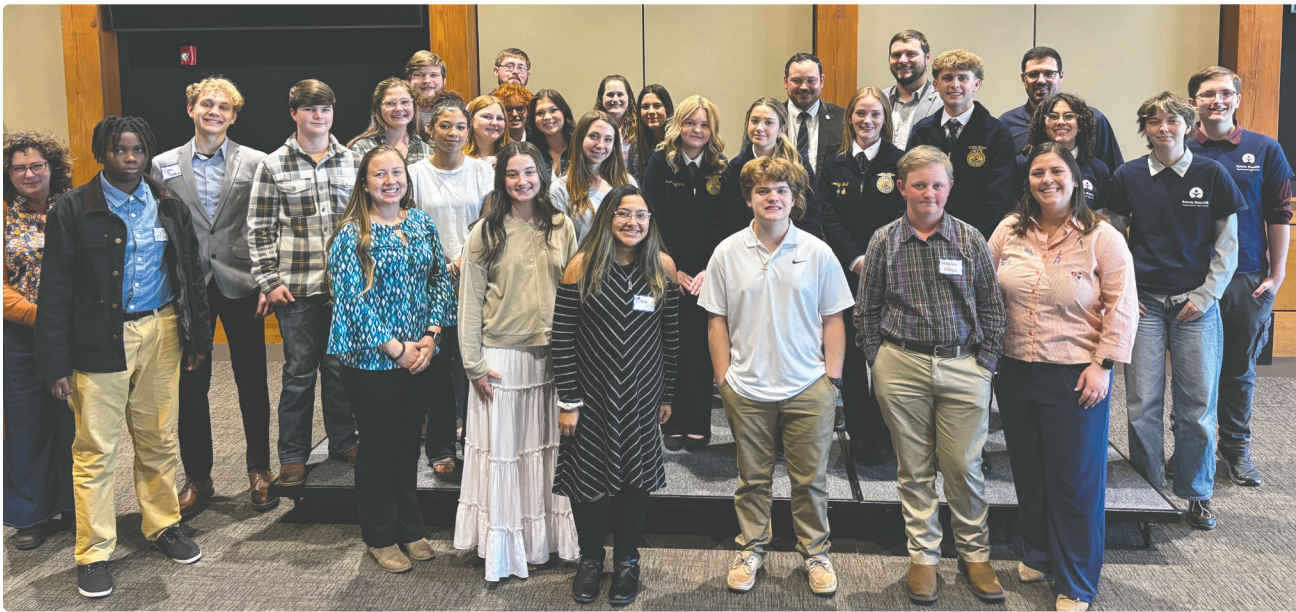
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YOUNG AGRIBUSINESS ENTREPRENEURS COMPETE FOR FUNDING

BY ADDIE ROBERSON, SCDA



South Carolina students in 7th through 12th grade recently competed to win funding for their agribusiness ideas.

On January 13, the South Carolina Department of Agriculture's Agribusiness Center for Research and Entrepreneurship (ACRE) hosted its third annual Pitch Day for the Seeds for Success program. This was the first-ever Pitch Day open to the public.

Seeds for Success is a program dedicated to young entrepreneurs hoping to jumpstart their agribusiness goals, and is modeled on ACRE's programs for adult entrepreneurs.

Of the nine teams that competed, the judges selected four finalists. Each finalist team will be recognized at a school event.

The finalists are:

1. **Walhalla FFA Aquaponics** was awarded \$5,000.

Using aquaponic research, the school's FFA program is producing fast-growing, nutrient-dense microgreens and herbs for sale to their local community. Their goal is to increase access to healthy foods through aquaponics, using a method that is pesticide and chemical free, environmentally sustainable, and locally grown. They will use their award to install four aquaponic systems, startup costs for seeds, water quality kits, plants, and a back-up generator.

2. **Bengal Biodiesel** was awarded \$3,000.

Blythewood High School has created an innovative solution to the byproduct of biodiesel that they use in their Bengal Biodiesel program. The soaps they create using glycerin byproducts are made and packaged in house and sold to neighboring schools and members of the community. Their soap is completely ecofriendly, scented with natural herbs, and is a functional cleaning oil. Their award will be used to provide more machinery so that Bengal Biodiesel can expand its production.

3. **Rooted Landscape Solutions** was awarded \$3,000.

The Lorris FFA group created Rooted Landscape Solutions to provide homeowners in their local community access to a landscaping company that offers plants native to the area. The gardens are aimed at providing habitats to local wildlife and support sustainability in their local community. They will use their award to continue operations in the company and for equipment.

4. **Nance Farm Show Pigs** was awarded \$1,000.

This youth-owned purebred show-pig operation serves local 4-H and FFA youth. The goal of this operation is to raise healthy show pigs that perform well in the ring and to provide confidence to the youth customers that use Nance Farm show pigs. Nance Farm Show Pigs do all operations in house including breeding, marketing, photography, and they aim to sell six to 12 show pigs a year. With their award, they plan to continue to provide high quality pigs and expand their herd.

The remaining teams were awarded \$500 each.

To learn more about Seeds for Success and ACRE, visit acre-sc.com.



COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



HUGH E. WEATHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

SPRINGTIME AND TARIFFS

After the U.S. Supreme Court ruled Feb. 20 that the President could not use emergency powers to enact tariffs, and the President responded with a new 15 percent "global import tax," all eyes are on what's next for international trade.

Here in South Carolina, farmers continue to struggle with sky-high input costs — fertilizer, supplies, and equipment, not to mention labor. As we watch these new phases of the administration's tariff policy play out, I hope leaders will keep farmers in mind. We need to focus on firming up our trade agreements — maintaining China's commitment to buy U.S. soybeans, for example — and encouraging new markets. The administration is making a big push to regain the agricultural trade surplus that the US enjoyed for so many years.

Don't get me wrong: There's a time and a place to use tariffs in a targeted way that can help U.S. farmers. Tariffs can be an important tool when they're used to dissuade countries from dumping cheap agricultural products into the global marketplace. We just need to be strategic.

I've been on the road a lot already in 2026, but I'm happy to be in South Carolina as March begins. There's a feeling of spring in the air in South Carolina, despite plenty

of cold weather so far this year. I think it's the extra daylight that makes us all feel energized and ready for change.

With corn planting season upon us, planters are ready to roll.

The earliest spring produce crops are just around the corner.

Strawberries are on everyone's mind, as plants have begun to flower and growers are having to protect against cold weather with row covers. It's not that many weeks until U-pick farms across the state are opening their gates.

Asparagus is the other early-spring crop most in demand by chefs and shoppers. We've seen a real jump in asparagus farming recently, with acreage in the state increasing from 12 acres in 2012 to 482 acres in 2022.

I sure look forward to seeing other early spring crops popping up at farm stands on the roads that I drive: radishes, swiss chard, beets, green onions, and more.

To take in our state's bounty, visit a farmers market or Certified Roadside Market, or look for the Certified SC label at the grocery store. Visit agriculture.sc.gov or certifiedsc.com to find farm products near you. South Carolina farmers could use your support right now.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blacksmithing Demonstration

March 14 • 10 am–12 pm

Join us as Museum Director Walter Hill conducts a blacksmithing demonstration in the Blacksmith Shop. Hill, who has over twenty years of experience as a blacksmith, will demonstrate traditional forging techniques for the public. The L.W. Paul Living History Farm re-creates life on the one-horse family farm in Horry County from 1900–1955 through traditional farming activities. To view a full list of programs, visit our website.

L.W. Paul Living History Farm

2279 Harris Short Cut Road, Conway

hcg.museum@horrycountysc.gov • 843-915-5321

horrycountymuseum.org

Rent-a-Chick 2026

March 13 • 3–6 pm

March 14 • 9 am–12 pm

Let your child experience the wonders of life in Spring. Rent a pair of baby chicks for 2 weeks for just \$35. Introduce children to caring for a live animal without a long-term commitment.

Legare Farms

2620 Hanscombe Point Road, Johns Island

helen@legarefarms.com • 843-559-0788

legarefarms.com

Grow Your Own Food Workshop

March 14 • 11 am–1 pm

Whether you are using raised beds or container pots, you will learn to cultivate healthy, chemical-free food while connecting with the source of your next meal. Your ticket includes a print out with vegetable gardening information, all tools and supplies necessary for demos, and take home transplants (one seedling of tomato, pepper, squash, and cucumber).

Cascade Farms SC

984 Cascade Road, Cheraw

cascadefarmssc@gmail.com • 843-229-0515

cascadefarmssc.com

Beginner Beekeeping School 2026

March 14 • 12–4 pm

You will learn about: the history of bees, anatomy of the bee, diseases and pests, hive equipment, byproducts, and so much more. Prepares you for SC/NC state certifications if you wish to take it. Opportunity to volunteer and work bees with us. Free 40-page beekeeping booklet. Hands on portion—bring your own protective clothing (we have some you can buy if not). \$55 per person.

HoneyStrong

1753 Ebenezer Road, Smyrna

info@honeystrong.com • 704-993-6833

[facebook.com/HoneyStrongHomestead](https://www.facebook.com/HoneyStrongHomestead)

Remote Produce Safety Rule Grower Training Course

March 18 & 19 • 1–5:30 pm

Hosted by Clemson Cooperative Extension and Carolina Farm Stewardship Association for fruit and vegetable growers and others interested in learning about produce safety, the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), and co-management of natural resources and food safety. Cost: \$35 in State; \$125 Out of State. Last Day to Register: Wednesday, March 11, 2026.

This training is via remote delivery on Zoom.

Contact: Chad Carter, Clemson Extension Food Systems and Safety Associate

ctcarte@clemson.edu • 843-730-5211

producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu

Register: bit.ly/March18RemotePSR

Gray Kyle-Graves Horsemanship Clinic

March 18–22 • 10:30 am–5 pm

Explore the transformative power of equine therapy. Experience the unique bond between humans and horses, guided by expert Gray Kyle-Graves. This clinic offers hands-on opportunities to engage with our horses, enhancing physical, emotional, and developmental well-being in a supportive environment.

Wild Hearts Equine Therapy

598 Wild Hearts Way, Seneca

info@wildheartsequinetherapy.org • 864-991-9163

wildheartsequinetherapy.org

Register: zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/gray-kyle-graves-horsemanship-clinic

Sumter Farmers Market Spring Kick Off

March 20 • 11:30 am–4:30 pm

Join us as we kick off the 2026 Market Season. Every Friday beginning March 20 through November you can pick up fresh local produce, eggs, honey, jams, dressings and sauces, homemade soaps and candles, breads and sweet treats, artisans, crafters, food trucks, and so much more!

200 Miller Road, Sumter

Contact: Alysha Gilbert / Sumter Farmers Market

sfarmersmarket@gmail.com • 803-667-7091

[facebook.com/sumterfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/sumterfarmersmarket)

Children's Seed Starting Class

March 21 • 1 pm

Learn all about seeds and plant several different kinds of vegetable seeds that can be taken back to your own outdoor spaces where gardening adventures can continue to grow! This class is geared for ages 6–11 with parent companions, but all ages are welcome.

Farm in the Wildwood

107 Collins Road, Piedmont

farminthewildwood@gmail.com • 864-561-5520

farminthewildwood.com

SCDA State Farmers Markets

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FARMERS MARKET

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

GREENVILLE STATE FARMERS MARKET

1354 Rutherford Road
Greenville, SC 29609
864-244-4023

PEE DEE STATE FARMERS MARKET

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

VISIT AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV

Click on the State Farmers Markets button for more information about each location

SC Market Bulletin Subscription & Renewal Form

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. To subscribe with a credit card online, visit agriculture.sc.gov, click on Market Bulletin, select Subscribe to the Market Bulletin, then follow the prompts. Do not send cash in the mail. Non-refundable. Allow 6–8 weeks for processing. Subscriptions may only be purchased for up to 2 years.

Name _____ Paper: \$15 / 1 year Paper: \$30 / 2 years

Address _____ New Renewal

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Check # _____

Phone _____ Renewal ID # _____

Email _____ This is a gift 3/5/26

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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Certified SC Program
803-734-2207

Metrology Laboratory
803-253-4052

Consumer Protection
803-737-9700

Milk Safety
803-667-1161

Fruit & Vegetable Inspection
803-737-4588

Produce Safety
803-753-7267

Market News—Fruit & Vegetable
803-737-4671

Retail Food Safety
803-896-0640

Market News—Livestock & Grain
803-737-4491

SCATE Card
803-734-2185

Market News Recording
803-737-5900

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 time of sale.

Ads are published free of charge and in good faith. The *Market Bulletin* reserves the right to edit and verify ads but assumes no responsibility for their content.

Ads cannot be accepted from agents, dealers, or commercial businesses, including real estate. Sealed bids, legal notices, or consignment sales are not accepted.

SUBMITTING ADS

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

- **Online:** Go to agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin. 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

MARCH 10 • 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

GRASS CARP

\$12; Bluegill/Shellcracker, 1-3", 65¢; Redbreast, 75¢; Ch Catfish, 3-5", 65¢; Gambusia, 40¢
Clay Chappell
Richland
803-776-4923

BLUEGILL

50¢; Bass, \$2.50; Catfish & Redear, \$1; Tilapia & Crappie, \$2; Grass Carp, \$10; Minnows, \$25
Derek Long
Newberry
803-944-3058

EQUINE

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

17 Y/O 13H QH MARE

12 y/o 15h QH geld, both for \$6000 incl tack
Joseph Dyches
Allendale
843-812-2138

CATTLE

POLLED HRFRD BULL

15 m/o, Home Towne & Knee's J-45 b'lines, VG & exc markings/color, \$2500
John Gossett
Spartanburg
864-384-2851

REG DEXTER CATTLE

(1) hefr B-8/24, (1) hefr B-5/25, \$1600 ea; (1) bull calf B-5/25, \$1400
Stephan Vernet
Spartanburg
864-363-5800

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND CATTLE

(2) 5 y/o cows, (1) yrlg hefr, 2 bull calves under 1 yr, \$5000-10,000 ea
Charles Hobart
Spartanburg
843-422-9294

14 M/O REG ANG BULLS

low BW, good EPDs, sired by Payweight, docile, \$3500
Brent Parnell
Anderson
864-449-7269

2 REG MINI HRFRD BULLS

sire on site, handled often, gentle, B-5/2/24, \$1500; B-5/22, \$1000
Tiffany Craft
Greenville
864-263-8266

BUCKING BULLS

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

DEXTER CATTLE

4 hefrs, B-12/24, 1/25, 2/25, 6/25, \$1200 ea; 1 bull B-2/25, \$1100
Stanley McChesney
Spartanburg
864-415-6166

JERSEY/ANG BULL

1000 lbs, \$2000
Robert Turner
Orangeburg
803-596-6463

RED ANG BULLS

2 y/o, CE, BSE & gentle, \$5500+
David Miller
Edgefield
706-840-3709

REG HRFRD BULLS

9-12 m/o, vac/deworm, \$2000+
Donnie King
Greenville
864-885-2119

GARDEN

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

LRG BLUEBERRY PLANTS

2/\$25; Figs, Pomegranate, Elderberry plants, \$20; grapevines, \$10; Mulberry trees, \$30
Freeman Noles
Barnwell
803-383-4066

FARM EQUIPMENT

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

'47 FA CUB

cult incl, new rear tires, whl wts, 12v elec, \$2400
William Yarborough
Colleton
843-708-3665

JD 5045E TRACTOR

w/frt end ldr, shed kept, 1050 hrs, \$26,000 obo
Roger Waltz
Bamberg
843-908-2312

'14 JD 5055E TRACTOR

w/512 ldr, set of forks, Frontier bush hog #RC2027, 748 hrs, \$25,000
Smokey Hydrick
Aiken
803-522-2440

JD 4020

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

PB IPEX DITCHER

PTO driven, cleans out ditches or build new ones, Tandem axle on flotation tires, \$4500
Danny Stevens
Chesterfield
843-337-5325

OAK TRL

& small metal trl, \$100 ea; 3ph carry all, \$250; all cash only
Randy Orr
Anderson
864-201-5666

JD 459 BALER

\$29,500; Kubota 2028 DM, \$10,000; JD 8 whl rake, \$2500; all in GC
Dargan Etheredge
Calhoun
803-238-2122

\$595 BOBCAT SKID STEER

wheeled machine, open station, 2800 hrs, \$23,500; JD 6500 spryr & trl, \$20,000
Drake Kinley
Anderson
864-353-9628

'75 MF 235

2 wd, GC, rarely used, \$6200
Dennis Trammell
Union
864-426-4066

'06 CHEV 3500 DUMP TRUCK

Allison trans, Duramax innovative 6.6 dsl, LN, 96,400 mi, \$25,500
John Lyons
Chester
803-899-4308

24'W BERMUDA KING

w/trl hitch, new digger teeth, barn kept, \$3800
Lisa Hipps
Lexington
803-530-8263

CARRY-ON LIVESTOCK TRL

6x12 w/rear & side doors, Tandem axles, wood flr, LN, \$5200
Danny Leitner
Fairfield
843-200-0887

IH 140 WAGON

14x8, \$495; 3pt scoop pan, \$125
Jason Nichols
Saluda
864-992-9292

20'x7' ENCL TRL

Tandem axles, loading ramp, new tires, EC, \$6500
Jerry Comeaux
Spartanburg
864-992-3869

8N FORD

new tires, wiring, gauges, radiator, water pump, etc, \$3000; 1r cult, \$200; 5x8 util trl, \$600; all obo
Otis Hembree
Spartanburg
864-316-1222

2R LILLISTON SUBSOILER

w/JD 7100 plntr w/lift assist whl, w/corn, soybean & sorghum cups, \$5200
Allen Wise
Barnwell
803-793-4175

14' KUHN CUTTER 4460

\$25,000 obo; Kuhn rake & Kuhn 4 basket tedder, \$4200 ea; Intl 1466, dual whls, \$18,000
Joseph Henson
York
803-448-5287

FORD 2810 TRACTOR

926 hrs, hyd remote, FR, \$6900
Roy Burkett
Lexington
803-532-5063

TURNER PLOW

for Super A FA, \$125; 3ph tiller, \$500; 3ph btm plow, \$125 obo
Mike Echols
Greenville
864-908-8159

FA SUPER A

w/side plntr & fert hopper, cult, seed plates, all LN, \$5250; 5' Woods finish mwr for FA cub, \$600
Robert Yonce
Aiken
803-685-7240

JD 459 SILAGE SPECIAL BALER

3782 bales, \$30,000; Vermeer WR20 whl rake, \$4000; JD tedder \$2500
Darren Carter
Greenwood
864-980-5695

20 BLADE DISC

\$1200; (2) 1r cults, \$300; 7' boom pole, \$125, call/text
Franklin Brown
Charleston
843-224-4711

6' SOUTHERN BUSH HOG

rear discharge, used 1x by this owner, \$1800 obo
Rondoll Watson
Lexington
803-924-7368

'42 AC TRACTOR

EC, antiq, \$4500 obo
Farha Ali
Greenwood
864-554-0041

5' BHB GROOMING MWR

antiq/vintage '60-64, cuts well, \$200
Robert White
Spartanburg
864-457-2293

MF 230

dsl, PS, low hrs, 3pt, good tires, \$6500
Gary Watson
Chester
803-519-6549

FRT END LDR

for MF 240 series, GC, all mounting hdwe, \$3700; Ford 8N, converted to 12v, GRC, \$3500
William Shealy
Lexington
803-513-3485

9600 FORD TRACTOR

VGRC, 135 hp, dual remotes, \$12,000, call/text
Toney Farr
Union
864-251-4046

JD 892 ELC EXCAVATOR

GRC, a/c works, mech thumb, \$25,000; 3pt rev scoop pan, \$275
Phillip Mullis
Lancaster
803-519-7125

3000 FORD TRACTOR

\$6000; btm plow, \$300; 20 disc harrow, \$100; more
Gary Seay
Spartanburg
864-578-8214

5' FINISHING MWR

King Cutter brand, GC, \$450
Samuel Smith
York
803-371-3272

2R TRNSPLNTR

3ph w/2 water barrels, LN, \$7500; NH 273 sq baler, \$1000
Charles Clunan
Anderson
864-245-3803

1R KENCO TRNSPLNTR

water whl, LN, 1 owner, \$900
Buddy Hiers Sr
Hampton
803-943-6609

6' W AERATOR

LN, tractor mount, 12" drum, \$1200
Charlie Doyle
Florence
843-992-6267

4x5 RND BALER

Vermeer 5400 Rebel, twine tie, hay saver whls, bale ramp, shed kept, GC, FR, \$10,000
Warren Rutland
Fairfield
803-429-4138

INTL 5100 GRAIN DRILL

21 dbl disc openers, \$5500
Jeffrey Gilmore
Chesterfield
843-517-0315

FARM LABOR

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

MOBILE SAWMILL SERV

statewide, capable of sawing logs from 8-20'L & 34" dia
Lowell Fralix
Barnwell
803-707-5625

BEAVER TRAPPING

& exclusion, Aiken Co & surrounding area
Joe Leonard
Aiken
803-507-4940

NEED INDIVIDUALS

to prune vineyard, must have own equip & pole trimmers
Ryan Anderson
Greenville
864-234-2918

LIME SPREADING

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

MOBILE SAWMILLING

30"+ dia & 21'L, drop off up to 52"; land clearing, excavator work, Veteran owned/insured
John Smith
Pickens
864-982-2249

PASTURE MGMT SERV

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

FORESTRY MULCHING

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

TREE LIMB TRIMMING

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

LIGHT TRACTOR WORK

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

STUMP GRINDING

light grading, tree & debris removal, driveway repair, more, free est
Johnny Melton
Pickens
864-442-3077

HERBICIDE APPL

free quotes for invasive species, site prep, row crop, pasture & hay lands
Andrew Williams
Greenville
843-534-6195

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

FORESTRY MULCHING

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

EXCAVATOR WORK

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

HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE APPLS

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

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.

RAW GOAT MILK

from Grade A dairy in Aiken, \$12 1/2 gal
Sam Stevens
Aiken
803-645-5111

CHICKEN EGGS

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

JUMBO QUAIL

& chicken eggs, \$3-4/dz
Brian Motley
Kershaw
803-315-7598

CHICKEN EGGS

farm fresh, blue & brn, \$4/dz
Courtney Terry
Laurens
814-876-2127

FARM LAND

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

WANT LAND

to buy in Lexington Co
Elmer Fuller
Lexington
803-629-0416

30A TIMBER/PASTURED

w/road frtage, 18 & 12 A
tracts, on Dorn Rd, Troy,
\$250,000
Farha Ali
Greenwood
864-554-0041

17+/-A OF CB

land locked for \$60,000/A
Stephen Gedosch
Greenville
864-982-4490

WANT LAND FOR LEASE

w/in 50 mi of Lexington for
deer hunting, 3-4 resp hunters
Bob Padowicz
Lexington
803-206-5993

80.2A EDGEFIELD CO

timber w/small creek, tax
#024-00-00-003-000,
\$4200/A
John Rhodes
Hampton
803-346-9473

WANT HUNTING LAND

have equip for repair & help
w/other needs, surrounding
counties
Ray Sealey
Darlington
843-409-1717

WANT 50-100A UPSTATE

for hunting lease, 2 hunters,
refs & ins provided
Hugh Childress
Anderson
864-331-9471

GOATS / LLAMAS / SHEEP

9 W/O M BOER GOAT

\$175/will neg
Thomas Harris
Union
864-466-2436

KATAHDIN SHEEP

ewes & rams, B-'26, gentle,
hand raised, vac & wormed,
\$225+
Tammy Hodge
Sumter
803-983-5041

DAIRY TYPE GOATS

open, Lamancha, Alpine,
mixed, healthy, \$125+
Beverly Ammons
Berkeley
843-761-2962

BILLY GOAT

\$200
Thomas Waters
Colleton
843-696-6627

DAIRY SHEEP

E Friesian X Tunis, '26 lamb,
bottle lamb, ewe/lamb pr, 2
y/o ram, \$150-500
Darcy Wagner
York
704-806-6464

ND ADGA REG DOES

1-5 y/o, \$150-300
Deborah Reed
Orangeburg
843-312-5018

KATAHDIN LAMBS

8+ m/o, healthy & wormed,
\$250 ea
Rebekah Olson
York
803-351-4994

KATAHDIN SHEEP

5 ram lambs, \$215 ea
Larry Seyller
Greenville
864-360-1849

BLUE EYED ND GOATS

B-1/10/26, \$125/billies,
\$150/doe
Patty Jackson
Cherokee
864-316-0741

HOGS / PIGS

M/F KUNEKUNES

4 m/o - 4 y/o, females
exposed to males 1 mon
ago, \$50 ea, regardless of age
Powell Andrews
York
989-425-0467

TAMWORTH BOAR

3 m/o, good b'line Best
Bacon breed, \$300
Gene Hunt
Anderson
864-704-6190

20 GOOD FEEDER PIGS

10 w/o, \$60 ea
Russell Mixon
Hampton
803-942-3402

RABBITS

REX

all colors, yng, \$15-20 ea;
grown bucks, \$20 ea; does,
\$25 ea
Philip Poole
Union
864-427-1589

TAMUK

var ages & colors, \$20 ea
Courtney Terry
Laurens
814-876-2127

SEED

ADS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY
A CURRENT SEED LAB TEST.

DIXIE LEE PEA SEED

cleaned, in 50 lb bags,
G-96%, D/HS-1%, D/HS&G-
97%, \$50
Jeffrey Gilmore
Chesterfield
843-517-0315

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POLICIES](http://AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV/MARKET-BULLETIN-POLICIES)

HAY & GRAIN

'25 HQ WHEAT RYEGRASS

4x5, net wrap, barn stored,
\$50/bale
Jimmie Boland
Saluda
864-992-9651

4x5 RND HAY

\$30 ea
Emory Lester
Newberry
803-940-0796

'25 HQ 4x54 CB

net wrap, shed kept, \$70 ea;
no del
Rickey Meetze
Lexington
803-667-0285

'25 4x5 RND BALES

net wrap, CQ, \$45/bale,
can del for fee
Nathan Uldrick
Abbeville
864-391-1359

'25 HQ CB

shed kept, \$50; CQ, 4 rolls
for \$100
Bobby Zimmerman
Lexington
803-317-8681

BERMUDA GRASS

18"x36" sq, baled 9/17, \$6 ea;
p-up or del avail for bulk for
addl fee
Nicholas Mosher
Marion
912-289-5575

'25 OATS

\$12/bag
Victor Smith
Berkeley
843-870-8522

DEER CORN

cob & shelled, \$10/bag
Drake Kinley
Anderson
864-353-9628

'25 CRAB GRASS HAY

6x6 rnd, string tied,
1200 lb, \$40
Joseph Johnson
Berkeley
843-729-9110

GRAIN SORGHUM

in 50 lb/\$9, or your 55 gal
drum/\$60 or 15¢/lb in my
bulk bags
Jeffrey Gilmore
Chesterfield
843-517-0315

'25 MIXED GRASS

4x5 rnd, net wrap, fert,
\$45 ea, disc on lrg quant
Danny Leitner
Fairfield
843-200-0887

'25 COASTAL

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

'25 FESCUE

net wrap, \$50; Grass hay,
\$45; both 4x5
Jason Nichols
Saluda
864-992-2753

'25 MIXED GRASS

net wrap, \$45; grass straw mix,
for mulch, \$25 ea; both 4x5
Charles Nichols
Saluda
864-992-9292

HQ SQ CB

no litter used, \$8; rnd, \$60/
field, \$75/barn; CQ, \$40
George McCoy
Chesterfield
843-307-8866

4x5 FESCUE

NR, shed kept, \$75
Otis Hembree
Spartanburg
864-316-1222

4x5 RND BALES

net wrap, CQ, \$50/bale, HQ
\$60/bale, can del for fee,
can load if p-up
Allen Kellett
Greenville
864-607-7444

'25 4x5 RND CB

net wrap, under shed, well
fert, \$70
Hugh Knight
Orangeburg
803-539-4674

4x5 MIXED GRASS

net wrap, stored outside,
vol disc avail, \$25 ea
Michael Strickland
Laurens
864-923-3153

'25 4x5 RYEGRASS

shed kept, \$48/bale
Steve Kinard
Newberry
803-924-0439

VOLUNTEER GRASS

\$30 ea; Oats hay, stored
under shed, \$50 ea; both '25,
4x5 & string wrap
Harroll Stockman
Newberry
803-924-7878

'25 FESCUE MIX

4x4 rnd, stored off ground
on racks, \$30; sq, barn
stored, \$5.50; pls text
Waitman Dixon
Laurens
864-684-4641

PREM SQ CB

HQ, \$12
Leslie Howell
Cherokee
803-517-8167

'25 4x5 RND

HQ, CB, net wrap, shed
kept, \$80/bale
Carlisle Kinard
Bamberg
803-824-9247

'25 FESCUE/ORCHARD

HQ, sq, \$10 ea, in cubes of
21 bales
Joseph Henson
York
803-448-5287

SQ FESCUE

barn kept, \$7 ea; sq mixed
grass, \$5 ea; both NR
Jerry Butler
Laurens
864-697-6343

'25 4x5 RND CB

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

HQ FESCUE MIX

in barn, \$50/bale; CQ, outside,
\$30/bale; both 4x5 rnd
Terry Blakely
Greenville
864-483-1920

'25 FESCUE/MIXED GRASS

4x5 rnd, baled w/o rain,
barn stored, no manure put
on land, fert only, \$50/bale
Billy Gallman
Newberry
803-276-7171

'25 COASTAL MIX

\$45; '24 Coastal, \$35; both
4x5, twine, in shed
Michael Hallman
Lexington
803-917-9044

'25 4x5 HQ CB

net/barn, \$70; sq, \$10/barn;
4x5 Fescue mix, net, \$40,
all fert
John Snead
Greenwood
864-993-4839

COB CORN

\$5/bu bulk
Adam Anderson
Newberry
803-924-8466

DEER CORN

\$45/your drum for 5+ drums;
1 drum, \$50/bulk; \$6/bu
Christopher Johnson
Aiken
803-640-2734

4x5 CRABGRASS HAY

net wrap, NR, \$45/bale
Ernie Major
Anderson
864-617-7419

'25 CQ 4x5 RD OUTSIDE

\$40 ea
Anthony Carroll
Anderson
864-314-2111

'25 HQ 4x5 RND CB

net wrap, limed & fert, NR,
stored outside on indiv
pallets, \$70 ea
Eddie West
Aiken
803-507-8205

MISCELLANEOUS

WIRE CAGES

new & used, w/metal feeder,
32x30x18, \$5+; nest boxes,
wood & metal, \$10+
Tyson Waddell
Spartanburg
864-347-0560

BUGGY

for pony or small horse, frt
& back seat, restored, \$650
Harry Isbell
Anderson
864-617-2627

CARPENTER BEE TRAPS

catch & dispose, lots of 5 for
\$85, mailed ppd
William F Timmerman
Aiken
803-640-6265

PURPLE MARTIN

GOURD RACKS
umbrella style, heads only,
12 prong, \$100; 16 prong, \$125
Chance Huckabee
Darlington
843-861-5385

GAS IRRIG/TRASH PUMP

pipe & fittings, needs tune
up, \$250; oil & skid tanks,
\$225 ea
Randy Orr
Anderson
864-201-5666

HYUNDAI SOLAR PANELS

(24) 3'x5', \$75 ea; Solar Edge
inverter, \$100; all for \$1800,
you load & haul
B Dorton
Lexington
803-467-4213

4' TUBE GATE

\$45; 7'x3/8" chain, hook on
one end, \$25
Russell Goings
Union
864-426-2309

5 HP ELEC MOTOR

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

90 GAL DSL TRANSFER TANK

L shaped w/elec pump,
\$750 obo
Drake Kinley
Anderson
864-353-9628

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

CHICKEN/RABBIT HUTCH

\$25
Joe Meetze
Lexington
803-917-5302

HORSE MANURE

will load in your truck,
\$1/load
Aaron Shirey
Lexington
803-413-2974

HDWD LUMBER

boards 1"x12"x8'L, \$4/
bdft, 300 bdft min/del, will
custom cut for lrg dels
Ryan Anderson
Greenville
864-234-2918

2" IRRIG PIPE

+/- 500', 1/2 is alum, 1/2
is galv, misc fittings &
Rainbird heads, \$1000 obo
Trent Porth
Lexington
803-413-8065

WHT OAK TRL FLOORING

1-2"Dx6-10"Wx8-21'L,
\$2.50/bdft; Miller Bobcat
225G welder gen, \$2500 obo
Otis Hembree
Spartanburg
864-316-1222

HAY BALE FEEDER RING

no rub, \$280
Deborah Worth
Aiken
803-605-4644

HI-TENSILE BARB WIRE

new, 1320', 15.5 gauge, 4 pt,
5" spacing, \$50
Joseph Dyches
Allendale
843-812-2137

LUMBER

Maple, Red Cedar, Cherry &
recycled lumber, var sizes &
lengths, \$1/bdft
Robert L McCrary
Spartanburg
864-285-8994

8x10 WALK-IN COOLER

more, \$1500
John Moore
Abbeville
864-321-0300

SAUSAGE STUFFER

2 gal Enterprise, \$300
R Long
Newberry
803-924-9039

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

30 KW STANDBY GENERATOR

3 phase, 50 gal fuel tank,
GC, \$2500
Thomas Sharpe
Barnwell
803-300-6463

WORM CASTINGS FERT

100% organic, Certified SC,
no fillers, 30 lb bags, \$20/
bag, \$120 for 10 bags
Maryann Little
Lexington
803-530-9219

Find the list of abbreviations

AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV/MARKET-BULLETIN/ABBREVIATIONS

PLANTS & FLOWERS

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

MONKEY GRASS

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

CANNAS

Pres red, pink w/grn leaf, pink w/red leaf, yellow, Bengal tiger, \$10/dz
Robert Yonce
Aiken
803-685-7240

AZALEAS

\$6; Gardenia, Boxwoods, \$7; Tea Olives, \$8; Banana Shrub, Camellias, Carolina Sapphire, \$25
Freeman Noles
Barnwell
803-383-4066

WANT-LIVESTOCK

EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.

GUINEAS FOWL

Jim Roach
Richland
803-542-8275

MAMMOTH JACK

to breed w/horse mare
Aaron Shirey
Lexington
803-413-2974

6-8 BARRED ROCK

feathered chicks, pullets, or yng hens & a roo
Warren Rutland
Fairfield
803-429-4138

POULTRY

PIGEONS

Indian Fantail, Jacobin, \$50 ea, all show qual
James Malphrus
Dorchester
843-821-8172

GROWN GUINEAS

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

SEX LINK

lavender Orp, Blk Copper Marans & jumbo Coturnix quail chicks, \$2-5 ea
Brian Motley
Kershaw
803-315-7598

FRESH FARM EGGS

\$5/dz, text for info
Billy Wentzel III
Orangeburg
839-324-0642

TURKEYS

\$75 ea; Runt pigeons, Guineas, & colored Homers, \$20 ea
Thomas Waters
Colleton
843-696-6627

MANDARIN DUCK PRS

extra males, Ring Teal prs, 1½ y/o laying hens, \$15 ea
Shane Sease
Bamberg
803-824-9124

HERITAGE RIR

& RI wht chicks & adults, \$17+; Setting hen, \$25 ea
John Moore
Abbeville
864-321-0300

WANT-FARM EQUIPMENT

5-6" ROTOR TILLER

3ph; 12' livestock trl, & 2h trl, w/no tack room, both BP, both in GC
Charlie Doyle
Florence
843-992-6267

2R BURCH PLNTR

must have fert hoppers, would consider other brands
Joe Meetze
Lexington
803-917-5302

JD 2155

for parts
Tony Parcell
Lexington
803-917-0918

JD 690ELC TRACK HOE

for farm use, in GRC
Henry Gunter
Lexington
803-260-5502

WANT-MISCELLANEOUS

COBB CORN SEED

TN Limber
Todd Campbell
York
803-417-0899

HOOD OR PLASTIC

for JD 2640 early mod
Otto Williamson
Williamsburg
843-372-2692

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

BLKSMITH ANVILS

farm bells, any size; broken bells for parts
R Long
Newberry
803-924-9039

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY AND TRUST IN LEE COUNTY

BY CENTER FOR HEIRS' PROPERTY

When the Center for Heirs' Property (CHP) foresters first met Ms. Barbara and Ms. Crish in the fall of 2022, they weren't entirely sure what brought the family to CHP. They already had a forestry consultant who managed their land for years. But Barbara, the matriarch of her family, was looking for something more—a second opinion, a deeper education, and a stronger connection to conservation programs that could help secure her family's land for generations.

From that initial meeting, Ms. Barbara and her family became deeply engaged with CHP's forestry program. They attended forestry seminars across the state, asked thoughtful questions, and consistently sought new ways to steward their land in Winnsboro, South Carolina. Barbara's leadership was clear, and her commitment brought her family along with her.

That commitment was on full display on a frigid December day, when Barbara rallied five family members, including one who drove from Beaufort, to help install bluebird and wood duck boxes funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), a program supported by CHP foresters who connect our clients to this resource. It was a powerful example of how education and trust translate into action.

Over the past three years, CHP foresters have walked with Ms. Barbara and Ms. Crish on their

land many times, across multiple tracts, each with its own history and management needs. Through these visits, a strong partnership was built—rooted in trust, education, and long-term support.

Working alongside Ms. Barbara and family, CHP has:

- Educated and supported the family in applying for conservation programs
- Supported a successful thinning project that generated revenue
- Identified unauthorized hunting on the property, leading to a new lease that protects their land
- Connected the family with contractors to reforest an important harvested tract
- Installed four of six bluebird boxes and prepared for future wood duck box installations
- Identified a potential encroachment issue early, helping the family address it before legal or financial problems arose

But more important than any single project is what came next: the family believes in the Center for Heirs' Property.

Their story is a powerful reminder that when families are equipped with knowledge, trusted relationships, and long-term guidance, land becomes more than property—it becomes legacy.

This is the kind of impact your support makes possible. When our community stands with families like Ms. Barbara's family in Winnsboro, we help ensure that land passed down through generations remains protected, productive, and rightfully home.

The family continues to attend CHP meetings, looking for new ways to improve their land, and

perhaps most importantly, bring other families to CHP so they, too, can access forestry services, education, and support.

Ms. Barbara, Ms. Crish, and family are building a legacy, and the Center for Heirs' Property is honored to walk alongside them today and for generations to come.



Ms. Barbara and Ms. Crish and family, along with Asija Rice, CHP Project Forester

ACRE SEEKS SC AGRIBUSINESS ENTREPRENEURS

BY SCDA

The Agribusiness Center for Research and Entrepreneurship (ACRE) at the South Carolina Department of Agriculture will accept applications for its 2026 Advanced Entrepreneurship program through March 10.

This competitive program is suited towards agribusinesses of all types that seek funding and mentorship in order to grow or expand their market.

Previous awardees have ranged from upstart businesses with their first crop in the ground to long-time businesses seeking to launch a new product line.

Applicants selected as finalists will be asked to pitch their business to a panel of judges. Awardees receive up to \$25,000 in grant funding, access to a network of business advisors, professional

assistance with further state and federal grant applications, and promotion of their product across the state and beyond.

ACRE has a separate program each fall for beginning innovators who have an agribusiness idea but don't have experience in business.

For more information, visit acre-sc.com/programs or contact Kyle Player at 803-734-2324 or kplayer@scda.sc.gov.

USDA ANNOUNCES ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIALTY CROP FARMERS IMPACTED BY UNFAIR MARKET DISRUPTIONS

SPECIALTY CROPS ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE FOR 2025 IS MARCH 13

BY USDA

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing \$1 billion in Assistance for Specialty Crop Farmers (ASCF) Program assistance for specialty crops and sugar, commodities not covered through the previously announced Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program. These one-time bridge payments will help address market disruptions, elevated input costs, persistent inflation, and market losses from foreign competitors engaging in unfair trade practices that impede exports. Specialty crop producers have until March 13, 2026, to report 2025 acres to USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA).

The Assistance for Specialty Crop Farmers Program is authorized under the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and will be administered by FSA.

ELIGIBLE SPECIALTY CROPS

ASCF-eligible specialty crops include: (A) Almond, Apple, Apricot, Aronia berry, Artichoke, Asparagus,

Avocado (B) Banana, Bean (Snap or green; Lima; Dry edible), Beet (Table), Blackberry, Blueberry, Breadfruit, Broccoli (including Broccoli Raab), Brussels Sprouts (C) Cabbage (including Chinese), Cacao, Carrot, Cashew, Cauliflower, Celeric, Celery, Cherimoya, Cherry, Chestnut (for Nuts), Chive, Citrus, Coconut, Coffee, Collards (including Kale), Cranberry, Cucumber, Currant (D) Date, Dry Edible Beans and Peas* (E) Edamame, Eggplant, Endive (F) Feijou, Fig, Filbert (Hazelnut) (G) Garlic, Gooseberry, Grape (including Raisin), Guava (H) Horseradish (K) Kiwi, Kohlrabi (L) Leek, Lettuce, Litchi (M) Macadamia, Mango, Melon (All Types), Mushroom (Cultivated), Mustard and Other Greens (N) Nectarine (O) Okra, Olive, Onion, Opuntia (P) Papaya, Parsley, Parsnip, Passion Fruit, Pea (Garden; English or Edible Pod; Dry edible), Peach, Pear, Pecan, Pepper, Persimmon, Pineapple, Pistachio, Plum (including Prune), Pomegranate, Potato, Pumpkin (Q) Quince (R) Radish (All Types), Raspberry, Rhubarb, Rutabaga (S) Salsify, Spinach, Squash (Summer and Winter), Strawberry, Suriname Cherry, Sweet Corn, Sweet Potato, Swiss

Chard (T) Taro, Tomato (including Tomatillo), Turnip (W) Walnut, Watermelon

*Dry edible beans and peas covered by FBA will not be eligible for ASCF.

ASCF payments are based on reported 2025 planted acres.

Eligible farmers should ensure their 2025 acreage reporting is factual and accurate by 5 p.m. ET on March 13, 2026. Commodity-specific payment rates will be released by the end of March. Crop insurance linkage will not be required for the ASCF Program. However, USDA strongly urges producers to take advantage of the new One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) risk management tools to best protect against price risk and volatility in the future.

More information on ASCF is available online at fsa.usda.gov/fba or producers can contact their local FSA county office.

FRANCIS MARION AND SUMTER NATIONAL FORESTS ANNOUNCES SEASONAL HIRING FOR UPCOMING SUMMER SEASON

BY USDA FOREST SERVICE

The Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests is hiring seasonal employees for the upcoming summer season and is encouraging local residents to apply.

“Our seasonal employees are the backbone of summer operations—keeping our campgrounds, trails and recreation sites open, safe and welcoming for visitors,” said Forest Supervisor Daniel McInnis. “These positions offer meaningful work, hands-on experience and the chance to support public lands close to home in communities like Huger, Whitmire, Edgefield and Mountain Rest.”

The Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests is recruiting for a variety of roles, including:

- Recreation and visitor services
- Trail and facility maintenance
- Forest management

These positions are in addition to seasonal fire hire events, which are already underway. Bringing on seasonal employees will help improve trails, campgrounds and facilities for safer, more reliable and more enjoyable recreation experiences for all.

In South Carolina, our forestry technicians are focused on recreation—keeping trails and campgrounds safe and inviting. Forestry aids are helping with timber operations that support local mills and jobs while restoring forest health. By thinning overgrown areas and removing dead trees, we're improving wildlife habitat and lowering wildfire risk. These efforts protect communities, strengthen local economies, and keep your forests thriving for generations.

“Seasonal jobs can be a first step into a natural resources career, a way to build experience, or simply a chance to spend the summer working outside,” added McInnis. “We encourage anyone interested to apply.”

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants can view open job announcements and submit applications through USAJOBS.gov beginning Feb. 20.

Application periods, qualifications and start dates vary by position. Applicants are encouraged to

review job announcements carefully for deadlines and required materials.

Additional information about seasonal hiring and upcoming local recruitment events is available at fs.usda.gov/working-with-us/careers.

ABOUT THE FOREST SERVICE

The USDA Forest Service has for more than 100 years brought people and communities together to answer the call of conservation. Grounded in world-class science and technology—and rooted in communities—the Forest Service connects people to nature and to each other. The Forest Service cares for shared natural resources in ways that promote lasting economic, ecological, and social vitality. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, maintains the largest wildland fire and forestry research organizations in the world. The Forest Service also has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 900 million forested acres within the U.S., of which over 130 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.

SCDNR PROMOTES OUTDOOR CAREER EXPLORATION

BY JEFF DENNIS, SCDNR

Did You Know? The inaugural Natural Resource Fest was held at the SC State Farmers Market on January 30, 2026, bringing together more than 700 middle school students for a cold but sunny day of outdoor career exploration.

This first-of-its-kind career expo reflected a true agency-wide commitment, with participation from the Executive Office, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, Marine Resources, Law Enforcement, and the Land, Water and Conservation Division. The goal of Natural Resource Fest is simple but powerful: spark curiosity and inspire the next generation to pursue careers in natural resources.

Nearly 30 interactive booths showcased the breadth of work happening across SCDNR. Programs

represented included Botany, Geology, Camp Wildwood, South Carolina Wildlife Magazine, the State Wildlife Action Plan, Waterfowl, Bat and Bird Conservation, Operation Game Thief, Law Enforcement Recruitment, the Dive Team, Climatology Office, Marine and Coastal Research, Aquatic Education, the Freshwater Mussel Program, the Alligator Project, Archery in Schools, Hunter and Boater Education, and many more.

Students also explored specialty equipment displays, including an electrofishing boat, airboat, prescribed fire ATV, and a historic wooden rice trunk used to manage water levels. Live demonstrations—from K-9 tracking and drone flights to a rocket net firing (complete with a memorable boom)—added excitement and energy to the day.

Hands-on activities and one-on-one conversations with natural resource professionals gave students a meaningful look at potential career pathways. Coordinated by SCDNR's Education Committee, the event received enthusiastic feedback from both students and teachers and marked an exciting new chapter in connecting youth with the future of conservation in South Carolina.



South Carolina Department of Agriculture

USDA, DOJ, DHS, AND HHS LAUNCH COORDINATED EFFORT TO CRACKDOWN ON CHRONIC DOG WELFARE VIOLATORS

FEDERAL BLITZ TARGETS WORST OFFENDERS

BY USDA

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins, alongside U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi, U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem, and U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy Jr., together are taking historic actions to hold chronic companion animal welfare violators accountable and prosecute those who fight dogs to the highest extent of the law in an effort to end this horrific practice once and for all. The suite of actions will boost compliance with existing laws, protect our companion animals, and reiterate that the Trump Administration stands with the majority of Americans who own companion animals.

Today, dogs are the most popular pet in the United States, with 65.1 million households owning a pet dog. About half of pet owners (51%) not only consider their pets to be a part of their family but say they are as much a part of their family as a human member.

“Let me be clear,” said Secretary Brooke Rollins. “If you are breeding dogs and not meeting the Animal Welfare Act’s humane standards of care, your time is up. We will not allow a handful of bad actors to tarnish the reputation of responsible American breeders or compromise the humane treatment of animals. Together, President Trump’s cabinet is working together to support our great dog breeders across the country, while stepping up enforcement on recurring bad actors and working to end dog fighting once and for all.”

USDA FOCUS ON ANIMAL WELFARE ACT CONSISTENCY & ENFORCEMENT

Over the past 15 years, USDA has significantly strengthened its oversight of dog breeding facilities. Compliance with the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) among facilities that breed dogs has risen from an average of 67% in 2015 to over 92% in 2025 reflecting both regulatory improvements and industry cooperation across the country over the last decade. Despite this progress, several breeding facilities continue to tarnish the industry with recurring and chronic violations. To address this, USDA will:

1. Root out bad actors with a history of noncompliance through initiation of enforcement actions against the licenses of persistent AWA violators and in worse cases, remove those offenders from the industry altogether.
2. Deploy and expand Animal Care’s compliance and enforcement specialist team to aggressively identify and investigate unlicensed activities under the Animal Welfare Act, and intensify enforcement against individuals importing dogs for resale without the required permits.
3. Improve consistency across industry with AWA inspections through increased inspector training, compliance tracking, and processing.

4. Expand information sharing with Federal and state partners so they can factor in USDA’s inspections when considering when to conduct their own inspections.
5. Help state and local partners pursue enforcement action against breeders who do not fall under USDA’s authority but impact the welfare of dogs.

Since announcing the strike force to combat animal cruelty, USDA has taken swift action to target bad actors. USDA has cancelled, denied, suspended and revoked licenses issued to six dog breeders who failed to provide humane care to their dogs, filed administrative enforcement cases against two chronically noncompliant dog breeders, referred a case to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) involving a facility that has repeatedly prevented USDA officials from conducting animal welfare compliance inspections, and partnered with DOJ to pursue a dog breeder who skirted laws aimed at protecting animals by supporting the humane placement of over 100 dogs, among other things. Our work to protect dogs and promote animal welfare will not stop here.

USDA OPENS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC & STAKEHOLDERS

Today, USDA opened a Request for Information (RFI) to allow the public and stakeholders, including those regulated by the AWA the opportunity to provide input on the current standards governing the humane care of dogs under the AWA. USDA wants to ensure federal standards reflect current best practices and scientific evidence to promote dog welfare. The comment period will be open for 30 days.

STRONGER INTERAGENCY COORDINATION ON DOG FIGHTING CASES BETWEEN USDA & DOJ

In 2025 there have been a number of high-profile dog fighting cases. In January 2025 a Maryland man was sentenced to Federal Prison in connection with a multi-state dogfighting conspiracy. In February 2025, a Florida man was sentenced to 84 months in prison after pleading guilty to conspiring to violate the dogfighting prohibitions of the AWA and being a felon in possession of a firearm. According to court filings, the man conspired with others to purchase, acquire, and breed dogs for use in dogfights. He also staged dog fights at his home and traveled to dog fights in Massachusetts, Florida, and Connecticut.

Cases such as these are an unfortunate reality which is why USDA and DOJ have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen our interagency collaboration on enforcement of the AWA with a hyperfocus on dog fighting.

Together, these collective actions represent a historic commitment to animal welfare by targeting the worst offenders, removing chronic violators from the industry, and prosecuting the most egregious actors to the highest extent of the law.

DHS’s Customs and Border Protection (CBP), working in close coordination with USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and HHS’ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will focus on individuals importing dogs for resale who attempt to evade regulations that ensure humane treatment. Frontline operators will continue protecting our borders from pests, parasites and diseases.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Looking for a pet? Use USDA’s Animal Care Public Search Tool to Ensure the Entity is in Good Standing

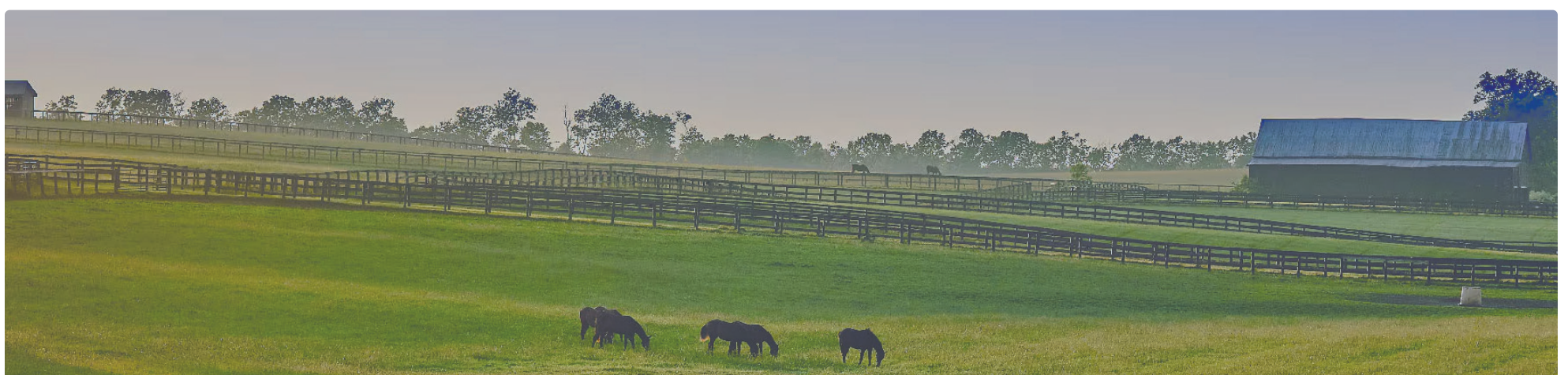
Consumers have many options for acquiring dogs, but above all, they want confidence that their animals were treated humanely—whether adopted or purchased. To this end, USDA encourages the public to use the USDA Animal Care Public Search Tool to look up inspection records and licensing information on dog breeders. This tool empowers consumers to make informed decisions and identify breeders who meet USDA’s humane care standards.

COMPANION ANIMAL ADOPTION INITIATIVE

Consumers have many options for acquiring dogs, but above all, they want confidence that their animals were treated humanely—whether adopted or purchased. In the first of its kind event, Secretary Rollins hosted a dog adoption event on December 17, 2025. The event highlighted the importance of animal rescue, responsible ownership, and providing dogs the opportunity to find forever homes. In 2026, USDA looks forward to highlighting and hosting similar events which promote animal adoption from both rescues and USDA-licensed professional dog breeders. Interested partners should contact the USDA APHIS Animal Care Division to express interest.

FILE AN ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT

If you or someone you know has a concern about an animal covered under the Animal Welfare Act, please share detailed information in USDA’s Animal Welfare Complaint Form. USDA provides weekly updates on its work to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Inspector General Inspector as well as the U.S. Department of Justice.



USDA ANNOUNCES ENROLLMENT PERIOD FOR FARMER BRIDGE PAYMENTS

PRE-FILLED APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE TO PRODUCERS WITH A LOGIN.GOV ACCOUNT

BY USDA

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is opening the enrollment period for the Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program, providing \$11 billion in one-time bridge payments to row crop producers in response to temporary trade market disruptions and increased production costs. The FBA enrollment period opens Feb. 23 and closes April 17, 2026.

“Improving the farm economy is our top priority at USDA, and we have simplified and streamlined the application process for the bridge program to ensure producers get the financial assistance they need as quickly as possible as we’re kicking off the spring planting season. President Trump continues to put farmers first. If our farmers are not economically able to continue their operations, then we will not be able to feed ourselves in this country,” said Secretary Brooke Rollins. “Producers who want to further expedite their payment, can apply online through the program website and could receive a payment in their bank account as early as February 28, 2026. Putting Farmers First means providing economic relief now while the Trump Administration continues opening new markets and strengthening the farm safety net.”

These bridge payments are authorized under the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and are administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Bridge payments are intended in part to aid farmers until historic investments from the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), including reference prices which are set to increase between 10-21% for major covered commodities and will reach eligible farmers after Oct. 1, 2026.

HOW TO APPLY

Pre-filled applications will be available online to producers with a [Login.gov](https://www.login.gov) account who timely filed their 2025 crop acreage report for eligible commodities. Producers who have a Login.gov account can access and submit their pre-filled application from fsa.usda.gov/fba. Additionally, producers can also request their pre-filled FBA application from their FSA county office.

April 17, 2026, is the deadline to submit completed FBA applications. Producers can complete FBA applications online or submit to their FSA county office.

LOGIN.GOV

[Login.gov](https://www.login.gov) is the public’s one account for government. Producers can use one account and password for secure, private access to participating government agencies, including FSA.

To apply for FBA online, producers can start by visiting fsa.usda.gov/fba to create their Login.gov account. Producers who have an existing Login.gov account, can work with FSA using their existing account.

With a secure Login.gov account, producers can be amongst the first to apply for FBA allowing them to view, certify, and submit their application as well as track their application and payment status.

For assistance creating a Login.gov account, visit [login.gov/help](https://www.login.gov/help).

ELIGIBILITY

The following commodities are eligible for FBA:

- Barley
- Chickpeas
- Corn
- Cotton
- Lentils
- Oats
- Peanuts
- Peas
- Rice
- Sorghum
- Soybeans
- Wheat
- Canola
- Crambe
- Flax
- Mustard
- Rapeseed
- Safflower
- Sesame
- Sunflower

All intended uses for FBA eligible commodities are eligible excluding grazing, experimental, green manure, left standing, or cover crops. Initial acres, double crop acres, and subsequently planted acres, are eligible. Prevent plant acres are not eligible.

Crop insurance linkage is not required; however, USDA strongly urges producers to take advantage

of the new risk management tools provided for in OBBBA to best protect against future price risk and volatility.

PAYMENT CALCULATION

In December, USDA released the payment rates by commodity.

FBA payment rates are based on 2025 planted acres, Economic Research Service cost of production, and the World Agriculture Supply and Demand Estimate Report.

SPECIALTY CROP ASSISTANCE

On Feb. 13, Secretary Rollins announced the Assistance for Specialty Crop Farmers (ASCF) program which provides a one-time bridge payment to help address market disruptions, elevated input costs, persistent inflation, and market losses from foreign competitors engaging in unfair trade practices that impede exports. Specialty crop producers have until March 13, 2026, to report 2025 acres to USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA).

MORE INFORMATION

More information on FBA and ASCF is available online at fsa.usda.gov/fba. Producers can also contact their local FSA county office.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



To claim agriculture sales tax exemptions in South Carolina, you must have a South Carolina Agricultural Tax Exemption (SCATE) card.

Farmers who participate in the agriculture industry for business purposes and purchase eligible products in South Carolina are eligible for a SCATE card.

Before applying and making any purchases, please review the most current SC Department of Revenue Ruling regarding eligible and taxable items. It is linked from dor.sc.gov/farmers.

Apply, renew, verify, and learn more at scatecard.com

I don't use a computer or laptop. What are my options?

A computer or laptop is the only way to access scatecard.com to apply, renew, request replacement cards, and more.

If you do not have access to a computer/laptop, you can:

- Ask a trusted family member or friend to assist you
- Go to a library to use their computers
- Call to make an appointment at one of SCDA's three State Farmers Markets and they will confirm an appointment time and which building to go to. For your appointment, you will need to bring:
 - » your SCATE card number,
 - » password, and
 - » a credit/debit card or bank account and routing information to pay the \$24 renewal cost.
 - ▶ SC State Farmers Market, West Columbia—803-737-4614
 - ▶ Pee Dee State Farmers Market, Florence—843-665-5154
 - ▶ Greenville State Farmers Market, Greenville—864-244-4023

Our 6th annual Grown in SC magazine is available now!

Read it online at agriculture.sc.gov/magazine or grab a printed copy at upcoming SCDA events this year.

