

# MARKET BULLETIN

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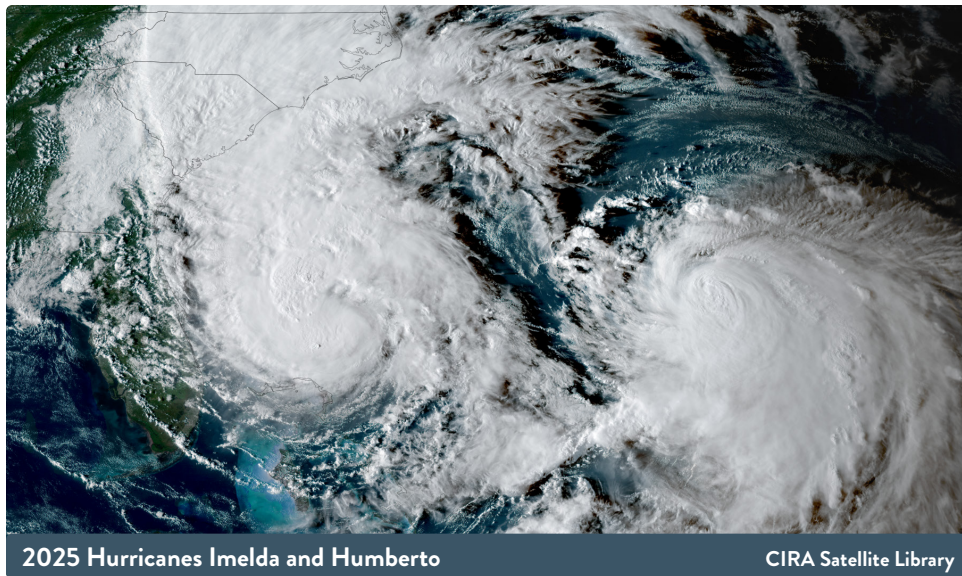
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## USDA URGES FARMERS AND RANCHERS TO TAKE ACTION AHEAD OF THE 2026 HURRICANE SEASON

BY LAUREN MOORE, USDA

USDA is here to help you prepare for and recover from hurricanes and related tropical weather activity. The 2026 hurricane season begins on June 1, and USDA is asking producers to prepare their operations for potential impacts and explore recovery resources.



2025 Hurricanes Imelda and Humberto

CIRA Satellite Library

### HURRICANE PREPARATION

While USDA offers a suite of disaster assistance programs to help you recover, we encourage you to first take precautions to prepare and protect your family and operation:

**Develop an Emergency Plan:** Make sure your employees and members of your household know your plan, including meeting points, emergency contact lists, and alternate evacuation routes in case of infrastructure damage.

**Remove Debris and Secure Large Objects:** Minimize the presence of equipment, supplies, and debris that may become airborne during high winds or encountered in floodwaters. Clean out culverts, ditches, and other drainage areas, especially before and during peak hurricane season to reduce water damage.

**Document Inventory and Secure Important Records:** Documentation is critical for insurance compensation and recovery assistance. We recommend keeping an inventory of farm buildings, vehicles, equipment, and livestock before a disaster occurs. You'll likely need thorough

records of any damage and losses sustained on your farm as well as documentation of your cleanup and recovery efforts.

**Know Your Insurance Options:** Regularly review your insurance policies with your agent to be sure you have adequate coverage, including flood insurance, for your facilities, vehicles, farm buildings, equipment, crops and livestock. Note, there are limitations on how soon insurance coverage will take effect.

Generally, insurance policies will not cover damage if the policy was not in place before a disaster.

**Gather Supplies:** Have drinking water, canned food, a generator, batteries, a flashlight, and fuel available in case you lose power. Have cash on hand in cases of widespread outages, when credit and debit cards may not work.

**Access Real-time Emergency Information:** Download the FEMA app for free on the App Store and Google Play for safety tips on what to do before, during, and after disasters.

### USDA ASSISTANCE FOR HURRICANE RECOVERY

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Risk Management Agency (RMA) offer a number of options to offset losses and help get you back on your feet. Once you're safely able to assess your operation, contact your local USDA Service Center to report losses or ask questions about available programs.

If you have risk protection through Federal crop insurance, report crop damage to your crop insurance agent within 72 hours of discovering damage and be sure to follow up in writing within 15 days.

More information, including a full list of programs, can be found on the [farmers.gov](https://farmers.gov) Hurricane webpage.

Our Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster Assistance at a Glance fact sheet, and Farm Loan Assistance Tool can help you determine program or loan options. Additionally, the FarmRaise educational hub can also help with disaster recovery program decisions.

To report losses or ask questions about available programs, contact your local USDA Service Center.



### COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

HUGH E. WEATHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA  
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

### GOOD MOVES AT THE STATE HOUSE

Lawmakers wrapped up the "regular" session in Columbia having made some positive moves to help South Carolina farmers. If the session was a baseball game, you can say it's going to extra innings to work through some unfinished business.

The General Assembly included a one-time bridge payment program for farmers in the amount of \$35 million statewide. While the program is included in the state's annual budget, we don't anticipate the budget being adopted by the General Assembly until next month. The South Carolina Department of Agriculture will be administering this state program, and our agency would likely receive the funding in early fall.

It is the General Assembly's intention for this bridge program to mirror the federal Farmer Bridge Assistance program currently being administered by USDA-FSA for eligibility, acreage, and qualifying crops.

The per entity cap with the state's bridge program would be \$135,000. Payments would be made on a per-acre basis using FSA-certified planted acreage data.

These payments are good news for farmers struggling through a drought on top of fertilizer shortages, high input costs, and other challenges.

Governor McMaster also signed a bill that prevents local governments from forcing farm stands to follow the stormwater regulations, stormwater permitting requirements, and local building codes (including permitting, inspection, and construction requirements) that are required of commercial and retail structures. It also exempts farm stands from the South Carolina Surface Water Withdrawal, Permitting Use, and Reporting Act. Many operators around the state have been dealing with inconsistent county regs over the years.

The law applies only to farm stands located near a road on a farmer's leased or owned farm property. And it only applies to an individual farmer selling things produced on their own farm — things like produce, flowers, honey, and eggs. These small on-farm operations are obviously not the same as a full-fledged commercial or retail operation, and should not be regulated the same.

By the way, the Certified Roadside Market program will not be affected by this new law. The requirements to become a Certified Roadside Market through our department remain the same.

The farm stand legislation protects South Carolina farmers' ability to make a living. I'm glad to see it become law.

UPCOMING EVENTS



June 12 & 13 • 9 am – 4 pm  
**Pee Dee State Farmers Market**  
 2513 W. Lucas Street, Florence  
 Contact: Mia Marshall  
[mmarshall@scda.sc.gov](mailto:mmarshall@scda.sc.gov)  
 843-665-5154

June 12 & 13 • 10 am – 3 pm  
**SC State Farmers Market**  
 3483 Charleston Hwy, West Columbia  
 Contact: Sonia Brazell  
[sbrazell@scda.sc.gov](mailto:sbrazell@scda.sc.gov)  
 803-737-4614

July 18 • 8 am – 3 pm  
**Greenville State Farmers Market**  
 1354 Rutherford Road, Greenville  
 Contact: Lia Sanders  
[lsanders@scda.sc.gov](mailto:lsanders@scda.sc.gov)  
 864-244-4023

**SC Ag + Art Tour**

June 6  
 York County  
[agandarttour.com/york](http://agandarttour.com/york)

June 6 & 7  
 Richland County  
[agandarttour.com/richland](http://agandarttour.com/richland)

June 13  
 Allendale & Barnwell Counties  
[agandarttour.com/allendale-barnwell](http://agandarttour.com/allendale-barnwell)

June 27  
 Bamberg County  
[agandarttour.com/bamberg](http://agandarttour.com/bamberg)

June 26 & 27  
 Georgetown County  
[agandarttour.com/georgetown](http://agandarttour.com/georgetown)

**Lunch and Learn at PPG: Efficient Summer Watering**

June 10 • 12 pm – 1 pm  
 Join Clemson Extension Horticulture Agent Brandon Green at the Piedmont Physic Garden to learn in a concise, under-one-hour presentation over your lunch break! This presentation will focus on efficient summer watering techniques. Participants will learn practical, water-saving strategies to keep their landscape healthy during summer heat.

**Piedmont Physic Garden**  
 301 E South Street, Union  
[piedmontphysicgarden.org/june-10th-event](http://piedmontphysicgarden.org/june-10th-event)

**Suburban Homesteading Event Series**

June 10 • 6 – 7 pm—Composting Basics  
 Learn about different kinds of composting, what can be composted, and how to make your own compost bin from the Greenville County Soil & Water Conservation District.

June 16 • 6:30 – 7:30 pm—Organic Pest Management  
 Learn tips and tricks on managing garden pests using organic methods.

**Pelham Road Branch Library**  
 1508 Pelham Road, Greenville  
 864-288-6688  
[greenvillelibrary.org/event-series/suburban-homesteading](http://greenvillelibrary.org/event-series/suburban-homesteading)

**Ridge Peach Festival**

June 20 • 9 am – 4 pm  
 Right in the heart of Trenton, SC, you'll find tables loaded with fresh peaches, peach ice cream, cobblers, jams, pies, and a varied of homemade peach desserts! This event celebrates the peach orchards that shaped this region. Listen to live music at various times as you browse arts and craft vendors or eat from a food stand. The highlight of the day is the hometown parade with classic cars, tractors, fire trucks, and more!  
**Trenton**  
[ridgepeachfestival@gmail.com](mailto:ridgepeachfestival@gmail.com)  
[ridgepeachfestival.org](http://ridgepeachfestival.org)  
[facebook.com/ridgepeachfestival](https://facebook.com/ridgepeachfestival)

**Hampton County Watermelon Festival**

June 20–27  
 Since 1939, the Watermelon Festival has become South Carolina's oldest continuing festival. Highlights throughout the week kick off with a 5k on June 20. Following the 5k, the festival hosts a youth parade on June 22, Children's Day in the Park and Tractor Driving Contest on June 23, a fishing tournament and pet show on June 24, and Battle of the Towns (featuring a baby crawl and Official Melon Eating Contest) on June 25. On the last day, the watermelon judging contest is held at the Hampton Town Gazebo and visitors can watch the parade. Amid all these events, visitors can enjoy the carnival, a variety of food vendors, and arts & craft vendors.  
**Events held at a variety of locations**  
[hcmelonfest.org/events](http://hcmelonfest.org/events)  
[facebook.com/hamptoncountywatermelonfestival](https://facebook.com/hamptoncountywatermelonfestival)

**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](http://agriculture.sc.gov), click on Market Bulletin, select Subscribe to the Market Bulletin, then follow the prompts.  
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Name \_\_\_\_\_  Paper: \$15 / 1 year  Paper: \$30 / 2 years

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Email \_\_\_\_\_  This is a gift

6/4/26

**Market Bulletin Office**

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 803-734-2536 • [marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov](mailto:marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov)  
[agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin](http://agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin)

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**South Carolina Department of Agriculture Contacts**

Commissioner's Office  
 803-734-2190

<b>Certified SC Program</b> 803-734-2207	<b>Metrology Laboratory</b> 803-253-4052
<b>Consumer Protection</b> 803-737-9700	<b>Milk Safety</b> 803-667-1161
<b>Fruit &amp; Vegetable Inspection</b> 803-737-4588	<b>Produce Safety</b> 803-753-7267
<b>Market News—Fruit &amp; Vegetable</b> 803-737-4671	<b>Retail Food Safety</b> 803-896-0640
<b>Market News—Livestock &amp; Grain</b> 803-737-4491	<b>SCATE Card</b> 803-734-2185
<b>Market News Recording</b> 803-737-5900	<b>Wholesale Food Safety</b> 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](http://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](http://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 x 11 inch paper.
- **Email:** Send ads to [marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov](mailto: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**  
**JUNE 9 • 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; BG/shlckr, 65¢; Redbreast, 75¢; Ch Catfish, 65¢; Tilapia, \$1.50/\$2.50; LM Bass, \$3  
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 \$5000 obo, incl tack  
Joseph Dyches  
Allendale  
843-812-2138

## GARDEN

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

### BLUEBERRY PLANTS

3/\$20; Figs, Pomegranate, Elderberry plants, \$20; grapevines, \$10; Mulberry trees, \$30  
Freeman Noles  
Barnwell  
803-383-4066

## CATTLE

### 2 YRLG BULLS

¼ Char, ¾ Blk Ang, from reg stock, \$2800 ea  
Debbie Wade  
Chester  
803-385-8965

### BLK ANG BRED HEFRS

comm, 15 m/o, bred to Yon reg bull (On site), \$5000+  
Danny Leitner  
Fairfield  
843-200-0887

### BUCKING BULLS

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

### 8 M/O HRFRD BULL

PB, polled, \$2500  
Billy Gallman  
Newberry  
803-276-7171

### JERSEY HEFRS

6 m/o, \$1100; cow/hefr calf pr, \$3500; cow, \$2250; all cows exposed to Jersey bull  
Robert Turner  
Orangeburg  
803-596-6463

### LINE ONE HRFRD BULLS

\$3500+  
Jimmy Drake  
Anderson  
864-352-3774

### REG BLK ANG BULLS

exc feet, low input, docile & BSE, \$8000+  
Walter Shealy  
Newberry  
803-924-1000

### REG ANG BULLS

16 m/o, gentle, exc growth Genetics, SAV B-lines, \$3500  
Hugh Knight  
Orangeburg  
803-539-4674

### REG BLK ANG FEMALES

low input, exc feet & utters, cow/calf prs, open hefrs, \$6000+  
Dixon Shealy  
Newberry  
803-629-1174

## SEED

ADS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CURRENT SEED LAB TEST.

### SOYBEAN SEED

G-84%, D/H&G-84%, cleaned in 50 lb bags, Paul G T variety w/no patent, \$25/bag  
Jeffrey Gilmore  
Chesterfield  
843-517-0315

## FARM EQUIPMENT

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

### TRACTORS

JD MT w/cults, \$1250; AC B w/cult belly mwr, \$1500; JD B, \$2500; JD 5115 M, cab, more, \$95,000  
Ronny Wilson  
Anderson  
864-356-6959

### KIOTI CK2620 TRACTOR

w/ldr, 25 hrs, added Piranha tooth bar, arm rest, floor mat, \$21,500  
Troy Frick  
Lexington  
803-673-6737

### FERG 40-H TRACTOR

gas, EC, more, \$6000; '52 Ford 8N, fully restored, more, \$5000  
B Shumpert  
Lexington  
803-808-2505

### 3000 FORD TRACTOR

\$6000; 20-disc harrow & 5' bush hog, \$100 ea; more  
Gary Seay  
Spartanburg  
864-578-8214

### 8N FORD TRACTOR

restored, \$2900; 1r cult, \$225; 20-disc harrow, \$1500; 6' scrape blade, \$450; all 3ph & obo  
Otis Hembree  
Spartanburg  
864-316-1222

### '22 BEE 12' STOCMF 231S TRACTOR

dsl, 42 hp, low hrs, good rubber, canopy, well maint, \$8000  
Boyd Caldwell  
Kershaw  
803-438-3455

### CASE IH 2022 COTTON PKR

John Blue module bldr & Crust Buster boll buggy, good shedded equip, \$12,500  
Randell Wilson  
Abbeville  
864-378-4924

### JD 214T SQ BALER

\$500 obo  
Wyman Gunter  
Lexington  
803-317-3965

### JD 4030 TRACTOR

new tires, good paint, exc mech cond, dual remotes, all lights work, no issues, \$12,000  
Steve Sease  
Anderson  
864-304-6313

### HAY TEDDER

Vicon Fanex 500, 4 rotors, towed, older machine in FC, \$400 obo  
Jackie Rogers  
Spartanburg  
864-381-5971

### '12 RHINO TW84 ROTARY CUTTER

GC, new blade, \$2000  
Stephen Gedosch  
Greenville  
864-982-4490

### 3PH BTM PLOWS

3 plows, 3ph lrg fert sprdr, 3ph 2r cult, \$250 ea  
Dan Hallman  
Lexington  
803-206-4230

### 28' GN TRL

GC, \$7000  
Bobby Steading  
Spartanburg  
864-585-0587

### CATTLE TRL

all new tires, flooring, paint, encl sides & gates, \$5000  
Tony Ashe  
York  
803-493-8418

### 4-WAY LOG SPLITTER

HD, PTO, needs new hoses, \$600; Dearborn 2-disc tiller, \$500; both 3ph & shed kept  
Arthur Johnston  
Dorchester  
843-636-4083

### 2 HAY TEDDERS

VGC, 2 head, pb, PTO, buyers choice Kuhn or Niemeyer, \$1750  
George McCoy  
Chesterfield  
843-307-8866

### JD 71 PLNTR SET UP

w/fast hitch for 140 FA, incl plates for beans & peas, \$500  
Eddie Beck  
Darlington  
843-307-7588

### JD 459 BALER

5000 bales, \$28,500; Kubota 2028DM, \$9500; JD 8 whl rake, GC, \$2500  
Dargan Etheredge  
Calhoun  
803-238-2122

### MF 230

dsl, PS, good tires, low hrs, \$6000  
Gary Watson  
Chester  
803-519-6549

### IH 1066 & CAT D7 17A

\$16,000 ea; JD 830D, \$14,000; Cat D4 7U, \$8500  
Ronald McGraw  
Lancaster  
980-255-8584

### '69 JD 530 TRACTOR

GC, used recently in hay making, parade ready, \$6500  
Will Kraft  
Greenville  
864-979-7910

### '42 AC TRACTOR

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

### 3PH CARRYALL

\$250; sq bale ldr for side of truck/trl, \$450; NH hay crusher, \$350, all cash only  
Randy Orr  
Anderson  
864-201-5666

### INTL 5100 GRAIN DRILL

21 dbl disc openers, \$5300  
Jeffrey Gilmore  
Chesterfield  
843-517-0315

### MF 165

dsl, & 5' bush hog, \$6500; 8 whl v-rake, VGC, \$3000  
Rickie Evans  
Chester  
803-209-2714

### JD HX14 ROTARY CUTTER

3ph, EC, \$7000  
Steve McAlhany  
Orangeburg  
803-682-3834

### JD 535 RND BALER

\$4500  
Michael Crot  
Lancaster  
803-289-8002

### INTL 1466 W/CANOPY

& Dual whls, \$18,000 obo  
Joseph Henson  
York  
803-448-5287

### 5x7 HARDEE DUMP TRL

all metal, w/add-on ramp grate, \$500  
Otto Williamson  
Williamsburg  
843-372-2692

### GRAIN BIN

w/24" centrifugal fan, VGC, used little, photo avail, \$1750 cash  
Ronald Townsend  
Anderson  
864-958-0317

### K TRL

BP, 7000 lbs cap, \$7500 obo  
William Hudson  
Sumter  
803-305-8616

### NH BC5070 SQR BALER

VGC, photos avail, \$9000, call/text  
Bill Shuler  
Aiken  
803-710-0445

### '75 MF 235

2 wd, GC, rarely used, \$6500; '80 Ford 4600, new battery & tires, \$5500  
Dennis Trammell  
Union  
864-426-4066

### 5' BHB GROOMING MWR

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

### 3PT SCOOP PAN

\$125  
Jason Nichols  
Saluda  
864-992-9292

### TURNER PLOW

for Super A FA, \$100; tiller, \$500; btm plow, \$75; both 3ph  
Mike Echols  
Greenville  
864-908-8159

### 2R SUBSOILER

w/JD 71 plntrs, \$2800 obo  
Christopher Johnson  
Aiken  
803-640-2734

### STOCK COMBO TRL

Big Valley GN w/tack room, rem dividers & cut gate, swing/slide rear, \$4000 obo  
Derek Drafts  
Saluda  
803-429-3291

### JD MAX EMERGE 6R PLNTR

w/row cleaners, \$14,000; JD 6500 spry w/60' frt fold booms, \$24,000  
Joe Phillips Jr  
Lexington  
803-600-2928

### 2 TRACTORS

FA 560, \$4000, FA 656, \$5000, both GC; 10' disc harrow, good frame, \$1000; more  
Ronnie Richardson  
Newberry  
803-924-3930

## HOGS / PIGS

### PIGLETS

Kune-potbelly mix, 3 castrated males, \$80 ea  
Cameron Brazell  
Lexington  
803-260-6959

### FB BERKSHIRE PIGLETS

M/F, all tails docked, males cut, \$150 ea  
Jason Painter  
Spartanburg  
864-641-9855

### TAMWORTH PIGLETS

4 boars, 3 gilts, \$125  
Michael Hunt  
Anderson  
864-704-6190

### YORKSHIRE/HAMPSHIRE PIGS

8 w/o, \$125 ea, lv msg pls  
Robert Turner  
Orangeburg  
803-596-6463

## 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.

### 17+/-A OF CB

Ware Place area, land locked for \$45,000/A  
Stephen Gedosch  
Greenville  
864-982-4490

### 30A TIMBER/PASTURED

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

### WANT LAND FOR LEASE

w/in 50 mi of Lex 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

### 62.7 A LEXINGTON CO

wooded, 2 creeks, big lumber, exc hunting, pond/home sites, \$5000/A  
Bobby Livingston  
Richland  
803-518-8702

### WANT LAND

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

### WANT LAND TO LEASE

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

## FARM LABOR

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

### DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

### HAULING

junk, dirt, crush & run, rock, stone, etc; also any type of yard work  
Chris Ricard  
Lexington  
803-609-5902

### FORESTRY MULCHING

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

### LIGHT TRACTOR WORK

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

### DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK

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

### HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE APPLS

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

### BEAVER TRAPPING

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

### TREE LIMB TRIMMING

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

### FORESTRY MULCHING

clearing/dozer/Deere work, pond maint, bldg pads, demo, etc  
Phillip Hutchins  
Lexington  
803-422-1329

### TRACTOR/EQUIP REPAIR

all makes & models, clutch's, hyd's, eng's, 30 yrs exp  
Kelly Stachewicz  
Colleton  
843-542-6415

### 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

### PASTURE MGMT SERV

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

### MOBILE SAWMILLING

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

### EXCAVATOR WORK

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

### EXCAVATOR

tractor work, clearing, grading, irrigation, drainage, brush cutting, driveways, fire break, demo, etc  
Derek Drafts  
Saluda  
803-429-3291

## 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.

### EGGS

chicken, \$3/dz; Duck & Guinea, \$4/dz  
Joe Culbertson  
Greenwood  
864-229-5254

### A2/A2 RAW MILK

all Jersey herd, \$12/gal, \$6.50/1/2 gal  
Brittany Kanagy  
Barnwell  
803-793-7251

### CHICKEN EGGS

\$3/dz or \$5/2 dz  
Barbara Lyles  
Lexington  
803-360-0114

### JUMBO QUAIL

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

### CHICKEN EGGS

farm fresh, \$3/dz  
Ron Handley  
Georgetown  
843-896-0829

### FRESH EGGS

Chicken & Quail, \$4/dz  
Derek Drafts  
Saluda  
803-429-3291

## GOATS / LLAMAS / SHEEP

### KATAHDIN SHEEP

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

### MINI-MANCHA KIDS

B-'26, MDGA eligible, disbudded/CDT, 2 buckskin doelings, \$200 ea  
Gail Cooley  
Anderson  
864-947-8880

### SAVANNA BUCKLINGS

doelings & does, high % & full, \$150-250  
Bobby Page  
Spartanburg  
864-494-2501

### ADGA ND DOES

1 y/o, \$300  
Ron Handley  
Georgetown  
843-896-0829

### SAINT CROIX RAMS

parasite resistant, \$435  
Daniel Verdin  
Laurens  
864-270-7251

### ND GOATS

2 M, 5 F, 1-2 y/o, \$10 for all  
Jeff Adams  
Lexington  
803-606-6053

## HAY & GRAIN

### FRESH CUT FESCUE

NR, \$70  
Rogers Fowler  
Union  
864-426-3281

### '26 SQ BALES

Ryegrass, \$7; Orchard/Fescue mix, \$6.50  
Jackie Rogers  
Spartanburg  
864-381-5971

### '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

### SQ FESCUE

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

### HQ SQ CB

no litter used, \$8; rnd, \$60/field, \$40/CQ, \$35/10+  
George McCoy  
Chesterfield  
843-307-8866

### '25 4x5 RND MIXED GRASS

CQ, fert, net wrap, \$35/bale, call/text  
Jason Sandifer  
Richland  
803-606-3596

### 4x5 HAY/STRAW MULCH

net wrap, 150 bales avail, \$20 ea  
Richard Knight  
Kershaw  
803-427-6440

### '26 MIXED GRASS

net wrap, \$50; '25 mixed grass hay, \$40; grass straw mix, for mulch, \$25 ea; both 4x5  
Charles Nichols  
Saluda  
864-992-9292

### '26 4x5 FESCUE MIX

CQ, \$50/bale  
Quinton Whitener  
Union  
803-923-2036

### '25 HQ 4x5 RND CB

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

### '25 4x5 RND HQ CB

limed/fert, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> cuts, \$70 ea, del/fee  
Dale Blackmon  
Lancaster  
803-577-9008

### DEER COB CORN

in totes, weighing 600 lbs, \$100 ea  
Joseph Henson  
York  
803-448-5287

### '25 4x5 RND CB

net wrap, under shed, well fert, \$65  
Hugh Knight  
Orangeburg  
803-539-4674

### SHELLED WHOLE CORN

\$9; wheat, \$10; both in 50 lb bag  
Joe Culbertson  
Greenwood  
864-229-5254

### DEER CORN

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

### TIFTON 44 BERMUDA GRASS

baled 9/25, HQ sq, \$8 ea  
Thomas Thain  
Lexington  
803-920-7023

### FESCUE & RYE GRASS MIX

'25 & '26, HQ, 4x5, string wrap, barn stored, no weeds, \$50/bale  
Terry Blakely  
Greenville  
864-483-1920

### '25 4x5 RND CB

well fert, \$55, quant disc poss  
Linda McClain  
Orangeburg  
843-754-2535

### SHELLED CORN

\$45, your 55-gal drum  
Adam Anderson  
Newberry  
803-924-8466

### BERMUDA GRASS

18"x36" sq's, baled 9/17/25, \$6 ea; p-up or del avail for bulk (addl fee)  
Nicholas Mosher  
Marion  
912-289-5575

### 4x5 FESCUE

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

### '25 HQ CB

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

### DEER CORN

cob \$7/bag  
Drake Kinley  
Anderson  
864-353-9628

### '25 COASTAL

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

## MISCELLANEOUS

### ALUM SADDLE FUEL TANK

85 gal, on 6x6 pallet to transport, \$150  
Michael Dixon  
Chester  
803-385-7057

### 4' TUBE GATE

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

### 3 TRAY AUTO INCUBATOR

GOF Mfg Co, GC, \$350; lrg canner, 1 1/2 qt jars, \$50, lv msg  
Joan Joyce  
Darlington  
843-307-4751

### GAS IRRIG/TRASH PUMP

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

### 55-GAL FG DRUMS

metal & plastic open top w/top & rings, \$20+; solid top 55 gal, \$20 ea; 275-gal portow tanks, \$50 ea  
Philip Poole  
Union  
864-427-1589

### HQ RABBIT MANURE

\$5/5 gal bucket, bring bucket  
Chris Ricard  
Lexington  
803-609-5902

### HORSE HAY RING

no rub, safe for lrg bales, \$275  
Deborah Worth  
Aiken  
803-605-4644

### 5 HP ELEC MOTOR

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

### PLASTIC NURSERY POTS

mostly new, 5 gal, \$4 ea; trade gal, 6" rnd, \$1 ea  
Carol Elliott  
Richland  
803-261-1666

### WHT OAK TRL FLOORING

up to 21'L, 1", 1 1/2" & 2" thick x 6" & 8"W, \$2.50/bdft  
Lecil Hembree  
Chris Ricard  
864-316-1222

### 7-8' RND CEDAR POSTS

\$5-9 ea  
Joe Culbertson  
Greenwood  
864-229-5254

### FUEL TANKS

var sizes, above ground transfer/storage, 100-500 gal, \$100+, due to size  
Phillip Mullis  
Lancaster  
803-519-7125

### COMM WASH LINE

4 pcs, for fruits & vgs, \$5000; sm orchard spryr, w/pwr source, EC, \$3000; both EC  
Carey Wilson  
Anderson  
864-437-9297

### WORM CASTINGS FERT

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

### HDWD LUMBER

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

### POLY HDR DIVIDER SNOUTS

JD 600 or 900, 2 set, \$400/set  
Jeffrey Gilmore  
Chesterfield  
843-517-0315

### 2" IRRIG PIPE

+/- 500', 1/2 is alum, 1/2 is galv, misc fittings & Rainbird heads, \$750 obo; more  
Trent Porth  
Lexington  
803-413-8065

### (2) 240-GAL TANKS

w/stands, \$30 ea, both for \$50  
William Shealy  
Lexington  
803-513-3485

### CANNING JARS

qtrs & pints, \$7/dz, either size  
Nina Shirer  
Richland  
803-772-8120

### PEACH BOXES

\$10 ea; wash pot, \$100; 4 wagon whls, \$200; more  
Gary Seay  
Spartanburg  
864-578-8214

### LUMBER

6"x10' Wht Oak, air dried 16 mos, \$3/bdft; 12"x8' Red Oak, \$2/bdft; cut to your req thickness  
Boyd Caldwell  
Kershaw  
803-438-3455

### PURPLE MARTIN GOURD POLES

winches up/down, \$390-\$500; gourds, \$4.75 ea  
Stacy Shealy  
Lexington  
803-727-7535

## PLANTS & FLOWERS

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

### 3 GAL AZALEAS

\$10; Gardenia, Boxwoods, \$7; Lemon Grass, Tea Olives \$8; Crepe Myrtles, Hydrangeas, \$20  
Freeman Noles  
Barnwell  
803-383-4066

### MONKEY GRASS

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

### BLUE POND IRIS

hardy & multiplying, you dig, \$10/10 plants  
Sandra Storey  
Lexington  
803-513-7743

## RABBITS

### REX

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

Unsure of an abbreviation?

Find our complete list at  
[AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV/MARKET-BULLETIN/ABBREVIATIONS](http://AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV/MARKET-BULLETIN/ABBREVIATIONS)

## POULTRY

### CHICKENS

\$5+  
Barbara Lyles  
Lexington  
803-360-0114

### BARRED ROCK

RIR, GSL, East Eggers, expected to start laying in Aug, \$7.50 ea  
Mac McClendon  
Colleton  
843-835-5050

### BOB WHT QUAIL

flight & weather cond, \$5 ea  
John Reed  
Sumter  
803-464-5757

### GROWN GUINEAS

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

### 4 ROOS,

Full Leaper Hatch, \$150 ea  
Bobby Arnold  
McCormick  
864-550-5077

### QUAIL HATCHING EGGS

\$12/dz  
Derek Drafts  
Saluda  
803-429-3291

### 25 RUNT PIGEONS

squab making, \$275; Cornish Bantams, \$25/pr, Narragansett turkey pr, \$175  
Thomas Waters  
Colleton  
843-696-6627

### TOULOUSE & EMDEN GEESE

\$50; BB Red Bantam trios, Buff Cochin bantam trios, \$40; Wht King pigeon, \$15  
Benson Ray  
Georgetown  
843-933-5367

### DUCKLINGS

Mandarin & Wood Duck, \$60 ea; Lrg Fowl Cochin, \$8 ea; Button quail chicks, \$4 ea; all 1-2 w/o  
Tyler Switzer  
Pickens  
864-706-2389

### SEX-LINK

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

### GUINEA KEETS

all kinds of colors, 1 d/o-1 w/o, \$10 ea; 1-2 w/o, \$11 ea, etc; Choc Turkey poults, \$25+  
Mary Jane Vivas  
Edgefield  
803-480-1574

### BANTAMS

Silver Quill, OE, Silver Sebright, Barbu de Watermael, \$25/pr  
Tim Boozer  
Newberry  
803-924-3922

### 5 M/O HENS

RIR, Dominique, Buff Orp, Wht Leghorn, Gold Comet, \$12 ea; Bantams, Guineas, Jungle Fowl, \$7-12 ea  
Joe Culbertson  
Greenwood  
864-229-5254

### LAYING HENS

& pullets, 5 m/o-1 y/o, 10 breeds avail, \$20  
Candice Reble  
Aiken  
303-210-0325

## 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

### 3PH ROTOTILLER

6' or 7', in GC  
Randy Orr  
Anderson  
864-201-5666

### 8-10' FIELD CULT

older model for garden  
Otto Williamson  
Williamsburg  
843-372-2692

### BACKHOE ATTACH

for Gravelly 2 whl tractor, any cond, text is ok  
George Long  
Richland  
803-920-3883

## WANT-LIVESTOCK

EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.

### MAMMOTH JACK

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

## WANT-MISCELLANEOUS

### PULPWOOD SAW TIMBER

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

### LRG BENCH VISE

call/text  
Brian Rikard  
Oconee  
706-491-1111

### TRACTOR TIRE

11-2x36  
Debbie Wade  
Chester  
803-385-8965



## DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR 2026 LIVESTOCK FORAGE LOSSES

BY USDA FSA

Producers in all South Carolina counties are eligible to apply for 2026 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) benefits on — Forage Sorghum, Full Season Improved, Full Season Improved Mixed, Long Season Small Grains and Native.

LFP provides compensation if you suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or fire on federally managed land.

County committees can only accept LFP applications after notification is received by the National Office of qualifying drought or if a federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normal permitted livestock on federally managed lands due to qualifying fire. You must complete a CCC-853 and the required supporting documentation no later than March 1, 2027 for 2026 losses.

For additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact your local USDA Service Center visit [fsa.usda.gov](http://fsa.usda.gov).

## Get Your Farm Finances on Track

Attend one of our **FREE** AGAware workshops on Farm Finance Management!

As a farmer (and CEO of your business), managing your finances can be a challenge. But for long term success, it may be the most important thing you do.

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- Business Planning and Budgeting
- Family Finance
- Risk Management
- Applying for Financing
- FSA/SBA and Other Programs

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[arborone.com/agaware](http://arborone.com/agaware)

### AUGUST 13: ORANGEBURG, SC

Orangeburg Conference Center  
1643 Russell St | Orangeburg, SC



REGISTER TODAY:  
[agsouthfc.com/agaware](http://agsouthfc.com/agaware)

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Earn FSA Direct Borrower Training credits.



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# KEEPING THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE BRIGHT

## AGSOUTH'S GROWING OUR COMMUNITIES GRANT ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

BY AGSOUTH

Each year, AgSouth Farm Credit supports nonprofit organizations and farmers markets with grants of up to \$5,000 to help in their endeavors and to further the future of agriculture in our region of Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

The 2027 Growing Our Communities Grant application period will open April 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026.

The AgSouth Growing Our Communities Grant's mission is to build strong partnerships and alliances, leveraging the resources within our grant program to preserve and promote the farmer, the family, and our communities. The grant has three main objectives:

- Invest in the future of agriculture.
- Enhance and impact the quality of life in the AgSouth territory.
- Be recognized as a leading corporate citizen in the AgSouth territory.

### APPLICATION INFORMATION

The AgSouth Growing Our Communities Grant operates on an application-based grant system. Grants will be awarded for up to \$5,000 per organization per year. To be considered

for funding, organizations' values and purpose must align with the grant program's mission. Applications must be submitted online. You will be asked to attach a copy of your organization's W9 to the application prior to submission. Incomplete applications cannot be accepted. Please make sure you complete all fields prior to submission.

### PROJECT GUIDANCE

As part of the application, organizations must submit a project the grant will help fund. Examples of previously funded projects include but are not limited to:

- Providing farmers market programming for children
- Purchasing fans for a livestock arena to help cool the animals
- Developing a comprehensive chick hatching program to give tools and resources to those wanting to raise backyard flocks
- Opening a demonstration farm in conjunction with a local school district
- Purchasing grain bin rescue equipment for fire and rescue teams
- Funding a bee-keeping education program for vulnerable youths
- Purchasing an irrigation system at a local Farmers Market

- Expanding a local church garden space and adding fencing
- Hosting an annual agricultural event
- Purchasing a cargo trailer to transport livestock equipment
- Building a school greenhouse

### ELIGIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Grants will be considered for programs only in the 147 counties and geographic areas where AgSouth Farm Credit conducts business. Grants will only be awarded to non-profit organizations and farmers markets and will not be awarded to individuals or private farms.

### FUNDING CYCLE

Grant applications will be accepted from April 1 to June 30, 2026. Proposals will be reviewed and grants will be awarded in Nov–Dec of 2026. Funds awarded may be utilized by recipients during the 2027 calendar year.

To view the territory map and apply, visit [agsouthfc.com/outreach/growing-our-communities-grant](https://agsouthfc.com/outreach/growing-our-communities-grant).

## APHIS ANNOUNCES FUNDING TO SUPPORT CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

BY USDA

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) will provide approximately \$12 million to support efforts by States and Tribal governments, research institutions, and universities to control and prevent chronic wasting disease (CWD) in wild and farmed cervids (e.g., deer, elk).

"Chronic wasting disease poses a serious threat to U.S. wildlife and agriculture. This funding reflects our commitment to working collaboratively with States, Tribes, and research partners to develop innovative solutions and protect the health of our nation's cervid populations," said Dr. Alan Huddleston, Acting U.S. Chief Veterinary Officer.

APHIS will competitively fund the most promising projects that develop innovative tools or methods, support State and Tribal CWD control programs at the local level and provide indemnity payments to cervid owners with pending claims. This includes:

- Approximately \$6 million to support critical projects to control and prevent CWD in farmed cervids,
- Approximately \$5.5 million to support research and management of CWD in wild cervids, and
- Approximately \$500,000 to support CWD prevention and management on Tribal lands.

CWD is an infectious, degenerative disease of cervids that causes brain cells to die, ultimately leading to the death of the affected animal. The incubation period can be lengthy, and infected animals may look healthy until the end stages of the disease, making it difficult to distinguish affected animals from healthy animals. Animals infected with CWD can transmit the disease to other animals during the "silent" incubation period. The disease has spread widely and the limited number of tools, as well as their efficacy, impacts the ability to effectively control the disease.

Cooperative agreement funding in previous years has resulted in the development and implementation of predictive genetics to assist farmed cervid owners in breeding for less susceptible deer, the removal of CWD-positive farmed cervid herds, increased diagnostic capabilities, increased CWD surveillance in wild cervid populations, hunter and public education, and carcass disposal options to reduce spread of CWD.

## NRCS APPOINTS KELLEE MELTON AS NEW SOUTH CAROLINA STATE CONSERVATIONIST

BY USDA

On April 15, Chief Bettencourt of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced the appointment of Kellee Melton to the position of South Carolina NRCS State Conservationist, effective May 17th, 2026. Ms. Melton replaces Ann English, who retired in December of 2024. Kellee has been serving as the Acting State Conservationist for South Carolina since July 2025. Prior to this, she was a part of the National Programs Branch in the Financial Assistance Programs Division (FAPD) at NRCS Headquarters where she worked on program implementation and agency software development.



"I am honored and humbled to have been selected by Chief Bettencourt to be the 10th State Conservationist of the South Carolina NRCS, and I feel blessed to have the opportunity to lead the state where I first started my career. As your new State Conservationist, I assure you that my highest priority will be to work together with our staff and partners to rebuild, restore, and restructure our state to support our farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners," Kellee Melton said of her new role.

Over her 27 years of federal service with the NRCS, Kellee has held technical, programmatic, and leadership positions, including Soil Scientist, Soil Conservationist, State Business Tools Coordinator, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, and numerous acting positions. She earned her Bachelor of Science in agronomy and her Master of Science in crop and soil environmental science from Clemson University. Immediately after finishing graduate school, Kellee joined the NRCS as a soil scientist mapping soils across Lee County, South Carolina.

For 90 years, NRCS has helped farmers, ranchers and forest landowners make investments in their operations and local communities to improve the quality of our air, water, soil, and wildlife habitat. NRCS uses the latest science and technology to help keep working lands working, boost agricultural economies, and increase the competitiveness of American agriculture. NRCS provides one-on-one, personalized advice and financial assistance and works with producers to help them reach their goals through voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs. For more information, visit [nrcs.usda.gov](https://nrcs.usda.gov).

# CLEMSON OFFICIALS URGE SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC TO STAY VIGILANT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST INVASIVE HORNETS

BY JONATHAN VEIT, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Since Yellow-legged hornets were first identified in the Bluffton area in November 2023, Clemson University's Department of Plant Industry Apiary Inspection Program and Clemson Cooperative Extension have been engaged in a statewide fight against the potentially devastating insect.

Now, officials are asking the public in South Carolina to continue their vigilance by using the Yellow-legged Hornet Reporting Tool to focus on reporting sightings in areas of the state where the insect has not yet been found.

## NEW DETECTION HIGHLIGHTS IMPORTANCE OF EARLY REPORTING

That call to action comes as Clemson officials confirmed a new detection in York County on Dec. 8, 2025, the first known occurrence of a Yellow-legged hornet nest outside the Lowcountry. The discovery followed a report from a local beekeeper who noticed hornets exhibiting aggressive "hawking" behavior near honeybee hives. Inspectors were able to locate and remove the nest.

For Clemson officials, the York County detection reinforces the key point that early reporting works, and it is especially critical in areas where the hornet has not yet established a presence.

"The York County detection is an important reminder that invasive species can travel long distances, often with the unwitting help of people," said Steven Long, assistant director of Clemson's Department of Plant Industry. "That's why public reporting is so important. It gives us the early warning we need to respond quickly."

## WHY REPORTING OUTSIDE KNOWN AREAS MATTERS

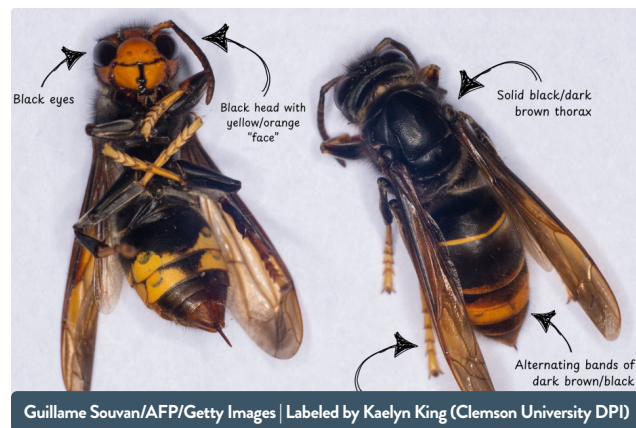
For more than two years, Clemson response teams have focused on containing Yellow-legged hornets in the Lowcountry, particularly in Beaufort and Jasper counties. That effort has grown into a large-scale operation spanning multiple regions of the state.

As of April 2026, Clemson and its partners have deployed 4,279 traps across Beaufort, Charleston, Chester, Colleton, Dorchester, Jasper, Hampton, Lancaster and York counties. Crews have completed 9,451 trap service checks as part of ongoing monitoring and response efforts. Of those traps, 2,871 are currently active in the Lowcountry district and 1,408 in the York district.

That work has led to the removal of 172 embryo nests in the Lowcountry and two in the Upstate. More than 3,500 queens have been captured in Lowcountry traps, along with 18 queens in the Upstate, helping slow the spread of the invasive species.

Still, officials say the greatest risk is the hornet's possible spread into new regions of the state.

"The most important reports we receive are from areas where we don't yet have confirmed activity," said Brad Cavin, coordinator of Clemson's Yellow-legged hornet response program. "When someone in a new part of the state submits a report, it allows us to act quickly before a population can grow and spread."



## PUBLIC PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE

Officials emphasize that residents should never attempt to remove a nest themselves. Instead, they should report it and allow trained inspectors to handle the situation.

"If you see a suspected nest, leave it undisturbed and report it," Cavin said. "Our trained inspectors will take it from there."

The Yellow-legged hornet poses no greater risk to humans than other hornets, but it presents a serious threat to honeybees and other pollinators. The insects prey on pollinators and can weaken or destroy entire colonies, creating ripple effects for agriculture and food production.

Beekeepers often detect hornets first, but Clemson officials stress that the general public is just as important in the response effort.

"These hornets do not respect property lines," said Benjamin Powell of Clemson's Apiculture and

Pollinator Program. "A nest affecting a beekeeper's hives could be located in a nearby yard or wooded area. That's why we need everyone paying attention."

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR AND HOW TO RESPOND

Residents are encouraged to learn how to identify yellow-legged hornets and their nests. Adult hornets typically range from 0.7 to 1.0 inches in length. They have a mostly black head with a distinct yellow or orange face, dark thorax, and an abdomen marked by alternating dark and yellow-orange bands. Their legs are dark near the body and transition to yellow at the tips, one of their most recognizable features.

In early stages, nests may be small and found in sheltered locations such as eaves, porches or outbuildings. Mature nests are often high in trees and can grow large, housing thousands of hornets.

Even uncertain sightings should be reported, especially in parts of South Carolina where infestations have not been confirmed.

"We would much rather investigate a report that turns out to be a native insect than miss an early detection," Cavin said. "That early window is when we have the best chance to contain this."

## A STATEWIDE EFFORT

Clemson officials are working with partners across the Southeast and with federal agencies to monitor and respond to the spread of yellow-legged hornets. Neighboring states are also expanding surveillance and encouraging public reporting.

Still, officials say success in South Carolina depends heavily on public participation.

"Public reporting is our most effective early-warning tool," Cavin said. "The more eyes we have across the state, the better chance we have of protecting our beekeeping industry and limiting the spread of this invasive insect."

South Carolina residents who spot a suspected yellow-legged hornet or nest are encouraged to submit a report, along with photos, through Clemson's online Yellow-legged Hornet Reporting Tool.

# REMINDER: PRODUCERS AND FOREST LANDOWNERS CAN APPLY FOR STATE DISASTER RELIEF BLOCK GRANT FOR HELENE

BY SCDA

Applications are now open for South Carolina's State Disaster Relief Block Grant for Helene.

The application period ends July 11, 2026.

The only way to apply is online through Euna Grants using the link on the grant webpage, [agriculture.sc.gov/helene](https://agriculture.sc.gov/helene).

The \$38 million in federal aid is for four types of production losses not covered by other USDA programs or crop insurance:

- Market Loss—Covers harvested or unharvested crops that could not be marketed due to Helene
- Infrastructure Loss—A loss to permanent infrastructure that is actively used in agricultural production (within the 12 months prior to Helene)

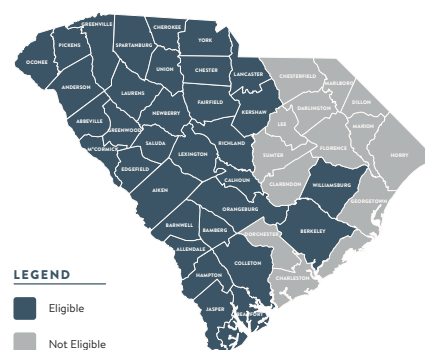
- Future Economic Loss—A loss of future revenue on perennial crops that take multiple years to mature
- Timber Loss—A loss due to timber damage

Only losses in counties that received a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Helene are eligible.

## TIMBER LOSS ASSISTANCE

Learn more about timber loss verification at [scfc.gov/hurricane-helene-timber-block-grant](https://scfc.gov/hurricane-helene-timber-block-grant).

For further assistance with timber losses, email [blockgrant@scfc.gov](mailto:blockgrant@scfc.gov).



## AGRICULTURAL LOSS ASSISTANCE

Clemson Cooperative Extension offices and Soil & Water Conservation District county offices are the first line of support for direct help with applying for this grant. The staff at these offices are equipped to

verify your losses and help with your application.

- Clemson Cooperative Extension county offices: [clemson.edu/extension/co/](https://clemson.edu/extension/co/)
- Soil & Water Conservation District offices: [dnr.sc.gov/conservation/](https://dnr.sc.gov/conservation/)

For further questions about agricultural losses or about the application itself, email [disaster@scda.sc.gov](mailto:disaster@scda.sc.gov).

# UNUSUAL WEATHER FUELS DEVASTATING STRAWBERRY DECLINE ACROSS SOUTH CAROLINA

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

South Carolina strawberry farmers are watching an unusually painful end to the growing season as fields that should be bursting with bright red fruit instead show rows of collapsing plants, yellowed leaves and wilted crowns.

And they're contacting Clemson Extension scientists to help determine a solution.

Across the state, a disease known as Fusarium wilt is rapidly taking hold, leaving growers scrambling for answers and fearing heavy losses. Andy Rollins, a Spartanburg County Extension agent, and Daniel Lyon, Clemson Extension commercial horticulture agent, are hearing about diseased plants in fields throughout South Carolina.

"Growers started contacting us after their plants started collapsing," Rollins said. "We visited farms, collected samples and sent them to the Clemson Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic for evaluation. Growers from all over the state were contacting us. They all had the same issue: plant roots were dying and the plants were collapsing.

"It went from being a minor issue to becoming a major concern for South Carolina growers."

## THE CULPRIT

Fusarium wilt is caused by *Fusarium oxysporum*. This soilborne fungus attacks strawberry plants at their roots and crowns, cutting off the plant's ability to survive. While the pathogen itself is not new to South Carolina, experts say the scale and speed of damage this year are alarming.

"Historically, we haven't seen Fusarium wilt cause significant losses in South Carolina strawberry production," said Lindsey Thiessen, Clemson University small fruit pathologist. "This year has been different because the plants have experienced extraordinary stress from the weather."

According to Thiessen, the spring's erratic conditions created the perfect storm for disease development. Growers endured a season marked by dry conditions, sharp temperature swings, repeated frosts and sudden bursts of record-breaking heat.

These conditions weakened strawberry plants, leaving them vulnerable.

"Strawberry plants don't respond well to repeated stress events," Thiessen said. "The cold injury, followed by rapid warming and drought conditions, likely created opportunities for the pathogen to infect plants more aggressively than we normally see."

Typically, Fusarium wilt is associated with root injuries, often caused by nematodes. In most South Carolina strawberry operations, growers fumigate the soil before planting, helping suppress both



Fusarium wilt attacks South Carolina strawberry plants at their roots and crowns, cutting off the plants' ability to survive.

nematodes and the Fusarium fungus. But this season's unusual weather has overwhelmed many of those preventative measures.

For growers watching plants die in the field, there is little relief.

"At this stage of the growing season and with how rapidly plants are declining, there are no economical treatments," Thiessen explained. "Unfortunately, once symptoms become severe, there's very little growers can do to save affected plants."

The fungus that causes Fusarium wilt is specific to farmed strawberries and wild strawberry species. Some crops, such as spinach and broccoli, may carry the pathogen without showing symptoms, allowing fungal populations in the soil to increase over time quietly.

Despite the devastating season, scientists are not yet certain whether the outbreak signals a long-term problem for South Carolina agriculture.

"It's unclear whether this will continue to be an issue in future years," Thiessen said. "The environmental

conditions this spring were highly unusual and stress plays a major role in disease severity."

Still, Clemson scientists say growers may need to reconsider disease prevention strategies if extreme weather becomes more common. Some strawberry cultivars, including San Andreas and Fronteras, appear to be less susceptible to Fusarium wilt. However, many of the varieties most widely grown in South Carolina remain sensitive.

Experts are also encouraging growers to focus on reducing root stress and protecting plants from cold injury. Where pre-plant fumigation is not always practical for every farmer, other non-fumigant products may help suppress nematode populations that can worsen disease pressure.

Strawberry season runs from April through early June in South Carolina. As the season winds down, Thiessen urges growers to remain vigilant.

"In the future, growers should scout carefully for symptoms like stunting, yellowing along leaf margins, interveinal necrosis and wilting," she said. "Early detection and reducing plant stress may be our best tools moving forward."

Farmers seeking additional assistance are encouraged to contact their local Clemson Extension agent or submit plant samples to the Clemson Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic for evaluation.

## STRAWBERRY ECONOMICS

While South Carolina doesn't produce massive commercial volumes of strawberries, the crop remains vitally important to the state's agricultural economy.

Information from the South Carolina Department of Agriculture shows strawberries are the first major spring crop, serving as a cornerstone for local farm revenues, the booming agritourism industry and community food culture.

According to Kevin Burkett, Clemson Extension agribusiness master associate, South Carolina growers planted 607.17 acres. They yielded 18,000 pounds of strawberries per acre in 2025. At \$2.50 per pound, the state's strawberry crop generated \$27,322,650.



## 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](http://dor.sc.gov/farmers).

Apply, renew, verify, and learn more at [scatecard.com](http://scatecard.com)

## I can't find my information to log in to my SCATE account online.

Passwords were sent to the email address supplied on the SCATE account when you applied/renewed, as well as 30–60 days before your renewal date. If you cannot find your password, you can click "Forgot Password" below the login area at [scatecard.com](http://scatecard.com) and enter the email address listed on your SCATE account to have the password emailed.

For other online login information requests, or within 30–45 days of applying/renewing/replacement request if your physical SCATE cards have not arrived, you can email [scate@scda.sc.gov](mailto:scate@scda.sc.gov) or call 803-734-2210 and listen to the prompts to connect with SCATE. Emails and voice messages will be returned within two business days. Please have your SCATE card number ready, or include it in the email.

## From the Field

UPDATES FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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