

MARKET BULLETIN

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AS FOOD RECALLS MAKE HEADLINES, SC STATE EXPERT TALKS PRODUCE SAFETY

ELIZABETH MOSELY-HAWKINS, SC STATE UNIVERSITY

A trip through the produce aisle may feel routine — pick up lettuce for dinner, grab a container of berries, and head home. But when another food recall flashes across the news, families may find themselves wondering whether the food in their carts is safe.

That question has become especially timely this summer.

As of Aug. 4, South Carolina had reported 59 confirmed cases of cyclosporiasis in 2026, already surpassing the approximately 50 cases the state has averaged annually over the previous five years. Forty-nine of this year’s cases were reported in July, according to the South Carolina Department of Public Health.

Behind those numbers are illnesses that can begin days after someone sits down for a meal.

Dr. Subash Shrestha, director of the Center for Food Safety & Health with South Carolina State University Public Service & Agriculture, said Cyclospora differs from some foodborne illnesses consumers may recognize by name.

“Cyclospora is a microscopic parasite that causes gastrointestinal illness. It cannot grow in food or water. Infection happens when someone consumes contaminated food or water,” Shrestha said.

Symptoms can include watery diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, and dehydration. Because symptoms may not appear immediately after exposure, someone may not realize an illness could be connected to food eaten days earlier.

Cyclospora is only one part of the broader food safety conversation underway across the nation and the state.

South Carolina sees an average of approximately 1,500 Salmonella cases each year and about 81 cases of Shiga toxin-producing E. coli, or STEC, according to the South Carolina Department of Public Health.

“Salmonella and E. coli are highly infectious,” Shrestha said, noting that certain E. coli infections can lead to serious kidney complications.

For families standing in the grocery store wondering what those numbers mean, the answer is not to abandon the produce aisle. It is to make informed choices.



A food recall can happen at different points along the journey from farm to table. Produce is grown, harvested, packed, transported, stocked in stores and eventually brought into homes. Food safety practices matter throughout that process.

Protecting families starts long before food reaches the grocery store with the farmers who grow and handle it.

Through the Center for Food Safety & Health, Shrestha works with South Carolina small-scale producers to strengthen food safety practices before their products reach consumers. Part of that work includes helping producers prepare for Good Agricultural Practices, or GAP, certification.

GAP certification focuses on food safety practices used during the growing, harvesting, packing and handling of fresh produce. Shrestha works with small-scale producers to help them understand those practices and prepare their farms for the certification process.

Consumers have a role, too.

Simple habits can make a difference. Consumers can wash their hands before and after handling food, keep food preparation areas clean, properly separate foods and stay aware of current recall notices.

When a product is recalled, consumers should check identifying information such as the brand, package size, lot number and purchase location rather than assuming every version of that food is unsafe.

That shared responsibility is central to the Center for Food Safety & Health’s work across South Carolina. Through research, education and Extension, Shrestha and the center help small-scale producers strengthen food safety practices while giving consumers practical information about foodborne illness, recalls and safe food handling, helping reduce risks from the farm to the family table.



COMMISSIONER’S CORNER

HUGH E. WEATHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

FEELS LIKE FALL

First things first: I know many of you are eager to hear details about the \$35 million in farm assistance payments authorized in the new state budget.

The South Carolina General Assembly allocated \$35 million in its Fiscal 2027 budget to the South Carolina Department of Agriculture for farm relief. Our agency anticipates receiving the funds in mid-October, and we’ve begun preparations to distribute funds to producers as soon as possible.

See page 8 of this issue of the Market Bulletin for some important information for livestock producers who may qualify for payments under this state program.

It’s beginning to feel like fall here in South Carolina. Corn harvest is wrapping up. Looks like yields won’t be great, likely due to the serious drought that kicked off the growing season. Many farmers continue to deal with the effects of drought and excessive heat. However, the absence of many serious storms so far has definitely made folks rest easier.

Cotton and peanuts are coming along nicely, and we’re hopeful for a good soybean harvest now that the trade situation has

settled down a bit. The bean crop around my part of the state has gotten some timely rain, so could be a surprising yield.

Over in the specialty crop world, it’s a great year for muscadines and scuppernongs. The U-pick market for these native grapes has really picked up in recent years.

Of course, fall is go time for agritourism of all sorts. On page 3 of this issue, you’ll find fall event listings for farms across the state, many of which have corn mazes, pumpkin patches, hay rides, and a host of fun activities.

You can also visit scfarmfun.org to find listings for more than 600 agritourism farms. I can remember when there were about 80. We relaunched our website earlier this year with a searchable map that makes it a lot easier to find agritourism experiences near you.

Our three State Farmers Markets are holding their Fall Plant and Flower Festivals. This is always a great time to get in the fall spirit. Pick up some pumpkins, mums, and other fall plants and décor.

I appreciate all the hard work that goes into farming. This is the time of year we get to see it all come together. It’s a good feeling.



Market Bulletin Office

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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
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Fruit & Vegetable Inspection	Produce Safety
803-737-4588	803-753-7267

Market News—Fruit & Vegetable	Retail Food Safety
803-737-4671	803-896-0640

Market News—Livestock & Grain
803-737-4491

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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

SEPTEMBER 25 • 12:00 PM

SCDA State Farmers Markets

**SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE FARMERS MARKET**
3483 Charleston Highway
West Columbia, SC 29172
803-737-4664

**GREENVILLE
STATE FARMERS MARKET**
1354 Rutherford Road
Greenville, SC 29609
864-244-4023

**PEE DEE
STATE FARMERS MARKET**
2513 W. Lucas Street
Florence, SC 29501
843-665-5154

VISIT
AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV

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

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9/17/26

Pumpkin Fest

September 17 – November 8

Thursday: 5 – 10 pm

Friday: 2 – 10 pm

Saturday & Sunday: 10 am – 10 pm

Once the sun goes down, the fun keeps going! Wander through our glowing trail featuring hundreds of carved and lit jack o'lanterns, with creative larger-than-life displays around every corner! Sara's Farm Adventure
130 Greenhouse Road, Trenton
www.sarasfarmadventure.com

Fall Fridays

September 18 – November 13

Make some unforgettable fall memories with a trip to the pumpkin patch, an adventure through the corn maze, and 50+ attractions packed with family fun! Be sure to stop by the Farm Market for seasonal favorites and treat yourself to some tasty snacks while you're here.
Cottle Strawberry Farm
9560 Garners Ferry Road, Hopkins
cottlefarms@aol.com | 803-695-1714

Books at the Barn

September 25 • 5 – 6 pm

The most introvert friendly book club in the Upstate. We don't force you to read a certain book and you can also just sit there and write in your notebook (or draw, or paint, or daydream). The whole point is coming together in nature and having an hour to follow your quiet-time bliss. Join us on the last Friday of every month!
Bramblewood Stables
649 Oaklawn Road, Simpsonville
bramblewoodstables@gmail.com | 864-363-3727

2026 Fall Festival

September 25 • 5 – 10 pm

September 26 • 10 am – 10 pm

September 27 • 12 – 6 pm

Whether you're looking for a fun outing with the family, or a unique spot to hang out with some friends, there is something for everyone to enjoy on our farm! Pumpkin Patch, Corn Maze, Photo Ops, Yummy Treats, Live Music, 30+ Farm Attractions, & MUCH MORE!
Denver Downs Farm
1515 Denver Road, Anderson
864-556-3394
denverdownsfarm.com/fall-festival

Fall on the Farm

September 26 – October 31

Fridays • 4 – 10 pm, gates close at 9 pm

Saturdays • 10 am – 10 pm, gates close at 9 pm

Sundays • 1 – 7 pm, gates close at 6 pm

Come visit us in the fall for a REAL U-pick pumpkin patch! 10 acres and over 110 varieties of all shapes, sizes, and colors. Since 2000 our SC Corn MAiZE has been a fall tradition for so many families. Our peaceful wagon rides loop the farm with fun fall scenes, carved pumpkins, scarecrows, and the great outdoors! Last daytime wagon ride departs at 6:30. We offer a huge selection of farm grown fall garden mums. Cabbage, collards, broccoli, etc. plants also available! Our Farm Market is brimming with fall decor for inside and outside your home! Also, don't miss our huge selection of jams, jellies, pickles, salsas, and more!
Stewart Farms
6600 Highway 92, Enoree
864-969-7270
stewartfarms.net

Family Fall Fun

September 26 – October 31

Callaham Orchards

559 Crawford Road, Belton

864-338-0810

MARKET BULLETIN

Fairfield Farmers and Artisans Market

September 26 • 9 am – 1 pm

Come join us for a great lineup of farmers and artisans!
Gypsy Wind Farm
3005 Buckhead Road, Blair
farmersandartisan@yahoo.com
facebook.com/FairfieldFarmersAndArtisansMkt

Fall Farm Festival

September 26 • 10 am – 4 pm

Bring your family and friends to Baker Farm for our annual Fall Farm Festival, where you'll experience the charm of a working sheep farm while supporting local artisans and enjoying the best of the season. Spend the day meeting our friendly heritage sheep, learning how wool goes from fleece to yarn, and discovering why sheep have been an important part of farm life for generations. Visit the barn, ask questions, and get an up-close look at these amazing animals. Stroll through our vendor market featuring talented local artisans, makers, and small businesses offering handmade goods, gifts, home décor, fiber products, and delicious treats.
Baker Farm
2494 Greenwood Road, Rock Hill
sarahbakerfarm@gmail.com | 803-322-6455
facebook.com/bakerfarmsc

Fall Market at the Farmstand!

September 26 • 10 am – 4 pm

We're getting excited for our Fall Market at Carey's Farmstand! Come spend a fall day at the farm, shop local, grab something delicious to eat, and enjoy everything the season has to offer.
Carey's Farmstand
2494 New Holland Road, Wagener
aubrey@careyfarms.org | 803-640-9887

Family Farm Day

September 26 • 11 am – 3 pm

We're filling the farm with fun, food, music, shopping, animals, and plenty of opportunities to make some memories together!
A Thrasher's Farm
727 Garrison Road, Pelzer
864-201-3172 • athrashersfarm@gmail.com

The VIP Experience at Oktoberfest

September 26 • 11 am – 4 pm

Watch some of the top international eventers compete in the CCI1*, CCI2*-S, CCI3*-S and CCI4*-S divisions, in addition to national levels from Training through Advanced. VIPs receive a picnic lunch consisting of Stable View's signature charcuterie from the Stable View Bistro and a stainless steel Stable View tumbler! VIP Luncheon tickets are \$100 per person.
Stable View
151 Stable Drive, Aiken
info@stableviewfarm.com | 484-356-3173

Opening Day Kick Off Fall Festival

September 26 • 11 am – 5 pm

Fall is our most favorite time of the year!
Southern Palmetto Farms
2601 Garner Road, Aynor
southernpalmettofarm@yahoo.com | 843-421-4686
southernpalmettofarm.com

Bluegrass, BBQ & Brews

September 26 • 1 – 4 pm

Experience the best of Southern tradition! Gather your family and friends to enjoy a stunning fall afternoon in the Lowcountry. Sample delicious BBQ and local craft beers, then relax under the historic oaks to the sounds of live bluegrass.
Magnolia Plantation and Gardens
3550 Ashley River Road, Charleston
info@magnoliaplantation.com | 843-571-1266
magnoliaplantation.com

Fall Family Festival & Market

September 26 • 3 – 8 pm

Join us for our FIRST Fall Family Festival & Market. There will be over 40 craft vendor booths to shop from, a pumpkin patch for picking, warm cider for sipping, delicious food trucks, a bounce house, tractor hay rides, a mobile petting zoo with mini highland cows, and MORE!
The Gathering Farm
140 Waldon Road, Moore
Purchase your bracelet here:
buy.stripe.com/3cl4gy3Pj4t12548nR9lQo7

3rd Annual Low Country Boil

September 26 • 5:30 – 7:30 pm

After such a great time with the amazing folks at Saltwater Markets, we're teaming up once again to bring you some of the freshest shrimp around. Join us for an evening of delicious food, cold drinks, live music, and farm fun! Ticket holders can shop fresh grab-and-go bouquets at The Blossom Bar or cut their own flowers from our garden for just \$15.
Five Blossoms Farm
1121 Crossland Road, Clover
info@fiveblossomsfarm.com | 803-610-5809
fiveblossomsfarm.com/farm-events-workshops/

National Alpaca Farm Days

September 26 & 27 • 10 am – 4 pm

Join us as alpaca farms across the nation open their farms for free a weekend of family fun and learning. Learn about owning alpacas, how our farm uses their fleece, and have an opportunity to take tons of great alpaca selfies!
Carolina Pride Pastures
1416 SC Highway 34, Pomaria
alicia@cppastures.com | 803-480-3750
Tickets: facebook.com/CarolinaPridePastures

Fall Festival featuring Grandparents' Weekend!

September 26 & 27 • 10 am – 6 pm

Because Grandparents really are GRAND, y'all! Join us as we recognize how important grandparents truly are and celebrate them! For this specific weekend only, each grandparent will receive FREE admission with each paid child admission!
Thompson Farm at Brickyard Plantation
100 Brickyard Place, Conway
info@thompsonfarmandnursery.com | 843-236-1400

Garden-Style Arrangement Workshop

September 27 • 10 am – 12 pm

Spend a summer morning surrounded by flowers as you learn the art of creating a garden-style centerpiece. In this special collaboration workshop, guest florist Karen Fajardo of Spicy Floral will guide you step-by-step through designing a lush floral arrangement inspired by the movement, texture, and beauty of an English cutting garden. Using seasonal blooms grown at Helena Hills Farm and select complementary flowers, you'll learn professional floral design techniques including flower selection, mechanics, balance, shape, and placement.
Helena Hills Farm
577 Bellinger Hill Run Road, Hardeeville
646-656-1506
helenahillsfarm.com/event-details/garden-style-arrangement-workshop

Free Children's Program

October 3 • 9 – 11 am

Parents can sign children up for a half hour session between 9 – 11 am. Group sizes will be limited. Children will learn about indigo as a cash crop in South Carolina. They'll also design and dye their own small bag to take home.
L.W. Paul Living History Farm
2279 Harris Short Cut Road, Conway
calder.marian@horrycountysc.gov | 843-915-7861

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

STER GRASS CARP
\$12/\$18; Blgill, 65¢; Shlckr & Rdbrst, 75¢; Ch Catfish, 65¢; Lrgmth Bass, \$3; 5"+Tilapia \$4
Clay Chappell
Richland
803-776-4923

BLUEGILL
50¢; Bass, \$3; F1 Tiger Bass, \$3; Catfish, 1; Grass Carp, \$10; Minnows, \$25; trout, \$3
Derek Long
Newberry
803-944-3058

Review our ad policies online:

AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV/ MARKET-BULLETIN- POLICIES

CATTLE

JERSEY COW/HEFR CALF PR
\$2500; 2 reg jersey cows A2A2, \$2750 ea; Jersey hefrs, \$2000, exposed to bull
Robert Turner
Orangeburg
803-596-6463

REG DEXTER COW
blk, B-8/24, exc genetics and confrm, \$1600
Stephan Vernet
Spartanburg
864-363-5800

REG BRAUNVIEH BULL
B-12/24, \$3500; Lnghn steer, \$2500; can del
James A Langston
Pickens
864-859-6794

REG BLK ANG BULLS
top 10, exc feet, low input, docile, BSE, \$7500+
Walter Shealy
Newberry
803-924-1000

CHAR BULL
full blooded, B-1/12, \$1800
Boyd Caldwell
Kershaw
803-438-3455

FARM EQUIPMENT

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

FA SUPER A TRACTOR
GRC, 3ph, cutaway disc plow and 6' scraper incl, \$2500
John Lollis
Greenville
864-483-0922

MF 231S TRACTOR
dsl, 42 hp, 798 hrs, good rubber, canopy, well maint, \$8200
Boyd Caldwell
Kershaw
803-438-3455

CUB CADET CS 3310
chipper/shredder, used 1x, \$475
Tom Eason
Colleton
843-991-3962

50A CASE TRACTOR
w/canopy, 4 wd, rear hyd, frt end ldr, 3rd function, \$39,500
John Smith
Calhoun
803-664-1146

BHB SICKLE BOOM
LN, \$7000; HD 84" Land Pride finish mwr, \$4200
Julian Mears
McCormick
864-602-1246

2R TRNSPLNTR
3ph w/2 water barrels, LN, \$6000; NH273 sq baler, \$1000
Charles Clunan
Anderson
864-245-3803

JD 385 RND BALER
string tie w/bale kicker, VGC, \$4500; 5' box blade, 3ph, \$150; JD 50 antiq tractor, \$500
Johnny Childress
Laurens
864-872-9985

FORD 8N
restored, \$3000; 1r cult, \$200; 20-disc harrow, \$1000; 6' scrape blade, \$375; more, all 3ph and obo
Otis Hembree
Spartanburg
864-316-1222

14' DUAL AXLE TRL
w/new tires and lights, expanded metal bed, HD ramps, 2 5/16 hitch, \$1200
David Wannamaker
Calhoun
803-682-2117

'07 JD 5225
56 hp, remote, canopy, 2960 hrs, \$14,500; 16' Ponderosa GN ST trl, new 10 ply tires, \$3500
Robert Hurley
Laurens
864-981-5352

'07 RHINO TW84 ROTARY CUTTER
7' cut, GC, new blade, \$1500
Stephen Gedosch
Greenville
864-982-4490

JD MAX EMERGE 6R PLNTR
w/row cleaners, \$14,000; JD 6500 spryr w/60' frt fold booms, \$24,000
Joe Phillips Jr
Lexington
803-600-2928

HAWK HORSE TRL
5th whl, 24' w/LQ, 3 stall, \$10,000 obo; JD 5115 M, ldr, frt hyd, cab, 700 hrs, \$95,000
Ronny Wilson
Anderson
864-356-6959

11PT CHISEL PLOW
by Athens Plow Co, GC, \$2000
Edward Rentz
Lexington
803-351-0328

INTL 806 CUB TRACTOR
w/cab, \$6000
Daniel Hughes
Jasper
803-942-1670

'59 FERGUSON TRACTOR
35 hp, w/5 implements, \$4200
Joel Russell
Greenville
864-877-7335

3PH POST DRIVER
Wheatheart Bandit, PTO driven, 8'T post, 8" dia, \$7500
Leonard Williams
Anderson
864-245-0436

PALLET FORKS
\$250; 3ph rnd bale forks, cat 2/3, \$200
Harry Mcmillan
Spartanburg
864-327-7369

'42 AC TRACTOR
EC, antiq, \$4500 obo
Farha Ali
Greenwood
864-554-0041

4'x7' METAL TRL
w/top, used for goats, GC, \$800
Jack Fogle
Orangeburg
803-331-6675

8 WHL V-RAKE
FR, \$2800
Rickie Evans
Chester
803-209-2714

'20 JD 1025R
w/frt end ldr, backhoe, 54D auto connect mwr, \$19,500
Thomas Nettles
Orangeburg
803-707-1589

5x7 HARDEE DUMP TRL
all metal, w/add-on ramp grate, \$500
Otto Williamson
Williamsburg
843-372-2692

7 SHANK FIELD CULT
w/spring trip shanks, GC, used on LT 30A, \$500
Eddie Beck
Darlington
843-307-7588

4 WHL HAY FEED WAGON
open bottom, 20' L, \$4750
Bennie Smith
Edgefield
803-215-2551

SQ HAY LDR
for side of truck or trl, \$400; NH hay crusher, \$300, more, all under shed, cash
Randy Orr
Anderson
864-201-5666

8' FERT DISTRIB
pulled w/tractor, FC, photos avail, \$600
William Nash
Greenville
864-430-6646

IH 1066
and CAT D7 17A, \$16,000 ea; JD 830D, \$14,000; Cat D4 7U, \$8500
Ronald McGraw
Lancaster
980-255-8584

INTL 1466
w/canopy and dual whls, \$15,000 obo
Joseph Henson
York
803-448-5287

MILLCREEK 27+ MANURE SPRDR
GC, barn kept, poly flr, dolly whl jack, Rhino-coat lining, \$3000
Kristie Lowrey
Laurens
864-414-6891

MF 281
w/frt end ldr/bucket, bale spear, \$12,000; 3ph bale spear, \$150
Robert Turner
Orangeburg
803-596-6463

USA HARROWS
20 disc, 3ph, GC, \$1600
Jim Atkinson
Pickens
864-506-9001

NH BC5070 SQ HAY BALER
VGC, \$7500, call/text
Bill Shuler
Aiken
803-710-0445

FA CUB TRACTOR
low boy, LN, shed kept, 1ph w/harrow, turn plow, scoop pan and scraper blade, \$5750
Robert Yonce
Aiken
803-685-7240

TONUTTI 4 WHL HAY RAKE
3ph, \$700
Wyman Gunter
Lexington
803-317-3965

'25 NH TRACTOR
dsl, canopy, 60hp, 42 hrs, 4 yr wrnty, \$23,000
Al Harlan
Spartanburg
864-316-9636

FORD
3ph, dbl turn plow, GC, \$250; 1r 3ph cult, 6 shank, EC, \$250
Oliver Green
Sumter
803-795-8646

'50 MCCORMICK FA CUB TRACTOR
w/belly mwr, oper man, \$3500
J R Simpson
Lancaster
803-585-6

3000 FORD TRACTOR
\$6000; 20-disc harrow and 5' bush hog, \$100 ea; more
Gary Seay
Spartanburg
864-497-0527

16'T EQUIP TRL
\$1000 obo
Gregg Hembree
Spartanburg
864-494-2753

'17 BOBCAT T650
w/2514 hrs, cab, ac/heat, GC, \$33,900
Dale Wilson
Abbeville
864-378-8327

INTL 5100 GRAIN DRILL 21 DD OPENERS
\$5200; Rhino 2160 boom mwr, in GC, \$9000
Jeffrey Gilmore
Chesterfield
843-517-0315

FARM LABOR

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

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

DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK
land clearing, ditching, ponds, roads, bush hog, bldg pads
Fred Morris
Florence
843-621-8647

WANT SOMEONE
to mill, 6+' x 9" in dia live oak log, preferably w/in 50 mi of Cheraw
Raymond Babb
Chesterfield
843-320-8568

HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE APPLS
by ground or UAV, ag, forestry and aquatic
Joel Cox
Spartanburg
864-706-1495

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

TREE LIMB TRIMMING
for roads, fence lines, field edges, up to 26', local cos
Damon Archie
Chester
803-517-7436

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

BEAVER TRAPPING
and exclusion, Aiken Co and surrounding area
Joe Leonard
Aiken
803-507-4940

NEED SOMEONE
to cut around dam and pond banks; also help w/ poultry, feed/clean, 3 hrs AM and 2 hrs PM, more
Kim Hagen
Lancaster
803-475-1125

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

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

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.

56A
timber, recently pine trees were clear cut, \$296,800
Douglass Britt
McCormick
864-391-3334

WANT LAND FOR LEASE
for raccoon hunting only
Tony Slice
Lexington
803-600-6256

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

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

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

HOGS / PIGS

FB BERKSHIRE PIGLETS
M/F, males cut, \$150 ea
Jason Painter
Spartanburg
864-641-9855

FRESH PRODUCE

PRODUCE MUST BE RAW AND NON-PROCESSED. RAW MILK, BUTTER, AND CHEESE PRODUCTS MUST BE PERMITTED BY SCDA. A COPY OF THE MILK PERMIT MUST BE PROVIDED WITH THE AD. AN EGG LICENSE IS NOT REQUIRED FOR ON-FARM POINTS OF SALE.			
FRESH EGGS chicken and quail, \$2.50/dz Derek Drafts Saluda 803-429-3291	CHICKEN EGGS farm fresh, \$3/dz Ron Handley Georgetown 843-896-0829	CHICKEN EGGS farm fresh, brown, \$3/dz, \$5/2 dz, call/txt Chris Smith Union 864-426-3718	FARM FRESH EGGS \$2.50/dz, if you bring your own carton George Conaway Kershaw 803-900-0444
CHICKEN EGGS \$3/dz or \$5/2 dz Barbara Lyles Lexington 803-360-0114	FRESH QUAIL EGGS \$2.50/dz Duane Peake Richland 803-240-1359	DUCK EGGS \$6/dz; jumbo Quail eggs, \$4/dz Leland Davis Clarendon 803-468-6963	JUMBO QUAIL and chicken eggs, \$3-4/dz Brian Motley Kershaw 803-315-7598
SUGARCANE 100 stalks/\$100 Freeman Noles Barnwell 803-383-4066	CHICKEN EGGS \$3/dz; duck eggs, \$5/dz Joe Culbertson Greenwood 864-229-5254		

HAY & GRAIN

'26 4×5 RND CB net wrap, HQ shed kept, \$80; HQ field kept, \$70; CQ, \$60/roll, del w/fee Tyler Sanderlin Barnwell 803-709-2626	DEER COB CORN single bag/\$10 ea; \$9 ea for pallet of 40 Jason Painter Spartanburg 864-641-9855	'26 4×5 RND HQ CB fert/sprayed, no litter, 1 st and 2 nd cuts, \$75 ea, del/fee Dale Blackmon Lancaster 803-577-9008	'25 4×5 RND CB limed, fert, NR, \$45; '26 4×5 rnd CB, fert, rain, \$35, outside on indiv plastic pallets Eddie West Aiken 803-507-8205	'25 COW HAY sisal twine, 5×5 bales, \$40 Evan Derrick Lexington 803-429-2233	'26 4×5 RND BALES no weed/trash, fert, 1 st & 2 nd cut, shed kept, HQ/\$60, CQ/\$50 James Bullock Lexington 803-429-3235
'26 HQ 4×54" RND CB \$80; '25 CB, \$70; all net wrap and shed kept Rickey Meetze Lexington 803-667-0285	'26 CB 4×5 RND outside HQ, \$50; CQ, \$45; HQ sq, \$8 Anthony Carroll Anderson 864-314-2111	SQ FESCUE barn kept, \$7 ea; sq mixed grass, \$5 ea; both NR Jerry Butler Laurens 864-697-6343	'26 4×5 RND CB HQ, lime and fert, \$70/bale; '26 4×5 rnd CB, CQ, \$60/bale Jason Williams Lexington 803-917-5431	'26 4×5 RND CB net wrap, under shed, well fert, \$75 Hugh Knight Orangeburg 803-539-4674	'26 FESCUE lrg rnd bales, \$45 Ralph Grant Saluda 864-445-2439
'25 HQ CB shed kept, \$50; CQ, 4 rolls for \$100 Bobby Zimmerman Lexington 803-317-8681	'26 HQ SQ CB shed kept, \$9, del avail for addl fee Nathan Oswald Lexington 803-317-3090	'26 OAT STRAW 4000 bales, \$7 Victor Smith Berkeley 843-688-5353	4×5 FESCUE NR, shed kept, \$75 Otis Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222	DEER COB CORN in totes, weighing 600 lbs, \$100 ea Joseph Henson York 803-448-5287	COW AND GOAT HAY 4×5 rnd, \$50 Pam Mack Orangeburg 803-518-6701
'26 4×5 RND HQ CB fert and sprayed, no chicken liter, NR, clean, \$80/bale Vernon Bonner Sumter 803-481-4225	'26 COASTAL CQ, twine, shed stored, \$40; \$35/'25; twine, shed stored, \$40; w/rain, \$25 Michael F Hallman Lexington 803-657-5526	FESCUE AND RYE GRASS MIX '25, \$30; '26, HQ, 4×5, string wrap, net wrap, barn stored, no weeds, \$50/bale Terry Blakely Greenville 864-483-1920	'26 HQ RND COASTAL net wrap, shed kept, \$80/ bale; field, \$70/bale; CQ and GQ, \$60/bale David Fulmer Orangeburg 803-917-0467	4×5 OAT/RYEGRASS MIXED net wrap, shed kept, \$55 ea Sam Rikard Lexington 803-892-2630	4×5 HAY/STRAW MULCH net wrap, 150 bales avail, \$20 ea Richard Knight Kershaw 803-427-6440

MISCELLANEOUS

4' TUBE GATE \$45; 7'×3/8" chain, hook on one end, \$25 Russell Goings Union 864-426-2309	WHT OAK TRL FLRNG 8'-21'L, 1", 1½" and 2" thick ×6", 8", 10"W, \$2/bdft; firewood, all hdwd, \$75 p/u load Lecil Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222	BLKSMITH POST VICE \$150; 2 gal Enterprise sausage stuffer, \$300 R Long Newberry 803-924-9039	WORM CASTINGS FERT 100% organic, Certified SC, no fillers, 30 lb bags, \$20/ bag, \$120/10 bags Maryann Little Lexington 803-530-9219	LUMBER 6"×10' Wht Oak, air dried 19 mos, \$2.50/bdft; 12"×8' Red Oak, \$2/bdft; cut to your req thickness Boyd Caldwell Kershaw 803-438-3455	HDWD LUMBER incl Hickory, boards 1"×12"×8'L, \$4/bdft, 300 bdft min/del, will custom cut for lrg dels Ryan Anderson Greenville 864-234-2918
SET OF R14 TIRES and rims for Kubota, new, \$1100 Julian Mears McCormick 864-602-1246	5" ALUM MAIN LINE PIPE 45 pc of 30' sections, few shorter ones, 6 fittings at 45° angle, \$4500 Brenda Dorrell Williamsburg 843-372-8829	HYDRO WATER RAM/PUMP by Fleming, \$200 Douglass Britt McCormick 864-391-3334	GAS IRRIG/TRASH PUMP pipe and fittings, needs tune up, \$225; oil and skid tanks, \$225 ea Randy Orr Anderson 864-201-5666	CHICKEN LITTER 25-ton dump trl, \$700/load, quant discs, spreading avail Don Bowman Abbeville 864-617-7253	55-GAL FG DRUMS metal and plastic open top w/top and rings, \$20+; solid top 55 gal, \$20 ea; more Philip Poole Union 864-427-1589
DET DSL PWR UNIT 4-71 w/Rockford PTO, and Bendix 501 air compressor, \$5000 obo Rick Miller Anderson 864-617-5066	RIDING LAWN MWR Bad Boy Zero Turn w/60" cut, 26 hp, 553.4 hrs, \$3000 obo Gregg Hembree Spartanburg 864-494-2753	NORTH STAR BROADCAST SPRYR 26 gal high-flow spot and 2 nozzles, boom less, nvr used, more, \$350 Larry A Dellinger Oconee 864-723-5473	POLY HDR DIVIDER SNOUTS JD 600 or 900, 2 sets, \$350/set Jeffrey Gilmore Chesterfield 843-517-0315	(2) 4' ROTARY CUTTER BLADES used 1× season (this year), sharpened in Aug and not used since, \$40 James Freshley Newberry 803-260-4979	
PURPLE MARTIN GOURD POLES winches up/down, \$390- 500; gourds, \$4.75 ea Stacy Shealy Lexington 803-727-7535	PEACH BOXES \$10 ea; wash pot, \$100; 4 wagon whls, \$200; more Gary Seay Spartanburg 864-497-0527	TROY-BILT CHIPPER/ SHREDDER little use, Briggs eng, owner's man, \$300 Keefer Humphries Cherokee 864-415-0986	95 LB ANVIL old, \$200 Joe Culbertson Greenwood 864-229-5254		

POULTRY

BANTAMS OE Quail, colored, 4 m/o, \$25/trio John Hutto Barnwell 803-300-2570	KHAKI CAMPBELL DUCKS 12 hens, 3 drakes, \$15 ea; Jumbo brn Coturnix Quail, \$5 ea Leland Davis Clarendon 803-468-6963	GROWN GUINEAS \$20 ea; yng, \$7+; Cochin bantams, \$10+ Philip Poole Union 864-427-1589
RIR CHICKENS H-2/4/26, laying almost every day, \$20 ea, call/txt Chris Smith Union 864-426-3718	DUCKS Mallards, \$5+; Mandarins, \$150/pr; Ringed Teal, \$120/ pr; wht Mandarins, \$275/pr; Blk Swans, \$1200/pr Shane Sease Bamberg 803-824-9124	SEX-LINK PULLETS Blk Copper Marans and jumbo Coturnix quail chicks, \$2-5 ea Brian Motley Kershaw 803-315-7598
MUSCOVY DUCKLINGS blk/wht, 3-4 w/o, bring cage/crate for transport, \$7.50 ea Barbara Fields Orangeburg 803-378-3600	OLDER HENS \$5 ea Barbara Lyles Lexington 803-360-0114	500 LAYING HENS 18 m/o Hy-Line Browns, \$5-8 ea, depending on qty Nathan Boggs Orangeburg 803-974-9023

WHT KING PIGEONS \$10/pr Benson Ray Georgetown 843-933-5367
BOBWHITE QUAIL CHICKS \$3.50+; Peachicks, \$75+ Ernie Redmond Orangeburg 803-535-8038
PEACOCKS \$50-95 ea; turkeys, \$35 ea; pheasants, \$75/pr; Jungle fowl, big Araucana, more, \$10 ea Joe Culbertson Greenwood 864-229-5254

TURKEYS grown heritage breed, \$25 ea Dan Geddings Sumter 803-938-2793
CHICKENS \$15 ea; pigeons, \$5 ea Walter Creech Bamberg 803-383-1309
OE BANTAMS Golden Seabright, \$20 ea Albert Woodberry Georgetown 843-558-2009

RABBITS

LA COTTONTAILS crossed on MS Cane Cutters, \$14 ea Danny Cook Newberry 803-924-6953
REX all colors, yng, \$15-20 ea; grown bucks, \$20 ea; does, \$25 ea Philip Poole Union 864-427-1589

PLANTS & FLOWERS

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

HYDRANGEAS

Crepe Myrtle's, \$20; 1 gal Azaleas \$6; Loropetalum, Tea Olives, Boxwoods, 3/\$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

SAWTOOTH OAK TREES

started in 1 gal plastic containers, 12-24"T, \$8 ea
Larry Baxley
Georgetown
843-325-0900

THUJA GREEN GIANTS ARBORVITAE TREES

3-5' T, \$15 ea, del avail
Lindsey Barksdale
Laurens
864-420-3956

BALD CYPRESS TREES

36"T+/- in 3 gal container, \$22
Bryan Black
Lexington
803-331-9276

JAPANESE MAPLE TREES

\$35-65
Elaine Sutcliffe
Lexington
803-351-4524

WANT-FARM EQUIPMENT

8-10' FIELD CULT

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

3PH ROTOTILLER

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

3PH SICKLE MWR

for power take off
William D Kirkland Jr
Kershaw
803-518-4268

MH MOD 44

w/4 cyl gas for parts or whole
Charles Musselwhite
Pickens
864-640-1311

WANT-LIVESTOCK

EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.

GUINEAS

chickens, turkeys, peacocks, ducks, geese, pheasants, more
Joe Culbertson
Greenwood
864-229-5254

WANT-MISCELLANEOUS

USED GRNHS FRAMES

equip, pots, trays, etc, will disassemble and haul off
Marion Bledsoe
Edgefield
803-334-8071

PULPWOOD SAW TIMBER

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

BACKHOE ATTACH

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

BLKSMITH ANVILS

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

OLD ORIG SPLIT RAIL FENCING

can be heart of pine or locust; also looking for old house lumber
Ronald Rader
Newberry
803-261-0860

SECRETARY ROLLINS UNVEILS PLAN TO MODERNIZE AGRICULTURAL DATA COLLECTION

BY USDA

At the Farm Progress Show in Boone, Iowa, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Data Modernization Plan to put Farmers First, reduce unnecessary burdens on producers, and improve the timeliness, accuracy, and usefulness of the agricultural data that informs decisions across American agriculture.

Since USDA was established in 1862, collecting and sharing reliable agricultural information has been central to its mission. Today, USDA data informs crop and livestock estimates, risk-management tools, disaster assistance, and critical business decisions made by farmers, ranchers, agribusinesses, researchers, and policymakers.

“America’s farmers and ranchers are the backbone of our food and agricultural system, and USDA should respect their time while delivering the reliable information they need,” said Secretary Rollins. “This plan puts Farmers First by cutting burdensome red tape, using modern tools, and ensuring producers have a stronger voice in how USDA collects and reports agricultural data. Under President Trump’s leadership, USDA is bringing agricultural data collection into the 21st century while protecting the privacy and trust of the people we serve.”

In February 2026, Secretary Rollins issued a Request for Information seeking feedback on the opportunities, challenges, and emerging areas in USDA data. Additionally, Secretary Rollins and USDA leadership held a series of data modernization listening sessions at state fairs and farm shows across the country throughout August to hear directly from hundreds of producers and agricultural stakeholders. That feedback helped shape the USDA Data Modernization Plan and its four pillars:

- **Modernize the Data Reporting Experience:** USDA will expand use of administrative data, improve mobile access to surveys, explore opportunities to use prefilled information where appropriate, and strengthen coordination across the Department. These changes will reduce duplicative requests and limit the amount of time producers spend reporting information.
- **Enhance Acreage and Yield Estimation:** USDA will conduct a pilot to evaluate the use of improved satellite imagery, geospatial tools, crop models, and other emerging technologies

combined with essential producer-reported information to enhance acreage and yield estimations. USDA will also assess the use of optional field inputs to enhance and ground truth yield estimates and continue advancing yield research through collaboration with agricultural partners and land-grant universities.

- **Integrate Data and Technology Platforms:** USDA will modernize its technology infrastructure, expand secure data-sharing capabilities, and evaluate the responsible use of tools such as artificial intelligence and machine learning. Better integrated systems will improve efficiency, reduce duplication, and allow USDA to produce more timely and useful information.
- **Expand Trust and Transparency with Producers:** USDA will protect producer privacy, clearly explain why information is requested and how it is used, and create additional opportunities for producers to provide feedback. USDA will also improve communication surrounding reports, methodologies, response rates, and data limitations.

“While American agriculture and USDA look vastly different than they did in 1862, the need for timely, accurate, and useful agricultural statistics remains constant,” said Kip Tom, Special Advisor for Data Modernization. “This plan brings USDA agencies together, breaks down outdated information silos, and applies modern technology to provide producers and rural communities with better service. By improving how information is collected and shared, we can respond more quickly to challenges facing American agriculture.”

The USDA Data Modernization Plan builds on technological advancements already underway across USDA, including satellite-based crop monitoring, geospatial analysis, cloud-based platforms, improved online reporting tools, and more coordinated use of existing administrative data. The Department will also continue working with partners to evaluate new methods and strengthen the scientific foundation of its agricultural statistics.

“USDA’s agricultural statistics are only as strong as the trust and voluntary participation of America’s producers,” said Dr. Scott Hutchins, Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics. “By combining producer knowledge with sound science and modern technology, USDA

can reduce the reporting burden while improving the quality of the information farmers and policymakers rely on. This plan will help ensure American agriculture remains productive and resilient for generations to come.”

USDA will begin implementing actions under the plan immediately and will continue engaging farmers, ranchers, and agricultural stakeholders throughout the process. The Department

will evaluate new approaches carefully, protect privacy and confidentiality, and publish clear methodologies and supporting information to maintain the integrity of USDA’s agricultural statistics.

To learn more, please view the full USDA Data Modernization Plan at usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/data-modernization.pdf.

CAROLINA WILDLIFE GARDEN OFFICIALLY OPENS AT THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM

BY HOPE DERRICK

A Carolina Wildlife Garden featuring South Carolina natural and cultural history is now officially opened at the South Carolina State Museum. A ribbon cutting was held on August 29th to publicly launch the new educational garden envisioned and brought to life by Planting South Carolina’s Roots, an initiative of a Riley Institute Diversity Leaders Initiative (DLI) Spring 2026 Class cohort in partnership with the State Museum and the South Carolina Wildlife Federation.

“This garden grew out of our desire to create a permanent native habitat that would welcome visitors to the State Museum and educate them about plants native to South Carolina that support pollination and wildlife,” said Amy Bartow-Melia, South Carolina State Museum Executive Director, and member of the Riley Institute DLI Planting South Carolina Roots cohort. “We hope the garden inspires visitors to cultivate a greater diversity of native plants in their own gardens.”

To help young gardeners start their own native gardens, the Planting South Carolina’s Roots also provided seeds and planting kits to the 300 participants in the State Museum’s summer camps. With ongoing financial support, school groups visiting the museum will continue to receive seeds and planting kits to encourage curiosity, responsibility and a lasting appreciation of South Carolina’s unique natural heritage.

For inspiration, visitors can see native plants like Yellow Jessamine, Frog Fruit, Phlox, and Butterfly Weed in the Carolina Wildlife Garden just as they enter the South Carolina State Museum parking lot from Gervais Street. The garden was planted in May 2026 with the help of Girl Scout Troop 1630 and the Future Farmers of America Chapter at Lexington-Richland 5 using a design developed

by landscape gardener Dr. Lisa Kershaw and with financial support from Skyla Credit Union and Elrod Pope Law Firm.

“This Carolina Wildlife Garden embodies the spirit of the community coming together to plant living and lasting roots that will continue to grow and flourish for all of us to enjoy and learn from for many years to come,” said Richland County Council Chair Jesica Mackey, who helped cut the ribbon officially opening the garden.

The garden is already actively attracting wildlife. Since the May planting, museum staff have documented 22 species of insects visiting the garden including beetles, butterflies, dragonflies and bees. Last year, the City of Columbia affiliated with Bee City USA to encourage improving local landscapes for pollinators, and this Carolina Wildlife Garden is doing just that.

The South Carolina Wildlife Federation also recognized the project during the ribbon cutting ceremony, designating the garden as a Certified Wildlife Habitat.

“We are excited that the State Museum is now home to a wildlife garden that is already a habitat for a variety of creatures,” said Sara Green, Executive Director of the South Carolina Wildlife Federation. “The location of this garden is ideal to help thousands of visitors who come to the museum each year learn more about how they can foster similar wildlife gardens at home.”

The Carolina Wildlife Garden will serve as a living classroom and a statewide resource to provide students, educators, families and community organizations with opportunities to engage in the exploration of conservation, biodiversity, and environmental stewardship.

Visit Carolina Wildlife Garden at scmuseum.org/explore/planting-south-carolina-roots to learn more.

ABOUT THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM

Since opening in 1988, the South Carolina State Museum has been committed to collecting, preserving and showcasing the rich culture, art, natural history, technology and innovation of the Palmetto State. Through a comprehensive collection of over 1.1 million objects and four floors of stimulating exhibitions and displays housed within the historic Columbia Mills Building, the State Museum provides educational environments that entertain, inspire and enrich the lives of millions of visitors and students from across South Carolina. For more information about the museum, visit scmuseum.org.

ABOUT THE RILEY INSTITUTE DIVERSITY LEADERS INITIATIVE

The Riley Institute’s award-winning DLI program equips leaders with the tools and perspectives needed to leverage the unique skills and insights of their employees as a way to improve organizational outcomes. Carefully selected, established leaders from all sectors of South Carolina society, nominated by DLI alumni and invited to apply, take part in DLI, which offers a unique, highly interactive curriculum that imparts deep knowledge and skills to effectively manage, lead, and serve a wide array of workers, clients, and constituents. Since 2003, more than 3,000 leaders across the state have graduated from the program and become Riley Fellows, including corporate CEOs, legislators, superintendents, religious and nonprofit heads, and business and community leaders.



SCDA PARTNERS WITH SC WATERMELON ASSOCIATION

BY CHRISTOPHER E. DOVE II

“Watermelon Fuels Athletes,” a trademarked initiative of the South Carolina Watermelon Association, promotes the benefits of enjoying watermelon after physical activity. Naturally hydrating and packed with nutrients, watermelon offers athletes a refreshing way to refuel after exercise.

For more than 15 years, the South Carolina Department of Agriculture has partnered with the South Carolina Watermelon Association to bring that message directly to students and athletes across the state.

Beginning each spring, representatives from SCDA and the Watermelon Association visit schools and

athletic programs throughout South Carolina, cutting and serving fresh watermelon to students and staff. From elementary school field days to some of the Palmetto State’s premier collegiate athletic programs, the partnership gives athletes a firsthand taste of what the association calls “nature’s sports drink.”

Beyond the health benefits of watermelon, the partnership serves to encourage South Carolinians to eat more locally grown produce. By introducing students and athletes to fresh, local watermelon, the association helps build an appreciation for South Carolina agriculture and the farmers who grow the food that fuels our state.



2026 watermelon cutting event with Citadel Athletics.

Photos by Christopher E. Dove II



AN UPDATE ON \$35 MILLION IN FARM ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS

The South Carolina General Assembly has allocated \$35 million in the 2026-27 budget to the South Carolina Department of Agriculture (SCDA) for farm relief. SCDA anticipates receiving the funds no earlier than October, with distribution beginning in November.

Per the General Assembly, the funds are to be distributed as follows:

- \$25 million for row crop assistance
- \$5 million for specialty crop assistance
- \$5 million for cattle producer assistance

Per the General Assembly’s direction, the allocations for row crops and specialty crops will closely follow the federal Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) Program and Assistance for Specialty Crop Farmers (ASCF) payments distributed by the USDA Farm Service Agency earlier in 2026. Producers who received a payment under these programs can expect to be eligible for a state payment. If you did not, you are ineligible. SCDA is working closely with the South Carolina FSA office to transfer and securely manage contact and acreage data, while also working with USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) to create a payment mechanism to include tobacco producers.

For the cattle distribution, SCDA will use FSA’s 2026 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) to determine eligibility and per-head payments. Applications for LFP are open through March 2027, but in order to be eligible for state payments, producers need to apply before October 1, 2026. Only cattle production will be eligible, not other livestock. Producers should contact the FSA office in their county to complete an LFP application.

In order to receive any state funding under this program, producers will be required to sign an affidavit stating that they are actively farming and intend to farm in the next fiscal year.





SCATE

SOUTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL TAX EXEMPTION

CORNER

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

How do I renew my SCATE card?

You can renew online at scatecard.com within 90 days of the expiration date on your current SCATE card.

Renewals are \$24 and are good for 5 years.

A set of three physical cards (one credit card sized and two key fob sized) will be printed and mailed to the mailing address supplied in your SCATE account, through USPS after your payment is processed. SCATE cards printed after summer 2025 no longer include the physical address printed on them.

In the meantime, you may go to scatecard.com’s “Check card status” and enter your SCATE card number, then print that information to use at a retailer until your physical cards arrive.

From the Field

UPDATES FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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