

MARKET BULLETIN

Vol. 100 | Num. 17

September 3, 2026

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WEATHERS HONORED FOR COMMITMENT TO SOUTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURE

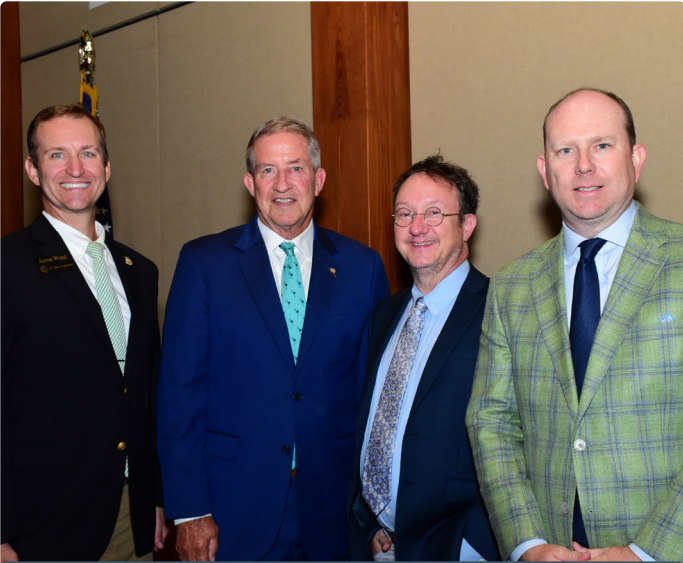
BY SC ADVOCATES FOR AGRICULTURE

COLUMBIA – The South Carolina Advocates for Agriculture recently honored Commissioner Hugh Weathers with a special Lifetime Agriculture Advocate Award in honor of his lifetime service to the state’s agriculture industry.

The 2026 Advocates of the Year Recognition Reception was held August 11 at the Phillips Market Center at the South Carolina State Farmers Market in West Columbia.

“What an Annual Recognition Reception acknowledging the accomplishments of several individuals who have advocated for agriculture,” said Ronnie Summers, president of the SC Advocates for Agriculture. “The highlight of the evening was recognizing Commissioner of Agriculture Hugh Weathers, whose vision led to the creation of the SC Advocates for Agriculture, for advocating for the state’s largest industry his entire life as a both a farmer and the state’s Commissioner of Agriculture.”

Founded in 2005, the nonprofit South Carolina Advocates for Agriculture helps promote the state’s agricultural products and overall agriculture industry. Learn more at scadvocates4ag.org.



Commissioner Weathers with SCDA Deputy Commissioners Aaron Wood, Derek Underwood, and Clint Leach



Ronnie Summers, SC Advocates for Agriculture President, presents the award to Commissioner Weathers



The Hugh Weathers family

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

HUGH E. WEATHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

PREPARE YOUR STORM PLAN

We're just a few months in to hurricane season, and it's been quiet so far. But we're heading into what's often the most serious time of year for storms. It's also a year for El Niño, so what all to expect is beyond me.

This is a great time to make sure your farm or agribusiness is ready. Here are some storm prep tips adapted from our friends at the USDA Farm Service Agency:

Develop an Emergency Plan — Ensure your household and employees know your hurricane plan, including meeting points, emergency contact lists, a communication plan, roles during emergencies, and alternate evacuation routes in case infrastructure is damaged.

Gather Supplies — Have drinking water, canned food, a generator, batteries, a flashlight, and fuel available.

Secure Important Records and Documents — Pre- and post-hurricane documentation is extremely important for insurance compensation and recovery assistance. You'll want to have thorough records of damages and losses sustained on your farm as well as documentation of your cleanup and recovery efforts.

Remove Debris and Secure Large Objects — Clean out culverts, ditches, and other drainage areas. Minimize the presence of equipment, supplies, and debris that may become airborne during high

winds or encountered in floodwaters.

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, crops and livestock.

Seek out Quality Information — During an emergency, pay attention to vetted media sources, such as broadcast television and radio.

I've seen some pretty serious hurricane impacts to agriculture over my years in the state.

Hurricane Hugo happened in 1989, 15 years before I was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture, but its effects were still being felt all those years later. The storm devastated the state's timber industry, significantly damaging more than 4.5 million acres of timberland. It damaged peaches, pecan trees, and cotton and soybean fields across the state.

During my tenure, one of the most catastrophic events was the October 2015 flooding, which caused \$376 million in losses to agriculture. I remember it like it was yesterday.

More recently, in 2024, Hurricane Helene caused unprecedented damage, particularly in parts of the state not usually touched by hurricanes. We are working to get relief money out to cover farm and timber losses.

I pray for a safe and quiet rest of the year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2026 Muscadine Festival & Beekeeping Garage Sale!
September 12 • 8 am – 1 pm
Join us for a lively community festival celebrating local makers, good food, and the unbeatable flavor of fresh muscadines.
HoneyStrong
1753 Ebenezer Road, Smyrna
info@honeystrong.com | 704-993-6833
honeystrong.com

Backyard Chickens Class
September 12 • 10 am – 12 pm
You know you want to have chickens, but where to start? Maybe you have chickens and need a little guidance. Expert Gail Cooley from Patient Wait Farm has all the insight on success with your backyard chickens—and we are sure some funny stories to share too! Join us for a class all about rearing chickens and other types of poultry in your backyard or small farm spaces from an ecologically supportive standpoint.
Farm in the Wildwood
107 Collins Road, Piedmont
farminthewildwood@gmail.com | 864-561-5520
Sign up: farminthewildwood.com/experiences

Graze-ful Gathering: An Evening of Cows & Charcuterie
September 12 • 6 – 7 pm
Slow down and savor an evening at Lucky Pennie Farms. Each ticket includes a personal grazing box handcrafted by The Grazing Goat and one complimentary beverage. Relax at our luxury picnic tables while feeding treats to our friendly Highland cows, taking photos, and soaking in the peaceful beauty of the farm.
Lucky Pennie Farm
2021 FairPlay Road, Townville
pennie@luckypenniefarms.com | 864-332-7223

Pumpkin Fest
September 17 – November 8
Thurs: 5–10 pm | Fri: 2–10 pm | Sat–Sun: 10 am – 10 pm
Sara's Farm Adventure
100 Greenhouse Road, Trenton
sarasfarmadventure.com

Fall Poultry Swap and Community Yard Sale
September 19 • 8 am – 12 pm
Our Fall Poultry Swap is back! And this time we're adding a Community Yard Sale to make it an even bigger morning of buying, selling, swapping, and visiting!
Locklair's Farm
109 State Pond Road, Gaston
803-796-5657
locklairfarmsupply.com



FALL 2026
Plant & Flower Festivals

AutumnFest at the Market	SEPTEMBER 25-26	Greenville State Farmers Market Greenville, SC
Pee Dee Plant, Flower & Food Festival	OCTOBER 2-4	Pee Dee State Farmers Market Florence, SC
Midlands Plant & Flower Festival	OCTOBER 9-11	South Carolina State Farmers Market West Columbia, SC

SCDA State Farmers Markets			
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FARMERS MARKET	GREENVILLE STATE FARMERS MARKET	PEE DEE STATE FARMERS MARKET	VISIT AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV
3483 Charleston Highway West Columbia, SC 29172 803-737-4664	1354 Rutherford Road Greenville, SC 29609 864-244-4023	2513 W. Lucas Street Florence, SC 29501 843-665-5154	Click on the State Farmers Markets button for more information about each location

SC Market Bulletin Subscription & Renewal Form

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9/3/26

Market Bulletin Office

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agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin

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Fruit & Vegetable Inspection 803-737-4588	Produce Safety 803-753-7267
Market News—Fruit & Vegetable 803-737-4671	Retail Food Safety 803-896-0640
Market News—Livestock & Grain 803-737-4491	SCATE Card 803-734-2185
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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 8 • 12:00 PM

Reminder to Advertisers

Ads are due by noon (12 pm) on the Tuesday after the latest published issue.
Any ads received after the deadline will be considered for a subsequent issue.

AQUACULTURE

STERILE GRASS CARP \$12/\$18; Blgill, 65¢; Shlckr & Rdbrst, 75¢; Ch Catfish, 65¢; Irgmth 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 Derek Long Newberry 803-944-3058
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CATTLE

2 BLK BALDY COWS 2½ y/o, both w/hefr calves, \$5000/pr Mitchell Davis Chesterfield 843-680-2090	REG BRANGUS BULL proven breeder, B-4/3/23, \$6000 Justin Clamp Saluda 864-554-3023	REG DEXTER COW blk, B-8"/24, exc genetics and confrm, \$1600 Stephan Vernet Spartanburg 864-363-5800	REG DEXTER BULL 3½ y/o, organic grain fed, \$2400 Duane Helfrick Bamberg 803-387-9209	(2) BLK ANG/HRFRD CROSS COWS to calve Sept/Oct, \$4500 ea James Davis Chesterfield 843-623-2023	CHAR HEFR no papers, B-1/5, \$1800 Boyd Caldwell Kershaw 803-438-3455
REG BLK ANG BULL 10 m/o, low BW, calving ease, good b'line, \$4000 Doug Blake Greenville 864-918-7480	REG BRAUNVIEH BULL B-12/24, \$3500; Lnghn steer, \$2500; can del James A Langston Pickens 864-859-6794	REG BLK ANG FEMALES low input, exc feet, utters, open and bred hefrs, \$5500+ Dixon Shealy Newberry 706-590-0451	REG BLK ANG BULLS top 10, exc feet, low input, docile, BSE, \$7500+ Walter Shealy Newberry 803-924-1000	HRFRD BULL CALF 7 m/o, \$2500 Wayne Gens Abbeville 864-270-0813	

FARM EQUIPMENT

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

OLD 8N TRACTOR not running, 6V sys, \$500 Terry Werts Charleston 843-708-6113	HOWSE 5' BUSH HOG used 5 hrs, shed kept, LN, \$750 Dennis Williams Lexington 803-794-9900	FA SUPER A TRACTOR GRC, 3ph, cutaway disc plow and 6' scraper incl, \$2500 John Lollis Greenville 864-483-0922	MF SQ BALER baled 3000 bales, hyd controls, shed kept, \$30,000 Ken Hunter Chester 803-374-0448	2R TRNSPLNTR 3ph w/2 water barrels, LN, \$6000; NH273 sq baler, \$1000 Charles Clunan Anderson 864-245-3803	JD 5115 M w/ldr, frt hyd, cab heat/air, radio, fully loaded, LN, LT 700 hrs, \$95,000 Ronny Wilson Anderson 864-356-6959
USA HARROWS 20 disc, 3ph, GC, \$1600 Jim Atkinson Pickens 864-506-9001	5×7 HARDEE DUMP TRL all metal, w/add-on ramp grate, \$500 Otto Williamson Williamsburg 843-372-2692	'07 CHEVY SILVERADO 4×4, extended cab, 5.3 eng, new tires, \$5000 Justin Clamp Saluda 864-554-3023	INTL 1466 w/canopy and dual whls, \$16,000 obo Joseph Henson York 803-448-5287	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	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
(2) TRACTORS JD 790, \$10,000; JD 4100, \$8000 Mike Sheppard Newberry 803-924-9977	'42 AC TRACTOR EC, antiq, \$4500 obo Farha Ali Greenwood 864-554-0041	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	20 BLADE DISC \$1000; (2) 1r cults, \$300; 7' boom pole, \$125, call/text Franklin Brown Charleston 843-224-4711	IH 1066 and CAT D7 17A, \$16,000 ea; JD 830D, \$14,000; Cat D4 7U, \$8500 Ronald McGraw Lancaster 980-255-8584	3000 FORD TRACTOR \$6000; 20-disc harrow and 5' bush hog, \$100 ea; more Gary Seay Spartanburg 864-497-0527
'04 FORD F550 cab and chassis, wt 6.0 dsl, auto, \$4500; KMC 2r subsoiler w/cover up discs, on 36"rows, \$1200 John Wren Orangeburg 803-308-0097	MF 231S TRACTOR dsl, 42 hp, 798 hrs, good rubber, canopy, well maint, \$8200 Boyd Caldwell Kershaw 803-438-3455	'07 RHINO TW84 ROTARY CUTTER 7' cut, GC, new blade, \$1500 Stephen Gedosch Greenville 864-982-4490	50A CASE TRACTOR w/canopy, 4 wd, rear hyd, frt end ldr, 3rd function, \$39,500 John Smith Calhoun 803-664-1146	KUBOTA LA1353 FRT END LDR GC, \$2500 obro William Shealy Lexington 803-513-3485	'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
CUB CADET CS 3310 chipper/shredder, used 1x, \$475 Tom Eason Colleton 843-991-3962	INTL 5100 GRAIN DRILL 21 DD OPENERS \$5200; Rhino 2160 boom mwr, in GC, \$9000 Jeffrey Gilmore Chesterfield 843-517-0315	'16 EXISS STOCK TRL GN, 20' deck, \$18,795; Kverneland PS403 sprdr, \$795 Paul Brown Jr Laurens 412-289-1964	FORD 8N restored, \$3100; 1r cult, \$225; 20-disc harrow, \$1100; 6' scrape blade, \$375; more, all 3ph and obo Otis Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222	14'×64" TRL all metal, 2 axles, 2" coupler, text for photos, \$1000 Kenneth Long Lexington 803-603-4007	MILLCREEK 27+ MANURE SPRDR GC, barn kept, poly flr, dolly whl jack, Rhino-coat lining, \$3000 Kristie Lowrey Laurens 864-414-6891
BHB SICKLE BOOM LN, \$7000; HD 84" Land Pride finish mwr, \$4200 Julian Mears McCormick 864-602-1246	FA SIDE MOUNT ATTS plntrs, cults, FA C parts, \$100+ Paul Hammitt Spartanburg 864-921-2294	JD 630 MOCO for hay, \$16,000 Harroll Stockman Newberry 803-924-7878	14' DUAL AXLE TRL w/new tires and lights, expanded metal bed, HD ramps, 2 and 5/16 hitch, \$1200 David Wannamaker Calhoun 803-682-2117	JD NO 8 SICKLE MWR w/hyd lift, GC, \$350 William Nash Greenville 864-862-5684	
'19 KUBOTA M65-111 SHDC cab, 4wd, no ldr, 2000 hrs, \$31,000 Stan Suchecki Laurens 864-207-1753	7 SHANK FIELD CULT w/spring trip shanks, GC, used on LT 30A, \$500 Eddie Beck Darlington 843-307-7588	MF 165D FR, \$6000; 6' bush hog, HD, \$900; 8 whl v-rake, FR, \$2800 Rickie Evans Chester 803-209-2714	'03 SALSCO SHAVINGS MILL 30"×8' w/log deck, 1800 hrs, GC, moveable w/pintle hitch, \$40,000 Dakota Hollman Lexington 803-687-6382	3PT SCOOP PAN \$125; IH 15' hdr auger for 820 head, \$295 Charles Nichols Saluda 864-992-9292	
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	CATTLE TRL HD, dual axle, BP, \$1000; sml manure sprdr, chain driven, \$400; 2 forks for tractor/forklift, \$100 Beth Sanders Newberry 803-924-6420	'20 JD 1025R w/frt end ldr, backhoe, 54D auto connect mwr, \$19,500 Thomas Nettles Orangeburg 803-707-1589		4 WHL HAY FEED WAGON open bottom, 20' L, \$4750 Bennie Smith Edgefield 803-215-2551	

FARM LABOR

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

WANT SOMEONE to mill, 6+×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	DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK land clearing, ditching, ponds, roads, bush hog, bldg pads Fred Morris Florence 843-621-8647	LIGHT TRACTOR WORK incl bush hogging, discing, cut up and removal of downed trees, light landscaping John Tanner Lexington 803-422-4714
FORESTRY MULCHING clearing/dozer/Deere work, pond maint, bldg pads, demo, etc Phillip Hutchins Lexington 803-422-1329	TREE LIMB TRIMMING for roads, fence lines, field edges, up to 26', local cos Damon Archie Chester 803-517-7436	EXCAVATOR tractor work, clearing, grading, irrigation, drainage, brush cutting, driveways, fire break, demo Derek Drafts Saluda 803-429-3291	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	EXCAVATOR WORK digging, stump removal, brush clearing, cleaning around fields and fences Jason Nichols Saluda 864-992-2753	FORESTRY MULCHING land clearing, wildlife mgmt, ditches, grading, pond digging Jay Lowder Clarendon 803-473-0646	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

MARKET BULLETIN

FARM LAND

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

WANT LAND FOR LEASE w/in 50 mi of Lex for deer hunting, 3-4 resp hunters Bob Padowicz Lexington 803-206-5993	WANT LAND TO LEASE for hunting, turkey and/or deer, w/equip for repair and help w/other needs Ray Sealey Darlington 843-409-1717
WANT LAND FOR LEASE for raccoon hunting only Tony Slice Lexington 803-600-6256	WANT 10-100A to lease for vegetable farm, in Chs. or Mt. Pleasant area Frank Habersham Charleston 843-452-6173
861A CLARENDON CO hunting lease on Pocotaligo River, \$10,000/1 yr John Rhodes Beaufort 803-346-9473	30A TIMBER/PASTURED w/rd frontage, 18A and 12A tracts, on Dorn Rd, Troy, selling together, \$250,000 Farha Ali Greenwood 864-554-0041
17+/-A OF CB Ware Place area, land locked for \$45,000/A Stephen Gedosch Greenville 864-982-4490	

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.

CHICKEN EGGS \$3/dz or \$5/2 dz Barbara Lyles Lexington 803-360-0114	JUMBO QUAIL and chicken eggs, \$3-4/dz Brian Motley Kershaw 803-315-7598	FRESH QUAIL EGGS \$3.50/dz Duane Peake Richland 803-240-1359	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	DUCK EGGS \$6/dz; jumbo Quail eggs, \$4/dz Leland Davis Clarendon 803-468-6963
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GOATS / LLAMAS / SHEEP

NANNY GOAT sev y/o, \$25 Terry Werts Charleston 843-708-6113 ADGA ND DOES 1 y/o, \$300 Ron Handley Georgetown 843-896-0829	JACOB LAMBS B-6/26, 4 horned & 2 horned avail; rams, \$200; ewes, \$225, tails not docked, photos avail, text Allan Clark Abbeville 864-314-5226	DAIRY TYPE GOATS (3) does, (2) wethers, healthy, Lamancha, Alpine, \$125 obo, call for appt Beverly Ammons Berkeley 843-761-2962	KATAHDIN SHEEP ewes and rams, B-'26, gentle, hand raised, vac, wormed, \$225+ Tammy Hodge Sumter 803-983-5041	PYGMY GOATS (1) doe, (7) bucks w/1 being 3 m/o, \$400 for all Collin Dula York 704-718-6775	NANNIES AND BILLIES 4 m/o-3 y/o, \$75-150 Eddie Watford Kershaw 828-506-8055
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HAY & GRAIN

SQ FESCUE barn kept, \$7 ea; sq mixed grass, \$5 ea; both NR Jerry Butler Laurens 864-697-6343 4×5 HAY/STRAW MULCH net wrap, 150 bales avail, \$20 ea Richard Knight Kershaw 803-427-6440 SQ TEFF HAY w/small amt of crab grass mixed in, will del w/in 30 mis, \$10/bale Lance Dodd Spartanburg 864-706-0118 '26 HQ SQ CB shed kept, \$9, del avail for addl fee Nathan Oswald Lexington 803-317-3090	4×5 FESCUE NR, shed kept, \$75 Otis Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222 '26 COASTAL limed and fert, shed kept, HQ, \$75/bale; CQ, \$65/bale; sq, \$9/bale, del avail Eddie Phillips Sumter 803-486-0081 '26 4×5 RND CB net wrap, under shed, well fert, \$75 Hugh Knight Orangeburg 803-539-4674 '26 4×5 RND CB fert, 1 st and 2 nd cut, shed kept, HQ \$70/bale, CQ \$60/ bale, volume disc 10+ Ted Zee Lexington 803-269-9152	'25 HQ 4×5 RND CB net wrap, limed, fert, NR, stored outside on indiv plastic pallets, \$45 ea Eddie West Aiken 803-507-8205 4×5 OAT/RYEGRASS MIXED net wrap, shed kept, \$55 ea Sam Rikard Lexington 803-892-2630 CQ SQ COASTAL hvy bales, \$5; 4×4 rnd Coastal, just cut, \$40/bale Kevin Conto Kershaw 803-669-1952 '26 4×5 RND HQ CB fert and sprayed, net wrap, NR, no chicken litter, clean, \$80/bale Vernon Bonner Sumter 803-481-4225	'26 HQ COASTAL net wrap rnd, shed kept, \$80/bale; field, \$70/bale; CQ and GQ, \$60/bale David Fulmer Orangeburg 803-917-0467 '26 OAT STRAW 4000 bales, \$7 Victor Smith Berkeley 843-688-5353 '26 COASTAL CQ, twine, shed stored, \$40; \$35/'25; twine, shed stored, \$40; w/rain, \$25 Michael F Hallman Lexington 803-657-5526 '26 ALFALFA \$165/4×4 rnds, \$16.50/sq Tom Fink Lexington 803-622-4678	'26 4×5 RND HQ CB fert/sprayed, no litter, 1 st and 2 nd cuts, \$80 ea, del/fee Dale Blackmon Lancaster 803-577-9008 '25 HQ CB shed kept, \$50; CQ, 4 rolls for \$100 Bobby Zimmerman Lexington 803-317-8681 '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 DEER COB CORN in totes, weighing 600 lbs, \$100 ea Joseph Henson York 803-448-5287	'26 WHEAT/RYEGRASS net wrap, \$50; '25 mixed grass hay, \$25; grass straw mix, for mulch, \$18; '25 grass, \$25 Charles Nichols Saluda 864-992-9292 '26 CB 4×5 RND outside HQ, \$50; CQ, \$45; HQ, sq, \$8 Anthony Carroll Anderson 864-314-2111 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
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MISCELLANEOUS

PURPLE MARTIN GOURD POLES winches up/down, \$390- 500; gourds, \$4.75 ea Stacy Shealy Lexington 803-727-7535 (2) 240-GAL WATER TANKS w/stands, \$30 ea, both for \$50 William Shealy Lexington 803-513-3485 MF RIDING MWR 2616H 44" cut, new tires and battery, deck rollers, \$850 Marty Littlefield Greenville 864-580-0378 5 HP ELEC MOTOR new, bought for grain auger, nvr used, \$750 Charles Nichols Saluda 864-992-9292	DET DSL PWR UNIT 4-71 w/Rockford PTO, and Bendix 501 air compressor, \$5000 obo Rick Miller Anderson 864-617-5066 BLKSMITH POST VICE \$150; R R spikes, for drag harrows, LN, \$2 ea R Long Newberry 803-924-9039 PEACH BOXES \$10 ea; wash pot, \$100; 4 wagon whls, \$200; more Gary Seay Spartanburg 864-497-0527 CATTLE HEAD CATCHER metal, GC, \$250 Jimmy Wells Anderson 864-437-9608	POLYHDR DIVIDERSNOUTS JD 600 or 900, 2 sets, \$350/set Jeffrey Gilmore Chesterfield 843-517-0315 4'×10' TUBE FARM GATE \$80 Joseph Corley Lexington 803-360-5825 GAS IRRIG/TRASH PUMP pipe and fittings, needs tune up, \$225; oil and skid tanks, \$225 ea Randy Orr Anderson 864-201-5666 4' TUBE GATE \$45; 7'×¾" chain, hook on one end, \$25 Russell Goings Union 864-426-2309	TROY-BILT CHIPPER/ SHREDDER little use, Briggs eng, owner's man, \$300 Keefer Humphries Cherokee 864-415-0986 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	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 WHT OAK TRL FLRNG 8'-21'L, 1", 1½" & 2" thick × 6", 8", 10"W, \$2/bdft; firewood, all hdwd, \$75 p/u load Lecil Hembree Spartanburg 864-316-1222 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 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 HUSQVARNA FT 900 TILLER self-propelled, \$350, call/text Franklin Brown Charleston 843-224-4711
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POULTRY

CHICKS \$5 ea Mike McBride Anderson 864-980-7832 RIR HENS laying, \$20 Mike Sheppard Newberry 803-924-9977 WHT KING PIGEONS \$10/pr Benson Ray Georgetown 843-933-5367 ROOS and older hens, \$5 ea Barbara Lyles Lexington 803-360-0114	GUINEA KEETS all kinds of colors, off heat, ready for secure pen and coop, \$20 ea Mary Jane Vivas Edgefield 803-480-1574 SEX-LINK PULLETS Blk Copper Marans and jumbo Coturnix quail chicks, \$2-5 ea Brian Motley Kershaw 803-315-7598 BOBWHT QUAIL EGGS for hatching, \$10/dz, \$75/100; Bob Wht quail chicks, \$3 ea Dwight Gilliland Saluda 864-941-0958	DUCKS Mallards, \$5+; Mandarins, \$150/pr; Ringed teal, \$120/ pr; wht Mandarins, \$275/pr; Blk Swans, \$1200/pr Shane Sease Bamberg 803-824-9124 GROWN GUINEAS \$20 ea; yng, \$7+; Cochín bantams, \$10+ Philip Poole Union 864-427-1589 BOBWHT QUAIL CHICKS \$3.50+; Peachicks, \$75+; Royal Palm turkey chicks, \$50 Ernie Redmond Orangeburg 803-535-8038	BOBWHT QUAIL EGGS for hatching, \$5/dz, \$40/100, no ship Tom Fink Lexington 803-622-4678 WHT BLUE PIED PEACHICKS \$30-40; wht Pigeons, \$45; Guinea keets, \$20 Mac Baltzegar Lexington 803-414-2008 BUTTON QUAIL (3) M, (2) F, both layers, (1) setting now, (3) chicks, not sexed, 3 w/o, \$4 ea; more Gladys Trower Richland 803-603-4355	CHICKENS \$15 ea; pigeons, \$5 ea Walter Creech Bamberg 803-383-1309 ARTISAN GOLD TURKEY 4 hens, 1 gobbler, 3 m/o, \$250 for all; (20) ISA pullets, 3½ m/o, \$15 ea; more Jimmy Wells Anderson 864-437-9608 500 LAYING HENS 18 m/o Hy-Line Browns, \$5-8 ea, depending on qty Nathan Boggs Orangeburg 803-974-9023	BANTAMS OE Quail colored, 4 m/o, \$25/trio John Hutto Barnwell 803-300-2570 HOGS / PIGS FB BERKSHIRE PIGLETS M/F, males cut, \$150 ea Jason Painter Spartanburg 864-641-9855
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PLANTS & FLOWERS

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

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

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

RABBITS

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

LA COTTONTAILS
crossed on MS Cane
Cutters, \$14 ea
Danny Cook
Newberry
803-924-6953

SEED

ADS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CURRENT SEED LAB TEST.

'26 OATS
2 bu bags, G-96%, D/HS&G-96%, \$16/bag
Addison Livingston
Lexington
803-608-0998

WANT-FARM EQUIPMENT

JD TRACTORS
to buy salvage or rough cond, ten, twenty, thirty, and newer series
John Wren
Orangeburg
803-308-0097

HAY WAGON RUNNING GEAR
for water tank; 73-79 Ford p-up or parts any cond
Paul Hammitt
Spartanburg
864-921-2294

100 HP POWER TRACTOR
in GC w/cab and AC
John Yoder
Aiken
803-221-1566

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

WANT-MISCELLANEOUS

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

OLD ORIG SPLIT RAIL FENCING
can be heart of pine or locust
Ronald Rader
Newberry
803-261-0860

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

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

BLKSMITH ANVILS
any size farm bells, cradle for #2 USA bell
R Long
Newberry
803-924-9039

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MARKET-BULLETIN-
POLICIES

USDA ANNOUNCES \$7.5 MILLION IN GRANT FUNDING TO EXPAND COLD CHAIN CAPACITY AND INCREASE ACCESS TO REAL FOOD

BY USDA

UFP PACKAGING GROWS SOUTH CAROLINA FOOTPRINT WITH NEW CHEROKEE COUNTY OPERATION

\$5.31 MILLION INVESTMENT WILL CREATE 136 NEW JOBS

BY SC DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced \$7.5 million in grant funding available through the Cold Chain Grants for Emergency Food Assistance Program (CCG). The Program will fund projects to support cold chain equipment investments that help food assistance entities temporarily store, effectively package, and distribute fresh, frozen, and minimally processed foods.

“The Trump Administration continues to prioritize providing Real Food for Americans. Over the past year and a half, we have worked hard to incentivize healthier options for Americans and today’s announcement is another step in the right direction,” said U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins. “With this funding opportunity we will see more cold storage and infrastructure to store homegrown proteins for all Americans to enjoy as we continue to Make America Healthy Again.”

“Every American deserves access to real, nutritious food,” said HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. “This funding will give food banks the infrastructure to deliver more meat, eggs, dairy, produce, and other whole foods from American farmers and ranchers to families in need. Under President Trump’s leadership, we are rebuilding a food system that nourishes American families and strengthens American agriculture.”

Funded non-profit organizations will administer a subaward program to support cold storage within the middle of the supply chain. The selected grant recipient(s) will be responsible for managing and overseeing a competitive subaward program, including providing consultation and subject matter expertise to sub-awardees in support of cold storage in consumer-facing food assistance operations.

CCG recipients will issue subawards to fund cold chain equipment purchases, with the amount awarded being equal to the cost of the equipment and documented delivery, installation and necessary ancillary equipment/supplies, up to \$200,000. Sub-awardees will be required to provide a 10% cash cost share contribution.

Projects funded through CCG will result in more Real Foods produced by America’s farmers and ranchers being made available to support healthier families and healthier communities in alignment with the 2025-2030 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. This program is funded through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021.

CCG applications must be submitted electronically through [grants.gov](https://www.usda.gov/grants) by 11:59 p.m. ET on October 1st, 2026.

Any grant application submitted after the due date will not be considered. More information is available in the AMS’ Late Applications, Denials and/or Appeals Procedures Policy.

For more information about grant eligibility, visit the Cold Chain Grants for Emergency Food Assistance program website or contact the CCG team at AMS.CCG@usda.gov.

UFP Packaging, an industrial packaging solutions and services provider, today announced it is growing its South Carolina footprint with a new Cherokee County operation. The company’s \$5.31 million investment will create 136 new jobs.

Headquartered in Grand Rapids, Michigan, UFP Packaging designs and manufactures a variety of packaging solutions for businesses, including wood pallets and crates, corrugated boxes, structural steel packaging, and horticulture racks. A subsidiary of UFP Industries, the company has over 100 locations globally, including two existing facilities in Orangeburg County.

The company is establishing a new manufacturing plant, located at 50 Peachview Blvd. in Gaffney. The facility will manufacture wood packaging products and strengthen UFP Packaging’s ability to serve industrial customers, especially those with highly technical needs, across the Southeast and beyond.

Operations are expected to be online in the second quarter of 2027. Individuals interested in joining the UFP Packaging team should visit the company’s careers page.

The Coordinating Council for Economic Development approved job development credits related to the project.

“This investment gives our Structural Packaging business added capacity, expanded geographic reach and enhanced ability to deliver highly customized solutions that help customers solve difficult packaging and logistics challenges. It also gives us the opportunity to build a team the UFP way — by developing people, promoting from within and creating careers that last. South Carolina’s strong manufacturing base, skilled workforce and values-driven business environment make it the right fit for our company and our culture.”
—UFP Industries President and CEO Will Schwartz

“Congratulations to UFP Packaging on this investment in Cherokee County. As our state continues to lead the country in manufacturing, we are proud to welcome 136 new, high-quality jobs to one of our rural counties.”
—Gov. Henry McMaster

“Packaging solutions and horticulture equipment are essential parts of the agribusiness industry, so having UFP Packaging expand its South Carolina presence is great news for our farmers. I thank the company for their commitment to our state.” —Commissioner of Agriculture Hugh Weathers

TRAINING FOR THE UNTHINKABLE: GRAIN BIN SAFETY AND RESCUE IN SOUTH CAROLINA

SC CORN & SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION RAISES AWARENESS AND PROMOTES TRAINING FOR DANGEROUS GRAIN BIN ENTRAPMENT SCENARIOS

BY BETHANY LEE, SOUTH CAROLINA CORN AND SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION

Calvin Linke had just left his house when he got the emergency call: a man had become stuck in a grain bin full of soybeans and needed immediate rescue.

Linke, the Deputy Chief and Fire Marshal in Williamsburg County, drove to the scene immediately. When he arrived, he climbed up the ladder of the grain bin — a massive structure of corrugated steel used to store dry crops like corn and soybeans. Inside, a man was engulfed up to his armpits in dried soybean.

Linke knew that timing was crucial. If they did nothing, the pressure of the grain could force all the air out of his lungs, suffocating him within minutes.

“This man was within the grasp of death,” Linke said.

GRAIN BIN ENTRAPMENT IN SOUTH CAROLINA

This life-threatening emergency is known as grain bin entrapment, and it occurs when a person enters a grain storage structure, either to unclog the auger that moves the stored crop or to clear up grain that has molded or “crusted.” If the grain moves with the person inside, such as if a tall wall of soybean suddenly collapses or a section that seems stable caves underneath their feet, the farmer inside can be sucked into the grain within seconds, making it impossible to self-extricate and very difficult to be rescued without the proper equipment.

“It’s kind of like if you ever got buried in the sand as a kid. It packs in around you.” said Shelley Lovern, Agricultural Safety/AgrAbility Extension Associate at Clemson University.

Grain entrapments are rare but deadly. According to Lovern, South Carolina generally sees one or two cases per year, similar rates to states in the cornbelt of the US, “which is kind of alarming, considering that we have a much smaller number of grain farmers than the Midwest,” she said.

Lovern said that many people have misconceptions about what it takes to get out of these situations. In most cases, 400–600 pounds of force are required to pull a victim from the quicksand-like grain if they are entrapped to their knees.

“The general public, they think that if you get stuck in a grain bin, you just call 911, they show up, they come pull you out of the grain, and you’re out of the grain in 20 minutes,” Lovern said. “But most rescues take between three and six hours.”

LACK OF RESOURCES LEAVES RURAL COUNTIES UNPREPARED FOR ACCIDENTS

The other issue, Lovern said, is access to the

training and equipment. Grain bin rescue equipment is scarce and mostly concentrated along the I-95 corridor, often miles away from the rural counties that need it most. Fire stations that can’t afford to purchase the equipment have had to rely on donations from farmers or local organizations to obtain it, if they’re able to at all.

In 2021, there were only two grain rescue devices in all of South Carolina, both of them near Clemson University. That year, a farmer became entrapped in a grain bin in Orangeburg. First responders had to use a Life Flight to helicopter the rescue device from Townville, about 175 miles away.



In Linke’s case, which occurred on April 12, 2024, there were no rescue devices in the county. Linke and Captain Brian Gamble, alongside a team of first responders, were forced to stabilize the victim with plywood, straps, poles, and a backboard from EMS to create a makeshift wall to prevent the soybeans from avalanching further on top of him, while paramedics connected the man to supplemental oxygen and an IV to keep him alive while they waited for rescue equipment from the next county over.

“We would have had him out several hours prior if we had that type of equipment,” Linke said. “And in some cases, several hours can be the difference between life and death.”

SAFETY TRAININGS PREPARE FIRST RESPONDERS FOR ENTRAPMENT SCENARIOS

The Ag Safety program at Clemson started in 2019, initially to train children and teens about agricultural safety in rural areas of South Carolina. In 2023, the program evolved to include grain bin safety trainings as well. Funding from the South Carolina Corn Board has allowed the program to train more than 50 fire and rescue departments since 2023 using a hands-on grain entrapment simulator.

Reed Tisdale, Lieutenant for Personnel and Training at South Lynch Fire Department, was one of the first responders who participated in the Clemson grain entrapment training program. In the training, Tisdale said, they learned about ways to prevent entrapments from happening as well as how to respond to them.

Tisdale watched as a colleague was placed in a harness and dropped into a bin of plastic beads simulating grain. From there, they went over the process of placing rescue equipment around the victim to begin the process of extricating him.

“The time and the placement of how to actually set up this equipment, very quickly, in a timely fashion, is key,” Tisdale said. His department, like many in rural counties, is mostly run by volunteers, and Tisdale said they are always grateful for opportunities for more specialized training.

AWARENESS EFFORTS REVEAL THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Lovern and her team have already seen the results of their education programs. In November 2024, the Dillon County fire department participated in the grain bin simulator training and received a donation of rescue equipment from a local farmer. Two months later, a farmer in Dillon became entrapped. The department was able to respond immediately, rescuing the victim from a scenario that could otherwise have been fatal.

Despite increased awareness and training about entrapments, there are still significant resource gaps throughout the state, especially in the areas between the Midlands and the Lowcountry.

If anything, the increased awareness has only made it more evident where the gaps are. For example, the Ag Safety program received funding to purchase rescue equipment for departments in rural areas, but the number of applications they have received is almost 24 times as many as they are able to provide.

This year, Clemson Extension and the South Carolina Corn Board hope to convince state legislators to provide funding for additional equipment. Firefighters like Reed Tisdale are hopeful that state funding can support both the education and resources for departments in rural areas.

“There’s not a price on a training or tool that will help us do better to save a life,” Tisdale said.

Bethany Lee is a freelance writer, photographer, and communicator working in food systems and agricultural research. She manages communications for the South Carolina Corn and Soybean Boards, both of which were created to improve the profitability, productivity, and sustainability of South Carolina corn and soybean producers by investing checkoff dollars in research, education, and promotion. Contact communications@sccornandsoy.org to learn more.

CLEMSON FIELD DAY TO HIGHLIGHT LATEST PEANUT, COTTON, VEGETABLE, AND FRUIT RESEARCH

2026 PEANUT, COTTON, VEGETABLE, AND FRUIT FIELD DAY SLATED FOR SEPT. 10

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Farmers, agricultural professionals and others interested in the latest crop research will have an opportunity to see ongoing work and talk to the scientists behind it during the 2026 Peanut, Cotton, Vegetable and Fruit Field Day at the Clemson University Edisto Research and Education Center in Blackville, South Carolina.

The field day will be held Sept. 10. Registration is from 8 to 9 a.m., followed by concurrent peanut/cotton and vegetable/fruit field tours from 9 a.m. to noon. Pesticide and Certified Crop Adviser credits have been applied for.

PEANUT AND COTTON FIELD TOUR

The peanut and cotton tour will feature research and updates on crop varieties, disease and insect management, fertility, precision agriculture, weed control and breeding.

- Topics include:
- Peanut varieties and early runner maturity – Dan Anco, peanut specialist
 - Peanut pod and seed features affected by soil texture; late leaf spot fungicides – Shimran Dahal, Clemson master’s student and Anco
 - Precision agriculture advancements in peanut – Aaron Turner and Kendall Kirk, precision agriculture engineers
 - Weed management tests in peanut and cotton – Michael Marshall, weed specialist
 - Cotton nitrogen fertility updates – Bhupinder Farmaha, soil fertility specialist

- Cotton disease/Nematode management – Maxwell Sturdivant, postdoctoral row crop pathologist
- Improving peanut value by simultaneous improvement in oil and protein – Tursynbek Kaiyrbekov, graduate research assistant, and Sruthi Narayanan, associate professor of crop ecophysiology
- Cotton insect control – Jeremy Greene, entomologist
- Toward aflatoxin-free, reduced-allergen peanuts through breeding and management – Sachin Rustgi, molecular breeder

VEGETABLE AND FRUIT FIELD TOUR

A separate vegetable and fruit tour will showcase research involving sweet potatoes, collard greens, leafy greens and peaches.

- Topics include:
- Advances in the sweet potato breeding program at the USDA-ARS U.S. Vegetable Laboratory – Phillip Wadl, research geneticist at the USDA-ARS U.S. Vegetable Laboratory in Charleston, South Carolina
 - Anaerobic soil disinfestation and nutrient management in organic collard greens – Vasanthkumar SS, graduate research assistant, and Bhupinder Jatana, horticulturist
 - Sunn-hemp cultivars and their biomass management for weed management and soil health in rotation with collard greens – Jatana

- Iron biofortification of collard greens by knowledge-based fertilizer-pesticide tank mixing – Arshdeep Kaur, graduate research assistant, and Jatana
- Basics of burndown herbicides in leafy greens demonstration- Matthew Cutulle, vegetable weed scientist
- Storage temperature and quality of South Carolina leafy greens- Karin Albornoz, postharvest physiologist
- Fall biopesticide applications to reduce overwintering bacterial spot pathogen load and spring cankers in peach trees – Junaed Ahmed, graduate research assistant, and Hehe Wang, bacteriologist
- Reducing copper use and phytotoxicity in peach orchards: integrating quaternary ammonium and biopesticides for bacterial spot management- Ahmed and Wang

EVENT DETAILS

- Date: Sept. 10
- Location: Clemson Edisto REC, 64 Research Road, Blackville, South Carolina 29817
- Registration: 8-9 a.m.
- Tours: 9 a.m. to noon
- Cost: Free
- Lunch: Noon to 1:15 p.m.
- Credits: Pesticide and Certified Crop Adviser credits have been applied for.
- Contact: Dan Anco, danco@clemson.edu, 803-284-3343 or Bhupinder Jatana, bjatana@clemson.edu, 864-633-9087

SC GOVERNOR’S SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF VETERINARY CLINIC

BY SC GOVERNOR’S SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

The South Carolina Governor’s School for Agriculture at John de la Howe celebrated the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of its campus Veterinary Clinic on Thursday, August 27, marking an important milestone in the school’s commitment to preparing the next generation of agricultural leaders through hands-on learning. The event is free and open to the public.

The Veterinary Clinic transforms an existing campus building into a hands-on learning environment where students will develop practical veterinary skills while helping expand access to spay, neuter, and vaccine services for pet owners throughout the region. The clinic reflects the school’s continued investment in experiential learning, preparing students for postsecondary education and careers in agriculture, animal science, and veterinary medicine.

The Veterinary Clinic became a reality through the generosity of organizations and individual donors who invested in the school’s vision for expanding veterinary education. The school is especially grateful to CoBank, the Banfield Foundation, and the many individual donors whose generosity transformed this vision into reality.

The clinic will be led by Dr. Julia Larson, DVM, who now serves the school by leading the Veterinary Clinic and mentoring students through hands-on clinical experiences. Drawing on decades of professional experience, Dr. Larson guides students through real-world veterinary scenarios, helping

them develop practical skills while exploring careers in veterinary medicine and animal science.

“Hands-on learning is central to who we are as the South Carolina Governor’s School for Agriculture,” said Dr. Timothy Keown, Ph.D., President. “The Veterinary Clinic gives students the opportunity to apply what they’re learning in the classroom while exploring careers in veterinary medicine, animal science, and agriculture. This is another important step in preparing the next generation of agricultural leaders.”

Stacie Smith, Executive Director of the John de la Howe School Foundation, said the project demonstrates the lasting impact of philanthropy and thoughtful stewardship.

“This clinic is a testament to what can happen when people believe in our students,” Smith said. “Through the generosity of CoBank, the Banfield Foundation, and many individual donors, an existing campus building has been transformed into a place where students will gain experiences that simply weren’t possible before. Every gift helped turn a vision into reality.”

Dr. Larson said she hopes the clinic inspires students to discover the possibilities within veterinary medicine while building confidence through practical experience.

“Veterinary medicine is learned through experience as much as it is through textbooks,” Larson said.

“My goal is to help students develop confidence by working through real clinical situations, asking questions, and caring for animals with skill and compassion. If even one student discovers a passion for veterinary medicine because of these experiences, we’ll have accomplished something truly meaningful.”

For students interested in veterinary medicine, animal science, and agriculture, the Veterinary Clinic represents far more than a new learning space. It is an opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in a real clinical setting, work alongside an experienced veterinarian, and gain practical experience that will prepare them for college, careers, and a lifetime of serving others.

ACRE SEEDS FOR SUCCESS

GROWING FUTURE AG ENTREPRENEURS



Program open for South Carolina students enrolled in 7th – 12th grade

IMPORTANT DATES

October 17, 2026
Deadline to declare intent to participate

November 19, 2026
Business Plans Due

January 13, 2027
Pitch Day
(In-person in Columbia)

Find applications and business plans at acre-sc.com/seeds-for-success

Questions?
Email aroberson@scda.sc.gov

STUDY TO HELP SOUTH CAROLINA PECAN GROWERS CUT COSTS

JUSTIN BALLEW, CLEMSON EXTENSION FRUIT AND VEGETABLE RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, IS LEADING A STUDY TO IDENTIFY PECAN CULTIVARS THAT COMBINE STRONG YIELDS, DISEASE RESISTANCE AND LONG-TERM VALUE FOR SOUTH CAROLINA GROWERS

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Note: The Clemson University Sandhill Research and Education Center (REC) proudly marks its centennial, celebrating 100 years of advancing agricultural innovation, environmental stewardship and community engagement in South Carolina. Since its founding in 1926, the Sandhill REC has served as a vital hub for research, education and outreach, supporting farmers, landowners and industry partners through science-based solutions and practical expertise.

When South Carolina pecan growers plant a tree, they are making a decades-long investment. Choose the wrong variety and the result can be higher production costs, greater disease pressure and lower returns.

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service is studying which pecan varieties may help growers avoid those problems.

At the Sandhill Research and Education Center near Columbia, Justin Ballew, a Clemson Extension fruit and vegetable research associate, is leading a trial of eight pecan cultivars under reduced-fungicide conditions.

The goal is to identify varieties that can produce strong yields and high-quality nuts in the Midlands while requiring fewer fungicide applications.

“Growers want varieties that perform well without requiring as many costly inputs,” Ballew said. “Our goal is to give them information they can use when they are establishing or renovating orchards.”

RESEARCH THAT ADDRESSES ONE OF GROWERS’ GREATEST CHALLENGES

Managing pecan scab is one of the largest annual expenses for many producers in the southeastern U.S., running between \$1,500 and \$1,800 per acre per year in fungicide, fuel and application expenses. The fungal disease can sharply reduce yield and nut quality and often requires multiple fungicide applications during the growing season.

Not every grower has access to intensive spray programs or specialized equipment, so Ballew designed the trial to reflect real-world production conditions.

“We are evaluating how these varieties perform under low-fungicide conditions,” Ballew said. “Fungicides are expensive. Applying them requires specialized equipment, which can be a barrier for many growers.”

Instead of asking which varieties perform under ideal conditions, the scientists are trying to determine which ones continue to produce high-quality pecans when growers reduce inputs.

The answer could help growers lower production costs while keeping orchards productive.

Comparing established favorites with new disease-resistant varieties

The trial includes eight pecan cultivars: Avalon, Elliot, Excel, Kanza, Lakota, McMillan, Pawnee and Sumner.

By comparing established varieties with newer disease-resistant ones under reduced-input management, the researchers hope to identify cultivars that combine strong yields, disease resistance and long-term value for South Carolina growers.

“We hope to determine whether any of these cultivars are suitable for cultivation in South Carolina,” Ballew said. “That information will help growers make better choices for their orchards.”

RESEARCH BUILT FOR SOUTH CAROLINA

According to the Clemson FarmGate Reports, pecans were grown on 2,795 acres in South Carolina in 2024.

Information from the Clemson Home and Garden Information Center shows pecans will grow in almost any soil in the state, but not in poorly drained soil, hardpan, stiff clays or thin sands with a high water table.

Although pecans are grown across the state, conditions differ from region to region. In the Midlands, soil, weather and disease pressure can all affect tree performance.

“We want to better understand the yield potential and overall suitability of these varieties for the Midlands of South Carolina,” Ballew said.

That is why the scientists established the trial at the Sandhill REC.

These locally generated data should give growers information they cannot get from trials conducted elsewhere and help them choose cultivars based on South Carolina growing conditions rather than research from other states.



Pecan leaf and nut infected with the fungus *Cladosporium caryigenum*, which causes pecan scab.

CONNECTING RESEARCH TO THE ORCHARD

The project is part of Clemson Extension’s broader effort to connect University research with the needs of South Carolina farmers.

Because pecan trees can take years to reach full production, selecting the right variety from the start has long-term economic consequences. Ballew hopes to provide growers with science-based recommendations before they make that investment.

The Sandhill orchard was planted in Feb. 2024. The scientists expect it to take around 7 years from planting until pecans have their first profitable harvest and said it will be another 4-5 years before they have any useful results.

When available, the results will be shared with growers through educational programs, field demonstrations and production recommendations.

The project is funded by a Specialty Crop Block Grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the South Carolina Department of Agriculture.



CORNER

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



South Carolina
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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 find out what agricultural products are exempt from sales tax?

The SCATE Statute is the South Carolina law that defines and regulates the agricultural tax exemption. The SC Department of Revenue provides guidance on interpreting the law.

SCDOR’s 16-page Revenue Ruling is the most up-to-date source of information on what purchases are exempt from sales tax for SCATE cardholders and which are not.

Visit dor.sc.gov/farmers to find the Revenue Ruling and other information.

For all eligibility, exemption, tax, or retailer questions relating to SCATE, please email SCDOR at FarmExemption@dor.sc.gov.

From the Field

UPDATES FROM THE
SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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