

Joint IPM & SC SARE Open Forum

2023 Meeting Minutes January 12, 2023

The 2023 joint Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program & SC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program Open Forum was held in-person at the Lake House at the Sandhill REC in Columbia, SC on Thursday, January 12, 2023 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. A catered lunch from <u>Honey River Catering</u> was served. Approximately 25 people attended.

Agenda

10:00 am - 10:15 am: Welcome and introductions
10:15 am - 10:45 am: IPM Program overview and updates
10:45 am - 11:15 am: SC SARE Program overview and updates
11:15 am - 11:45 am: Updates from SC State University SARE
11:45 am - 12:00 pm: SC Local Food Purchase Assistance Program promo
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm: Lunch
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm: Open discussion & brainstorming for 2023
2:00 pm: Adjourn

Overview of the 2022 IPM Program

Mr. Tim Bryant (IPM Program assistant, Clemson University) presented an update on the 2022 IPM program activities and accomplishments. Please see presentation below: *Integrated Pest Management Research and Extension Efforts in South Carolina*

Resources:

- IPM Twitter feed: <u>https://mobile.twitter.com/ipm_clemson</u>
- MyIPM apps: <u>https://www.clemson.edu/extension/peach/commercial/diseases/myipmsmartpho</u> <u>neappseries.html</u>

Overview of the 2022 SC SARE Program

Dr. Matt Smith (Clemson University) presented a summary of projects funded by the Southern SARE Program and reviewed the 2022 program activities and accomplishments for the SC SARE Program. Please see Southern SARE summary table below and SC SARE presentation below: *SC SARE Open Forum 2023*.

Projects in SC supported by Southern SARE in 2022-2023

https://southern.sare.org/state-profiles/south-carolina/

Project		SARE		
Number	Title	Funds	Project Type	Grant Recipient Organization
	Does reduction of nitrate inputs in pasture land			
5622 244	treated with <i>Chlorella vulgaris</i> result in cost savings	¢10.075	Fauna au / Dauach au	Current and Constant Constant
FS22-341	and healthier soil and grass?	\$10,975	Farmer/Rancher	Sweetgrass Garden Co-op
	Training Educators in the Southern Region Using		Professional	Clemson University, Carolina
SPDP22-15	Aquaponics as a Sustainable Agriculture Solution	\$71,322	Development Program	Farm Stewardship Association
	Development of Sustainable Strategies for Managing		Research and	
	Bacterial Diseases and Improving Tree Health in the	6271 000		Classes University
LS22-366	Peach Production System	\$371,000	Education	Clemson University
	Establishing an Organic Watermelon Industry in	4252.000	Research and	Clemson University, CREC, USDA-
LS22-369	South Carolina	\$369,999	Education	ARS
	Cover crop inter-seeding in organic corn production			Clemson University, University of
	to reduce resource inputs and soil disturbance and		Research and	Georgia, Temple University,
LS22-374	enhance pest control and farm profitability	\$371,000	Education	South Carolina State University
	Wholesale Market Success For Limited Resource			Gullah Farmers Cooperative
EDS22-43	Gullah Farmers	\$49,500	Education Only	Association
		Ş + 3,300		7.5506141011
	PRECISION: leveraging deeP REinforCement learnIng			
GS22-259	algorithm for Sustainable IrrigatiON scheduling	\$16,500	Graduate Student	Clemson University
	Development and Phenotypic Evaluation of a			
GS22-263	Brassica oleracea Leafy Greens Diversity Panel	\$16,500	Graduate Student	Clemson University

A distinction between the Southern SARE Program and the SC SARE Program was emphasized, with the SC SARE Program offering funding only for train-the-trainer activities.

Resources:

• Video links of Southern SARE faculty detailing different grants offered by the Southern SARE Program:

https://www.youtube.com/@peedeeresearchandeducation1710/videos

• Apply for a grant from Southern SARE here: <u>https://southern.sare.org/grants/</u>

Update from SC State University

Dr. Joshua Idassi (SC State University) gave a brief talk regarding collaboration between SC SARE and other institutions. In 2023, SC State University will receive funding from SARE to hire their own Model State Program Assistant. Going forward, there will continue to be two program co-coordinators (Drs. Idassi and Smith) and now there will be two program assistants (Jonathan Windham and TBD).

Local Food Updates

Nikki Seibert Kelley (Wit Meets Grit) gave a presentation updating the audience on SC local food connection activities and accomplishments. This presentation was followed by a presentation from Eric Harmon, Program Coordinator for the Local Food Purchase Assistance Program. Please see both presentations below: *Local Food Updates* and *Local Food Purchase Assistance*.

Resources:

- Statewide event calendar from Growing Local SC: <u>https://www.growinglocalsc.org</u>
- SC Local Food System roadmap: https://www.scfoodpolicy.org/roadmap
- South Carolina Farmer Resource Guide: https://www.localfoodsc.org
- Local Food Purchase Assistance Program: <u>https://agriculture.sc.gov/divisions/external-affairs-economic-development/lfpa/</u>

Open Discussion

After lunch, the floor was yielded for open discussion and feedback from attendees. One proxy mentioned a need for trainings for adverse weather events, pest & disease, and on-farm tours. Discussion turned towards mentioning that numerous resources for SC growers exist, however, the growers are unaware of them. It was noted that many people are unware of the PDP funding from the SC SARE Program and a greater need for SARE outreach was cited. The SC Farmer Resource Rodeo is a solution to this problem, but thoughts were expressed that perhaps there should also exist regional resource rodeos.

Emphasis again was made that grants from the SC SARE program <u>must</u> be used for train-the-trainer type activities (agricultural professionals, mentor farmers, Extension agents, and NGO representatives are considered "trainers"). Growers seeking funding for day-to-day operations and research projects are encouraged to apply for Southern SARE producer grants, on-farm research grants, or research & education grants (<u>https://southern.sare.org/grants/</u>). In response to this, it was mentioned that it would be helpful and encouraging to future applicants if previous applicants, both award winners and those who have been denied, gave feedback about their experience (i.e. what worked for your application, what didn't work, tips, etc.). It was also mentioned that surplus funds exist within the National SARE Program that may be used for event sponsorship heeding certain conditions (see **Southern SARE Conference/Event Sponsorship and Budget Form** <u>https://southern.sare.org/about/conferencesponsorships/</u>).

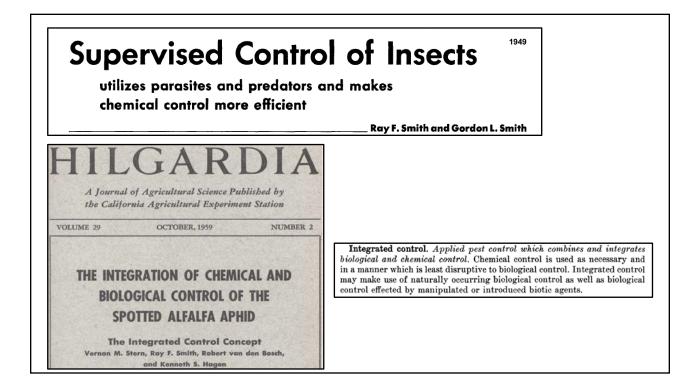
Minutes submitted: January 17, 2023 by Jonathan Windham

Integrated Pest Management

Research and Extension Efforts in South Carolina

Dr. Francis Reay-Jones Tim Bryant





National IPM Roadmap (USDA)

 "Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a sustainable, science-based, decision-making process that combines biological, cultural, physical and chemical tools to identify, manage and reduce risk from pests and pest management tools and strategies in a way that minimizes overall economic, health and environmental risks."

Benefits of adopting IPM practices

- Potential decrease in management costs
- · Reduced pesticide usage
- More sustainable management practices
- Reduces selection pressure on any one given management tactic
- Slows development of pesticide resistance
- · Helps to increase populations of natural enemies
- Increased profits

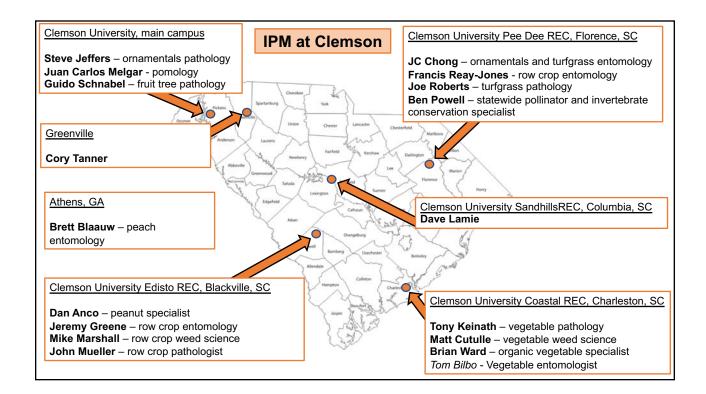
Limitations of IPM

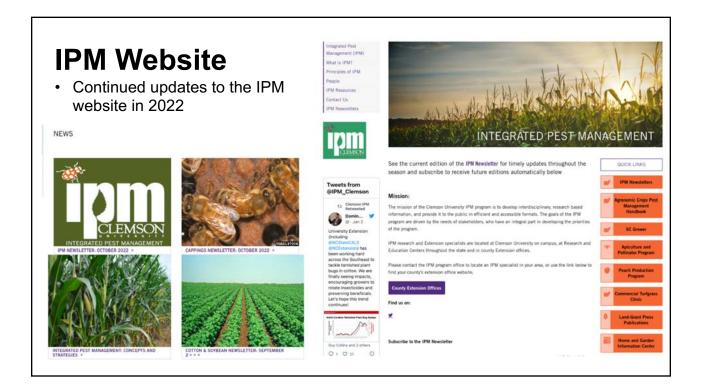
- · Pesticide usage does not always decrease
- Not always cheap
- IPM programs are generally built around a single pest or group of pests
- Can require extensive knowledge of pest biology and range of management tactics
- Time consuming

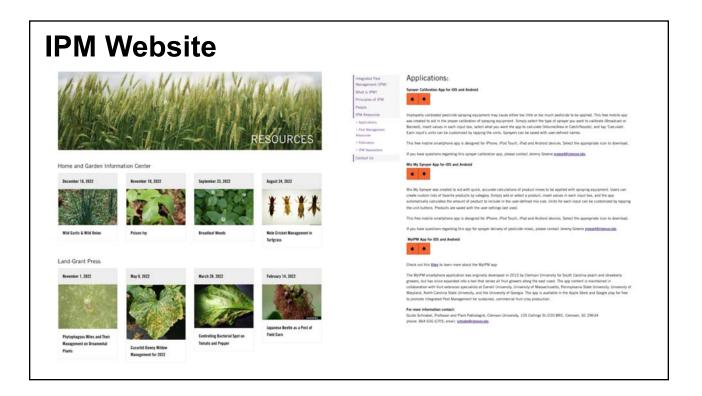
Clemson University IPM Program



- Goal of program is to increase adoption of IPM practices in South Carolina.
- Provides support and coordination of Extension efforts in IPM in row crops, vegetables, fruit trees, ornamentals, and pollinator health.
- IPM Extension Implementation Program "Crop Protection and Pest Management Extension Implementation Program for South Carolina" funded by USDA NIFA Crop Protection and Pest Management Program







- · Land-Grant Press articles published on general IPM topics
- Additional LGP articles • published across all priority areas on specific crops and pests



Integrated Pest Management: Concepts and Strategies May 1, 2020 | Agricultural Education, Agronomic Crops



Insecticide Resistance: **Overview and Management** May 19, 2020 | Agricultural Education, Agronomic Crops, Horticulture



Integrated Pest Management Strategies for Fungus Gnats in Ornamental Plant Propagation

Fungus gnats are major pests in plant propagation facilities, high organic malter ent and moisture in the rooting media litate fungus gnat population growth and



Common Natural Enemies of Brassica Insect Pests

erous species of natural enfound in brassica fields preying on insect pests. This article describes common natural enemies and how they feed or develop on the nexts they affect



Managing Insect Pests in Field Corn using Transgenic Bt Technology Int 3, 2022

Much of the field cor States expresses an insecticidal toxis from Bacilius thuringiensis (Bt) that helps the plant control or suppress insect pests without the



Biological Control Strategies in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Programs May 16, 2021 I Agicatum, Huricatum Consumers are becoming more concerned about pesticide usage on ornamental plants and turfgrass in and around their homes and on the fruits and vegetables they eat. Not only are the negative health...





Thrips (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) are the most consistent and predictable insect pests of Upland cotton, Gossypium hirsutum L., in South Gossypium network of the Carolina and much of the southeastern United States. These...



Granville Wilt of Flue-Cured Tobacco Feb 8, 2021 I Agriculture, Agron Seytean, Tobacco Granville wilt (bacterial wilt) is the most destructive, yield-limiting soil-borne disease of flue-cured tobacco in South Carolina.1 The first confirmed report of this disease in the United States

IPM Newsletter

- 12 newsletters published in 2021 and 2022
- · Covered topics across all priority areas in the IPM program
- Continued growth in ٠ subscribers in 2022

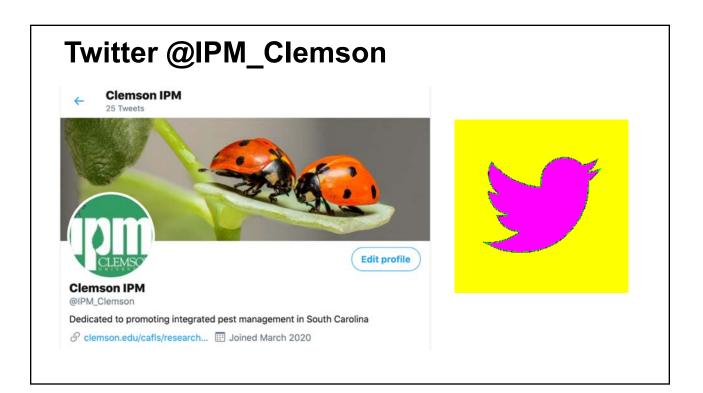


Host Plant Resistance Plays an Important Role in Managing Cotton

Dr. Francis Reay-Jones, Dr. Jerer



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Priority Areas for Extension Implementation IPM grant

IPM Implementation in Specialty Crops.

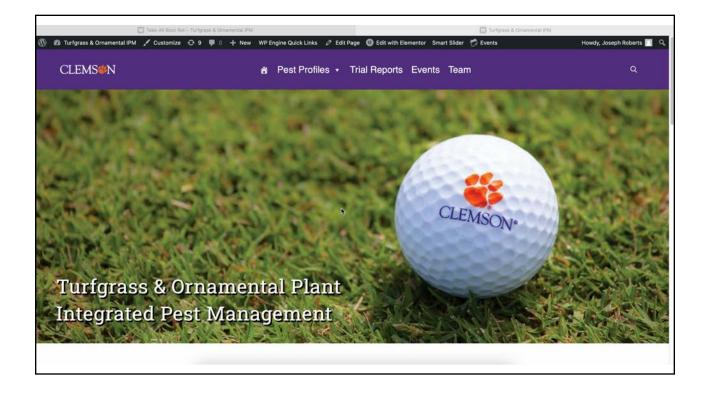
- Fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticultural and nursery crops (including floriculture).
- Addressing environmental or health risks, stakeholder input, and/or the importance of the pest in a local cropping system.

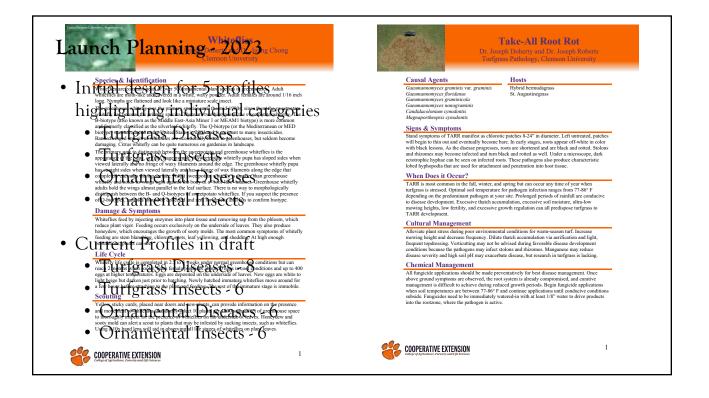
IPM Implementation in Agronomic Crops.

- Agronomic crops include grain and oilseed crops such as wheat, corn, cotton, soybean, rice, cultivated forages, mixed rangeland forages, and other crops traditionally viewed as agronomic.
- Addressing environmental or health risks, stakeholder input, and/or the importance of the pest in a local cropping system.

IPM for Pollinator Health.

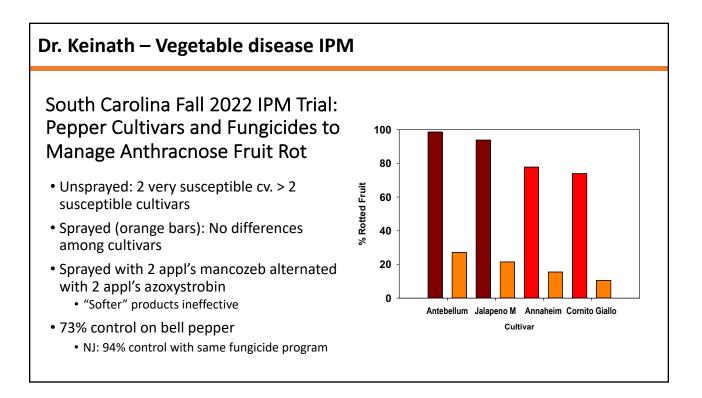
- This priority includes extension projects that support Pollinator Health.
- Addressing outreach and extension to reduce pollinator decline, habitat restoration, pest and disease management, and/or education/curriculum development





State Insects Dr. Jongi Dikory and Dr. Jong Chang Classes University	Powdery Milden Dr. Insel Divery of Dr. Insen Inflate Cleaner University	Bermudagrass Mites Its Jacqui Tolery and Tec Jong Chang Chances Directory	Ambrosis Bretles De longh Dalang and De Jong Chang Creme University	Aphids Dr. Assight Theory and Dr. Assig Change Chemical University	Red Imported Fire Ant To Junp Theory and Its Tune (Tune Classes University			
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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	CONFERENCE EXTERSION	toomennine extension	STREAM DETERSION	SCOOPERATIVE DITIDISION	SCOREANTIVE DATIONARY			
All downloadable pdf profiles include• Basic pest information• Control Options• Recognition symptoms and signs (w/photos)• Cultural/Chemical								

	Root Rot – Turfgrass & Ornamental IPM ental IPM 🖋 Customize 💿 9	P 0 + New WP Engine (Take-All Root Rot - Turfgra Quick Links 🔗 Edit Page		or Smart Slider 🧖	Events	ke-All Root Rot – Turfgrass & Or Howd	y, Joseph Robert
CLEMSON		â Pes	t Profiles 🔹 Trial	Reports Eve	nts Team			Q
	Selected fungicides for	r take-all root rot mar	nagement		Search:	I		
	Active Ingredient(s)		+ Rate + (per 1000 ft ²) ² +	Application Interval (d)	÷ Efficacy ÷ Rating ³ ÷	EDAC	Resistance Risk ÷	
	Azoxystrobin + acibenzolar-S-methyl	Heritage Action	0.4 fl oz	28	+++	11 + P1	Low	
	Azoxystrobin + difenoconazole	Briskway	0.5-1.2 fl oz	14	++++	11 + 3	Low	
	Chlorothalonil + acibenzolar-S-methyl	Daconil Action	3.5 fl oz	14	?	M5 + P1	Low	
	Flutriafol + fluindapyr	Kalida	0.25-0.4 fl oz	14-21	+++	3 + 7	Low	
	Fluxapyroxad + pyraclostrobin	Lexicon Intrinsic	0.34-0.47 oz	Spring/Fall see label	+++	7 + 11	Low	
	Isofetamid + tebuconazole		database let					
	Mefentrifluconazole	available a	re recommen	nded for a	controlli	ng target	t pest	
	Mefentrifluconazole + pyraclostrobin	Navicon Intrinsic	0.85 fl oz	14-28	++++	3 + 11	Low	
	Prothioconazole	Densicor	0.195 fl oz	14-28	+++	3	Low	



Dr. Cuttulle – Weed science IPM



Palmer amaranth (Amaranthus palmeri)

Weed ID Gardens: Recognizing the Problem Weed is the first step

Understanding herbicide environmental fate and symptoms



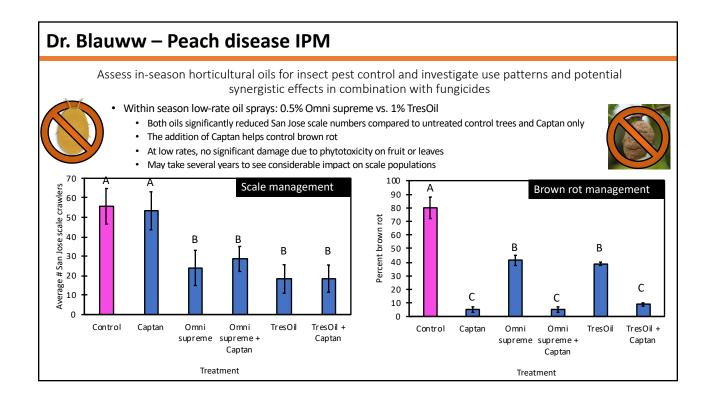


Anaerobic Soil Disinfestation: An organic biological soil sterilization technique to kill weeds and nematodes



Cover Crop and Organic Herbicide Studies

Dr. Schnabel – Peach disease IPM IPM Research and Extension Activities Schnabel lab 7:45 < Back Peach Postharvest evaluation mean brown rot treatment incidence (%) EcoSwing + PureSpray 30.24 a Sulforix 23.25 ab DIAGNOSTICS AND MANAGEMENT OSO + Thyme Guard 21.71 ab Overview/Gallery/More 19.90 ab Yellow Jacket Sulfur OSO 19.33b **Chemical Control** Untreated 19.08 b Active Ingredients EcoSwing 15.73 bc Trade Names OSO + Pure Spray 7.28 cd Grower standard 3.14 d Non-Chemical Control Data collection and analysis Update and Outreach Field testing for efficacy/phytotox



Mark Nettles – SC State Extension Service

IPM as a Sustainable Agriculture Concept for Small Farmers

- Work with small farmer's in communities with limited access to healthy foods to sell directly to their community
- Provide critical growing information to inexperienced growers such as irrigation strategies, fertility practices, varietal selection, and general cultivation skills



Agent utilized some of the Clemson Precision mapping tools to map out problem areas in a farmer field that had poor performing soybean during the 2022 soybean growing season.

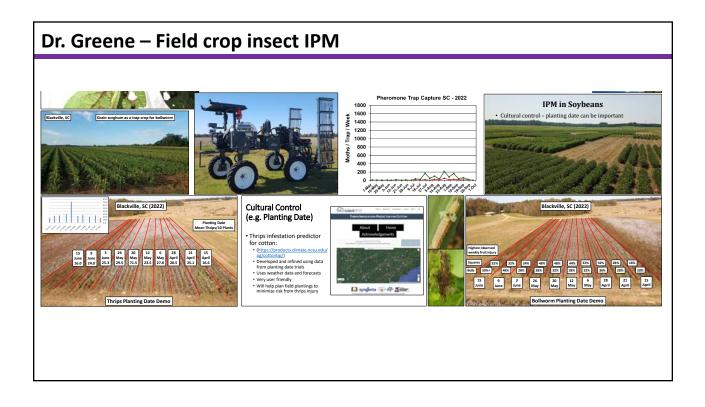


Good production practices at work.



Introduced cropping collards, instead of cutting. This allowed more product from a smaller unit of land.

Farmer participate in the IPM 1890 activities have help to encourage a new generation of people interested in Agriculture.



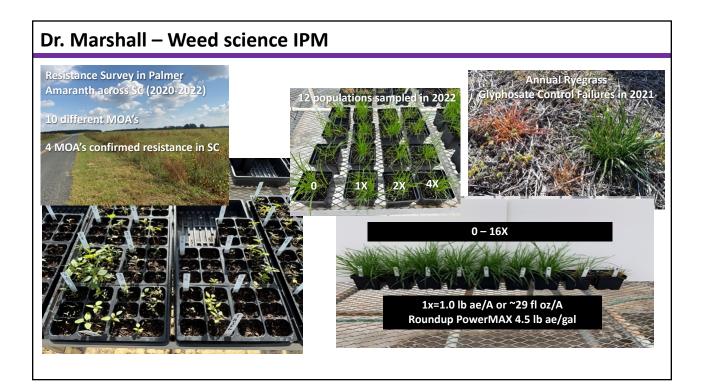
Dr. Mueller – Nematode IPM

Utilizing Resistant Varieties & Nematicides



Variety	Telone II	Early Season Reniform	Harvest Reniform	Yield Lint/acre
Susceptible (bale 1)	+	204	1,342	1,147
Susceptible (bale 2)		1,066	2,055	1,034
Resistant (bale 3)	+	12	142	1,402
Resistant (bale 4)	-	2	572	1,359

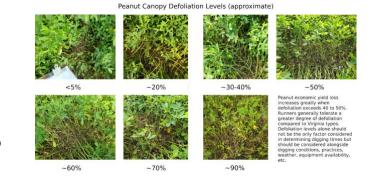
Lint yield = estimated lbs of lint per acre. Reniform nematode counts are per 100 cm³ soil

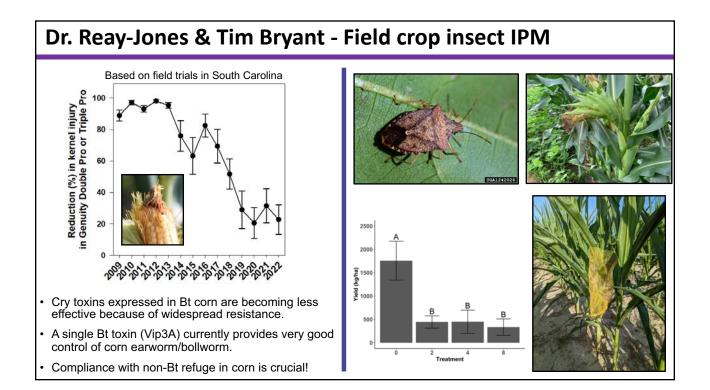


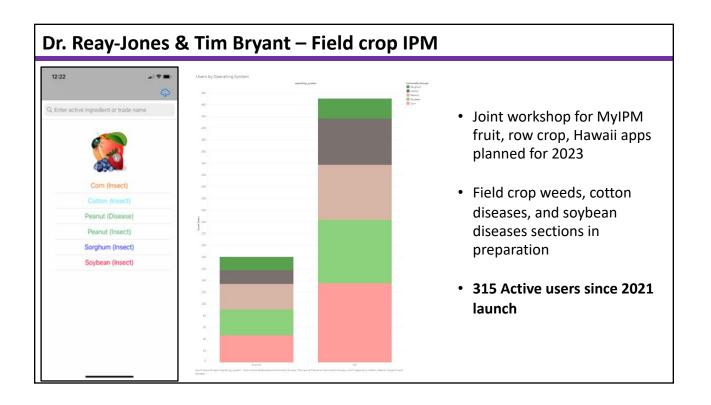
Dr. Anco – Peanut disease IPM

- Objective 4
 - Budget reduction resulted in two fungicide trials being established in Blackville, SC
 - Results affirmed the importance of the use of multiple modes of action to confer increasingly robust late leaf spot management
- Allied activities
 - Late leaf spot fungicide resistance screening was conducted for a third year in SC and has been expanded to include samples submitted from Tifton,GA

The below visual aid was developed and printed in the 2022 SC Peanut Production Guide and made available online. The June 2022 edition of the IPM newsletter included an article, "Late leaf spot management – How much leaf loss is too much?", in which the visual aid was introduced.







Ben Powell - Pollinator Health IPM

Demonstration Apiary and Pollinator Plots

• Established a new demonstration apiary at Pee Dee REC

- To be used for research and extension
- Agents' in-service beekeeping training (June 2021) 9 participants

• Planted new pollinator habitat test plots

- To be used for testing maintenance strategies and extension
- Planting day field day 3 participants







SC SARE Open Forum 2023

SC SARE Co-Coordinators

Program Assistant

Dr. Joshua Idassi, SC State University jidassi@scsu.edu

Dr. Matt Smith, Clemson University mcs5@clemson.edu



Mr. Jonathan Windham jwindha@clemson.edu



Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

About SARE

The Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program is a decentralized competitive grants and education program operating in every state and island protectorate. SARE is divided into four different regions that operate as separate entities and run grant programs for their states.



SARE Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

Vision and Mission

SARE's vision is an enduring American agriculture of the highest quality. This agriculture is profitable, protects the nation's land and water and is a force for a rewarding way of life for farmers and ranchers whose quality products and operations sustain their communities and society.

SARE's *mission* is to advance – to the whole of American agriculture – innovations that improve profitability, stewardship and quality of life by investing in groundbreaking research and education.

Southern SARE Grant Opportunities

- On-Farm Research Grants
 - On-Farm Research Grants provide opportunities for agriculture professionals working directly with farmers and ranchers on sustainable agriculture efforts.

Graduate Student Grants

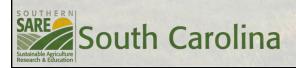
- Graduate Student Grants are for Masters and PhD students enrolled in a graduate program at an accredited institution who want to research sustainable agriculture.
- Research and Education Grants
 - Research and Education Grants encourage a systems approach to sustainable agriculture. They are mainly designed for teams of interdisciplinary researchers.

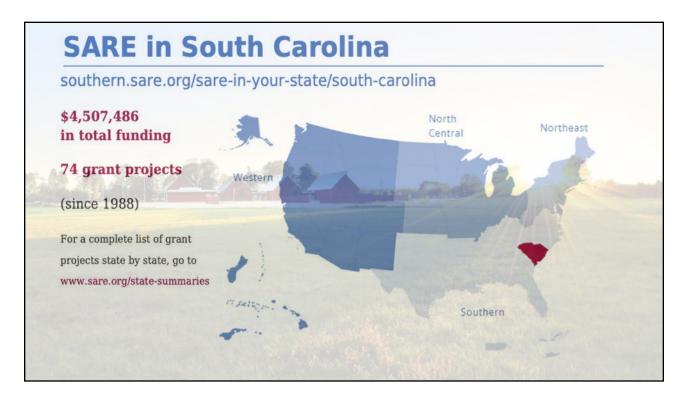
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Projects Supported by SARE in 2022

For additional information: https://southern.sare.org/state-profiles/south-carolina/





Southern SARE

- Applied, preferably on-farm, research
 - Research scientists
 - Grants for graduate students
- Trials of innovative ideas and practices by producers
 - Ideally, combinations of the above
- Training, grants, and resources for ag professionals
- Education and outreach

Research and Education Grants

- Development of Sustainable Strategies for Managing Bacterial Diseases and Improving Tree Health in the Peach Production System. \$371,000 in 2022
- Establishing an Organic Watermelon Industry in South Carolina. \$369,999 in 2022
- Cover crop inter-seeding in organic corn production to reduce resource inputs and soil disturbance and enhance pest control and farm profitability. \$371,000 in 2022

Education Only

• Wholesale Market Success For Limited Resource Gullah Farmers. \$49,500 in 2022

Graduate Student

- PRECISION: leveraging deeP REinforCement learning algorithm for Sustainable IrrigatiON scheduling. \$16,500 in 2022
- Development and Phenotypic Evaluation of a Brassica oleracea Leafy Greens Diversity Panel. \$16,500 in 2022

Farmer/Rancher Grants

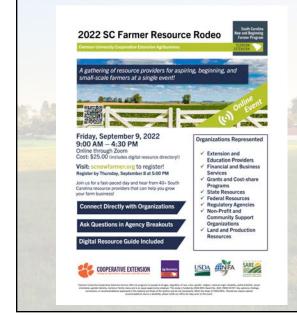
• Does reduction of nitrate inputs in pastureland treated with Chlorella vulgaris result in cost savings and healthier soil and grass? \$10,975.00 in 2022

Professional Development Program Grants

- Training Educators in the Southern Region Using Aquaponics as a Sustainable Agriculture Solution \$71,322.00 in 2022
- Total Awarded to SC in 2022: \$1,276,796



SC Farmer Resource Rodeo



The SC Farmer Resource Rodeo was resurrected in 2022. The Rodeo connects farmers and growers with resources available to them that can facilitate in growing their operations.

SC SARE was a sponsor, but the event was canceled last minute.

\$1,000 sponsorship by SC SARE

Growing Local SC Food Summit



CULTIVATING

The Growing Local SC Food Summit will be the inaugural meeting for organizations, individuals, farmers, and businesses working in the local food system to gather, connect, learn, and collaborate on building a collaborative network. The event is hosted by SCACED and the Rural Resource Coalition and coordinated by Growing Local SC Food System Network and the SC Food Policy Council to create a cross-sector local food system network aspiring to cultivate a thriving, equitable, inclusive, resilient, and just food economy providing access to healthy food for all.

\$1,500 sponsorship by SC SARE in the second second

South CESSA Sustainable Ag. Conference Image: South and the sou

First SC Joint Extension Conference

SOUTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION BOND THROUGH COORDINATION

The first ever joint Extension conference between Clemson University and SC State University.

SC SARE had the opportunity to advertise funding opportunities and available resources to Agents from both universities.

IVATION

2023 **Sneak Peak**

 Southern SARE will now award South Carolina State and Clemson Universities separate grants for Program Assistants and operation (\$30k and \$20k, respectively).

CFSA Livestock Conference

carolina farm 💭 stewardship association ORGANIC COMMODITIES & LIVESTOCK CONFERENCE MARCH 6, 2023 • RALEIGH, NC

SPONSOR & EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES

An Annual Training Event for Commercial-Scale Growers

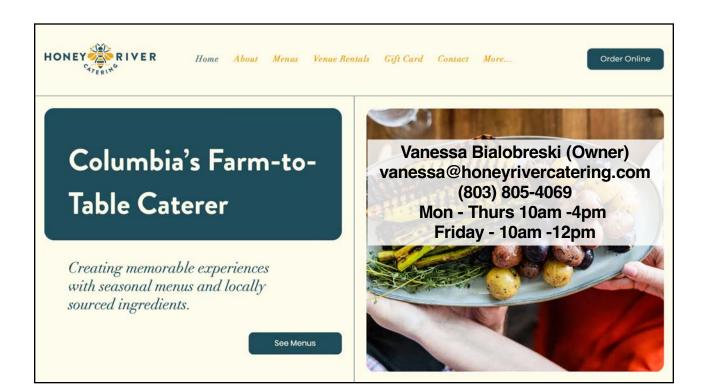
dities and Live





CFSA's Organic Commodities and Livestock Conference brings together leaders in the organic commodities and livestock sector, presenting an opportunity for sponsors and exhibitors to have meaningful interactions with a highly targeted, niche audience of 200 commercialscale growers, educators, extension agents, and agronomists.

\$1,000 sponsorship by SC SARE **Livestock Conference**



Local Food Updates

Opportunities to Connect





















TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM

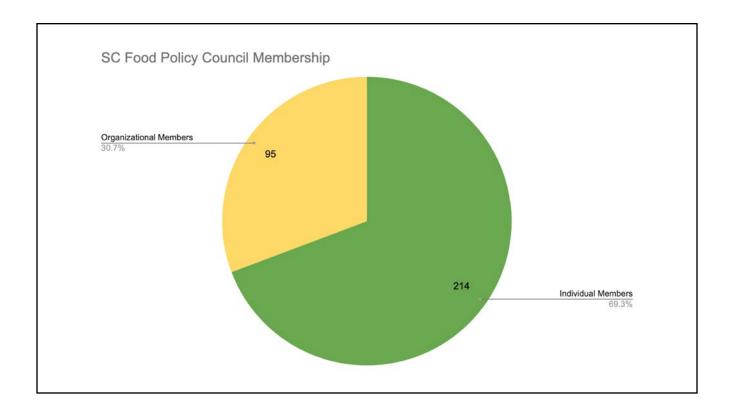




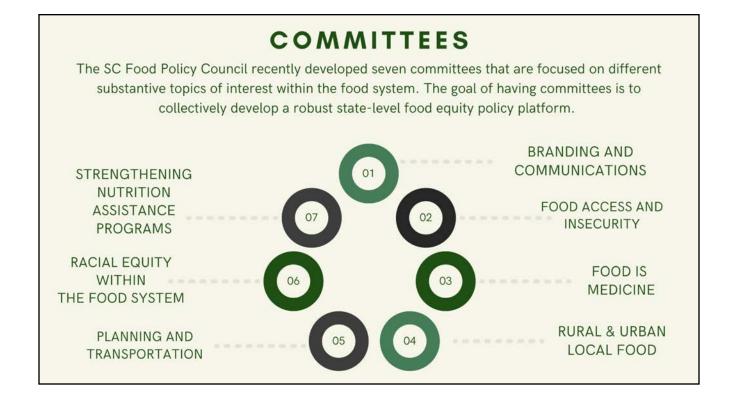




Ashley Page Bookhart



BECOME A MEMBER	ABOUT	COMMITTEES	INITIATIVES	RESOURCES	CONTACT
LOCAL FOOD POL	LICY COUNCI	L DEVELOPMENT	PROGRAM		
The University of South Caro partnership with SC Food Po	licy Council, has prov	rided funding to 7			
existing or newly forming loc state. These Local FPC Devel funding for newly forming loc and existing FPCs to expand	lopment and Expansi cal FPCs to accelerate	on Grants are providing e their development			
policy, systems, and environment healthy food access and ensured access access and ensured access ac	uring food equity.	gies for improving	LA		
Support for New and Existing The UofSC SNAP-Ed team w formation process with partic and inclusion, and council su	ill provide assistance cular focus on recruitr				
Ongoing Training and Techn	ical Assistance				(nr
Local FPCs are also receiving on FPC development best pr Food Assessments and Food	ractices including con	ducting Community		and the second	
focus, forming policy recomm In addition, existing councils adoption of PSE changes and	will receive support i	n facilitating the	 The Brookland Center for 	Council Development Coho r Community Economic Ch Greenwood (in partnership	ange
Statewide Networking As local councils continue to UofSC SNAP-Ed team is also			Impact York County LiveWell Greenville Oconee Food Summit		
to provide statewide network support.			 Oconee Food Summit Pick 42 Foundation Tri-County Health Network 	ork	



Local Food Committees

Rural Resource Coalition Local Food Committee (Existing): Discuss and prioritize the gaps, challenges and opportunities in the SC local food system network relating to Rural Communities and clarify the role that the <u>Rural Resource Coalition</u> of SC plays in bridging the gaps and decreasing the impact of the challenges. These meetings will continue to be held quarterly and shares findings and recommendations with Growing Local SC and the SCFPC.

Urban Local Food Committee (NEW):

Discuss and prioritize the gaps, challenges and opportunities in the SC local food system network relating to Urban Communities. These meetings will be held quarterly and scheduled to alternate with the Urban Local Food Committee and share findings and recommendations with Growing Local SC and the SCFPC.

MEETING DATES

- February 9th RURAL
- March 3rd URBAN
- April 6th RURAL
- June 2nd URBAN
- August 3rd RURAL
- October 4-6th
 URBAN + RURAL
- December RURAL

Priorities from Urban & Rural Local Food Committees

URBAN: the following topics were ranked the highest in this group:

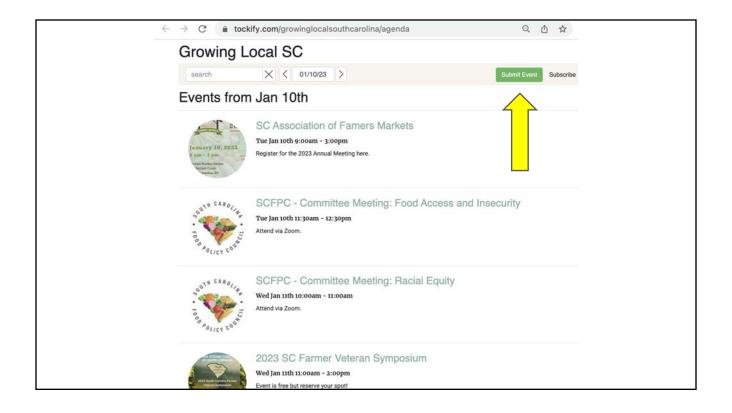
- 1. Consumer Education
- 2. Agricultural Business Support
- 3. Local Food Distribution
- 4. Farmland Access/Preservation
- 5. Direct to Consumer Markets
- 6. Farmer TA/Workshops
- 7. Urban Farming

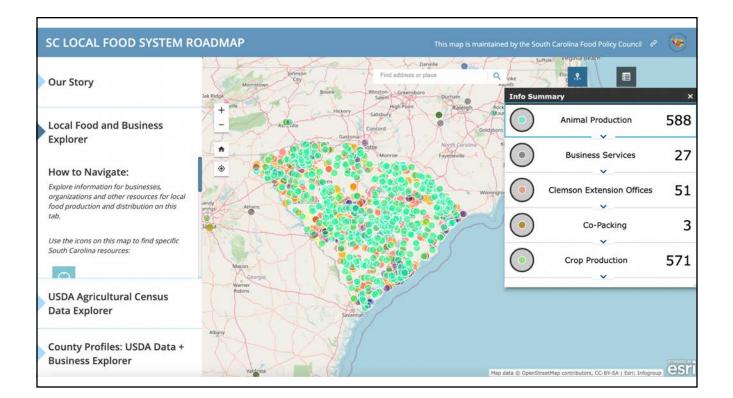
RURAL: the following topics were ranked the highest in this group:

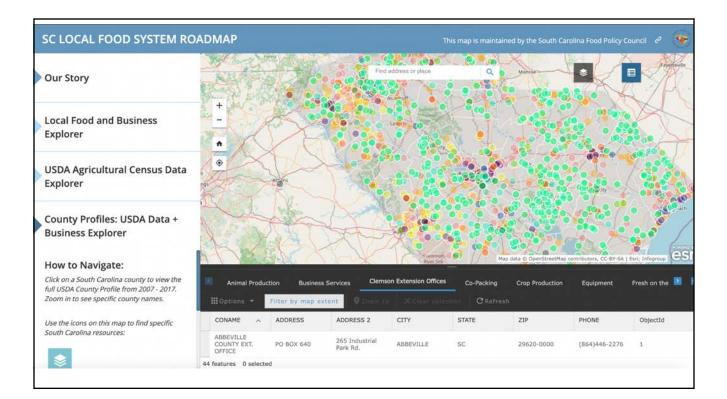
- 1. Consumer Education
- 2. Agricultural Business Support
- 3. Direct to Consumer Markets
- 4. Community Gardening
- 5. Consumer Education
- 6. Local Food Distribution
- 7. Farmer Tech Assistance

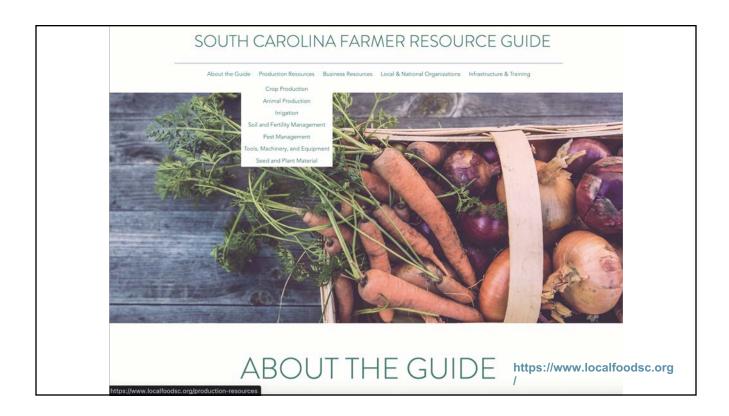


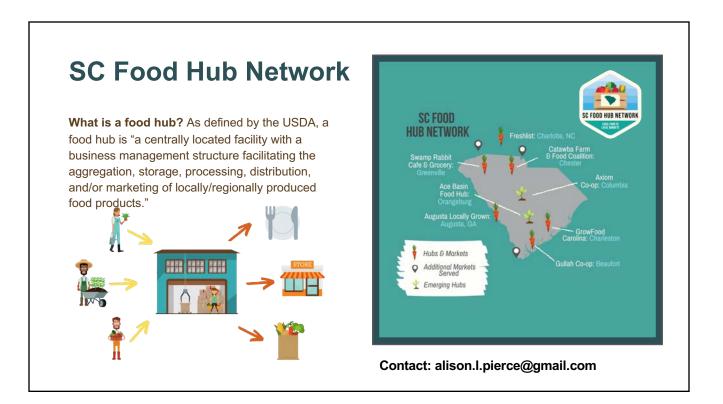






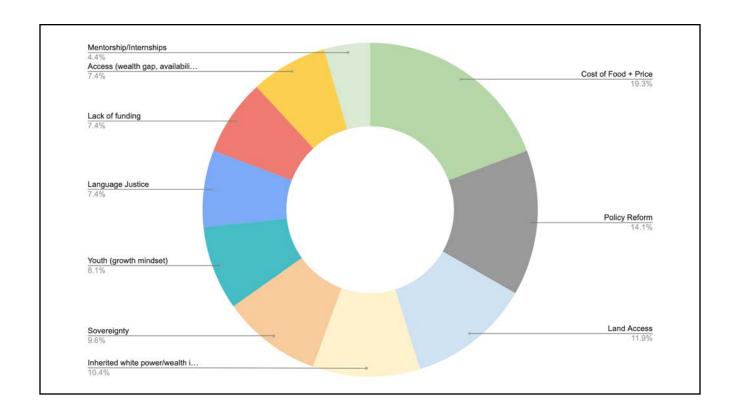












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Local Food Purchase Assistance



"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." — Theodore Roosevelt

What does the program do?



Grant funding for state, tribal and territorial governments to purchase foods produced within the state or within 400 miles of the delivery destination to help support local, regional and underserved producers. The purpose of this program is to maintain and improve food and agricultural supply chain resiliency. The cooperative agreements allow the states, tribes and territories to procure and distribute local and regional foods and beverages that are healthy, nutritious, unique to their geographic areas and that meet the needs of the population. The food will serve feeding programs, including food banks, schools and organizations that reach underserved communities.

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How much is the grant?



South Carolina is partnering with the Catawba Indian Nation on implementing the program. The \$6.1 million initial grant will allow South Carolina and the Catawba Nation to strengthen agricultural supply chain resiliency.

LFPA Plus



Announced in November of 2022 LFPA Plus adds an additional block of funding to the original grant. This funding will be drawn from Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and will have slightly different parameters on what can be purchased. Anticipated \$5 million in additional funding.

What can be purchased?

Food purchases are not limited to fresh produce. Any food or beverage product that meets the definition for domestic and local are permissible. This includes processed products and seafood. Local is defined as within the state or within 400 miles of the distribution point. LFPA Plus will tighten the parameters on purchases. It will allow fresh and *minimally processed* food to be purchased and distributed.

Who are we buying from?

The intention is to target Socially Disadvantaged (SD) producers. That is defined as a farmer or rancher who is a member of a Socially Disadvantaged Group. A Socially Disadvantaged Group is a group whose members have been subject to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.



Time Frame

The original grant was structured to end 30 June 2024. That would have allowed 6 calendar quarters to execute all the funds initially allocated. LFPA Plus added more funding and an additional year which extends operations until 30 June 2025.





The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.



Walt Disney

"Well done is better than well said." - Benjamin Franklin

Operational Concept:

- Operations will begin with 12 aggregators purchasing from local producers, targeting the socially disadvantaged.
- Initial aggregators are: Senn Brothers, Freshlist LLC, Gullah Farmers Co-op, Francis Produce, Feed & Seed Co., Swamp Rabbit Café and Grocery, Lowcountry Food Bank, Growfood Carolina, SC Black Farmers Coalition, Taylor Boys Produce Inc., Pick 42, and Bonita Global LLC.
- Aggregators will be strongly encouraged to maximize purchasing from socially disadvantaged producers. There is no cap on the number of SD producers that can be brought into the program.
- All purchases must be local. All food products must comply with the grant language on local to include Value Added Products.
- Farmer, ranchers, and producers can sell to more than one aggregator.
- There is no deadline on farmers, ranchers, and producers to register.

"We have to bring children into a new relationship to food that connects them to culture and agriculture." Alice Waters

Operational Concept:

 Food will be distributed through 'last-mile' distributors in 24 South Carolina underserved counties. Those counties were identified based on their unemployment, poverty rates, rural classification, remote classification, and current distribution of food. Those counties are Abbeville, Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Cherokee, Clarendon, Colleton, Dillon, Edgefield, Georgetown, Greenwood, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, McCormick, Oconee, Orangeburg, Pickens, Union, and Williamsburg counties.

• Farmers, ranchers, and producers can participate from any county in South Carolina.



