

## **KEL-MAC SADDLE CLUB HORSE SHOW**

**Oct. 25          Morgan Co. Ag Center          Madison**

This show is open to equestrians of all ages and experience levels. Classes include hunter/jumper, western, gaited, trail obstacles, ranch riding, ranch reining, dressage on the rail, halter/showmanship, “small fry” and more. All shows begin at 9 a.m. - rain or shine. Trail classes are from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Western Classes not to start before lunch. Riders must be members of Kel-Mac to accrue points towards year-end awards. Age divisions for competition are as follows: Small Fry: 10 and under; Junior: under 14 years of age; Senior: 14 years and over. Novice: Rider is in 1st or 2nd year of showing. Green Horse: Horse is in 1st or 2nd year of showing. Entry fee per class is \$12. Stall fees are \$15 for club members & \$20 nonmembers. All overnight stalls are \$25. For more information about the shows, visit the KelMac Saddle Club Facebook page, or [www.kel-mac.com](http://www.kel-mac.com) or call Arlene Williams at 706-431-8600. Sign up for shows on the website. General admission is free and concession food and drinks will be available. The Morgan County Ag Center is located at 2380 Athens Hwy. (441), north of Madison. These volunteer-run shows generate funds to benefit Kel-Mac’s equestrian related charities. The Kel-Mac Saddle Club has donated more than \$170,250 back to Georgia’s Piedmont region during its 49 years including: the Georgia Equine Rescue League, ReDux Equine Rescue, Sweet Olive Rescue, and the Morgan County Sheriff’s Empty Stocking Fund, and the equestrian facilities of state & county parks such as A. H. Stephens, Hard Labor Creek, and Heritage Park.

## **FORESTRY UPDATE AND FIELD DAY**

**Oct. 29          Vidalia Onion & Vegetable Research Center          9 a.m. – 3 p.m.          Lyons**

This workshop, sponsored by UGA Extension, the UGA Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources and the Georgia Forestry Commission, will feature presentations on lowering loblolly planting densities; comparing slash, longleaf, loblolly pines; wood yields and economics; and pine study area tours and field day. Participation is limited to the first 75 registrants. CFE and CLE credits have been applied for. To register, contact the Evans County Extension Office at 912-739-1292.

## **GEORGIA FARM BUREAU HAY CONTEST**

**Oct. 31          deadline for entries**

Georgia Farm Bureau (GFB) members who grow any variety of dry Bermudagrass hay have until Oct. 31 to enter the organization’s 34th Annual Quality Bermudagrass Hay Contest. The contest winner will receive the free use of a Vermeer wheel rake for one year. The winner will have the option to buy the equipment at a reduced price at the end of that year. This is the 27th year that Vermeer has sponsored GFB’s hay contest. Hay entered in the 2025 GFB Quality Bermudagrass Hay Contest will be tested at the UGA Feed & Environmental Water Lab using the Relative Forage Quality (RFQ) Test, which provides an analysis of the nutritional value of hay. Additional prizes will be awarded to the top five producers. Winners will be announced in December at the GFB Convention. Entry forms and complete contest rules may be picked up at your county Farm Bureau office or downloaded at [www.gfb.ag/HayContest](http://www.gfb.ag/HayContest) . You may also contact the GFB Public Policy Department at 1-800-342-1192 if you have any questions about the contest.

## **USDA FLOOD/WILDFIRE FUNDS FOR LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS**

**Oct. 31**

**deadline to apply**

On Sept. 12, The USDA announced eligible livestock producers will receive disaster recovery assistance through the Emergency Livestock Relief Program (ELRP) 2023 and 2024 FW program to help offset increased supplemental feed costs due to a qualifying flood or qualifying wildfire disasters. The program is expected to provide approximately \$1 billion in recovery benefits. Livestock producers have **until Oct. 31** to apply for assistance. To streamline program delivery, FSA has determined eligible counties with qualifying floods and qualifying wildfires in 2023 and 2024. For losses in these counties, livestock producers are not required to submit supporting documentation for floods or wildfires. A list of approved counties is available at [www.fsa.usda.gov/elrp](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elrp). Most Georgia counties are eligible for flood loss assistance due to weather in September 2024. Eligible producers can receive up to 60% of one month of calculated feed costs for a qualifying wildfire or three months for a qualifying flood using the same monthly feed cost calculation that is used for LFP. ELRP 2023 and 2024 for drought and wildfire and ELRP 2023 and 2024 FW have a combined payment limit of \$125,000 for each program year. Producers who already received the maximum payment amount from ELRP 2023 and 2024 for drought and wildfire will not be eligible to receive an additional payment under ELRP 2023 and 2024 FW. Eligible producers may submit form FSA-510, Request for an Exception to the \$125,000 Payment Limitation for Certain Programs, to be considered for an increased payment limit of \$250,000.

## **AFBF THANKSGIVING DINNER COST SURVEY**

**Nov. 1-6**

**at your local grocer**

It's almost time to kick off AFBF's annual Thanksgiving Dinner Cost Survey! Each year, AFBF reports on the average retail cost of a traditional meal for 10 people. Help from farmer and rancher members across the country makes this possible. Whether you check prices online or in the store, your input helps AFBF create a national snapshot of Thanksgiving meal costs. These contributions also reinforce Farm Bureau's role as a trusted source of information and help connect our policy priorities with everyday consumer experiences. Georgia must have at least eight volunteer shoppers submit a completed survey for AFBF to calculate a price average for our state. **How to Participate (Nov. 1-6):** Gather local retail prices for common Thanksgiving meal staples; submit them using this mobile-friendly survey link: <http://fb.org/turkeysurvey>. A news release and social posts on the results will go live on Nov. 19. Contact AFBF's Cyndie Shearing (202-406-3649, [cyndies@fb.org](mailto:cyndies@fb.org)) or Quentin Slater (202-406-3624, [qslater@fb.org](mailto:qslater@fb.org)) with questions.

## **GEORGIA PSC ELECTIONS**

**General election Nov. 4**

Georgia Farm Bureau's I Farm. I Vote. campaign is encouraging members across the state to get out and vote in the 2025 Public Service Commission (PSC) elections. This year, there will be a statewide special election for the Georgia Public Service Commission District 2 and District 3. All Georgia voters are eligible to cast a ballot for both PSC seats, but the candidates for the two contested seats are required to live in their districts that cover metro Atlanta and east Georgia. The two seats up for election are from District 2 and District 3. District 2 consists of a large portion of East and Southeast Georgia, including Athens, Augusta, and Savannah, and is currently held by Commissioner Tim Echols who is running as the Republican candidate. Alicia Johnson is running as the Democratic candidate. District 3, made up of Fulton, DeKalb, and Clayton counties, is currently held by Commissioner Fitz Johnson who was appointed by Gov. Brian Kemp to fill a

vacant seat. Fitz Johnson is running as the Republican candidate and Peter Hubbard won the Democratic primary.

## **LEADERSHIP GFB**

**Nov. 10**

**application deadline**

Leadership GFB will equip rising and current GFB leaders with the tools they need to successfully advocate for agriculture, develop their leadership skills, and embody the organization's grassroots mission. The program will offer professional networking opportunities, expand the agricultural knowledge of members and, ultimately, develop a team of trained advocates who can function as an outreach team. Up to 12 GFB members will be selected to participate in this year-long program, which will include events in Atlanta, Washington, D.C., Macon, North Georgia, South Georgia and the GFB Convention on Jekyll Island. Eligibility requirements: Applicants must be 21 or over by Dec. 31 and be a GFB member in good standing; members serving on the 2026 GFB Women's Leadership or Young Farmers & Ranchers committees are not eligible; cost is \$500 per participant, due after the individual is selected for the program. Tuition can be paid by the individual or sponsored by the participant's employer or county Farm Bureau; spouses may not participate in the same program year. Information regarding the program can be found at <https://gfb.ag/leadershipGFB>. Applicants should complete the application online at <https://gfb.ag/LEADGFB>. The application includes questions about the applicant's background, agricultural and GFB involvement. County Farm Bureaus that plan to sponsor an applicant must complete the sponsorship form, which is to be signed by the county Farm Bureau president. Applicants will be notified of their selection for the interview portion of the selection process program by Nov. 21. In-person interviews (for select applicants) will be Dec. 16 or 17 at the GFB home office in Macon. Final selection decisions will be sent to applicants who were interviewed by Dec. 22. For more information, contact your district federation manager or email [leadership@gfb.org](mailto:leadership@gfb.org).

## **GFB 2ND DISTRICT YF&R FALL MEETING**

**Nov. 11**

**Jaemor Farms, 5340 Cornelia Hwy.**

**6 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

**Alto**

Come early to purchase something at Jaemor's Market or Bakery before the meeting. Stay for dinner and learn about how to maximize your Member Benefits from GFB's Director of Member Services, Jay Murdock. Children are welcome! Cost is \$5 per person or \$10 per family. To register, visit [www.gfb.ag/D2YFRMeeting](http://www.gfb.ag/D2YFRMeeting) by Nov. 3.

## **GEORGIA FARM BUREAU PB&J 5K**

**Nov 15**

**Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter**

**8 a.m.**

**Perry**

Sign up today for the 5K on Nov. 15 at the Georgia National Fairgrounds. The course is flat, fast, and completely paved — perfect for all skill levels. When you register for \$35, you'll receive a complimentary Georgia Farm Bureau (GFB) Membership. Already a member? Gift it to a friend! Enjoy a post-run grilled PB&J and peanut butter, compliments of Georgia Peanuts! Every registered runner will also receive a custom water bottle. If you're bringing the family, be sure to check out the Georgia National Antique Agriculture Show for FREE. Register at <https://www.gfb.org/pb-and-j-5k>. Members of GFB help protect consumers' access to locally grown food and fiber and have access to 300,000+ member benefits and discounts. Visit <https://www.gfb.org/join/member-benefits-directory> to learn more about the health, travel, family entertainment, farm equipment and services and health discounts members can enjoy.

# CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM

**Nov. 16      Newton County Agricultural Center      2-5 p.m.      Covington**

Kick off your family's Christmas celebrations with Newton County Farm Bureau. This 4th annual event will include hayrides, a chance to see live farm animals, Christmas music, food trucks and photos with Santa. Free milk and cookies will be served. Start your Christmas shopping with more than 50 vendors. There's no entrance fee.

**FERAL SWINE WORKSHOP WITH FLINT RIVER SWCD**

**Nov. 19 Mitchell County Ag Center, 4590 Hwy. 37 E 9 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Camilla**

A group of agricultural and natural resource organizations are partnering to bring Georgia's top experts on feral swine together in a series of educational workshops for farmers and landowners. This free workshop is sponsored by the Flint River Conservation District. Topics will include disease issues, swine biology, economics, water quality issues, effective control techniques, transport issues, and regulations to be followed by a question-and-answer panel of experts. There will also include a feral swine trapping demonstration. Partnering agencies include the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Wildlife Services, Georgia Association of Conservation Districts, Georgia Department of Natural Resources - Wildlife Resources Division, Georgia Department of Agriculture, and University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. To register, click [here](#).

## PRODUCE SAFETY ALLIANCE GROWER TRAINING

**Nov. 20** **Cost is \$175**

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/psagt-nov20>

**Dec. 2-4** **Cost is \$150**

**Register at <https://psaos120225.eventbrite.com>**

Are you a Georgia produce grower? Don't miss your chance to attend a Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Course, which is required under the FSMA Produce Safety Rule (21 CFR 112). All trainings are virtual. For questions or more information, contact your local produce safety team or [Lupita.gonzalez@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:Lupita.gonzalez@agr.georgia.gov).

## SOUTHEAST REGIONAL FRUIT & VEGETABLE CONFERENCE

<b>Jan. 8-10</b>	<b>Savannah Convention Center</b>	<b>Savannah</b>
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**Dec. 12** **Early bird reservation deadline**

The Southeast Regional Fruit and Vegetable Conference is the largest educational conference and trade show in the southeastern United States that unites growers, vendors and suppliers! Activities include the always-popular trade show, a comprehensive lineup of educational sessions, the Georgia Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association Annual Meeting, and more. Key workshop topics include pre-harvest ripening and quality management, the Endangered Species Act and food safety. For more information or to register, visit <https://seregionalconference.org/registration-3/>.

## 2026 GACD SCHOLARSHIPS

Dec. 31 application deadline

To encourage study and careers in soil and water conservation related fields, GACD administers one \$1,000 scholarship each year. The scholarship is given to high school students or

undergraduate/graduate students majoring in, or intending to major in, a soil and water conservation related area. The scholarship recipient will be honored at GACD's Annual Meeting in 2026. For more information or to apply, visit <https://www.gacd.us/scholarships>.

### **AMERICAN SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION/BASF SCHOLARSHIP**

**Dec. 31          deadline to apply**

Do you know an outstanding high school senior who is interested in pursuing a career in agriculture? Strong agriculture leaders are vital to the sustainability and growth of the soybean industry, and the American Soybean Association, in partnership with BASF, wants to provide a student interested in agriculture with a college scholarship to begin their degree. The Soy Scholarship is a \$7,000, one-time award presented to a high school senior who plans to pursue agriculture as an area of study at any accredited college or university in the 2026-27 academic year. The scholarship is managed by ASA and made possible through a grant by BASF Corporation. High school seniors may apply online Oct. 7 – Dec. 31, 2025. [Click here to learn more information about the program](#). The scholarship is awarded in \$3,500 increments (one per semester) for the 2026-27 school year. The student must be a child or grandchild of a current state soybean association/ASA member, maintain successful academic progress, and remain in good standing with the college or university to receive the full amount of the scholarship. A committee of soybean grower leaders will select the ASA BASF scholarship recipient. The award winner will be announced this winter. For more information, please visit [www.soygrowers.com](http://www.soygrowers.com). ASA and BASF have recognized and rewarded students for their hard work and interest in agriculture through the Soy Scholarship since 2008.

### **49TH ANNUAL GEORGIA PEANUT FARM SHOW**

**Jan. 15, 2026 UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.    Tifton**

Make plans to attend the 49th annual Georgia Peanut Farm Show and Conference set for Jan. 15, 2026. The show is free and open to all farmers and industry representatives to attend. The show is sponsored by the Georgia Peanut Commission and includes the UGA Peanut Production Seminar, the Farm Show Luncheon & Awards and a blood drive. Attendees will have the opportunity to visit with more than 100 agribusinesses and organizations in the peanut and agricultural industry. Farmers will be able to earn private and commercial pesticide applicator certification, as well as learn about cutting-edge research and developments during the University of Georgia Peanut Production Seminar and industry-wide sponsored Peanut Seed Seminar. For more information, visit <https://gapeanuts.com/farm-show/>.

### **UGA WARNELL SCHOOL OF FORESTRY BOBWHITE QUAIL SURVEY**

The Martin GAME Lab at the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at UGA is looking for private landowners in Georgia to take part in a brief survey about their opinions on bobwhite quail management for a study titled “Bobwhite Restoration, Incentives, and Research.” The purpose of the study is to better understand landowners’ opinions on bobwhite quail management and cost-share programs landowners would enroll in to manage their properties for bobwhite quail. Visit [https://ugeorgia.ca1.qualtrics.com/.../SV\\_3aRgLcUioS8uy0u](https://ugeorgia.ca1.qualtrics.com/.../SV_3aRgLcUioS8uy0u) to take the survey. Thank you in advance for helping with in this study.

## **CONSERVATION DISTRICTS OFFER FERAL HOG CONTROL SERVICES**

For a list of feral hog control services available in each GACD Conservation District, visit <https://gfb.ag/feralhoggacdresources>.

## **UGA CITRUS ORCHARD NUTRITIONAL SURVEY**

For the past three growing seasons, the UGA Agricultural and Environmental Services Labs (AESL) has been conducting a foliar nutrient survey of Georgia's citrus industry with funding from the USDA and Georgia Department of Agriculture's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. One of the conditions of the project's grant funding is that researchers seek stakeholder feedback on the effectiveness of the program, and how this work may influence future grower decisions. The project researchers ask that you please complete this short (7 questions, 3-5 minutes) Citrus Nutrition Questionnaire [here](#). These results will help UGA researchers demonstrate the importance of this work to their sponsors, which increases the likelihood of future funding in this area. If you would like to learn more about this project and the results of the study, visit the [project website](#).

## **GFB HAY DIRECTORY**

GFB is accepting listings for its online hay directory. Farm Bureau members with hay for sale or who offer custom harvesting or custom sprigging services are invited to list their hay and/or services in the GFB Quality Hay Directory published on the GFB website. Hay for sale or services can be listed or removed from the directory throughout the year. To be included in GFB's online hay directory, complete a submission form by visiting your county Farm Bureau office or online at [www.gfb.ag/hay](http://www.gfb.ag/hay). Please include a \$10 check made payable to Georgia Farm Bureau for each listing of hay, custom harvesting or custom sprigging. Multiple listings are allowed. Listings can be updated in the directory throughout the year as hay inventories change. Hay producers who entered the 2024 GFB Quality Hay Contest receive a free listing in the online GFB Hay Directory.

## **988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE OFFERS SUPPORT**

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline can be reached by calling or texting 988 or chatting on [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org). 988 serves as a universal entry point so that no matter where you live in the U.S., you can easily access 24/7 emotional support. You don't have to be suicidal to reach out. 988 trained crisis counselors can help you through whatever mental health challenges you are experiencing.