

## **GFB/ABAC WEBINAR EXPLORING AG CAREERS**

**March 26**

**Zoom**

Georgia Farm Bureau (GFB) and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC) are partnering to host a virtual educational event to highlight emerging trends and career opportunities in Georgia's top economic sector - agriculture. "Fields of Opportunity: Exploring Careers in Agriculture." Participants will discuss the importance of developing the next generation of agricultural leaders and how organizations are fostering meaningful career pathways that ensure the long-term success of Georgia's farm and forestry communities. Topics will include the role of precision agriculture tools in improving planting, crop management, and livestock efficiency, as well as the expanding opportunities for growth across Georgia's diverse agricultural landscape. The webinar is open to students, teachers, agribusiness professionals, farmers and community leaders who are interested in helping to develop the future of Georgia agriculture. Register online at <https://link.abac.edu/fieldsweb>.

## **MICRO FARM INSURANCE**

**March 31**

**deadline to enroll/renew**

The USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds Georgia micro farm operators that the final date to apply for or renew crop insurance coverage for the 2027 crop year is March 31. Federal crop insurance is critical to the farm safety net. It helps producers and owners manage revenue risks and strengthens the rural economy. Coverage is available for micro farm operators in all Georgia counties. Growers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2026 crop year. Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available online using the [RMA Agent Locator](#). Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at <https://rma.usda.gov>. The Georgia Farm Bureau Insurance Company contracts with four companies – American Farm Bureau Insurance Services Inc., Rain & Hail, Sampo, and Great American Insurance to offer crop insurance. GFB has more than 70 experienced crop insurance agents (and growing) across the state to help their members protect their investment. Find your local agent and learn more at [www.GFBInsurance.com](http://www.GFBInsurance.com) or email [crops@gfbinsurance.com](mailto:crops@gfbinsurance.com) for more details. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

## **NATIONAL WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE SURVEY**

**March 31**

**deadline to submit**

AFBF's Women's Leadership program has partnered with a team of researchers, CoBank and JBS to launch this **study that will be live through March 31**. This nationwide initiative will explore women's leadership and involvement in agriculture, identify barriers and opportunities, and provide actionable insights to strengthen engagement and support systems across the U.S. agricultural sector—from production and agribusiness to advocacy, education and entrepreneurship. This survey is open to individuals age 18 and older in the U.S. and Puerto Rico who have an interest or involvement in agriculture, including those who work in production agriculture, agribusiness, education, advocacy or related fields. This includes perspectives of both men and women. The survey takes 12-18 minutes to complete. After completing the survey, participants may choose to sign up for a follow-up focus group or key informant interview. The survey and focus groups will be available in English and Spanish. Results from the study will be shared at the International Year of the Woman Farmer ACE Summit, to be held June 1-3 in Washington, D.C, and a public summary of results will be shared. For more information or to take the survey, visit [www.gfb.ag/women-in-ag-study](http://www.gfb.ag/women-in-ag-study).



vegetative cover. Producers and landowners interested in participating in CRP should contact their [local FSA county office](#).

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

**April 18, May 9, Sept. 19 & Oct. 24**      **Morgan Co. Ag Center**      **Madison**

These shows are 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 \$10. Stall fees are \$15 for club members & \$20 nonmembers. All overnight stalls are \$25. Each horse show is an “an all-breed show” which means there are a wide variety of disciplines offered in the more than 50 classes. The focus of the Kel-Mac shows is to include everyone and help participants become more comfortable with showing.

For more information about the shows, visit the KelMac Saddle Club Facebook or Instagram pages or [www.kel-mac.com](http://www.kel-mac.com) or call Arlene Williams at 706-431-8600. Signup 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 50 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.

## **64TH ANNUAL GEORGIA CATTLEMEN’S CONVENTION**

**April 23-25**      **Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter**      **Perry**

“King of the Swamp” Troy Landry from the tv show Swamp People will be the keynote speaker for the Georgia Cattlemen’s Association Annual Convention. Previously announced speaker Temple Grandin will be unable to attend the event as planned. The event features a 35,000-square-foot trade show, Cattlemen’s College sessions on current industry topics, youth speaking contests, junior cattlemen’s stockman’s quiz, photography contest and Cattlemen’s Ball. To register, visit <https://gfb.ag/26GCAConvregistration>.

## **2026 GFB SPRING SHOOTOUT**

**April 29**      **deadline to buy tickets**

**May 15**      **Cherokee Rose Sporting Clays**      **9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**      **Griffin**

The 4th Annual GFB Spring Shootout brings together friendly competition, supporting a good cause and enjoying the outdoors for an event you won’t want to miss! It’s perfect for colleagues looking to get out of the office, families making memories, friends catching up, and youth teams gaining real-world tournament experience. VIP team tickets are available for \$750, which include a larger tax-deductible amount, regular ticket perks PLUS t-shirts, preferred parking, priority access to the course, and complimentary post-event beverages. General admission team tickets for four are available for \$575, which includes the 100-disc event, golf cart rental, eye and ear protection for each shooter, light breakfast, and lunch. Individual entry tickets are \$155. Individual

entrant will be grouped with other individual participants to form a team for the tournament. Includes the 100-disc event, golf cart rental, eye and ear protection for each shooter, light breakfast, and lunch. This is a great option for those who don't have a full team but still want to join the fun! All proceeds support the Georgia Foundation for Agriculture. To register, visit <https://gfb.ag/26SpringShootout>. The deadline to register is April 29. There are also opportunities for businesses interested in sponsoring the event to gain valuable brand exposure through the shootout. Sponsorships ranging from \$250 to \$5,000 include benefits such as team entries, branding on event materials, social media promotion, acknowledgement in post-event publicity and more. April 18 is the deadline to become an event sponsor.

## **GFB EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE AWARD**

**April 30**

**deadline to apply**

The Georgia Farm Bureau Excellence in Agriculture Award honors Young Farmers & Ranchers members who earn most of their income off the farm but are active in Farm Bureau and are ag advocates in their community. Contact your GFB district federation manager or your county Farm Bureau office manager for information to apply for this award. GFB district winners and three state finalists will be selected from the written applications. The three state finalists will be contacted by June 5 so they may prepare a presentation to be given the afternoon of July 15 at the GFB YF&R Summer Leadership Conference to be held July 15-18. The state winner will be announced at the summer conference. The state winner will receive an expense-paid trip to the 2027 American Farm Bureau Convention next January in Charlotte, N.C., to represent Georgia. Applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 35 and should not turn 36 before Jan. 12, 2027. Visit [www.gfb.org/connect/excellence-in-ag](http://www.gfb.org/connect/excellence-in-ag) for more information.

## **SDRP SECOND STAGE, MILK AND ON-FARM STORAGE PAYMENTS**

**April 30**

**deadline to apply for SDRP Stage One and Stage Two assistance**

Stage Two of SDRP covers eligible crop, tree, bush and vine losses that were not covered under Stage One program provisions, including non-indemnified (shallow loss), uncovered and quality losses. For Stage Two program details, including fact sheets, please visit <https://fsa.usda.gov/sdrp>. The first stage, announced in July, remains available to producers who received an indemnity under crop insurance or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for eligible crop losses due to qualifying 2023 and 2024 natural disaster events. FSA county offices will begin accepting SDRP Stage Two applications on Nov. 24. **Producers have until April 30 to apply for both Stage One and Stage Two assistance.** Information and a fact sheet are available online at <https://fsa.usda.gov/ofscplp>.

## **2026 GEORGIA FARM DOG OF THE YEAR**

**May 1**

**entry deadline**

Do you have a special farm dog that herds or guards your livestock? Maybe it keeps you company as you do your daily chores and provides stress relief. Maybe it has done something heroic. Georgia Farm Bureau is accepting entries for its 2026 Georgia Farm Dog Contest until 10:59 p.m. on May 1 or until 200 entries are accepted. Contest is open to GFB members ages 18 and over. The grand prize winner will receive a \$500 gift card and be recognized at the 2025 Sunbelt Ag Expo. For contest rules and the criteria dogs will be judged by, visit [www.gfb.ag/26farmdogcontest](http://www.gfb.ag/26farmdogcontest).

## **NURSERY VALUE SELECT INSURANCE**

**May 1**

**deadline to enroll/renew**

The USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds Georgia nursery producers that the final date to apply for or renew crop insurance coverage for the 2027 crop year is May 1. Federal crop insurance is critical to the farm safety net. It helps producers and owners manage revenue risks and strengthens the rural economy. Coverage is available in all Georgia counties for nursery operators who receive at least 40% of their gross income from wholesale marketing of nursery plants. Growers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2026 crop year. Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available online using the [RMA Agent Locator](#). Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at <https://rma.usda.gov>. The Georgia Farm Bureau Insurance Company contracts with four companies – American Farm Bureau Insurance Services Inc., Rain & Hail, Sampo, and Great American Insurance to offer crop insurance. GFB has more than 70 experienced crop insurance agents (and growing) across the state to help their members protect their investment. Find your local agent and learn more at [www.GFBInsurance.com](http://www.GFBInsurance.com) or email [crops@gfbinsurance.com](mailto:crops@gfbinsurance.com) for more details. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

## **GFB DAY AT THE BRAVES 2026**

**Deadline to purchase tickets is May 1.**

**June 7            Truist Park    1:35 p.m.    Atlanta**

GFB is bringing the heart of Georgia agriculture to Truist Park for an afternoon of baseball, fellowship, and a celebration of the farmers who make it all possible. From the fields to the stands, this afternoon is all about showing support for the people and industry that keep our state growing strong. Join us for a special pre-game parade around the field, giving attendees the chance to step onto the field and be part of the experience before the game begins. Tickets are \$42 for Home Run Porch seating in Sections 147–151. GFB recommends arriving early to secure seats together. Comfort Colors GFB Braves t-shirts (\$30) and Ag is #1 foam fingers (\$6) are available for purchase to enhance the gameday experience. A portion of t-shirt sales, foam finger sales, and \$8–\$10 from each ticket sold will support the Georgia Foundation for Agriculture. Have fun while raising funds for a great cause. We are all Farm Bureau. For more information or to purchase tickets and merchandise, click [HERE](#).

## **GEORGIA CENTENNIAL FARM APPLICATIONS**

**May 1**

**deadline to apply**

Centennial Farm applications are open to all qualifying candidates. Farms play a pivotal role in shaping the legacy of our state, serving as the bedrock for economic, cultural, and family traditions for generations of Georgians. Georgia recognizes farms with a legacy spanning more than a century for their historical significance through the Georgia Centennial Farm program. Nominees must be a working farm with a minimum of 10 acres of the original purchase, actively involved in agricultural production, and must generate at least \$1,000 in annual farm-generated income. In addition, farms must have been continuously farmed by members of the same family for at least 100 years or be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Qualifying Georgia Centennial Farms are honored each October at an awards ceremony at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter in Perry. The Georgia Centennial Farm program is administered by the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs; Georgia Farm Bureau

Federation; Georgia Department of Agriculture; Georgia EMC; Georgia National Fair and Agricenter; and University of Georgia Cooperative Extension. For more information, please contact Rose Mayo, Historic Preservation Division Outreach Coordinator, at 770-855-2586 or [rose.mayo@dca.ga.gov](mailto:rose.mayo@dca.ga.gov). **The postmark deadline for applications is May 1, 2026.** Applications are available online at <https://gfb.ag/centuryfarmsapply> . (<https://www.dca.ga.gov/georgia-historic-preservation-division/historicresources/centennial-farms>)

#### **GA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DAVID SKINNER SCHOLARSHIP**

**May 4**

**Application deadline**

High school seniors or college freshmen who are Georgia residents, live in a rural county and are pursuing a degree directly related to agriculture are encouraged to apply. Six scholarships in the amount of \$2,400 will be awarded. Visit <https://www.gdaonline.com/scholarships/> to apply.

#### **SOUTHEASTERN SPECIALTY CROP TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE**

**May 5 & 6 UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center**

**Tifton**

This conference and show aims to serve as a platform to accelerate knowledge and adoption of emerging technologies in specialty crop production in the Southeast U.S. Researchers and company representatives will discuss and demonstrate robotics, artificial intelligence and digital agriculture. Open to fruit, vegetable and nut growers, industry professionals, students and Extension professionals. Event runs from 8 a.m. to 5p.m. both days. For more information and to register, visit <https://specialtycroptech.uga.edu/>.

#### **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.

#### **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](#).

### **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.