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Writer: Tony Melton, County Agent  
Florence County

I can't believe it is almost Thanksgiving. Where has the year gone. My wife tells me I can't sing, but I can write. "Over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house we go. The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh." However, many of us have forgotten grandmother's way. Modern city life has made the rural farm life of grandmother a faint memory. As we would say in McBee, "we have become citified." Well it is part of my job as a County Agent to remind people about the importance of Agriculture and to help bring city and farm folk together.

Therefore, you are invited to come to the Florence County Farm City Fair. We will have a large tent at 215 Third Loop Road (between the USDA Service Center Building and the Florence County Public Services Building) on Thursday, November 10th. The Farm/City Week Committee has planned all kinds of fun events for all ages from 1p.m – 5 p.m.

It ain't country without trucks, tractors, 4-wheelers, and cows. Yes, including the auctioning of cows, believe it or not. Well at least little ceramic cows. The 4th graders from 20 schools around Florence County have painted ceramic cows. They will be judged and auctioned at 3 p.m. We are excited about giving back to the schools for participating in this project. Your support for your school will be greatly needed and appreciated.

Also, many people do not realize that gardening is a large part of agriculture. Ornamentals are the second largest agricultural industry in S.C. This is really where city meets farm. Therefore, Clemson University Extension Service is once again offering the Master Gardener Class. Starting on January 23rd and continuing weekly for 13 classes. Morning 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon and night programs 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. will be offered. This volunteer training program will give you many insights on how to properly garden in S.C. Simply register by sending your \$150 materials fee to the Extension Office at 2685 South Irby St., Florence, S.C. 29505. Call 661-4800 for more information.

To learn more about gardening and country living watch both of our Emmy Award winning T.V. programs, Making-It-Grow (MIG) and Down Home with Tony and Amanda. MIG can be seen at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday nights on regular ETV. However, at present Down Home can only be seen on digital cable and some satellite systems on the SC Channel (channel 802 on Time Warner Cable).

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political belief, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer.