

Fresh from the Farm
Sunday, Feb. 13, 2005

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Local and Regional Meetings on the Agenda

Folks with cotton interests are invited to attend an area-wide meeting tomorrow, Valentine's Day, Monday, February 14th near Lydia. The meeting will be held at the Lydia Community Center on the Indian Branch Road at 12:00 Noon. Dr. Mike Jones, Extension Cotton Specialist, will discuss varieties. Collins Gardner, area crop consultant, will discuss a nematode project conducted on a farm in Marlboro County, and we will briefly discuss a herbicide on-farm test conducted in Lee County this past season. The program should not last more than one hour. Hopefully, timing of the meeting will allow all the opportunity to get to the valentine shop before gifts run out. Indian Branch Road joins US Hwy. 15 to the east just north of Lydia. The community center is about ½ mile on the right.

Sumter Farmers' Market - A training meeting is planned for the Sumter Farmers' Market at the Fairgrounds this Tuesday afternoon, February 15th for any farmer wishing to participate in the 2005 SC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program(FMNP). This training is required for anyone wishing to accept the FMNP checks at a farmers' market. The training runs from 2:00 until 4:00 PM. The training is being conducted by Mr. Fred Broughton with the SC Department of Agriculture. There are other such training sessions being offered around the state.

SC Cotton Growers' Annual Meeting – All with cotton interests need to mark your calendars for Thursday, February 24th for the state cotton meeting to be held at the Pee Dee Research & Education Center near Florence. Registration begins at 8:30 AM

with the program starting at 9:00. Numerous topics and presenters will be part of the agenda with a sponsored lunch. Highlights include reports from the SC Cotton Board, Cotton Incorporated, National Cotton Council of America, Clemson University, SC Agriculture Commissioner's Office and the Risk Management Agency from Valdosta, Ga. In addition to our state Extension specialists, Dr. Alan York with N.C. State University will be on the program discussing new weed technologies and strategies. The meeting adjourns at 3:30 PM. This event is sponsored by the SC Cotton Board and Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service.

New Date and Time for Multi-county Corn and Soybean Meeting – The correct date and time for the multi-county corn meeting is Monday, February 21st at 12:00 Noon. The meeting will be held in Alcolu, Clarendon County, at the F.E. DuBose Campus at Central Carolina TEC. The site is located on US Hwy. 521 just beyond I-95 towards Manning. Exit 122 if traveling on I-95. The program includes: Corn research update, corn insect & disease management, and grain marketing for 2005. Contact the Manning Extension office at 803-435-8429 by Friday, February 18th if you plan to attend.

Commercial Vegetable Production Meeting near Turbeville – Clemson Extension is offering a meeting for our commercial vegetable folks on Friday, February 25th beginning at 10:00 AM at the Compass Restaurant on Hwy. 378 near Turbeville. There will be a sponsored lunch and the event should conclude around 2:00 PM. Speakers are: Drs. Richard Hassell and Tony Keinath from the Coastal Research & Education Center at Charleston, Dr. Powell Smith from the Edisto Research & Education Center at Blackville, and Mr. Tony Melton, area Extension vegetable agent from Florence. Contact your nearest Clemson Extension office if you plan to attend.

Last Chance for CAMM Certification in 2005 – Folks needing certification in the Confined Animal Manure Managers Program (CAMM) are reminded of the only certification sessions this year coming up February 22nd and 23rd in Newberry. The poultry training is Tuesday, February 22nd followed by the swine training on Wednesday, February 23rd. The training lasts all day, and the fee is \$100 per person. Contact Bryan Smith with Clemson Extension, coordinator of the training. Bryan needs to know well in advance who will participate since training manuals must be prepared ahead. His number is 864-984-2514, and the training site is the Piedmont Technical College- Newberry Campus auditorium on Hwy. 76 in Newberry. Again, this will be the only training session this year for owners or operators of confined poultry or swine facilities still needing the certification. Those already certified are reminded you will need 10 hours of recertification credit over the next five years to keep your certification current. Information will be forthcoming when opportunities are available.

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