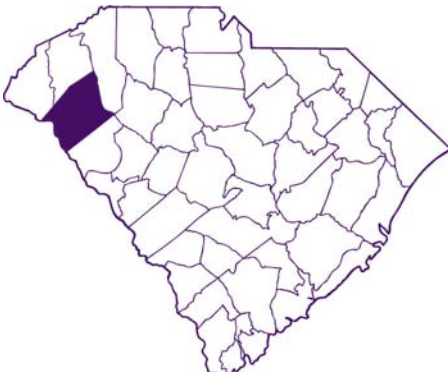


# Annual Report to the People

November 2010  
Anderson County



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## Mission Statement

The mission of the Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service is to provide sound, scientifically based information to South Carolinians and help them use that information to improve the quality of their lives.

## Economic Impact of State Cuts

We are proud that Anderson County is one of 19 Service Centers in the state. We will continue to offer the same services and hours at the Anderson County Extension Office.

The past year has brought many challenges to South Carolina and also to Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service. Since 2008, Clemson University's Public Service Activities state funding has been cut by over 46%. State funding is now at the same dollar level as 1985 without adjusting for inflation.

A plan to shift financial accounting and business operations to seven strategically located Business Centers was developed and is currently being implemented. A service center concept for nineteen counties outlining normal office operations is included as part of this plan.

## Anderson County Junior Master Gardener

Anderson County maintains a diverse 4-H program with input from local and state stakeholders. With assistance from the Anderson County Master Gardener Association the Junior Master Gardener Program has provided educational information in a multitude of Anderson County schools over the past 5 years. Ongoing JMG programs have been created in seven schools. Youth learn many life skills while enjoying the hands on learning JMG experience.



*St. Joseph JMG Program Participants*

4-H Agents maintain and provide supplies, kits, and curriculum material. This allows JMG volunteers to focus on actively teaching this important program.

## Master Gardener Training

The Master Gardener Training in Anderson County continues to be a successful program. Sixteen individuals were trained in the 2010 Master Gardener class. Topics include: soil and plant nutrition, plant physiology, plant pathology, entomology, pesticide safety, composting, vegetable and fruit production and landscape design. A further requirement to become certified is to volunteer 40 hours of community service through our office and in cooperation with the Anderson County Master Gardener Association.

To list a few projects the Anderson County Master Gardeners participated in the Anderson community were



2010 Anderson County Master Gardener Graduates

Anderson County Farmers Market, Anderson County Museum Heritage Garden, South Carolina Botanical Gardens, and Junior Master Gardener educators.

## Anderson County Livestock Show

On October 2-4, 2009 the Anderson County Cooperative Extension Office conducted the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Anderson County Livestock Show. This livestock show allows youth from around the upstate an opportunity to exhibit their animals, visit with other youth and adults with like interests, and to earn rewards for their hard work and long hours. By raising show animals and competing in these shows the youth are learning valuable animal husbandry lessons in nutrition, genetics, reproduction, animal health, and handling techniques. Showing livestock also helps build confidence in the youth and teaches responsibility.



The 2009 livestock show proved to be our best show to date. In all, one hundred ninety youth from South Carolina and Georgia participated in this three day event. Seven species of livestock, totaling 314 head, were exhibited.

Months of preparation and planning went into the production of this three day event. In sponsorship for the show five thousand dollars were collected. An additional two thousand dollars in scholarships and three belt buckles, totaling six hundred dollars were donated. Exhibitors are paid out premiums based on showmanship as well as how their animals placed in various classes. We are grateful to our sponsors and volunteers for making our livestock show a success.

## Turf Plots

Anderson County, in collaboration with Anderson County Extension maintains turf demonstration plots at the Anderson County Recycling Center. The Anderson County Extension Agent maintains the six 500 square foot plots. Anderson County provides funding for maintenance. Our plots are also used for educational programs given by Extension Agents and Specialists.

The varieties selected are Emerald Zoysia, Tifton 419 Bermuda, Titan 2 Fescue, Falcon 2 Fescue, Palisade Zoysia and Thermal Blue Grass. These varieties are native to the Anderson area and give our residents the opportunity to visit the site at their leisure and see which variety would best suit their lawn. The Fescue plots were totally renovated in September of 2010.



County Agent, Marty Watt maintains the turf demonstration plots in Anderson County



## Anderson Aces 4-H Club Aims High



Under the leadership of John and Cyndi Cummings, the Anderson Aces 4-H BB-Gun Club has excelled on both the state and national levels over the past 5 years. After placing second in the first 4-H state marksmanship contest, the Pendleton based team has placed first in each contest since and has attended the national contest for the last four years. At the International BB Gun Championship match held in July in Rogers, Arkansas, the team competed well and brought home several top 10 finishes.

John is an excellent volunteer and role model for youth across SC. As a lecturer for Clemson University, he also serves as the CU air rifle coach. Through volunteers like John, the impact of 4-H is reaching not only Anderson County but to all of SC and the nation. We are proud of all of our 4-H member's accomplishments and thank our volunteers who donate countless hours to ensure our youth learn valuable life skills.



## Anderson County Provides Training for Commercial and Private Applicators

Pesticide application plays an important role in many agricultural businesses and commercial landscaping operations. Anderson County has a variety of producers including: fruit, vegetable, beef cattle, row crop producers, bee keepers, landscape professionals, commercial greenhouses, and many others who hold pesticide licenses. Pesticide applicators are required to obtain continuing education credits in order to keep their license.

The Anderson County Extension office provides valuable certification and re-certification opportunities to local producers and commercial landscapers. During the 2009-2010 year, seven programs were offered to producers seeking to earn credit hours toward a pesticide license. These programs included: Weed Identification (ID) and Management in Forage Systems, Pesticide Safety and Our Environment, Calibration of Pesticide Equipment, Pest ID and Control in Row Crops, Lawn Weed ID and Control, and Lawn Disease ID and Control.

For the 2009-2010 year the Anderson County Extension Office offered over 20 hours of pesticide re-certification training to 95 producers.

In addition to re-certification trainings the Anderson County Extension Office also held training opportunities for local agriculture producers wishing to obtain their private applicator license. A private applicator license is needed in order to purchase a number of restricted use pesticides used in agriculture production. Two day long certification trainings were held in the spring of 2009 where 18 producers learned how to safely handle pesticides, read and understand pesticide labels, learned important laws pertaining to pesticides, how to keep appropriate pesticide records, and how to keep themselves and the environment safe when using pesticides.

## Agricultural Service Laboratory and Plant Problem Clinic

The Clemson University Agricultural Service Laboratory provides services for the citizens of South Carolina. The Agricultural Service Laboratory processed 56,570 soil samples, 4,256 plant tissues, 1967 feed and forage, and 365 irrigation water tests in 2009.

Locally, Anderson County submitted 646 soil samples, 19 feed and forage and 13 animal waste analyses in 2009.

The Clemson University Plant Problem Clinic provides plant disease diagnosis, insect identification, and weed identification. In 2009, 44 samples were submitted from Anderson County.





[www.clemson.edu/extension/county/anderson](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/county/anderson)

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

Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, S.C.  
Issued in Furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

Public Service Activities

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## Agriculture Production in Anderson County

The Anderson County Extension office continues to support row crop and livestock producers. With over 175,000 acres of farmland and based on the 2005 Agriculture Statistics, we have \$54,883,000 in cash receipts from crops and livestock production. We continue to rank first in the state for beef and hay production and rank second for equine.

In the spring of 2009 an Upstate Row Crop Management meeting was held with 17 producers learning valuable information pertaining to: Insect ID and Control, Weed ID and Control, Disease Control, Nutrient Requirements, and Variety Information in Corn, Soybean and Wheat Crops.



Soybean producers are facing two new threats. An Asiatic Soybean Rust Monitoring plot has been set

up with a local producer in the county to monitor early detection and movement of this potentially devastating disease. This year ushered in a new invasive pest to soybean producers in the form of the Bean Plataspid. Its movement and effect on crops was monitored to help farmers determine what actions may need to be taken to protect their crops.

Clemson University and Anderson County Cattlemen's Association worked together to offer education programs. Our 2009-2010 programs included: beef cattle marketing, nutrition health, forage, production, genetics, and pasture walks. Two new opportunities were provided for producers. The Master Cattleman's program provided an 8 week series covering all aspects of beef cattle production. Grass Masters provided an opportunity for livestock producers to learn about forges.