

# Annual Report to the People

November 2010  
Newberry County



Clemson Cooperative  
Extension Service  
Newberry County  
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## Mission Statement

*"The mission of the 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."*

## Agricultural Impact

### Agricultural Service Laboratory and Plant Problem Clinic

The Clemson University Agricultural Service Laboratory provides services for the citizens of South Carolina in the following areas: soil analysis, animal waste analysis, forage analysis, plant tissue analysis, nematode screening, and irrigation water analysis. Sample numbers for Newberry County in 2009 totaled 632 soil samples, 58 animal waste samples, 23 forage samples, and 20 plant tissue samples.

The Clemson University Plant Problem Clinic provides plant disease diagnosis, insect identification, and weed identification for clients as requested. Newberry County submitted 26 samples to the plant problem clinic in 2009.



*Northern corn leaf blight*

## Area Market Risk Management

Revenue protection and input cost management are critical components of farm profitability. On January 27, 2010 an Upstate Commodity Marketing and Risk Management seminar was held in Newberry at the Helena Community Center. The seminar addressed marketing strategies to maximize crop revenue, feed cost price protection strategies, using crop insurance as a risk management tool, and market outlooks for crops and livestock. Speakers included Mr. Edgar Wood of Palmetto Grain Brokerage, Dr. Todd Davis, Clemson Agricultural Economist, and Dr. Curt Lacy, Georgia Livestock Economist. Forty three producers from seven surrounding counties attended the seminar.



Youths from 5 states visiting one of our local dairies as part of the Dairy Youth Retreat.

## Southeast Dairy Youth Retreat

Newberry was host to the 2010 Southeast Dairy Youth Retreat from July 6<sup>th</sup> -10th. The nearly eighty participants that attended the action packed retreat hailed from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. The events planned over this week provided youth a fun environment to learn more about dairying and the dairy industry, all while building team-work skills and making lasting friendships. The focus of this year's retreat was dairy evaluation and exhibition, with a dairy judging contest and a dairy fitting and showmanship workshop complete with hoof-trimming and topline demonstrations. Participants toured five dairies across the state, got a behind the scenes tour at Riverbanks Zoo, and visited the Livestock and Poultry Health Lab where they received biosecurity training and were able to dissect a bovine reproductive tract. The host farms included Riley Dairy, Satterwhite Farms, Bush River Jerseys, Sunny Day Farm, and Will Do Jerseys.

## Dairy Workers Program

Labor management and worker training have been identified as areas of concern among many dairymen and represent an opportunity for improved performance, workforce stability and retention. Language barriers and inconsistent levels of experience make continuous training essentials; however communicating with Spanish speaking employees can be a challenge for English speaking dairymen. With this in mind,

Clemson Extension worker in Alltech in order to provide a program that would increase the efficiency of the dairy labor force through bilingual training in the areas of: Nutrition (bunker face management, mixing, monitoring changes in intake, etc.), Animal Health, Milking Practices, Calf Management and more...through producer meetings, individual farm visits and individualized training programs

## Mastitis Management Meetings

For most dairy producers, mastitis is the costliest animal disease on their farm. The cost is estimated to be at least \$185/cow annually in the U.S. If mastitis didn't exist, the lives of all dairy producers would be much easier (so would the lives of the cows). But since there is mastitis, producers must know how to manage it to remain profitable and stay in business. A series of informational mastitis management meetings were held to help familiarize producers with

### NEWBERRY COUNTY

2007 Census Number of Farms	633
Land in Farms, ac.	103,570
Average Farm Size, ac.	164

Cash Receipts 2008	Dollars	Rank
Crops	5,294,000	33
Livestock	78,965,000	6
Total	84,259,000	8

Livestock and Livestock Products	Number	Rank
Jan 1, 2009 All Cattle & Calves	24,000	3
2009 Milk Production, (000 Lbs)	71,380	1
Dec 1, 2009 All Hogs & Pigs	*	*
2009 Egg Production, (000)	230,000	1
2009 Broilers Produced (000)	7,561	9
2009 Turkeys Raised (000)	754	5

2008 Crops	Acres Harvested	Yield	Production	Rank
Corn for Grain, Bu.	1,100	80	287,900	27
Cotton, Lb. & Bales	*	*	*	*
Hay, All, Ton	14,100	1.6	21,900	8
Oats for Grain, Bu.	650	37	23,900	6
Peanuts, Lbs.	--	--	--	--
Sorghum, Bu.	*	*	*	*
Soybeans, Bu.	2,000	11	22,000	27
Tobacco, Lbs.	--	--	--	--
Winter Wheat, Bu.	2,800	29	79,900	12
Apples, Lbs.	--	--	--	--
Peaches, Tons	*	*	*	*

common causes, management strategies, and research in mastitis prevention.

### **Hedging 101**

An information program was developed to familiarize producers with hedging tools and strategies, risk management strategies, and dairy market outlook.



*Southeast Dairy Youth*

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## **Pesticide Training**

Initial and recertification training for licensed pesticide applicators is necessary to obtain/maintain a pesticide license. Pesticide applicators are classified as private, commercial, or non-commercial license holders. The license enables applicators to purchase and apply restricted use pesticides. Three certification/recertification meetings were held with ten new private applicators certified, and recertification credits were available at a number of crop production meetings throughout the year. Newberry County currently has 20 licensed commercial applicators and 121 licensed private applicators

### **Other Dairy Related activities in Newberry**

June Dairy Month Celebration at the Newberry Tractor Supply  
June Dairy Month Poster Contest  
Newberry 4-H Dairy Club  
SC Annual Jersey Cattle Association Meeting  
Newberry Ag Expo Dairy Show  
Milk System Checks  
SC Dairy Project Heifers  
Cow Comfort Meeting  
State 4-H and FFA Dairy Foods Contest  
Individual Farm Visits

Other educational opportunities offered to Newberry Dairymen

Reproduction Update Meeting  
Dairy Research Update Meeting  
Calf Care Meetings  
June Dairy Month Banquet  
Transition Cow Meeting  
Dairy Producer Newsletter  
Dairy Youth Newsletter



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## **Master Gardeners**



Master Gardeners continue to give back to the community after they complete their course work. This past year Master Gardeners have provided leadership in running the Newberry Farmers Market in downtown Newberry. They have been active in helping with the Octoberfest every fall. Other projects in the community have been, updating the Armfield Gardens at the Newberry County Hospital, and the Newberry Japanese Gardens. This year there were 15 students in the Master Gardener course. The Master Gardener course consists of 14 weeks of classes on various horticulture topics. After the course work, the graduates are required to do 40 hours of community work. Then they receive the title of “Master Gardener”. The Master Gardener course has had several changes made to it in the past year. If you would like more information on becoming a Master Gardener contact the Newberry Extension office at 803-276-1091.





## Newberry Family & Community Leaders

The 30 members of the Newberry Family and Community Leaders are involved in three different clubs in the county. They include the Helena, Silverstreet and Heirloom Needle Arts Clubs. Each club holds 9 or more educational meetings each year and the organization gathers together for two council meetings each year. Their lessons include nutrition, safety, health, and environment.

This year, the members from across the state worked on project entitled, "Taking it Off", which is about weight loss. Among their activities, the group held an exercise class with exercise instructor, Lisa Bundrick.

## Fun-With-Food and Nutrition Activity

Over 100 children visited a local dairy farm in April 2010 in Newberry County. Children were delighted at seeing cows, cows being milked, or milk pouring into cartons/jugs from the Moo-Vending Machine; and their understanding of where dairy foods come from increased. Food and Nutrition Educator and the State Dairy Agent along with local dairymen planned and coordinated the Preschool Day at the Dairy Farm.



The dairy visit consisted of several different learning stations on the dairy farm. Each station was designed with the preschooler in mind. Some of the nutrition activities for preschoolers that were included are the following:

- story- time station – children listen, participated in an interactive children's story book featuring dairy nutrition
- hand washing station- a station to encourage /demonstrate proper hand washing
- Milk mustache and Picture station (low-fat frozen yogurt was used to make children's mustache and pictures were taken of children's mustache.)
- Milk sampling station – children were given sample of low-fat chocolate milk and 1% low-fat milk
- Dairy Games/ Circle Time Station

Plus the farm has several stations such as Milking parlor station, and birthing stations.

Each child received a dairy nutrition fun bag to take home and sampled a delicious dairy treat. The Preschool Day at the Dairy Farm was such a successful event that many of the teachers called the agents to scheduled dairy farm visit at the beginning of the new school year in September 2010.





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