

2017 REPORT TO THE PEOPLE: UNION COUNTY

2017 Newberry Forestry Focus

The Newberry Forestry Association and the Clemson Extension Service partnered together to offer a full day workshop that benefits both landowners and professionals. The Newberry Forestry Focus began in 1985 and is held every odd year. This year we hosted our 16th biennial Forestry Focus workshop that offered a variety of programs with break-out sessions. Continuing education credits for Foresters were offered. Topics included the following: Current Market Trends, Planning a Timber Sale, Timber Tax, Tree Farm Update, First Time Landowner Issues, Deer Population and Legislation, and Common Insects and Diseases of Southern Forest. In 2017 we had 83 people in attendance, of which 66 participants completed evaluations. Every topic showed an increase in knowledge by the participants. We had a potential impact on 23,595 acres that were owned by the participants who completed the evaluations. In addition, we also had 200,383 managed acres represented in the evaluations. Newberry Forestry Focus continues to be a popular program with both landowners and professionals. It provides a great avenue for landowners to meet professionals in the timber and forest industry.



▲ Participants at the 2017 Forestry Focus learning about the new deer regulations.



▲ Participants from the 4-H Survival Camp pose with Deputy Voiselle and Duke.

4-H Survival Camp -- A BIG Hit!!

Union County offered a 4-H Survival Camp to provide knowledge and skills to survive in an emergency. The response for this camp was overwhelming so another camp was added. The camp was for youth ages 10-14 and taught them Why it is important to know survival skills, Where the safest place is, When to use these skills, What supplies are needed, and How to use the supplies. The Union Sheriff's Office helped by donating materials, along with a demonstration by Dep. Matt Voiselle and his bloodhound Duke. They were a hit, and the campers loved seeing Duke in action. The campers learned that if you get lost in the woods, stay put and Duke will find you. Two game wardens from SCDNR talked to the campers about the importance of filling out a float plan. The plan provides a starting point for authorities in case something goes wrong. The "learn by doing" activities included water proofing matches, building a shelter, making an alcohol stove, using a compass, and tying knots. Campers were taught how to make survival kits from a small belt pack, to an extended stay backpack. Campers were given a three day survival kit to take home. Due to the popularity, this could turn into a 4-H club.

SC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
AT A GLANCE



AGENTS
133



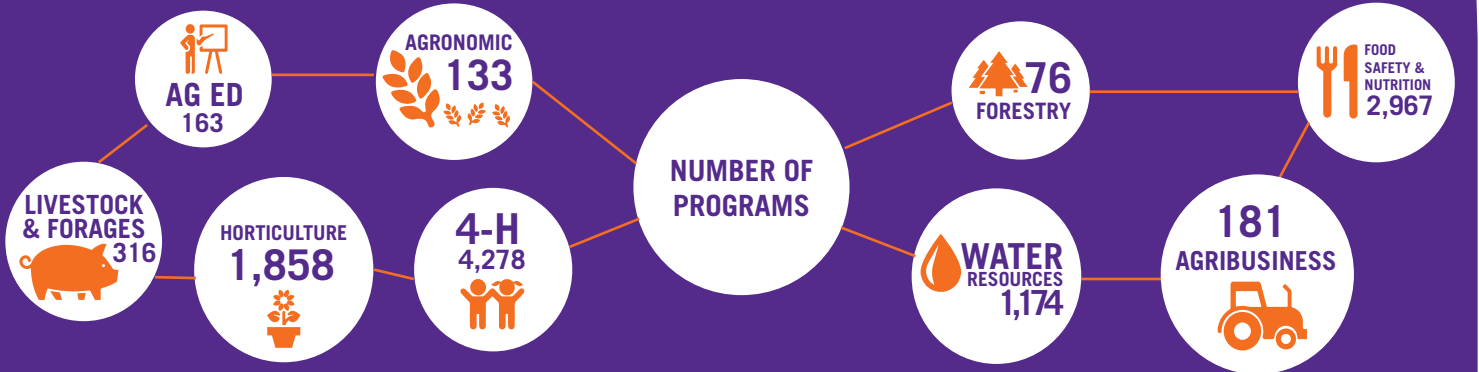
PROGRAMS
11,158



CONTACTS
242,239



**YOUTH & FAMILIES
REACHED**
104,156



▲ Members of the Union County Livestock Association's meeting at the Scales' farm in Jonesville, South Carolina.

Livestock Management Education

The Union County Livestock Association is a group of approximately 80 members. The group, which meets quarterly, is advised by Clemson Area Livestock Agent Cassie Wycoff. She serves as a liaison for the association's educational efforts. In 2017, Clemson Cooperative Extension coordinated three education events for the Association on subjects pertaining to livestock and forage production. Cassie Wycoff presented to the group, in February, on the identification and control of forage insect pests.

The early identification of these pests aids in timely control, before insect damage reaches severe economic loss of pasture and forage crops. In May, a Clemson University professor and Extension Agricultural Engineer presented a great talk on the fertilizer value of poultry litter. Fertilizer prices continue to climb and knowing the value of other alternatives is imperative to a sustainable livestock production.

The third event took place at Mike and Susan Scales farm in Jonesville, South Carolina. The on-farm demonstrations included a sprayer calibration led by Mike Scales and Cassie Wycoff and proper livestock water crossing construction, led by the local NRCS agent.



Union County

◀ Union County 4-H Shooting Sports Club Volunteers work the shooting sports trailer at the Union County Agricultural Fair. We are proud to be able to offer our shooting sports program to 4-H members at no extra cost thanks to the funds raised from our trailer. This past year we had between 1500 and 2000 people shoot in the trailer. It provides a great opportunity to teach gun safety and recruit new members to our 4-H Shooting Sports Program.

<http://www.clemson.edu/union>