

2017 REPORT TO THE PEOPLE: CALHOUN COUNTY

Maximizing Your Corn's Potential

Corn acreage has increased in the Calhoun/Richland County area over the past several years. Many farmers have been concerned that their yields have not been keeping pace with many of their neighboring county's farmers. Clemson Extension Agent Charles Davis developed a workshop focusing on fertility and production inputs for corn that would help farmers be more productive. He invited Crops Agronomist Dr. Glen Harris and Dr. Dewey Lee, Grain Specialist, University of Georgia to present a program to help farmers fine tune their fertility programs, and to maximize their use of irrigation. The program was presented twice in one day, once in St Matthews and then in Allendale. Registered attendance in St. Matthews was 68 and in Allendale was 65. Sixty percent of those in attendance returned evaluation forms. All respondents indicated they had learned valuable information from the workshop and 85% indicated they felt the workshop would help them be more profitable the following year. Success of the workshop generated interest in holding a statewide corn and soybean production meeting similar to those held by cotton and peanut producers. This is currently being planned for fall of 2017.



▲ Ricky Williams demonstrates proper beaver trapping techniques during the outdoor demonstration session of the Wildlife Management Workshop.



▲ Dr. Dewey Lee, Corn Specialist, University of Georgia presents information on establishing an even stand of corn to help maximize yield at the Corn Management Workshop in St. Matthews.

Wildlife Management Workshop

Landowners in Calhoun/Richland Counties are in a constant battle with nuisance wildlife. Wild hogs, coyote, and beaver cause destruction of desirable wildlife, destroy woodlands, damage pond dams, and damage crops. Aquatic weeds render farm ponds unenjoyable. The decline in the quail population has changed the face of the southern hunting tradition. Suggestions from advisory committees indicated that a wildlife management workshop would be well received in the area. Clemson Extension Agent Charles Davis developed the workshop to include management of feral hogs, coyote, beaver, and aquatic weeds. Quail habitat restoration was also included in the program.

Forty Four participants attended the training which included both classroom presentations and outdoor demonstrations. Ninety eight percent responded that they found the workshop to be helpful in managing their nuisance wildlife issues. Ninety five percent indicated that the workshop was worth their time and registration fee to attend. Forty Five percent indicated that they would be interested in more intense management workshops focusing on one particular subject. Attendees from 12 area counties attended the workshop.

SC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
AT A GLANCE



AGENTS
133



PROGRAMS
11,158



CONTACTS
242,239



YOUTH & FAMILIES
REACHED
104,156



AG ED
163



AGRONOMIC
133



LIVESTOCK & FORAGES
316



HORTICULTURE
1,858



4-H
4,278

NUMBER OF PROGRAMS



76
FORESTRY



WATER RESOURCES
1,174



FOOD SAFETY & NUTRITION
2,967



181
AGRIBUSINESS

Forestry Education

Clemson Extension Forestry Agent, Beth Richardson hosted a one day annual forestry meeting that included technical forestry experts from Mississippi, Auburn and Virginia Polytech Institute to share the most up to date forestry research. Topics addressed at this meeting included: forest management, pole production, estate planning and timber sale to bring a higher return. An audience of 170 diverse group members were in attendance. The Forestry Association of SC accepted a video submitted and music scored by Beth Richardson about reforestation.

This video will be used by TOP logger for recertification training. The video was filmed at local landowner's properties from Orangeburg and Bamberg Counties. The first viewing will be at the annual Timber Producers Association's meeting held in Myrtle Beach, SC. Thereafter, the video will be viewed and used by all certified loggers in South Carolina. The Alabama Forest Owners Association invited Clemson Extension Agent, Beth Richardson, to speak at their annual state meeting. Beth Richardson spoke about the newest research concerning selling timber using real life examples. Her speech was made available online to 10,000 AFOA members.

Many landowners work and are unable to attend an all-day meeting. Forestry Agent Beth Richardson asked Dr. Patrick Hiesl to present his findings on timber sales to a group of local landowners. About 75 landowners attended the evening event at a forest landowners pond and shed in Orangeburg County.



▲ Annual Forestry Meeting Attendees



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