

**SLC STATE OFFICE CONTACTS
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
JULY 8-22, 2015
SAVANNAH GA**

STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS INFORMATION

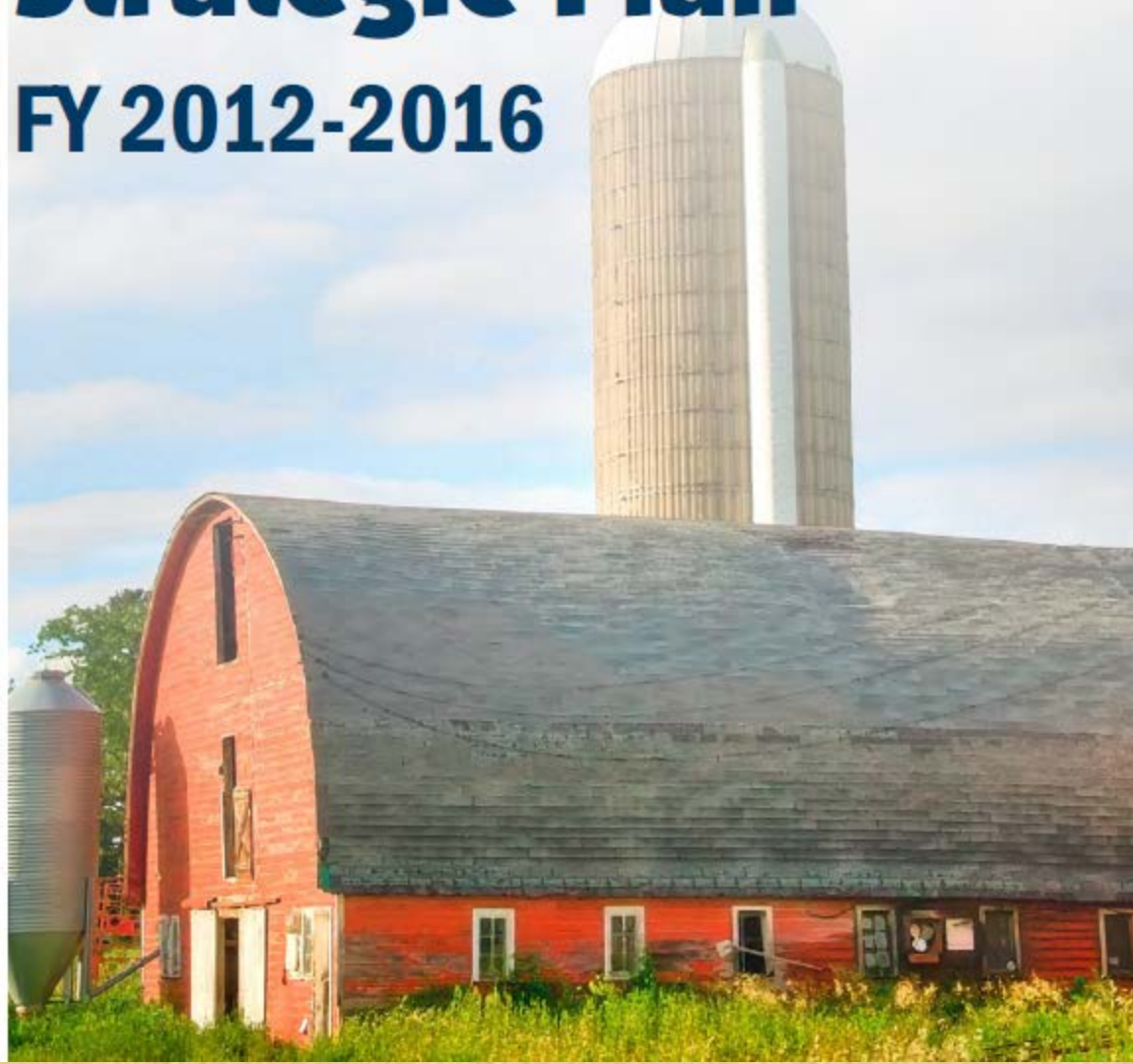
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STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS (SED) INFORMATION--CON'T

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Strategic Plan

FY 2012-2016



Mission Statement

Our mission is to deliver timely, effective programs and services to America's farmers and ranchers to support them in sustaining our Nation's vibrant agricultural economy, as well as provide first-rate support for domestic and international food aid efforts.

Vision Statement

We shall transform into a more diverse and innovative Agency.

Core Values

- **Quality Service** - Providing fair, equitable, and quality service to our customers.
- **Continuous Improvement** - Improving the delivery of quality, accessible programs.
- **Inclusiveness** - Respecting the individual differences and diversity of our workforce and our customers.
- **Fiscal Stewardship** - Being good stewards of taxpayers' dollars.
- **Teamwork** - Working together to ensure delivery of effective and efficient programs.
- **Transparency** - Making the Agency's operations more open so that the public can learn how FSA delivers its programs.



2014 Farm Bill Highlights

Farm Safety Net

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- The 2008 Farm Bill continued direct payments—a system that paid producers regardless of whether they incurred losses.
- Disaster assistance programs expired in fiscal year 2011. Since then, producers impacted by disease or adverse weather conditions have not received financial assistance for losses incurred.

2014 Farm Bill

- Eliminates direct payments and continues crop insurance.
- Producers will choose between the Price Loss Coverage and Agricultural Risk Coverage. Establishes the Dairy Margin Protection program.
- Restores livestock disaster assistance for losses dating back to 2011, and establishes a permanent livestock disaster program.

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

Rural Development

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- USDA programs support investments in the rural economy through grants, loans and loan guarantees with an emphasis on essential infrastructure, small business development, job creation, and growth.

2014 Farm Bill

- Continues USDA Rural Development programs. Provides \$15 million to support rural business development and growth through the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program.
- Provides \$150 million for water and wastewater infrastructure.
- Reserves 10% of certain programs for regional, long-term investments to better promote economic development through regional planning and leveraging of resources.

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

TRADE AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- USDA expands markets for U.S. agricultural goods through the Foreign Market Development Program and Market Access Program. Local and Regional Procurement (LRP) authorized as a pilot to provide international development assistance and expedite food aid.

2014 Farm Bill

- Continues authorization for \$200 million annually for international market development.
- Authorizes up to \$80 million for LRP and makes the program permanent.
- Provides more flexibility for USAID to use cash assistance in administering the Food for Peace program.
- Increases flexibility for assistance in emergency situations.

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

RESEARCH

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- USDA advances scientific knowledge related to agriculture through research, extension, and education. Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) funded at \$40 million annually.

2014 Farm Bill

- Endows \$200 million for a foundation for agricultural research.
- Doubles the funding for SCRI to \$80 million annually

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

CONSERVATION

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- The 2008 Farm Bill built on past farm bills, providing further conservation opportunities for farms and ranchers.

2014 Farm Bill

- Consolidates conservation programs for flexibility, accountability and adaptability at the local level.
- Links basic conservation practices to crop insurance premium subsidy for highly erodible lands and wetlands.
- Builds upon previous successful partnerships and encourages agricultural producers and partners to design conservation projects that focus on and address regional priorities.

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- The 2008 Farm Bill established new energy programs, including the Biorefinery Assistance Program, the Biobased Marketing Program and the Biomass Crop Assistance Program.

2014 Farm Bill

- Reauthorizes and provides \$880 million for energy programs established in the 2008 Farm Bill.
- Expands Biorefinery Assistance Program to include biobased product and renewable chemical manufacturing.
- Expands Biopreferred program to include forestry products.

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

FORESTRY

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- The Forest Service (FS) was granted Stewardship Contracting Authority through FY14.
- Good Neighbor Authority allowed State Foresters in CO and UT to conduct restoration services on National Forest System Lands. Expanded to include all states in FY14, through FY18.

2014 Farm Bill

- Makes Stewardship Contracting Authority permanent, allowing FS to conduct restoration work and stimulate job growth.
- Makes the Good Neighbor Authority permanent and available nationwide.

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

NUTRITION

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the cornerstone of the Nation's food assistance safety net, helping families put food on the table.
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) supports food banks and food pantries.

2014 Farm Bill

- Maintains SNAP eligibility for millions of low-income families.
- Provides \$200 million for job training and \$100 million to increase fruit and vegetable purchases.
- Provides \$250 million in additional funding for TEFAP.
- Authorizes \$125 million for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative to make nutritious food more accessible.

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

NEXT GENERATION FARMERS AND RANCHERS

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- The 2008 Farm Bill established the Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program with \$75 million for FY 2009 to FY 2012.

2014 Farm Bill

- Provides \$100 million for the Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program.
- Increases access to capital and supports crop insurance and risk management tools, including reducing crop insurance premiums during the first 5 years of farming.

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- The Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) funded at \$10 million annually.

2014 Farm Bill

- Renames FMPP to “Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program” and provides \$30 million annually.
- Continues to reserve funds in the Business & Industry Loan Program for locally- and regionally- focused businesses.
- Advances growth of local and regional food systems with \$65 million for Value Added Product Market Development Grants.

2014 Farm Bill Highlights

SPECIALITY CROPS AND ORGANICS

Before the 2014 Farm Bill

- Funded the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBG) at \$52 million annually to promote fruit and vegetable production.
- The 2008 Farm Bill provided \$55 million to strengthen the nation's infrastructure for pest detection and threat mitigation, and to safeguard nursery production.

2014 Farm Bill

- Provides \$72.5 million annually for SCBG.
- Provides new resources for organic farmers, including funding the Organic Cost Share program at \$11.5 million annually.
- Increases funding for pest and disease management and disaster prevention to \$62.5 million per year, and \$75 million in FY 2018 and beyond.

USDA INVESTS IN GEORGIA

At the U.S. Department of Agriculture, we work with thousands of farmers, ranchers and rural communities every day and we know that there is no limit to the economic potential of rural America. Over the past five years, USDA has invested **more than \$32.6 billion** (fiscal year 2009-2013) in Georgia to support the farmers who are driving the rural economy forward, carry out record conservation efforts, facilitate groundbreaking research, promote new markets for rural products, and provide a safe, affordable and nutritious food supply for Georgian families.

USDA INVESTS IN GEORGIA (CON'T)

\$ INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS FY 09-13 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

USDA invested more than **\$3.3 billion** to support affordable housing, create jobs and promote economic opportunity for those who live, work and raise their families in rural Georgia.

FARMING AND RANCHING

Farmers and ranchers are the backbone of America's vibrant agricultural economy. USDA has helped support the ongoing success of Georgia farmers by investing more than **\$4.8 billion** in programs that provide access to credit, support a strong farm safety net, and promote new markets for farm and ranch products.

CONSERVATION

Conservation helps farmers and ranchers keep land in production while improving the condition of natural resources. USDA invested more than **\$518 million** in efforts to conserve and protect Georgia's land, water and air resources.

USDA INVESTS IN GEORGIA (CON'T)

INFRASTRUCTURE

Robust infrastructure development, including electricity, broadband and telecommunications, water and wastewater, and construction of community facilities like fire stations and libraries, is the foundation for rural America's viability. In Georgia, USDA has invested more than **\$3.2 billion** in infrastructure development.

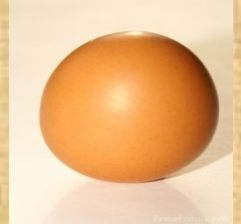
RESEARCH

From adapting to the effects of climate change to ensuring global food security, the challenges facing American agriculture are immense. USDA has invested nearly **\$431 million** in Georgia to support research that will secure and improve our food, agricultural and natural resources systems.

TRADE

In 2012, exports of farm and ranch products contributed more than **\$2.9 BILLION** to the Georgia economy.

USDA INVESTS IN GEORGIA (CONT)



ABOUT RURAL GEORGIA

USDA works each day to strengthen Georgia's agriculture. Rural Georgia is home to **42,257 farms** across **9.6 million acres**. Georgia's top agricultural products include chickens, cotton, peanuts, eggs and cattle. All told, sales of farm and ranch products contributed nearly **\$9.8 billion** to Georgia's economy in 2012.

Georgia agriculture contributes to a sector that nationwide supports **one in 12 jobs**, provides American consumers with **more than 80 percent of the food we consume**, ensures that Americans spend less of their paychecks at the grocery store than most people in other countries, and supports markets for homegrown renewable energy and materials.



FARM LOANS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

2014 FARM BILL

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

FACT SHEET



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

FARM LOANS

2014 FARM BILL
FACT SHEET

November 2014

Farm Loan Information Chart

The following chart summarizes FSA farm loan information. Additional details are available at local FSA offices and on FSA's website: www.fsa.usda.gov.

Program	Maximum Loan Amount	Rates and Terms	Use of Proceeds
Direct Farm Ownership (FO)	\$300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate based on agency borrowing costs Term up to 40 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase farm Construct buildings or other capital improvements Soil and water conservation Pay closing costs
Direct Farm Ownership (FO) Participation	\$300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate is direct FO rate less 2% with a floor of 2.5% if at least 50% of loan amount provided by other lender Term up to 40 years 	Same as Direct FO
Direct Down Payment Farm Ownership Program	The lesser of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45% of the purchase price, 45% of the appraised value, \$300,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate is direct FO rate less 4% with a floor of 1.5% Term of 20 years Down payment of at least 5% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase of farm by a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer
Direct Operating (OL)	\$300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate based on agency borrowing cost Term from 1 to 7 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase livestock, poultry, equipment, feed, seed, farm chemicals and supplies Soil and water conservation Refinance debts with certain limitations
Direct Operating Microloan (ML)	\$50,000	Same as Direct OL	Same as Direct OL
Direct Emergency	100% actual or physical losses \$500,000 maximum program indebtedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate is based on the OL rate plus 1% Term from 1 to 7 years for non-real estate purposes Term up to 40 years for physical losses on real estate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restore or replace essential property Pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year Pay essential family living expenses Reorganize the farming operation Refinance debts with certain limitations
Guaranteed Operating	\$1,392,000 (Amount adjusted annually for inflation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate determined by the lender Term from 1 to 7 years Loan guarantee fee is 1.5% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as direct OL
Guaranteed Farm Ownership	\$1,392,000 (Amount adjusted annually for inflation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate determined by the lender Term up to 40 years Loan guarantee fee is 1.5% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as direct FO except loan may be used to refinance debts
Guaranteed Conservation Loan (CL)	\$1,392,000 (Amount adjusted annually for inflation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate determined by the lender Term not to exceed 30 years, or shorter period, based on the life of the security Loan guarantee fee is 1.5% Eligibility requirements expanded to include large and financially strong operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement any conservation practice in an NRCS approved conservation plan May be used to refinance debts related to implementing an NRCS approved conservation plan
Land Contract (LC) Guarantee	The purchase price of the farm cannot exceed the lesser of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$500,000 The current market value of property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate cannot exceed the direct FO interest rate plus 3% Amortized over a minimum of 20 years with no balloon payments during the first 10 years of loan Down payment of at least 5% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sell real estate through a land contract to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer Guarantee is with the seller of the real estate

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