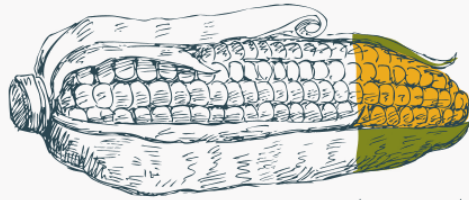


South Carolina Farm Aid



THE AGRIBUSINESS CLUSTER
HAS A TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF
\$41.7 BILLION
IN 2013



ECONOMIC IMPACT HAS
INCREASED **23%**
SINCE 2006

THE AGRIBUSINESS CLUSTER ACCOUNTED FOR
109,141 & **212,530**
DIRECT JOBS JOBS TOTAL



REPRESENTING
10.5%
OF THE STATE'S
WORKFORCE

IN 2013

The Impact of the Agribusiness Sector on the South Carolina Economy



Table 1: Estimated Losses in the Field and from Prevented Planting

Losses in the Field		Losses from Prevented Planting	
Peanuts	\$72,899,200	Wheat	\$24,331,883
Cotton	\$86,121,984	Oats	\$1,393,140
Soybeans	\$125,846,000	Canola/Rapeseed	\$284,646
Vegetables	\$45,000,000	Vegetables	\$15,000,000
Fruit	\$10,000,000	Fruit	\$5,000,000
Total	\$329,867,184	Total	\$46,009,669
Total Loss		\$375,876,853	

Source: USDA, Farm Service Agency and South Carolina Department of Agriculture.





Farm in Darlington County



H4717 Overview

- ❖ House Bill 4717 became law May 24, 2016 establishing the South Carolina Farm Aid Grant Program.
- ❖ \$40 million available to South Carolina farmers who suffered at least a 40% loss of an affected agricultural commodity as a result of the October 2015 flooding



Guidelines

- ❖ A person, including any grant made to a related person, may not receive grants aggregating more than \$100,000
 - ❖ In a percentage ownership situation:

Grant amount x ownership %

- ❖ One person's cumulative awards cannot exceed \$100,000





Use of Funds

- ❖ Use of funds:
 - ❖ Must be used for agricultural production expenses and losses due to the flood
 - ❖ Must demonstrate the intent to continue the agricultural operation
 - ❖ May NOT be used to buy new equipment
- ❖ Grant recipients will be required to keep receipts from purchases made with grant funds for 3 years and are subject to audit.
- ❖ If the funds are used for ineligible expenses, the money must be returned and the person can be prosecuted.



Application Process

- ❖ Eligibility Checklist:
 - ❖ Experienced a verifiable loss of agricultural commodities of at least 40 percent as a result of the catastrophic flooding of October 2015
 - ❖ A farm located in a USDA flood disaster declared county in South Carolina (all but Cherokee, Jasper, Oconee, and Pickens)
 - ❖ A farm number issued by the Farm Service Agency
 - ❖ Signed and notarized affidavit
 - ❖ W-9
 - ❖ The ability to demonstrate an intent to continue farming



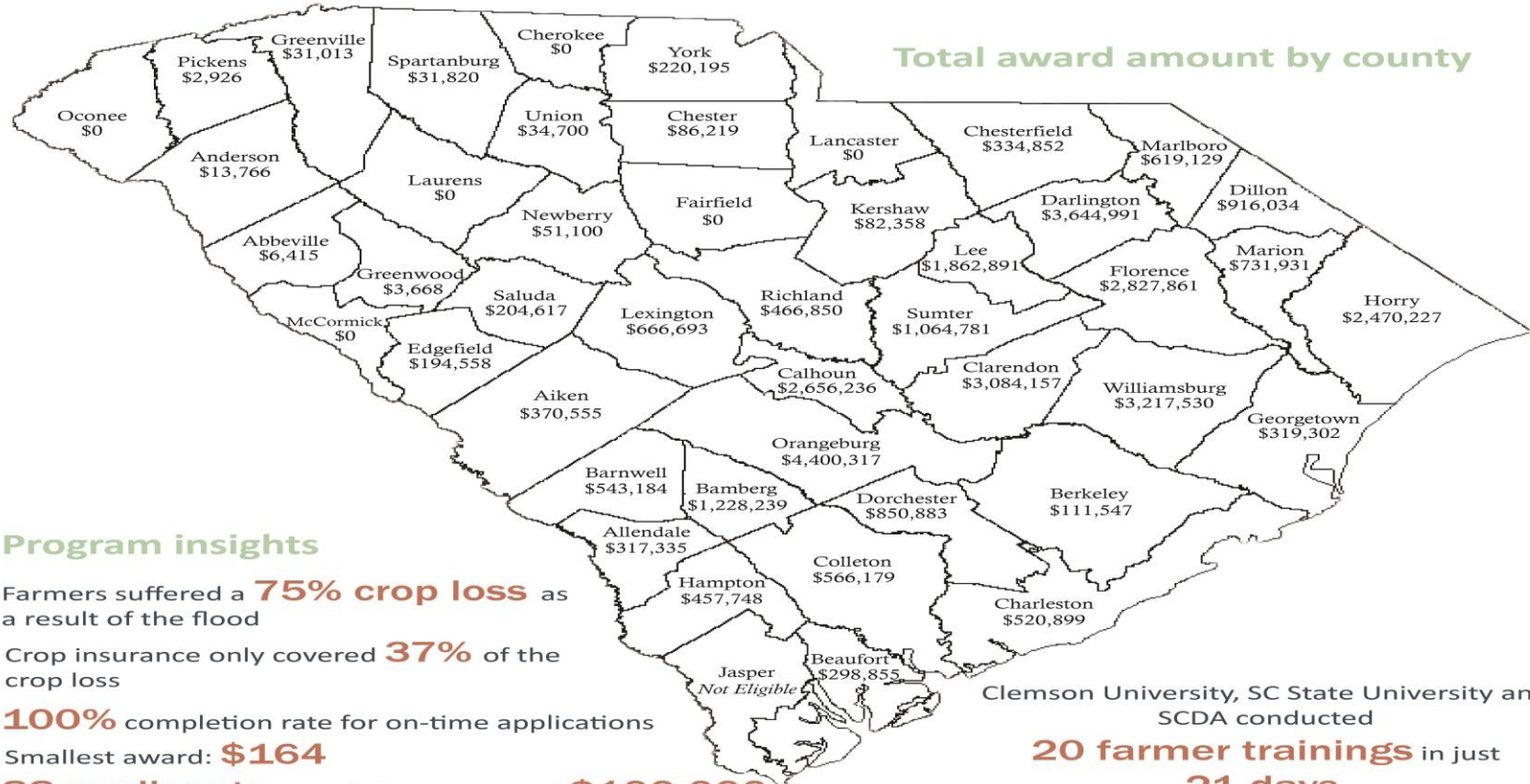
Flooding inside RJ Reynolds tobacco warehouse on east McIntyre street in Mullins via David Bellamy.



South Carolina Farm Aid

By the numbers

1244 farmers were approved for a total award amount of **\$35,512,560**



Program insights

Farmers suffered a **75% crop loss** as a result of the flood

Crop insurance only covered **37%** of the crop loss

100% completion rate for on-time applications

Smallest award: **\$164**

88 applicants awarded maximum of **\$100,000**

Average award: **\$28,365**

Only **8** ineligible applications

Clemson University, SC State University and SCDA conducted

20 farmer trainings in just **21 days.**



Hugh E. Weathers, Commissioner

South Carolina Department of Agriculture • 1200 Senate Street • Columbia, SC • 29201
agriculture.sc.gov