The Seed Lab

The Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (ADAI) Seed Laboratory is responsible for verifying “Truth in Labeling” for seeds planted, sold and distributed in Alabama. Seed Lab personnel assist farmers by assuring their seeds comply within standards set by the state of Alabama and the Association of Official Seed Analysts, as well as the rules and guidelines established by the USDA’s Federal Seed Act.

Numerous tests are performed to provide farmers, retailers and wholesalers with an accurate analysis. Samples in violation may be suspended from sale, destroyed or label correction is required. The Seed Lab publishes violations on a quarterly basis and they are posted on the department’s website.

“Our staff recognizes the importance of what we do. I see the farmer’s faces when they bring seeds in; I hear the urgency in their voices when they call to check on samples,” said Seed Lab Director Andrae McMillan. “I know their livelihood depends partly on the work our lab does.”

Seed dealers depend on the seed lab to provide accurate analysis that will stand up in court or lawsuits. Violators are restricted from selling their seed stock in Alabama. Seed Lab personnel have the authority to seize samples from violators.

The U.S. House of Representative passed the Agriculture Nutrition Act of 2018, known as the farm bill, on June 21. Furthermore, the U.S Senate approved their version of the farm bill on June 28.

Key differences between the House and Senate bills are the food stamp program, farm subsidy caps and conservation initiatives.

Once the House and Senate conference committee is determined, they will look for ways to reconcile differences with the two versions of the legislation.

Alabama Congresswoman Martha Roby and U.S. House Ag Committee Chairman Mike Conaway joined Alabama farmers and agribusiness leaders in Pike County on July 5, to discuss the bill. They followed the roundtable discussions by visiting local farming operations.

“Alabama is blessed to have a congressional delegation in Washington that understands the importance of agriculture,” said Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries Commissioner John McMillan. “American food security depends on strong agricultural policies that provide stability for our nation’s farmers and ranchers.”

The farm bill is the primary agriculture and food policy tool of the federal government, voted on every five years by Congress. It includes all agriculture-related federal appropriations. The current farm bill expires on September 30.
ALABAMA FARMERS AND CONSUMERS BULLETIN

CATTLE

All livestock listings must be from bonafide livestock farmers. Notices from livestock dealers, order buyers or persons selling on commission will not be accepted.

CATTLE SALES

Cattle 18 months and older must be sold at public sale with at least 24 hours’ notice to the contact the State Veterinarian’s Office at 334-240-7253. Animals sold must be free of disease and in good health requirements of the state of Alabama.

- 2. 5 yd pans, gate, good bags & feet $1,500/pair; 5 & 6 yd spring calves, 8 to 9 mos. bred, $1,350/ea. Clark Brown 256/707-8883 (Cullman)
- Reg. Angus bulls, large selection of 2 to 3 yd, bred to select service sires, sale is open and available semen tested, ready to work, $2,000/pair. Chip Her rigan 1318 Asbury Rd., Grove Hill 35651 256/399-1272 (Pike)
- Reg. Brangus heifers, various ages, $1,400/pair, good EPDs, very gentle. Randy Cle 3659 Midway Rd., Thomastown 36755 250/503-4744 (Calhoun)
- Reg. Charolais bulls, 16-27 mos, polled, good EPDs, vet checked, $1,200/pair. Donald Coffey 2639 Co Rd 843, Cullman 256/596-6887 or 256/691-6500 (DeKalb)
- Bred Brangus heifers, bred to LBW reg. Angus bulls of various ages, deep body, good EPDs & very gentle, $1,350, 334/701-4501 (Huntsville)
- Need a gentle polled bull? Come see dark red reg. Santa Gertrudis $1,500 & Red Brangus $2,000. Betty Keese-Clough 85 Jackson Cove, Somerville 35670 205/728-2521 (Calhoun)
- Young black Angus bulls $1,500; $500 small bloodlines. Earl Woodard 318 Faust Rd., Bessemerville 35670 256/778-7362 or 256/566-7878 (Marshall)
- Black Angus/Hereford bull, 20 mos, up to date vaccinated. SSE good gentle, will make a great replacement, $1,800. Keith Smith 250/553-0360 (Tuscaloosa)
- Reg. Brangus heifers $1,700, 19 mos, vet checked. sale is open & good EPDs are available, 256/708-2747 (Biloxi)

NEWSPAPER ADS 

Mail Order Form with Check to:
Alabama Farmers and Consumers Bulletin
P.O. Box 3336, Montgomery, AL 36109-0336

Please choose one:

In-State Residents:

- 1-Year/2 issues $12.95 (tax included)
- 2-Years/24 issues $29.95 (tax included)

Out-of-State Residents:

- 1-Year/2 issues $15.95 (tax included)
- 2-Years/24 issues $35.95 (tax included)

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ACT NOW

Don’t miss a single issue!
Livestock hauling, haul your livestock to sale barn or from private auctions, local or out of state, $2/loaded 4x5. Kevin Webb 256/369-0391 (Jackson)

Hay & Feeding

Yields are cut. Hay, light & heavy, and light grass, 150/$ per bale, 150/200/$ for quality hay. Call 205/435-3201 (Walker)

Hay and bales:
[Table with hay prices and details]

HORSES & MULES

[Table with horse and mule prices and details]

LIVESTOCK

[Table with livestock prices and details]

MACHINERY

[Table with machinery prices and details]

FARM LABOR AVAILABLE

[Table with farm labor rates and availability]

Map of Alabama Counties

[Map of Alabama Counties]
4-row hooded sprayer $750 OBQ, 4-row rolling cultivator $350, 2 dual & 1 wide for JD size 18-43 ftires. Charles McC 36342 McClain Cir, Gadsden, 256/675-3953 (Calhoun)

New JD 7100 int. front end loader $14,500. Jim Betts 2056 Co Rd 260, Five & low hydrostatic transmission. 1650 Co in exc. cond., $12,500, tractor has high er deck, has 3 pt never used w/141 hrs., photos available. Jeff Gunnin 205/272-

300 disc (Blount)

MF Model 62, two bottom plow, $200; Vinemont 35177 256/734-6064 (Cullman) in exc. cond., 12 volt system, $3,500; 300 disc (Blount)

36480 251/282-6286 (Monroe)

planter. Tim Tucker 14488 Hwy 21 S., Uriah one you want), 1720 JD 12-row stackfold

6039 or 205/454-4884 (Tuscaloosa)

Bill Kitchens 8787 County Line Rd., Dora JD 750 Dozer, 1993, like new undercar-

Robert Buchanan 283 Buchanan Rd., 0304 (Lawrence)

$4,000. A. Alexander, Moulton 256/214-

Pine Mtn. Rd., Remlap 35133 205/681-

Ridge Rd., Luverne 36049 334/335-6183 (Crenshaw)

Steam Cleaner make Steam Jenny, good con.

To obtain official USDA ear tags for the National Scrapie Eradica-

tion Program. To obtain official USDA ear tags, contact the USDA Veterinary Services Office Area at 1-866-USDA-TAG.

SHOES & SHEEP
All sheep and some classes of goats offered for sale or exhibit- tion would be individually identified with official USDA ear tags for the National Scrapie Eradica-

ADGA Reg. Nigerian Dwarf dairy goats. $250-600, show lines, pictures with pedigree lines. ashesbranch.com, kids & adults. Judy Smith, Pell City, 334/573-1274 (St. Clair)

Katahdin sheep, 3 to 4 lambs, $100; Ewe lambs $200; Ram lambs $100. Julan Oaks Dr 12 Co Rd 105, 256/357 256/357/3270 or 256/347-8715 (Cullman)

Machinery:

MACHINE NUMBER

9-18-2018 tractor tires on JD tractors. New set of 8 10.00x16.5 $225. Remlap 205/681-1212 (Lee)

256/357-1865 (Fayette)

Baldwin)

Syrup, Honey & Bees

Honey bees, from $100 to $300 box, full of honey, bees & queen, ready to go. Duzier Hollfeld 344 Hollfeld Rd., McCalla 205/355-0661 or 205/589-9195 (Bibb)

6-350 is good, $20. 256/898-8580 (Walker)

SSWINE
20 hogs, 100-150# 2 mo., Landraces. $300. A. Alexander, Moulton 256/214-0131 (Montgomery)

Trucks & Trailers

Grain bodies, 4x8 & 4x10' 8' wide. $150. 5701 US 431 S., State Route 231.

1.5 yd bucket w/reverse, 4x8x8 grain bodies w/4500# spreaders, $250 each. 334/685-3169 (Barbour)

Barn & Equipment:

4-350 is good, $20. 256/898-8580 (Walker)

Horse trailer, 14.8x6x6, 10.00x20 tires, $1,500. Emory McRoberts 205/681-6010 (Lee)

3 18x8.5 tires on wheels, $400. Welch Scale 205/755-5505 (Cherokee)

2-9x3.5 tires, $250 each. 256/547-4029 (Fayette)

10-ton trailer, at $6,000, used very little, pictures available, 256/510-8480 or 256/357-4852 (Randolph)

new, $250. Jim Betts 2056 Co Rd 260, Five & low hydrostatic transmission. 1650 Co in exc. cond., $12,500, tractor has high er deck, has 3 pt never used w/141 hrs., photos available. Jeff Gunnin 205/272-

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10-ton trailer, at $6,000, used very little, pictures available, 256/510-8480 or 256/357-4852 (Randolph)
ADAI ACCEPTS APPLICATIONS FOR USDA COST-SHARE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Alabama growers and handlers of organic agricultural products can recover part of the cost associated with their USDA certification. The reimbursement covers 75 percent of certification costs, up to a maximum of $750.

The cost-share program makes it easier for certified organic businesses throughout the supply chain by recouping the costs associated with USDA organic certification.

The Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (ADAI) will administer this non-competitive grant program by processing applications for cost share funds, and issuing reimbursements to eligible applicants.

“We encourage organic producers to participate in this program to help cover the costs of becoming certified,” said Commissioner John McMillan.

ADAI distributes funds on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted. The rebates are available to cover certification expenses paid between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2017, or for the period of October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2018.

Application forms can be obtained by calling Johnny Blackmon with the ADAI at 334-240-7257 or by email at Johnny.Blackmon@agi.alabama.gov.

For a listing of local farmers markets throughout the state of Alabama, visit www.fma.alabama.gov. You must be a subscriber to advertise in the Bulletin. The deadline for submitting ads to the Bulletin is the 10th of the month if submitting by fax and email and the 12th of the month if submitting by mail.

FARMER’S MARKET SUMMARY

We will feature one of the four markets covered in Alabama on rotational basis each month. This month’s report is from Feshelle Market Plaza in Cullman for the week of July 12. To view Farmers Market prices for all four markets covered, visit www.agi.alabama.gov and select, “Sections,” then, “Livestock Market News.” Each market report is listed under “Local Reporting.”

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ADS

Following are the guidelines for advertising in the classified section of the Alabama Farmers and Consumers Bulletin. Adherence to these rules will ensure quick processing of ads.

All ads that do not meet the following guidelines will not be published.

1. Only those ads which pertain to agricultural or forestry products and to those items employed in the actual growth, harvesting and disposal of such products will be accepted.

2. Ads should be typed or printed. Those ads that are not legible will not be published.

3. Ads must be limited to 20 words. This does not include name, address or phone number.

4. Ads must include name, address, city, zip code, area code/phone number and county, no “Farm Names or Work Names/Addresses.” Only two phone numbers will be listed. Due to the number of character spaces required for most E-mail addresses, an advertiser must select either a resident address or an E-mail address. Both cannot be printed.

5. Only paid subscribers are permitted to advertise in the Bulletin.

6. Paid subscribers can submit more than one advertisement per category per month but each advertisement is still limited to 20 words.

7. Ads for the classified section will not be accepted from dealers, merchants or commercial establishments.

8. Ads received by fax or e-mail must be received by 5 p.m. on the 10th day of the month and ads received by regular mail must be postmarked by 5 p.m. on the 12th day of the month in order to appear in the following month’s issue. The e-mail address is afcb@agi.alabama.gov and the fax number is 334-240-7169.

9. Ads which are to be repeated must be submitted for each issue.

10. Land advertised/wanted must be minimum of 10 acres or more. Ads will not be accepted from dealers or persons selling land on a commission basis. Information on housing should be limited. Ads should reflect descriptions of the land/farm.

11. Only livestock (herding/working) dogs will be published in the Bulletin.

12. Instructional material cannot be advertised in the Bulletin.

13. Ads will be accepted for agricultural work only. Ads for household, nursing or companionship will not be accepted.

14. Ads to exchange one item for an exchange item will be accepted only when both items being exchanged are related to agriculture. Ads for cars, boats, mobile homes, etc. will not be accepted as an exchange for agricultural items.

15. Prices must be included with all items offered for sale. Price ranges may be used in certain ads; for example, due to age, weight, etc. cattle can be advertised as $1,200-$1,500.

16. We will only advertise birds listed in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) book. Notices from poultry dealers, order buyers or persons selling on commission cannot be accepted. Please note: Psittacine birds and pigeons are NOT listed in the NPIP book. Any questions concerning the NPIP should be directed to the Poultry Unit at 334-240-7255 ext. 4.

Advertisements in the Bulletin are published on a first come, first serve basis. It is the advertiser’s responsibility to submit their items as soon as possible. While the Bulletin does not assume responsibility for transactions resulting from the use of this publication, all means of preventing fraud will be exercised. Misrepresentation will result in the revocation of all privileges. For questions concerning the guidelines, please e-mail afcb@agi.alabama.gov.
Titan RX Turf-Type Tall Fescue Seeds

Even when conditions are less than ideal, Titan Fescues are well known and valued for providing durable, attractive turf. It has all the excellent features of the previous parentage with further selections for improved color, even stronger resistance to brown patch, heat, drought and winter, and increased rhizome growth. It also has excellent shade tolerance, making it a very versatile variety.

OREGON SCIENTIFIC WIRELESS RAIN GAUGE with Outdoor Thermometer
#RGR126NH. Automatic self-emptying rain collector measures and eliminates collected rainfall. Wireless range up to 300 feet. Displays outdoor temperature. Digital clock. Runs on 3 AA batteries. 9-day memory.

AFC #482576, AFC $49.99

Wood Handle Tools
Your Choice
$12.99

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Wood handles

Hedge Shears
Wood handles
#WP-3220, AFC #470406
#WP-2120, AFC #400380

$17.99

$31.99

GIVE THE STORE NEAREST YOU A CALL. PRODUCT AVAILABILITY, DIRECTIONS OR GARDENING ADVICE.

Albertville 256-878-3261
Alhama, FL 650-762-3161
Anacortes 360-222-1851
Arab 256-586-6515
Ashford 334-899-3263
Ashville 205-594-7042
Atkins 256-232-5500
Atmore 251-368-2191
Blountstown, FL 850-674-8194
Centre 256-927-3135
Columbiana 205-689-7082
Courtland 256-637-2393
Crossville 310-329-7188
Decatur 256-353-4663
Demopolis 334-289-0165
Elba 334-897-6972
Elberta 251-989-8103
Enterprise 334-347-9007
Fairhope 334-428-2681
Fayette 205-932-5901
Florence 256-764-8441
Frisco City 251-267-3175
Geneva 334-898-7932
Goshen 334-484-3441
Greensboro 334-382-6548
Hale County 205-486-3794
Hamilton 250-921-2631
Hartford 334-588-2992
Hartselle 256-773-6832
Hazel Green 256-828-2010
Headland 334-693-5313
Holly Pond 256-796-5337
Jacksonville 256-435-3430
Jasper 205-367-1142
Jay, FL 350-675-4597
Leighton 256-446-8328
Leroy 251-246-3512
Lineville 256-396-2097
Live Oak, FL 386-362-1459
Lavenna 334-355-5082
Lynnville, TN 931-527-3923
Madison, FL 850-973-2269
Meridianville 256-828-5380
Moulton 256-974-0214
Northport 205-339-8181
Notasulga 334-267-9390
Oneonta 205-274-2185
Opp 334-463-7715
Pell City 205-339-2821
Pinedale 256-447-6560
Pulaski, TN 931-363-2563
Rainey 256-638-2569
Rogersville 256-247-0453
Scottsboro 256-574-1688
Selma 334-874-9083
Stevenson 256-437-8829
Tallassee 256-362-2716
Troy 334-566-3882
Tuscumbia 256-383-6247
Wetumpka 256-367-4743

New shows started in July.
Now Simply Southern TV Show is on
SIMPLY SOUTHERN TELEVISION SHOW
Visit the crew on Facebook at
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TUESDAYS 6 PM CENTRAL
ALABAMA STATIONS AND TIMES (SUBSAT, CENTRAL TIME)
Birmingham WSVN-TV 12 AM
Mobile WGNO-TV 12 AM
Daytona WFLA-TV 12 AM
Paterson, N.J. WORX-TV 12 AM
Scottsdale, AZ KTVK 12 AM
Columbia, Ca. KXMA 12 AM
Winston-Salem WETV 12 AM
Yuma, AZ KSBP 12 AM

RFD-TV
Now America’s Most Important Network
AUBURN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCHERS HELP FARMERS CONTROL COSTS

By Paul Hollis
Auburn University

Cost and efficiency are high on the list of concerns for Alabama farmers and equally high on the list of priorities for Auburn University researchers.

The Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station’s Production Agriculture Research (PAR) grants program, now in its second year, is committed to finding timely solutions to problems that prevent the state’s farmers from being profitable.

Administered through the AAES with USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Hatch funding and matching state appropriations, the PAR program is funding nine research projects this year, with a total commitment of $61,138.

“These projects address needs identified by farmers, commodity groups and other agricultural stakeholders in Alabama. Cost and efficiency are at the top of everyone’s list,” said Henry Fadamiro, associate dean for research for the College of Agriculture and associate director of the AAES.

Among those stakeholders is the Alabama Farmers Federation, the state’s largest farm organization.

“I am excited that Auburn University is continuing this effort to address real-world production challenges and opportunities for Alabama farmers and timber owners,” said Brian Hardin, director of governmental and agricultural programs for the federation and a member of the PAR proposal review panel.

The projects selected for funding show the diversity of the state’s agriculture and the issues that need to be addressed across all areas, Hardin said.

“Alabama farmers are fortunate to have the expertise of these researchers at Auburn University and the AAES,” he said. “Even more though, we are fortunate that the administration and faculty are paying attention to how they can help people be profitable on their farms and land. That is the ultimate mission of the land-grant university.”

The grants program is the first of its kind for the AAES, in that it focuses specifically on production agriculture, as Fadamiro said. Last year, the program supported 15 projects, with a total commitment of $622,000.

Many of the two-year, $50,000 PAR grants support combined research and extension projects that address current farming problems in a timely manner through applied research.

“This is an opportunity for College of Agriculture and AAES faculty to work on solving or providing immediate solutions to production challenges,” Fadamiro said.

New kiwifruit industry

For central Alabama’s fledgling new kiwifruit industry, a serious concern is winter freeze damage in young orchards.

“Winter freeze injury is not a significant problem on mature vines, but vines have proven to be susceptible in the establishment phase,” said Jay Spiers, Department of Horticulture associate professor and lead kiwifruit researcher. “This issue has deterred us from establishing cultivar trials and small commercial plantings throughout the region.”

Currently, producers use overhead sprinklers and/or microsprinklers for freeze protection, and, while that works for spring frosts, it is not a good control option during hard winter freezes. In his PAR project, Spiers will test the efficacy of several different trunk protection strategies for winter freeze protection.

He will present his results at grower and scientific meetings, where it will be applicable for kiwifruit and citrus producers and other stakeholders faced with management decisions on winter freeze protection.

Animal waste management

In another new PAR initiative, the Alabama Animal Waste and Nutrient Management team at Auburn, the Alabama Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Soil and Water Conservation Committee will work together to find ways to improve on-farm phosphorus management and minimize phosphorus runoff.

While applying manure to agricultural lands can improve soil health and promote nutrient cycling, phosphorus mismanagement can lead to eutrophication of waterbodies and jeopardize their designated use.

“We will evaluate phosphorus retention and release rates of Alabama soils under different management practices and determine the ability of soil to act as source or sink of phosphorus to the environment,” said project leader Rishi Prasad, extension assistant professor, and lead nitrogen researcher.

The project also aims to develop a soil test-based decision support tool for assessing the risk of environmental phosphorus loss from agricultural lands.

Fungus-infected fescue grass

Another PAR grant project looks to stem economic losses from reduced animal gain and reproductive performance in endophyte-infected tall fescue forage systems. The fungus costs the U.S. beef industry more than $1 billion per year.

Study leader Kim Mullenix, Department of Animal Sciences extension assistant professor, said endophyte-infected tall fescue is the predominant perennial forage ecotype in north Alabama and the Black Belt region, where more than 60 percent of Alabama beef operations are located.

As tall fescue matures during the early summer months, the endophyte produces high levels of ergovaline, a plant chemical compound that has negative impacts on animal performance,” she said.

“Alternative forage systems are needed to improve animal production potential and extend the grazing season in regions otherwise dominated by cool-season species.”

In her two-year grazing project at the Black Belt Research and Extension Center in Marion Junction, Mullenix will determine the forage production, nutritive value and animal performance characteristics of alternative warm-season grasses in replacement-heifer production systems.

Big-fish problem

Meanwhile, School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences Professor Terry Hanson will be leading a project to solve the Alabama catfish industry’s big-fish problem.

“As for some time now, there has been a surplus of big catfish, or fish greater than 4 pounds in pond inventories for which catfish processors have been unable to identify a viable market,” Hanson said.

Subsequently, processors are paying half price for fish between 4 to 6 pounds and nothing for fish larger than 6 pounds, resulting in lost revenue for commercial catfish farms.

“Possible causes,” he said, “are improper feeding regimes, high levels of chemical compound that produces high levels of ammonia, and improper water quality.”

“Our research seeks to determine the cost of different management strategies toward long-term management of the big-fish problem in the Alabama catfish industry,” he said. “Catfish aging techniques would be employed to determine the age of different size classes of fish in commercial ponds to provide much needed information on harvest efficiency.”

Data from the study will provide management solutions towards solving the big-fish problem, he said.

More projects

Five other projects received 2018 PAR grants:

- Derive “double cash” from trash: Co-production of single-cell protein as aquafeed, along with the lactic acid production from paper mill sludge - $50,000.
- Assessment of profitability of irrigation in crop production and acreage expansion in Alabama - $50,000.
- Evaluation of summer annual forage mixtures for grazing and baleage production in Alabama - $49,983.
- Agrometeorological monitoring and forecasting for sustainable water and agronomic management - $49,975.
- Value-added building blocks from locally abandoned biomass for advanced fuel packaging materials - $49,762.
Alabama Farmers Utilize Pattern Tile Drainage

By Katie Nichols

Pattern tile drainage is a practice of Midwestern producers who have long employed on farm operations. Now, some Alabama producers with soggy soils are laying pattern tile in hopes of more manageable land.

Several farmers in western and central Alabama have made pattern tile installations on-farm.

Drew Wendland, of Autauga Farming Co. in Autaugaville, is hopeful the installation will allow better management on a tract of land in Montgomery County. His ultimate goal is to create the perfect growing environment for his crops.

“By draining excess water, we are able to eliminate one more variable that may negatively impact our crops during the growing season.”

Wendland said, “With irrigation and tile in this field, we believe we can give our crops the best possible chance to reach maximum yield potential with intensive management practices.”

For more information on the conference, registration, corporate partnerships, youth discounts, contact the Department of Animal Sciences at 334-844-1521.

Tile Drainage Differences

Regional Extension Agent Brandon Dillard said heavier soils in the northern part of the Wiregrass have benefited from tile drainage. Some northern parts of the Wiregrass have the same type of drain tile, while others use a drainage tile and riser combination. This works in conjunction with terraces to remove water from the fields without eroding the land.

“Drainage tile in southeast Alabama serves two purposes,” Dillard said. “One being to remove excess rain water from the field and the other is to reduce or even eliminate erosion and broken terraces.”

Terraces are built in conjunction with underground pipe and ‘risers’ to help move the water from the field to a waterway, ditch or creek. The water from rain or irrigation moves down the terrace channels, until it reaches the riser. The riser is a piece of the pipe that stands above ground and has holes in it. Risers allow the water to enter the underground pipe and can safely exit the field without eroding any topsoil.

Dillard said this type of water removal is extremely important when big rain events occur.

Pattern Tile Drainage

Bob Clark, of Clark Farm Drainage Inc., has installed tile drainage in central and west Alabama, Mississippi, Ohio, Louisiana and New Mexico. Clark’s team serves these out-of-state farms in addition to the many farms they serve in their home state of Indiana.

Clark and his team use GPS and other mapping technology to determine the drainage area and design parameter — or drainage coefficient.

“On this Alabama project, our drainage coefficient is a half of an inch. Typically projects we work on in Indiana operate on a three-eighths inch drainage coefficient,” Clark said. “This just means we are trying to remove three-eighths of an inch of water per acre, per day.”

Clark and his team use software to design a custom pattern and then lay pipe two to three feet underground. Pipe is laid at differing angles and connects underground. This pipe will remove excess water at all sites. In some cases, it can be set up to irrigate from underground.

In Alabama, producers receive an average of 55 inches of rainfall per year, while Indiana producers average 40 inches per year. Clark said the average drainage coefficient is important to the overall design of a pattern tile installation.

Ultimately, tile patterns are site-specific and made according to the desired end result of a producer.

Possible Negative Effects

Both Gamble and Clark said nutrient leaching is a negative impact of tile drainage.

“Using best management practices, such as cover cropping, are extremely important for reducing nutrient losses in tile-drained land,” Gamble said. “The extensive root systems of certain cover crop species, like cereal rye, can scavenge for nutrients and prevent leaching losses.”

Additional Information

Gamble said most Alabama soils are well-drained and will not benefit from drainage systems. However, there are exceptions.

Dillard encourages farmers or landowners to contact local Extension agents. In addition, the local Natural Resources Conservation Service can help with designing or cost share opportunities.

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### Monthly Hay Report

Compared to last month: Hay prices were steady for the month of July. Trade moderate with moderate supply and demand. All prices are FOB unless otherwise noted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hay Description</th>
<th>Last Month</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
<th>Current Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bermudagrass Small Square</td>
<td>209.00-300.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bermudagrass Large Round</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bermudagrass Mid Round</td>
<td>51.00-130.00</td>
<td>118.71</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheat Straw Small Square</td>
<td>75.00-75.00</td>
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### Alabama Livestock Summary

Cattle and calves at reported markets throughout the state for July totaled an estimated 30,000 head compared to 42,480 head for June and 37,402 head for July 2017. Compared to last period:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight Range</th>
<th>Avg Wt</th>
<th>Avg Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>1100-1900</td>
<td>1427</td>
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<td>1000-1800</td>
<td>1203</td>
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<td>850-1500</td>
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Slaughter Cows Breakers

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>500-550</td>
<td>531</td>
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<td>450-500</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>136.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>400-450</td>
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Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1

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<th>CWT</th>
<th>Per Head</th>
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<td>300-350</td>
<td>329</td>
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<td>373</td>
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<td>600-650</td>
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<td>650-700</td>
<td>672</td>
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<td>700-750</td>
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Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 1

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<td>350-400</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>138.86</td>
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<td>400-450</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>133.44</td>
<td>572.46</td>
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<td>450-500</td>
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<td>647.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500-550</td>
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<td>114.93</td>
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<td>670</td>
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<tr>
<td>700-750</td>
<td>723</td>
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Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 2

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Weight Range</th>
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<th>Per Head</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>700-750</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>103.25</td>
<td>746.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Upcoming Ag Events

- **August 1**—The Capital City Master Gardener Association sponsors a free monthly Lunch and Learn from noon to 1 p.m. at the Armory Learning Arts Center at 1018 Madison Ave., Montgomery. The August topic is Grow Your Fall Salad, conducted by Master Gardener Mike Forster. For more information, call 334-270-4133 or visit www.capcitymga.org.

- **August 2**—The Autauga County Master Gardeners Association is hosting a free Lunch and Learn beginning at noon at Trinity United Methodist Church at 610 Fairview Ave., Prattville 36066. The August topic is Plant Propagation, conducted by Don Armstrong, a Master Gardener. For more information contact Tana Shealey at 334-361-7273.

- **August 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31**—A poultry and small animal sale will be held at 7 p.m. at Clay County Goat and Poultry Auction at 748 County Rd. 91, Goodwater. For more information, call Richard Askew at 256-839-6824.

- **August 4**—Alabama Farm and Land Show will be held at the Renaissance Montgomery Convention Center, 201 Tallapoosa St. in Montgomery from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. For more information, visit www.cvent.com/events/alabama-farm-land-expo.

- **August 4**—A horse and tack sale will be held at 5 p.m. at Clay County Goat and Poultry Auction at 748 County Rd. 91, Goodwater. For more information, call Richard Askew 256-839-6824.

- **August 11 & 25**—The Central Alabama Goat & Poultry Auction will be held at noon at 1403 Kincheon Rd. in Clanton. Additional livestock and poultry are welcome. For more information, call Jada at 205-258-8307 or Kathy at 205-351-2039.

- **August 11 & 25**—Goats, sheep and cattle sale will be held at noon at Clay County Goat and Poultry Auction at 748 County Rd. 91, Goodwater. For more information, call Richard Askew 256-839-6824.

- **August 24 & 25**—The Alabama Extension’s Urban Affairs & New Nontraditional Programs unit, in partnership with Tennessee State University, is hosting a One Health Symposium for Sheep & Goat Production at Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach. Register at www.aces.edu/urban for a $30 fee. The reception will be held August 24 beginning at 5 p.m. The general session begins August 25 at 8 a.m.

- **September 1**—The Alabama Syrup-Makers Association meets at 8 a.m. at Golden Corral in Dothan every other month. For more information, call Earl Stokes at 334-494-3037.

- **October 8**—The Southeastern Syrup Making & Sugar Cane Field Day will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Todd Farms at 19326 U.S. Hwy. 431, North, Headland, AL 36345. Visitors will see planting, cultivating, fertilizing, chemicals, syrup making and syrup tasting. The cost is $5 per person. For more information call 334-693-2006.

To submit a September event to the Bulletin, send it by mail or email to afcb@agi.alabama.gov by August 15.
**WEATHER CONDITIONS LEAVE COTTON PRODUCERS CONCERNED**

By Justin Miller  
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Weather this spring disrupted planting for cotton crops in South Alabama, leaving farmers across the Wiregrass concerned.

Cool temperatures in April halted planting until early May. Hot temperatures and low rainfall in May made conditions for difficult planting. Many growers stopped planting because of the dry conditions. When rain did arrive in late May, it rained constantly for a large part of June.

William Birdsong, an Alabama Extension regional agent of agronomic crops, said this mixture of odd weather conditions created an odd cotton crop season.

"It was hard this spring to get cotton planted and emerged in the desired time period," Birdsong said. "It was also a challenging spring to manage cotton planted late has special challenges that farmers must face to be successful."

Birdsong said management of late cotton crops is urgent.

"All nutrients, such as nitrogen, should be applied early, somewhere in the third to sixth true leaf," Birdsong said. "Nitrogen doesn’t activate until it rains. If we go through a period with no rain, that cotton is not getting the nitrogen it needs. This slows the cotton’s growth and development."

Birdsong said the time the plant demands the most water is going to coincide with one of the driest times of the year.

"This late crop will reach peak water demand somewhere around the first of September. September is historically the second driest natural rainfall month for Alabama," Birdsong said. "This certainly is concerning when considering the dryland late planted crop."

Birdsong encourages growers to implement the proper management practices for this late cotton crop. For more information, visit Alabama Extension online at www.aces.edu or contact your county Extension office.

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**NATIONAL WEEKLY HOG REPORT**

The following are national statistics of hog sales, as compiled by the USDA on Friday, July 20. Early weaned pigs steady. All feeder pigs $2 per head higher. Demand light to moderate on moderate offerings. Receipts include 58 percent formulated prices. All prices quoted on per head basis with an estimated lean value of 50-54 percent.

Receipts this Week: 73,657  
Last Week: 89,219  
Last Year: 89,883

Information below (l-r) is: Lot Size, Head, Formula Range, Formula Wtd Avg., Head, Cash Range, and Cash Wtd Avg.

**Early Weaned Pigs 10-12 lbs. Basis:**

- 600 or less: 1,900 7.50-16.00 12.93
- 600-1200: 6,714 30.02-41.83 35.12 10.00-16.00 16.58
- 1200 or more: 35,922 21.86-44.00 35.50 17,250 14.00-18.00 16.58

Total composite: 42,636 21.86-44.00 35.44 24,315 7.50-18.00 15.54

**Feeder Pigs 40 lbs. Basis:**

- 600 or less: 450 32.00-32.00 32.00
- 600-1200: 2,656 23.00-39.75 33.78
- 1200 or more: 3,600 31.00-36.00 34.33

Total composite: 6,706 23.00-39.75 33.96

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**Division Focus**

*CONTINUED...*

Consumers are provided up to $10 of services per month without charge. When submitting seeds to be tested, the following guidelines should be followed:

- Send enough seeds for the test(s).
- Large seeds (i.e peanuts, soybeans, corn and cotton): 1-2 lbs
- Small seeds (i.e clover, grasses, mustards, turnips, tomatoes or lespedeza): ¼ - ½ lb
- Include the kind, variety (if known), the lot number or other identifying marks.
- Include your full name, address, phone number and type of test(s) desired (such as purity, noxious, germination and/or vigor).

Be sure the sample is properly packaged to prevent spillage during shipment. Send sample(s) to:

Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries
Attention: Seed Laboratory
1445 Federal Drive
Montgomery, AL 36107

Allow 2-6 weeks for testing to be completed, depending on the type of seed.

Information can also be found on the department’s website under seed lab division. If you have any questions regarding seed testing, please call 334-240-7140.
Mr. P’s Butcher Shop and Deli in Birmingham has been serving fresh cut meat to their loyal customers for more than 80 years. The business is operated by the third and fourth generations of the Pilleteri family. The Pilleteri’s earned their reputation by providing high-quality meats at the butcher shop, but over the years they have extended that tradition to provide customers much more. Not only do they have the deli, but they offer a wide selection of products that can be used at home.

The first product Charles Pilleteri developed was out of necessity. The butcher shop customers wanted something to flavor the steaks and chops they purchased, therefore he created a dry seasoning blend, as well as a robust marinade based on the same flavors. Pilleteri’s Liquid Marinade is low in sodium (only 17 percent), yet it has just the right sharp, salty punch, with notes of garlic, black pepper and Worcestershire. It remains their bestseller.

Pilleteri successfully sold the marinade and seasonings in his butcher shop for years and expanded sales into local grocery stores during the mid-1980s. The product line has grown tremendously to include other sauces, rubs and seasonings.

Pilleteri products are available at Mr. P’s Butcher Shop and Deli, 813 Shades Crest Road in Birmingham; select Publix, Food Giant and Piggly Wiggly locations; and online at pilleteri.com.

**Product Spotlight**

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**Employee Spotlight**

We continue to spotlight an employee each month to put a face with the many services provided by the Department of Agriculture and Industries. We hope you enjoy getting to know more about our excellent employees!

Our Spotlight Employee of the Month is Chris Specker. He has worked for the Department of Agriculture and Industries for almost four months.

Specker is a Chemist I at the State Chemical Laboratory located in Auburn. His primary responsibility is to assure submitted samples of feed and fertilizer comply with Alabama law.

Official samples are collected around the state by agricultural inspectors and submitted to the lab in Auburn. When a sample arrives, a technician grinds it in preparation for analysis. Specker weighs a specific amount of the feed or fertilizer to conduct the appropriate test.

Fertilizer is analyzed to determine the percent of nitrogen. Feeds are routinely analyzed for percent crude protein, crude fat and crude fiber. Results are forwarded to the Agricultural Compliance division in Montgomery for review and compliance with the agricultural laws affecting these products.

Specker’s favorite part of the job is working in the lab. Specker explained that he has always enjoyed time spent in the chemistry lab, therefore this is the perfect job for him. He serves as an important component in the regulatory process, affecting both the consumer and manufacturer.

Specker grew up in Florence, and earned his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of North Alabama. He later obtained his Master’s in Material Science from the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

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**County Fairs in Alabama**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Co. Fair</td>
<td>September 11-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Alabama State Fair</td>
<td>September 18-23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morgan Co. Fair</td>
<td>September 20-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dekalb Co. Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Co. Fair</td>
<td>October 23-26</td>
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<td>Etowah Co. Fair</td>
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<td>Cullman Co. Fair</td>
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<td>Central Alabama Fair</td>
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<td>Autauga Co. Fair</td>
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<td>Pike Co. Fair</td>
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<td>Covington Co. Fair</td>
<td>October 15-23</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Peanut Festival</td>
<td>November 2-11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Treated Lumber**

Our treated Wolmanized Residential Outdoor Wood is ideal for applications including:

- Decks
- Fences
- Boat houses
- Boat docks
- Sea walls

320 Joseph Drive
Cullman, AL 35051
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