

FARMERS AND CONSUMERS

MARKET BULLETIN

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • GARY W. BLACK, COMMISSIONER • WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2020 • VOL. 103, NO. 12 • © COPYRIGHT 2020

FROM THE COMMISSIONER: Normal seems to begin to begin again

By Gary W. Black
Georgia Agriculture Commissioner

This evening (May 14), normal seemed to begin to begin again. The spring has been almost what I remember as normal in Commerce – start my COVID-19 telecommute each morning with a vest and a personal heater in my farm office, shed to an afternoon T-shirt and then search again for the morning's cover before my 45-second walking commute back to the house at day/night's end. Normal this time of year also includes three hours of zero-turn grass cutting once a week. I finished tonight with a sack of "normal" roadside gifts. More about that in a moment.

I hope your recent normal has been safe and healthy. I am so very proud of the work of your Georgia Department of Agriculture professionals as they have adjusted, persevered and served with extraordinary distinction during the new normal COVID-19

work schedule.

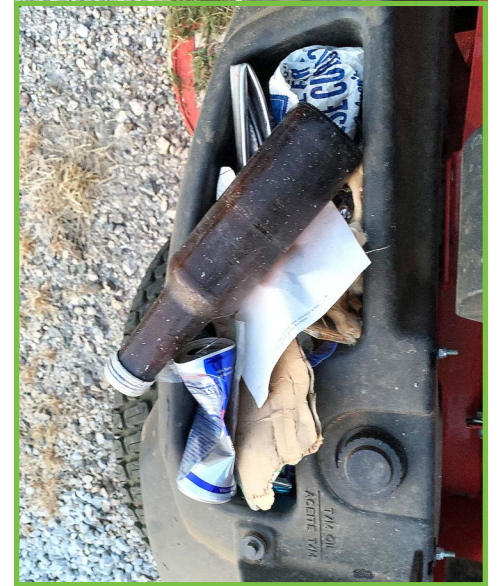
This COVID-influenced spring, technicians, analysts and inspectors tested more seed than ever before, developed and approved desperately needed hand sanitizer formulas, field-sampled and tested pesticide drift cases and calibrated commercial scales for the 2020 season at a record pace. Meat inspectors have diligently worked with establishments to keep them open. Food safety team members have counseled retailers on federal and state guidelines to maintain continuity in the food supply.

Animal inspectors have provided PPE to licensed kennels, and plant protection inspectors have certified export shipments of pine logs. Structural pest team members have trained hundreds of licensees over ZOOM. And please note, 400 gazillion vegetable transplants have entered commerce this spring to ensure a supply of vegetables for America thanks to our corps of professionals.

The Georgia Grown team has launched Georgia Grown To-Go pop-up markets in Dalton, Marietta and Atlanta with more likely slated for Sandy Springs, Lawrenceville and Forest Park. The #BuyGeorgiaGrown and #NowMoreThanEver campaigns are engaging consumers by the thousands. All of this and more. ...

Under difficult circumstances, the GDA family has served Georgia well. I am grateful for each person. I thank God that He has kept us safe. Pray that His protection will continue because though normal is seemingly beginning to begin again, the new normal will be different and have its challenges.

We have returned to routine work schedules and regulatory activities. But this will be a guarded re-entry. Group meetings are probably still a long way off. As Monday, Wednesday, Friday schedules return at our physical offices, yes, we will be checking
See **BEGIN AGAIN**, page 15



"Gifts" left along the roadside near Commissioner Black's house, signs that life as we knew it is resuming. (Gary Black/GDA)

COVID-19: Should I be concerned about my animals?



There are only a few confirmed cases where domestic animals have tested positive for COVID-19. (Amy Carter/GDA)

By Janemarie Henebelle DVM, MPVM
Assistant State Veterinarian
&
Robert M. Cobb, Jr. DVM
State Veterinarian

Over the last several months, we've watched our world address the public health pandemic caused by SARS-CoV-2. You or someone you know may have been personally affected by COVID-19, leaving you wondering – how might this affect pets or other animals I come into contact with on a daily basis?

First, a little background on what we do know about animals and the virus SARS-CoV-2, which causes COVID-19 in people. You've probably read reports of tigers, dogs, domestic cats and even mink testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the United States and around the world. While more than 5 million (and counting) human cases of COVID-19 have been

reported worldwide, there are only a few confirmed cases where domestic animals and captive or farmed wild animals have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. Currently in the United States, there are two domestic cats, one tiger and one lion (all in New York) confirmed to be positive to date.

Over time, there may be other cases that are confirmed as the pandemic evolves. The domestic cats identified were from two different households and both cats showed mild signs of a respiratory illness. One cat came from a household where the owner was positive for COVID-19; another cat in the same household was negative for SARS-CoV-2. The second cat that tested positive lived an indoor-outdoor lifestyle in an area where many people had COVID-19. Similarly, the tiger and lion had mild respiratory signs and a zookeeper taking care of the animals was positive for COVID-19.

If you interact with pets, livestock or other animals what
See **ANIMALS**, page 15

Farmers, ranchers recover from spring tornadoes

By Jay Jones
jay.jones@agr.georgia.gov

Joe Young, a cattle man in Murray County, expressed what many in agriculture said about the tornadoes that torn through Georgia in April: They will recover.

"It ain't going to be easy, and it's going to take a lot of work, but we're used to it," Young said from his office in Chatsworth. "We'll get through it."

Tornadoes struck north Georgia April 12-13 and South Georgia 10 days later. The storms struck rural areas of the state and many agriculture producers received significant damage. In north Georgia, tornadoes destroyed barns, torn roofs off structures, and tossed debris everywhere.

"The pastures were riddled with two-by-fours with nails in them and tin," Young said.

According to the National Weather Service, there was higher than usual tornado activity across the United States in April as storms

swept from the Midwest to the South. The Easter weekend storms produced the strongest tornadoes, primarily in the South. Georgia experienced 21 confirmed tornadoes that weekend. The strongest struck Murray County where the Youngs' farm is located and where seven people died in a mobile home neighborhood.

Young and his wife, Heather, said volunteers helped them clean up in the days after the tornado struck his farm with 100 head of cattle. Heather said she was thankful for the community coming together to help.

"We got things back together. My biggest issue was getting all the trees off the fences," Joe Young said. "You know, my cows for two days could have left if they wanted to, but we got some temporary fencing up."

In South Georgia, blueberry growers were especially walloped by the tornadoes. Jerome Crosby, president of the Georgia Blueberry Growers Association, said the storms came just as blueberry picking began.

See **RECOVER**, page 15



A cow occupies a crater left by a tornado that struck Murray County. (Provided photo)

FORESTRY MATTERS: Healthy forests are a refuge from the world's ills

By Stasia Kelly
Georgia Forestry Commission

Summer is calling and many Georgians will soon be responding with excursions into the great outdoors. Even as new social distancing guidelines become routine, being in nature is recognized as a healthy practice. Forests especially, with their hiking trails, fishing spots and shaded parks, provide attractive havens for folks who've been house-bound for weeks on end.

Fortunately, Georgia's 24+ million acres of forestland are healthy and continue to offer usable benefits for us all. New data from the U.S. Forest Service breaks down the state's forest attributes in the "Forests of Georgia, 2018" report. The information it contains is based on field data using the USDA Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis sample design. It is updated annually, and the reports feature a five-year rolling average of forest data.

The Georgia Forestry Commission's FIA foresters collect the data from forested sample plots throughout the state. There are 6,595 sample plots in Georgia, and each year about 14-20 percent of them are visited and measured by field crews. Data is delivered to the USFS for detailed analysis and national data applications.

Georgia Forestry Commission Director Chuck Williams says the information brings great value to the state.

"This is scientific data that isn't available in any other place," said Williams. "It is very useful to those who make policy and decisions on how to manage forest resources at the private, government and non-profit levels – and throughout the ownership chain – on a statewide basis."

Here are some highlights of the 2018 report:

- Georgia has an estimated 24,464,219 acres of forestland.
- 89.08 percent of that ownership is private, which includes non-industrial private (family, Tree Farm-



A boardwalk through the forest at General Coffee State Park near Douglas. About 10 percent of Georgia's estimated 24,464,219 acres of forestland is publicly owned and managed to offer healthy havens for exercise and contemplation. (Georgia Department of Natural Resources)

- ers), industry, institutional investors and non-government entities.
- 7.53 percent is federally owned, which includes national forests and parks, national monuments and military holdings.
- State and local ownership is 3.40 percent, including state and county parks and state agency properties.
- 121,197 acres of forestland convert annually to non-forest.
- 491,973 acres of forestland are disturbed annually by fire.
- 66,977 acres of forestland are disturbed annually by weather events.

The full report and archived past versions can be found on the USDA Forest Service publication database, Treesearch, using keywords "Forest Inventory" and "Georgia" here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/treesearch/>.

Despite all the challenges created by the COVID-19 public health emergency, employees of the Georgia Forestry Commission have taken great pride in making adjustments that provide superior service to forest landowners and fellow citizens. As we all move forward, please know that our commitment to you and our amazing forest resource remains steadfast.

MY TRACTOR STORY: A Ford with some Funk

By Lee Lancaster
lee.lancaster@agr.georgia.gov

It would be very difficult to find a farmer in Georgia without a Ford tractor in their family's history. The Ford N Series tractors came along after Henry Ford and Harry Ferguson made their famous handshake agreement that first produced the Ford 9N with the Ferguson System, a three-point hitch for plowing farmland evenly. The Ford 9N and 2N were introduced in 1939 and 1942. Both the 9N and 2N were painted gray with an engine displacement of 119.7 cubic inches that produced about 20 horsepower. For the farmer that desired more power from his 9N, an aircraft company from Akron, Ohio, named Funk Aircraft produced a conversion kit to swap out the 9N's engine with a flathead V-8 or inline 6 engine that could boost its output to around 80 horsepower. These tractors could produce a lot of power, but the rear end could not stand the strain of that much more output. Freddie Neely from Covington owns the tractor pictured. It is the only Ford 9N known in existence with a Funk Conversion.



Tell Us Your Tractor Story

We love a good tractor story! Shoot an email to Lee Lancaster at lee.lancaster@agr.georgia.gov or drop us a postcard telling us about your first/best/favorite tractor. Include pictures if you got 'em!



PEACHTREE CORNERS
Town Center

6:30PM - 9:30PM

PEACHTREECORNERSGA.GOV

NIGHT MARKET

JULY 10 | AUGUST 7 | SEPTEMBER 11 | OCTOBER 9

CALLING ALL FARMERS
MARKET VENDORS:

Interested in selling homegrown and handmade
items at the Peachtree Corners monthly Night Market?

Find details and apply here:
eventeny.com/events/The-Night-Market-407/

Jennifer Howard
jhoward@peachtreecornersga.gov



Georgie's Drive Thru Rock Eagle

Hello! I'm Georgie, the Georgia Grown mascot. I travel the state of Georgia promoting our #1 industry – agriculture! Where would we be without 4-H? And where would 4-H be without Rock Eagle? Situated north of Eatonton on U.S. Hwy 441, Rock Eagle 4-H Center is named after the giant rock effigy located on the property. Measuring 120 feet wide, 102 feet long, and 8 feet tall, the mound is believed to have been built 2,000 years ago for religious purposes. The original eagle formation was restored by the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s. The restoration added a stone look-out tower for people to climb and get a "bird's eye view" of the effigy. In 1948, the Georgia 4-H Foundation was formed to raise money to build a 4-H camp where large numbers of boys and girls could gather. Rock Eagle's location was suggested by the local county extension agent in 1950. After Gov. Herman Talmadge promised to match every dollar raised by the foundation with state funds, construction began in 1952 and the center was dedicated two years later. Famous Georgia 4-H alumni include Trisha Yearwood, Julia Roberts, Jimmy Carter, Sonny Perdue, Herschel Walker and Sam Nunn.



The eagle effigy at Rock Eagle near Eatonton. (Lee Lancaster/GDA)

COOK GEORGIA GROWN: Zucchini Lasagna

Use a 9 X 13-inch ovenproof pan.

Ingredients

- ¼ cup olive oil, divided
- 2 cups mini sweet peppers, cored/seeded/ cut in thin rings
- 2 cups Vidalia® onions, sliced/cut in quarters
- 2 Tbsps minced garlic, divided
- 2 8-oz packages cremini or baby portabella mushrooms, sliced
- 1 8-to-10-oz bag spinach
- ½ cup white wine
- ½ cup fresh basil, thinly sliced
- 2 large zucchinis, sliced lengthwise ¼ inch thick
- 32-oz container ricotta
- 2 eggs
- 2 tsps Italian seasoning
- Salt & pepper
- 16 oz mozzarella, grated
- ½ cup freshly grated parmesan cheese
- 4 cups spaghetti sauce

Directions

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- Heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a skillet over medium heat. Add peppers and onions to hot pan cooking until just wilted.
- Add 1 tablespoon minced garlic to pepper mixture and continue to cook for 2-3 minutes. Set aside to cool.
- Heat remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add mushrooms to hot pan, season with salt & pepper and stir until mushrooms start to soften. Add remaining garlic to pan, stirring to mix.
- Add white wine to pan, raise heat and reduce wine by half. Add spinach a handful at a time allowing to wilt and make room in pan.
- Repeat with remaining spinach until all is incorporated and wilted. Drain off excess liquid and set mixture aside to cool.
- Mix ricotta with eggs, Italian seasoning and salt & pepper.



Assembly

- Spoon enough sauce in pan to coat the bottom with a thin layer.
- Lay enough zucchini slices to cover entire surface, overlapping a little if necessary. Spoon another thin layer of sauce over zucchini.
- Distribute half of drained spinach and mushroom mixture over zucchini.
- Spread half of ricotta mixture over spinach and mushroom layer.
- Distribute half of fresh basil over ricotta.
- Sprinkle one third of mozzarella over ricotta layer.
- Spread one half of pepper and onion mixture over cheese.
- Spread another layer of zucchini slices over cheese layer.
- Repeat with sauce, spinach mixture, ricotta, fresh basil, mozzarella, pepper mixture.
- Top with final layer of zucchini slices, sauce, mozzarella and finish with fresh parmesan.
- Bake for 45-60 minutes or until zucchini is fork tender.
- Let sit for 20-30 minutes before cutting and serving. Serve with additional sauce if desired.
- Serves 8.



CERTIFIED FARM MARKETS

Take time to create lasting memories.

Your guide to some of Georgia's most beautiful views, access to fresh, local goods, and your ticket to interacting with those who grow your food. This program is a fun, goal-oriented way to stay active and continue learning while spending quality time with friends and family.



Farm Passports are available at all participating farms listed at gfb.ag/passport and at county Farm Bureau offices.

JEFF REGISTER BUILDING & TRUSS



40' x 60' x 12' - Installed
Roof only, closed gables - \$8,300
Roof only, open gables - \$7,500

30' x 40' x 10' - Installed
Roof Only, open gables - \$4,500

Prices do not include tax and delivery

Office - 228-678-0971
Cell - 228-234-9115 or 228-234-7241

jregister@registermetals.com

Locations: 2811 26th Ave.
Gulfport MS and
Highland Home, AL

REGISTERBARN.COM

POULTRY/FOWL

Any person engaged in buying live poultry of any kind for resale, or in selling live poultry of any kind bought for resale, must be licensed by the GDA. Possessing such a license does not by itself disqualify an individual from advertising poultry in the *Market Bulletin*. Mallard ducks must be at least three generations from the wild before they can be advertised in the *Market Bulletin*. Advertisers must include this information in notices submitted for publication. Out-of-state poultry must have a negative Avian Influenza test and negative pul-lorum test within 21 days of entering Georgia. For more information, call the GDA Animal Protection Division, 404.656.4914.

Mixed breed turkey chicks, hatched April 26: \$10 each. Bruce W. Smith **Griffin** 678-584-3562

Old English game Bantams: two hens, two roosters: \$1 for all. F. Richards **College Park** 770-964-3566

Pigeons: white rollers, turner rollers, colored rollers & white homers: \$20/pair. Wyatt Johnson **Midville** 478-494-3240

Pullets: Rhode Island Red, Golden Comets and Black Sex link; quality birds. Brian Turdy **Dahlonega** 706-865-9201

Texas A&M quail eggs for eating or hatching, chicks, and adult birds available. Next hatch is 5/8. Thomas Collins **Byron** 478-256-3213

Turkey eggs for hatching. Turn daily. Billy Aycock **Summerville** 706-857-2241

Young game chicks, price varies. If interested, please call Tim **Gillsville** 770-869-7895

Young white ring neck dove, this years hatch: \$25 each. Have 5 total. J.D. Jackson **Lizella** 478-731-0135

POULTRY/FOWL REQUIRING PERMIT/LICENSE

Advertisements selling wood ducks must be accompanied by a Waterfowl Sale permit. Ads without this permit will not be published. Email permitsR4M-B@fws.gov or call the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 404.679.7070. Advertisements selling pen-raised Bobwhite quail must be accompanied by a copy of the Commercial Quail Breeder's License. Ads without this license will not be published. Visit <https://georgiawildlife.com/licenses-permits-passes/commercial> or call the Georgia DNR Wildlife Resources Division, 706.557.3244. Canada geese may not be sold.

Bobwhite Quail mature ready to eat or hunt: \$4.50 ea.; Quail hatching eggs: \$6.00 per/doz.; Day old chicks: \$0.75 ea. Donnie Sullivan **Cairo** 229-421-4794

Breeders of guineas, quail, exotic pheasants, button quails, mandarins and wood ducks. Permitted for quail, Fed-licensed for wood ducks. Pick-up only. Text or call Sarel **Newnan** 770-480-2595

Find your new favorite recipe at <https://georgiagrown.com/recipes/>

NON-TRADITIONAL LIVESTOCK

Advertisers selling fallow deer, axis deer, sika deer, elk, red deer, reindeer and caribou must submit a current Deer Farming License with the ad. Farmed deer greater than 12 m/o are required to have a negative Brucellosis test within 30 days and a negative TB test within 90 days to move intrastate. Ads submitted without a copy of the license and negative sample results (if applicable) will not be published. For information about deer farming licenses, contact the GDA Livestock and Poultry Section at 404.656.3665. For information on other hoofed stock, excluding llamas and water buffalo, contact the Georgia Department of Natural Resources at 770.761.3044. Camelids (llama, alpaca) must be individually identified; bison (some people mistakenly call them buffalo) and water buffalo must meet the same requirements as cattle. Antelope must be individually and officially identified, and 6 m/o or older are required to have a negative Brucellosis test within 30 days and a negative TB test within 90 days prior to entering Georgia. PLEASE NOTE: Importation of any cervid into Georgia requires a special permit from the GDA State Veterinarian and DNR. At this time, cervids are not permitted into the State.

Honey bees, 5 frame nucs. Call or email for pricing and details. Caleb Lachmann **Ellijay** mmbees@protonmail.com www.mountainmanbees.com 406-939-1152

Mealworms for sale: \$10 for 5oz, buy 3, get 1 free. Average length 1inch. Available in all stages. Call or text. Amy Smith **Fairmount** 706-972-6504

From our archives: In Jan. 1989, scientists discovered that a horse's hair whorl is as unique as an individual's fingerprints

ANIMAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

CATTLE SUPPLIES

40 cattle panels, 25 corner posts, 20 T-posts, (4) 12ft guard rails: \$2000 for all; 2 cattle guards: \$750 each. Dewel Lawrence **Vienna** 229-322-4048

TACK AND SUPPLIES

18inch Crosby Miller dressage saddle with bridle and saddle pads. Like brand new: Asking \$175. C Griffis **Covington** 770-786-1093

2 Ritchie horse waterers. Never installed or used: \$150 each or \$250 for both. New sells \$360+. Willis Dromgoole **Thomaston** 706-741-7183

Horse training cart with harness. E. Hendricks **Dublin** 478-676-3513

Miniature horse grooming stand, complete with ramps, removable sides for easy access, on wheels for moving around: \$150. P. Nyetrae **Canon** 770-366-6151

New oak pony cart, Amish-built by Paul Raber's Indiana shop. Airless tires, never hitched, very nice cart: \$475. Chris Mosley 912-213-4680 **Cobbtown**

Three Western saddles: \$100 each, good condition. Edward Matthews **Jackson** 678-972-2585

POULTRY SUPPLIES

(4) 14 ton feed bins: \$1500 a piece. Lewis Bros housekeeper #2: \$6500. Donald Williams **Gillsville** 770-540-8599

Home Picker Junior with motor de-feathering machine only used a couple of times: \$500. Deborah Perreira **Hampton** 678-283-4364

Ten 48inch Acme and Cool Air poultry house fans: \$125 each or all \$100 each. Chan Caba **Carnesville** 706-491-4926

Used poultry house equipment. 44 tunnel fans, 52inch: \$150 each; 56 LB White I40 brooders, natural gas: \$1400 for all. Dwight Martin **Seneca, SC** 864-247-5810

MISCELLANEOUS

Only agriculture-related items may be advertised in this Category.

BEEES, HONEY AND SUPPLIES



(GALLBERRY HONEY) VOTED BEST-TASTING & FLAVOR OF GA WINNER \$52/gallon includes shipping www.brucesnutnhoney.com. B. Bruce **Homerville** 912-487-5001

10- and 8-frame bee hives: \$85; 5-frame beehives/NUCs: \$65. Also make inner cover, Super, Top Barbee hives, Rapid inside feeder. Eliseo Delia Mineral Bluff **706-492-5119**

10-8-5 frame equipment, beekeeping supplies, nucs, packages, classes, Honey, Swarm capture. Harold Lanier **Commerce** harold@lanierbeebarn.com 678-471-7758

5 frame Nuc hives and queens. Quality bees, honey. Certified apiary. More info at www.beecoapiaries.com. Mary Lacksen **Sparta** 478-456-1049 beecoapiaries@gmail.com

Bee swarm removal free from low trees; a fee from structures. Athens area. Randall Power 706-621-0178 **Colbert**

Carpenter Bee Traps to catch and dispose of them, shipped in lots of 5 for \$85. Everything included. William Timmerman **Harlem** 803-640-6265

Going out of business. About 15 hives with super and honey. Too old to work bees. Wallace Hullender **Tunnel Hill** 706-581-3397

March-April 3lb package bees (gentle), \$120. 5 frame nucs, \$185. Queens, \$38. David McDaniel **Rome** 706-389-5425

Nucs, 5 frame deeps: \$150; 8 frame deep hives: \$260; pollination and honey. Jimmy Rich Collins 912-426-9099 jimmyr@pineland.net

Raw Georgia Tupelo honey. Ludowici pickup. Online prices include shipping: \$20 per quart; \$75 per gallon. M. Hendrix **Ludowici** 912-294-4790 www.swamphoney.org

Removal of bee swarms near the ground or in buildings. Will remove unwanted hives east of Atlanta. Robert Pruden **Monroe** 770-466-9100

Remove swarms for free or remove bees from a structure for a fee. Also, can buy unneeded bee equipment. Leonard Day **Macon** 478-719-5588

Used beekeeping equipment. Brood boxes, supers, tops, bottoms, queen excluders, frames and other miscellaneous supplies. Bob Lewis **Fayetteville** 770-461-4083

Will pick up swarms, no charge. Will remove from structures for a fee. Covering the CSRA. Justin Stitt **Augusta** 706-829-9372

Will remove honey bees from walls and structures for a fee. Will pick and remove captured swarms. Derry Oliver 706-335-7226 **Commerce**

Buy direct from Georgia producers: <https://georgiagrown.com/shop/>

AQUACULTURE AND SUPPLIES

Advertisers selling sterile triploid grass carp must submit a current Wild Animal License from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Ads without this license will not be published. Entities producing and selling or reselling domestic fish in Georgia are required to obtain a free Aquaculture Registration Permit. For more information on aquaculture rules and licensing in Georgia, including a listing of domestic fish and other fish species requiring a Wild Animal License, visit <https://georgiawildlife.com/aquaculture> or call 770.761.3044.

A-1 quality, farm-grown channel catfish priced by size; other species available upon request. Flynt Gilbert **Zebulon** 770-468-0725/770-567-1223

All sizes Bass, Bluegill, Channel Catfish, Threadfin, Gizzard Shad, Shellcracker and more. Free delivery or pick up. Danny Austin **Roberta** 478-836-4938

Bass, bluegill, hybrid bream, sterile grass carp, koi. David Cochran **Ellijay** 706-889-8113

Grass carp, Bluegill and Threadfin shad. Delivery available @ \$2.00 per mile one way. Brain Simmons **Hawkinsville** 478-892-3144

Koi and Goldfish for sale. All sizes and colors. Call for more info. Glenn Kicklighter **Sandersville** 478-232-7704

Rainbow and Brown trout, DNR certified. Quality stockers, hatched on our farm. Various sizes with delivery/pick-up available. David Cantrell **Ellijay** 706-273-6199

FEED, HAY AND GRAIN

'19 Alicia bermuda, fertilized, horse quality: \$6/square, \$60/5x6 round bale, quantity discount. A. Johns **Bronwood** 229-995-5371

Safe Minimum Cooking Temperatures in Degrees F

| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| | Ground meat & Meat mixtures | Beef, pork, veal, lamb 160 | Turkey, chicken 165 |
| | Fresh beef, Veal & lamb | Steaks, roasts, chops Rest time: 3 min 145 | |
| | Poultry | Breasts, whole bird, legs, thighs, wings, ground giblets, stuffing 165 | |
| | Pork & Ham | Fresh Rest time 3 min 145 | Precooked ham (to reheat) 165 |
| | Eggs & Egg Dishes | Eggs Until yolk and white are firm | Egg dishes (quiche, frittata) 160 |
| | Sea-food | Fish with fins 145 | Shellfish & scallops Until flesh is white and opaque |
| | | Clams, oysters, mussels | Until shells open |
| | Leftovers & Casseroles | Leftovers & casseroles 165 | |

information from FoodSafety.gov

TIMBER

Timber must be individually owned and produced by the advertiser on his or her personal property. No companies or businesses are permitted to advertise timberland in this Category. Timberland advertised must be at least one acre. Timber wanted ads will not be published.

23 sweet gum logs, newly felled, 12-15ft long, 7in to 2ft wide, take all or some. J. Leighty **Powder Springs** 770-238-8345

ODDITIES

Gourds, many varieties, Martin gourds fixed & ready to hang. At farm or shipped to you. Charles Lang **Cordele** 229-406-5039

The Gourd Pile, 874 Morrison Rd, **Barney**. Visit our farm or call for gourds. 229-775-2123

HANDICRAFTS AND SUPPLIES

All types of chair caning, repairs & refinishing. James Lewis **Perry** 478-987-4243

All types of chair caning: blind, French, hole-to-hole, porch, rattan reed & splint. Repair & refinishing. Over 55yrs experience. George E. Shelton **Cartersville** 770-607-6455

Bird bat houses, feeders, butterfly houses, carpenter bee traps. Text to inquiry. John Steele **McRae** 229-315-5892

Chair and rocker caning of all kinds; also wicker and rattan repair. 40 years of experience. Duke Dufresne **Statham** 770-725-2554

Hand knit cotton dish rags: \$10 for 3. Marty Mitchell **Manchester** 770-377-6088

Memory bears made out of your loved ones clothing. Call for more information. Sherry McDaniel **Buford** 770-366-1306

We do chair caning. Donald Becker **Tiger** 770-807-9783

FARM ANTIQUES

3 steel wheels 41/2ft in diameter: \$75 each, if all are taken. Johnny Keasler **Woodbury** 706-977-5583

Antique hay rake. Handsome addition to any property, excellent condition and still functions: \$525 OBO. Call for photos and more info. Robert Sjulson **Cleveland** 404-422-0679

Treadle sewing machine: \$175; Push plow: \$65; Hoosier kitchen cabinet: \$275. Paul Bailey **Redan** 770-482-2812

Wood burning kitchen stove by Atlanta Stove Works, one owner, excellent condition: asking \$1300. Roger Keebaugh **Gainesville** 770-869-7941

OTHER

1000 gal fuel tank: \$800. 270 gal: \$200. Brett Fausett **Dawsonville** 706-429-8491

1942 Model A Farmall Tractor. Needs battery and alternator: \$1000. Gail Johnson **Tennille** 478-357-5709

50 gallon Legend steam kettle. Propane, for cooking, blanching. Optional custom stainless baskets. Very good condition. Call for pricing. No shipping. Ellen Chase **Oglethorpe** 478-472-1729

Catahoula Leopard Dog pups for sale. Will be 8 weeks old the first week of June. Come from hunting/herding stock: \$200 each. Josh Dills **Blairsville** 706-994-9584

Egg cartons 550ea, 18-count some new, all good condition: \$40. Doyle Blankinship **Villa Rica** 770-361-5376

Tires: 4 245/75R16 LT, good shape: \$100 for all; Metal and plastic barrels: \$25 each; Fire bricks: \$2 each. Ronald Rush **Franklin** 706-675-3417 or 706-812-5271

The 2020 USA Peanut Congress will be a virtual event this year. Learn more at <http://www.peanut-shellers.org/event-info.aspx?eid=23>

REAL ESTATE

Realtors or anyone holding a real estate license may not advertise in this Category, unless advertising personal property. Farmland advertised must be owned by the subscriber placing the ad.

FARMLAND FOR SALE

10 acres mountaintop ridge with spectacular views. Estate sized lot with privacy and convenience, paved road, electricity. Text preferred. Tim Miller **Towns County** 706-401-0880

11.2 acres, cypress log cabin, creek, privacy, chain-linked fenced, out buildings, drive thru barn, Harrison school district, no liens, two highway entrances: \$1.45 million. Sam Saliba **Cobb County** 770-514-1431

116 acres with 83 acres open. On paved road, borders Houston County line and I-75, well water: \$3000 per acre. Lee Bailey **Dooly County** 229-239-0537

12 acres dirt road, frontage, well, septic, power, 5 mins. From Clarks Hill Lake and Gills Point Park, w/boat ramp: \$6500. R. Tallant **Wilkes County** 770-887-4290

155-acre farm, brick house, Hwy 341, 2 metal shops, 3 ponds, fenced, 103 acres irrigated pasture, hunting: \$450,000 (\$2,900/acre). Paul Bridges **Telfair County** 912-375-3366 www.owacc.com

20 acres woodland tract. Creek frontage, surrounded by hundreds of acres of deer habitat. Walter Jones **Bleckley County** 478-230-4642

47.2 acres for sale with timber and 14 acre bass lake. Call for details. Ken Brady **Banks County** 706-677-3624

50 acres of pasture, mature hardwoods, pine, spring fed creek, 3 miles from Madison: \$9200 per acre. Joe Bartolone **Morgan County** 609-226-2614



47 acres: half pasture, half woods, bold spring, ideal lake-site, timber value, historic home, 5/2 w/9 fireplaces: \$475k. Keith Norris **Spalding County** 770-229-8319

60 acres fenced with springs and stream, lots of privacy. Potential home sites plus mountain top views. Text or call. Danny Reed **Madison County** 706-202-7494

9.3 acres, new fence, pond, county water, natural gas, close to I-20: \$12,000 per acre, 6 acres pasture, 3 acres wooded. D. Williams **Carroll County** 770-833-7017

92.66 acres, ranch & home, zoned A-1, fenced, creek, water system, garage/barn, panoramic views, high elevation, search Facebook marketplace, and www.buyowner.com/BUY213884: \$599,000. Carl Kelley **Madison County** 706-318-1740

97 acres, pasture land w/3 stocked lakes totaling 20 acres. Rolling hilltop on paved road; 1 mile east of Byronville: \$3000 per acre. M. Lee **Dooly County** 229-392-1182

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13 acres available for haying. Parcel in addition to own hay baled. Fescue orchard hay, little weed, straight rectangular run. Wee Woods Farm **Colbert** 706-254-7717

29 acres of grass cross fenced into 8 pastures in Mitchell. Power and water available. Horses welcome: \$1200 per month. Josh Pennino **Sparta** 706-340-3146

For lease, 3-acre pasture for horse/garden plus 9 acres woods for hunting. Water and electricity available: \$5 per acre, per month. Charles Wayne **Toccoa** 256-881-9356

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38 years' experience: horse arenas laser graded, tree clearing, driveways built/re-graded, gravel, barns graded, drainage correction, trucking, demolition. Luke Butler **Braselton** 770-685-0288

42 years of experience. Bush-hogging, post holes, gardens, food plots, aerating, seeding, fertilizer spreading, light grading, light clearing. North Georgia area. Rick Allison **Buford** 678-200-2040

Ag/Farm fencing of all types installed and repaired. 12 yrs full time experience. Land management services: consulting, mowing, seeding, food plots, and wildlife habitat. Casey Kent **Good Hope** 678-446-8520

Are you interested in farming hemp? For information: rules, growing supplies, biomass or CBD oil production and equipment. For questions call Richard 404-858-3336 **Ellenwood**

Beef Cattle Artificial Insemination (AI) service. NW Georgia: \$35 per head for a 3 visit protocol. Dalton Green **Ringgold** 423-385-5475 greenagri98@gmail.com

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Bush hog, rotary mow, garden and food plot, harrow and plow, bale square hay. Monroe County area. Jimmy Waldrep **Forsyth** 478-951-5563

Custom land clearing for barns, pasture, residences. Leave property clean. Demolition, laser grading, pads for barns, homes, riding arenas. Build/refurbish driveways. Insured. Bill Butler **Atlanta** 770-231-4662

Farm 911 Signs-Farm Safety and Emergency Signage. An information source for greater peace of mind. Website: www.farm911signs.com Daren Sue Truex **Cumming** 678-628-6767

Forestry mulching and underbrushing. Land, lot, trail and overgrowth clearing. Fence and survey lines and pasture reclamation, etc. Kristy Jarrett **Baldwin** 706-391-5177

Handyman from start to finish. Call or text for a quote on any project you may have. E. Baggett **Auburn** 678-756-1095

Lakes/ponds built, repaired, new pipe systems, land clearing, swamps drained, creeks rerouted, drainage problems, wetlands restoration, bush hogging home sites. Tim Harper **Peachtree City** 770-527-1565

Land maintenance offering fencing, brush removal, bush hogging, seeding and fertilizing of pastures or food plots. Marissa Bradley **Social Circle** 770-823-430

Loader/backhoe, grading, bush hogging, aeration, tree cutting, branch trimming, pruning, lawn mowing, leaf mulching, chain saw & blade sharpening. Rockdale and surrounding counties. G. Kelecheck **Conyers** 770-597-4878

Specialize in wood fences, wire fences, arenas. Install. Good pricing. Over 25 years' experience. Prompt Service. Dan Gilbert **Roswell** 229-325-3163

Stumps ground neatly below ground level, free estimate and reasonably priced. Glen Whitely **Bethlehem** 770-867-2718



Market Bulletin Farmland Ad Form

Ad guidelines: Only farmland of 5 acres or more may be advertised. Include price, acreage and county where the property is located. All property must be for sale by the owner. Limit descriptive terms to property characteristics or structures. A maximum word count of 25 – including name, address, phone number and your city of residence – is permitted in Farmland ads. Only one ad per subscriber per issue. You must be a paid subscriber to advertise in the *Market Bulletin*.

Subscriber number _____ County _____

I hereby certify that this notice meets all the necessary requirements for publication in the *Market Bulletin*:

Food banks, farmers seek ways to work together to meet changing needs in a COVID-19 world

By Jay Jones

jay.jones@agr.georgia.gov

Georgia food banks and farmers are facing new challenges as they adapt to a different way of doing business stemming from the COVID-19 outbreak. Farmers have lost half their market with restaurant and school closings while food banks have seen demand increase as more people seek help to feed their families.

Eliza McCall, chief marketing officer of Second Harvest of South Georgia, said her organization's biggest challenge is getting food from farms and then finding a way to store it longer. With limited freezer space at its Valdosta facility, Second Harvest is responsible for distributing food to families through partnering agencies in 26 South Georgia counties. McCall said they are willing to try anything, like starting a canning plant or using individually quick frozen processing.

"We are looking at all kinds of different avenues that we might not have pursued before, but this is an extraordinary time," she said. "We're thinking way outside the box. I'm not even sure the box exists anymore. We're just looking for any and all solutions that could help both our farmers and help those in need in our community."

The aggravating problem in Georgia agriculture this spring is that there is generally plenty of food at the farms. Farmers are finding that once they harvest their crops or send milk, beef and poultry to processors, they are uncertain if they can get their product to market due to the disruption in transportation and distribution lines.

Georgia milk producers had to pour milk out in early April. They hope the situation improves in the summer as the economy opens more. The problem is about distribution, according to Farrah Newberry, executive director of the Georgia Milk Producers Association.

"That's been a really hard situation to explain to producers when we have to pour it out," she said. "We see (retailers) limiting it in the stores, but that is a supply chain issue."

Newberry said she had some success calling stores one by one to drop milk purchases restrictions while larger chain stores are keeping limits in place until distribution returns to a regular schedule.

"What they're saying is they want to provide the same product for a person that comes in at 8 in the morning as the one that comes in at 8 at night," she said. "So, we express



Providence Ministries, a nonprofit in Dalton, purchased several boxes of Georgia-grown produce at a Georgia Grown To-Go event at Dalton State College on May 20. (Amy Carter/GDA)

our concerns and try to explain it. There's plenty of milk out there. The supply is there. We just have some distribution issues."

Milk is typically one of the most requested items from food banks, but storage is limited. Newberry said the milk industry has grants for food banks and other nonprofit groups to expand cold storage capacity.

"We've seen an increase those grants, and then we've tried to work it out where if they need milk to let us know, and we'll try to set up a way to get it there to them," Newberry said.

She also said the Dairy Farmers of America is working with large grocery store chains to coordinate milk donations directly to food banks in the coming weeks.

Many food banks are looking at the Farmers to Families Food Box Program as a big help to have food available for those who need it. The program is part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act signed into law in April in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service will purchase up to \$3 billion in fresh produce, dairy and meat products for the program. Suppliers will pack and transport the food to food banks, community and faith-based organizations and other nonprofits serving Americans in need from May 15 to June 30, according to the USDA.

In all, the food box program will purchase \$461 million

in fresh fruits and vegetables, \$317 million in a variety of dairy products, \$258 million in meat products and \$175 million in a combination box of fresh produce, according to the USDA.

"That is going to be a massive effort to buy up produce, protein and dairy from farmers who are sitting on a lot of excess product right now and route it through the food bank network around the country," said Kyle Waide, president and CEO of the Atlanta Community Food Bank, the largest food bank in Georgia.

Waide said he believes the USDA and its partner distributors will use existing connections, like working with Feeding America, the national food bank association, or through statewide groups like the Georgia Food Bank Association.

"I'm sure (they) would prefer to deliver to eight food banks rather than 2,500 different locations," he said.

The USDA's food box program may also help farmers like Jason Tyrone of TyCor Farms in Lake Park. Tyrone said they completed picking squash in May and will have cucumber, eggplant and bell peppers coming in this month.

Tyrone said it's too early to tell how the market will be this summer. They have been watching reports of produce plowed under in Florida and market demands in Georgia.

"The markets have been like a yo-yo, on and off, on and off," he said. "The way it's been for a few days, there would be a lot of demand for product, then it would hit a brick wall, and nobody can move anything. We can't hold it for long, and it ends up getting dumped," he said.

"Usually in that situation, we would call Second Harvest and have them come load it up, but there is so much of that going on they have been overwhelmed, so they can only handle so much at one time."

McCall said Second Harvest has strong relationships with farmers across South Georgia in working to build donation opportunities, such as when the weather prevents a harvest from getting picked in time or when they can't meet the market price and get a tax credit for a donation.

"Also, some donate out of the goodness of their heart," she said.

However, McCall said a reliable food distribution system helps food banks coordinate their storage and delivery to their partner agencies. McCall hopes the food box program will help with distribution issues and buy time for them to get more storage space for food that will get them through the summer.

COVID-19 puts a damper on fuel complaints GDA inspectors still working to ensure a quality supply

By Jay Jones

jay.jones@agr.georgia.gov

Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, where many things are shut down, the gas pumps are still running, and the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Fuel and Measures Division is adapting to ensure gas pumps are accurate and fuel is tested.

As its name suggests, the division tests fuels and measuring tools used in commerce.

"Pretty much anything that's sold across a meter or anything sold with a scale is what we regulate," said Cedric Lloyd, field inspections supervisor for the division.

For retail gas, that involves checking to make sure the fuel is free from contaminants, and the pumps measure out what you are paying for each time you pull up your car to fill the tank.

Samples are taken and sent to the GDA's Fuel Oil Laboratory in Tifton. The division does similar checks on the wholesale level for fuel delivery trucks and at storage terminals, Lloyd said.

"If we get a quality complaint, we will go out and do an initial investigation of that complaint," he said. "(The inspectors) will also go back and pull re-samples for stations that we have shut down because their product didn't fall into the specs for what the state of Georgia requires."

The biggest concern for inspectors is water and dirt seepage in stored fuel. The fuel lab takes samples and tests them for purity, performance and octane rating. Inspectors will write citations on stations that are not in compliance. Lloyd

explained that if the pump infractions are minor, the operators are given a few days to correct. If a pump falls too far out of range, the inspectors will lock the pump until the operator can fix the problem.

Routine inspections for such issues were paused after Gov. Brian Kemp issued a shelter-in-place order to slow the spread of coronavirus earlier this spring; inspectors worked under social distancing guidelines and limited their work to respond to complaints. Regular inspections resumed May 20, Lloyd said.

During that time, inspectors kept in touch with producers and retailers by phone to understand how the market was doing. They learned that demand was low because few people were driving. For Fuel and Measures Division Director Doug Killingsworth, fewer travelers meant fewer complaints. However, it also caused another problem – an oversupply of winter-blend fuel at gas stations.

Spring is usually the transitional time for fuel storage terminals to switch over to summer-blend fuel, which has a lower evaporation rate. The lower evaporation rate is meant to reduce air pollution by preventing excessive evaporation when the air temperature rises.

When demand fell, an excess of winter-blend was still circulating, Killingsworth said. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency enacted a waiver to allow the fuel to remain in use through the spring.

"Normally, it's all burnt up. They go into a transition fuel from winter into spring, and that gives them a little time to move out of that and into a summer gas blend," Killingsworth said. "That's the issue we're going through right now. There is

just so much winter gas left that we're having to allow them to burn it."

Killingsworth added that the only issue he sees for motorists is with older vehicles running on carburetors. He said there are fewer of those cars on the road as most come with fuel injection engines. "It will create some vapor lock issues and things like that for those older vehicles," he said.

The American Auto Association expects demand for gasoline to pick up as more states lift shelter-in-place orders. Montrae Waiters, a spokeswoman for the AAA's Atlanta regional office, said motorists can expect gas prices to increase due to demand in the next month. Also, the EPA waiver will end in June, and the more expensive summer blend gas arrives at the pumps.

"Prices have been creeping up very slowly, between 2-4 cents. It's been very, very slow," she said. "We're anticipating that trend to continue by the time summer hits. Then again, depending on where we are with the COVID-19 virus, we just have to watch from week to week to see just how much it will impact gas prices going back up."

For the Memorial Day weekend, the national gas price average was \$1.87 per gallon. The last time gas prices were under \$2 leading into the holiday weekend was in 2003, when, on average, motorists paid \$1.50 per gallon.

In Georgia, the average gas price for Memorial Day was \$1.67, just two cents from the previous week. Gas prices in Georgia are down by 97 cents from 2019 when the average was \$2.64.

Now is the best time to plant a home garden

By Bob Westerfield

Cooperative Extension horticulturist
UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental
Sciences

While adults and children spend more time at home as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, planting a garden or container garden is a great activity to plan together. It's outside, active, educational and edible. With some grocery stores taking longer than usual to stock some items, vegetable gardening is a great way to keep your refrigerator stocked.

For those who have never considered growing their own vegetables, the task may seem daunting, but it's actually a very simple process.

Vegetables need soil, sunlight, moisture and fertility. Any location in your landscape that receives at least six hours of sunlight could be a good location for growing your crop. The amount of space you have available will dictate the size of your garden. Even very small gardens can produce a surprising quantity of vegetables and easily feed a family of four or more.

One simple method of getting started is to grow vegetables in raised beds. Treated lumber, two feet by six feet or larger, can be safely be used to form the sides of the bed. Compost, manure or bagged topsoil are good amendments to use to fill the beds.

Summer vegetables can typically be planted through June, but with the cooler temperatures we have been having, there is plenty of time to start a home garden.

I would suggest purchasing transplants of tomatoes, peppers and eggplants. These crops do not establish easily if planted directly into the garden from seed. Other vegetables, such as squash, corn, cucumbers, beans, okra and melons,



John Michael Carter, 13, with the raised bed garden of tomatoes, cucumbers, lettuce and Blue Lake beans he planted in his North Fulton County backyard after schools closed in March. (Amy Carter/GDA)

can be directly seeded into the garden with excellent success.

Take care to plant seeds at the proper depth recommended on the seed packet. Apply a light starter fertilizer, such as 5-10-15, at planting time to give vegetables initial nutrition. More fertilizer should be applied after vegetables have been pollinated and are developing tiny fruits.

Soil testing, available through your local University of Georgia Cooperative Extension office, is the best way to know the true nutritional needs of your garden soil.

Some form of irrigation will be necessary to help vegetables get started and maintain them through the growing season. Drip irrigation or soaker hoses are the best options to conserve moisture and keep plants dry. Overhead irrigation, however, can be used when it is the only option.

Most vegetables require one to two inches of water per week. Raised beds tend to drain much faster and may require additional applications of water. Organic mulch placed around vegetable plants will help conserve moisture and help keep weeds under control.

As the season progresses, keep a careful eye on your developing vegetable plants. Insects, disease and even weeds can take over quickly if not kept in check. Proper identification of the pests is essential in choosing the right control. UGA Extension can help identify pest issues and recommend the best controls.

Don't let these difficult times keep you down and feeling helpless. Turn your backyard into vegetable heaven and enjoy the delicious fruits of your labor. Supplies can be ordered online if you don't want to don your mask and practice social distancing at your local garden center.

For additional gardening information, visit extension.uga.edu/publications to view numerous related publications. Search the topics for a specific variety you are interested in growing, such as corn, beans, squash, okra, etc.

Other suggested publications include:

- Home Gardening (Bulletin 577)
- Vegetable Gardening in Georgia (Circular 963)
- Vegetable Garden Calendar (Circular 943)
- Weed Control Options for the Home Vegetable Gardener (Circular 1144)
- Raised Beds vs. In-Ground Gardens (Circular 1027-3)
- Growing Vegetables Organically (Bulletin 1011)

RECOVER: Coronavirus, market competition make recovery difficult

Continued From Page 1

"We would have peaked in the last four-to-five days, but because of the quantity of that loss. My farm, for example, my heavier harvest will now be this week, and it won't be as heavy as last week," he said. "The last five days would have been my heaviest harvest, and I've lost that."

Blueberry growers can pick bushes four to five times a season with the second pick usually being the largest. However, the tornados damaged a lot of berries on the bush. These "split berries," as Crosby described them, can recover, but it takes time and the right conditions. Heavy rain and cooler temperatures after the tornados prevented salvaging of the damaged berries, so growers had to pick through the damage and set up for the next harvest.

"It's taken us seven-to-10 days to pick it out, so for seven-to-10 days our volume is severely reduced because we've had to discard the damaged product," Crosby said. He later

added, "We've been reduced to a two-pick crop this year. That's the word I've been hearing from a lot of farmers."

Recent data from the United States Department of Agriculture showed that Georgia was expecting a healthy crop. Georgia led the nation with 21,700 harvested acres for 2019. According to the USDA, production was up 76 percent, and the value of production was up 52 percent from the 2018 hurricane-damaged crop.

Tornados were reported in Mitchell and Colquitt counties where significant damage occurred. Another round of tornados followed roughly along Ga. Highway 122 between Adel and Waycross, which Crosby described as the heart of Georgia's blueberry industry.

Joe Cornelius, a blueberry farmer in Manor, said the tornado was particularly discouraging for him following hurricanes Michael and Irma and other setbacks. He said he lost 70 percent of his crop in one of his fields in

one day.

"In that field, it was the best crop I've had in probably seven or eight years," Cornelius said. "Between hurricanes, cold events and pollination issues over the last, probably, five years, this was the year I was going to get kind of squared back up with everybody."

All said recovery will be slow. The more significant concern is the markets.

"The coronavirus has really damaged the market demand, and anytime you have reduced demand, you then have reduced pricing," Crosby said.

For Georgia blueberry growers, the concern has also been in-season competition from imports. Crosby wondered why retailers would stock imported berries when local growers are harvesting and certainly need the business.

"They made a business decision with disregard to American-grown and Georgia-grown. They are just chasing an almighty dollar,"

Crosby said.

Cornelius said he understands international trade is needed but thought policymakers should consider factors like labor cost in setting trade rules.

"I know that trade is required for this country, but we compete against segments of the world that have labor costs that are 10-15 percent of what ours is," Cornelius said. "When you're in a crop that 60-70 percent of your cost is labor, that is hard to overcome."

Joe Young said he had seen beef prices also drop for him since the pandemic began. He was frustrated because while there are cattle in the fields, it is difficult getting them to processors due to coronavirus concerns.

"They're just not bringing anything, and I'm ready to have to sell some calves off. My calves come in June, and if something doesn't happen, I'm basically going to be giving them away."

ANIMALS: If you're exposed to COVID-19, limit contact with your animals

Continued From Page 1

does all this mean for you? Most importantly, right now it doesn't appear that domestic animals are involved in spreading SARS-CoV-2. If you are not affected by COVID-19, then simply use healthy habits when interacting with animals and be sure to wash your hands after handling animals, feed or waste.

If you are affected by COVID-19, there are good practices outlined by CDC that you can follow when interacting with animals,

such as trying to arrange for someone else to care for your animals as long as you're affected. If you are in a situation where you need to interact with your pet, service animal, livestock or other animals while affected by COVID-19, be sure to wash your hands regularly, consider wearing a cloth face covering, and avoid hugging, kissing or sharing food with them.

Animals that are exposed to people with

COVID-19 don't automatically need to be tested, either. There are specific criteria outlined by our State Veterinarian and State Public Health Veterinarian to determine if an animal should be tested because it has clinical signs and is known to have been exposed to a person with COVID-19. Consult your veterinarian remotely if you are affected by COVID-19 and have questions regarding your pets or other animals.

We're learning more about SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 every day. As time passes, we'll have a much better understanding of how the virus spreads among people and what role, if any, animals might play. In the meantime, check out resources on interacting with animals if you're affected by COVID-19 at our website: <http://agr.georgia.gov/COVID-19.aspx#animals>.

BEGIN AGAIN: GDA personnel continue to serve with grateful hearts

Continued From Page 1

temperatures every morning. Masks will be prevalent and social distancing practiced. But this team will be serving you and we are grateful for the opportunity.

And now back to my "roadside gifts."

During my zero-turn session in the

right-of-way tonight I witnessed one clear indicator that perhaps normal is beginning to begin again. All of my friends who leave me roadside gifts – otherwise known a trash – seem to be easing back into normal behavior. I bet many of you have the same

type of friends. Energy drink and beer containers topped tonight's offering, followed by empty cigarette packages, a shredded, dud lottery card (shredded because I did not stop quickly enough) and a sleeve that previously held a serving of cheese curds.

Now I've seen it all. Regrettably, improper trash disposal seems to have survived the pandemic.

God bless you as you and your family begin to begin normal again, albeit different.

A moveable feast

Farmers come to town to sell their crops in a new normal way

By Amy Carter
amy.carter@agr.georgia.gov

Ask any Georgia agriculture educator what their main mission is in life, and they'll probably tell you it is to disabuse folks of the notion that food comes solely from grocery stores. The COVID-19 pandemic has made their mission infinitely easier.

"People for the first time saw an empty shelf at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. They were not sure how to respond to that," said Georgia Agriculture Commissioner Gary Black.

"I think maybe they've grown to understand – I hope we've been able to tell them – it's not a supply problem. We have plenty of product."

And to prove the point, the Georgia Department of Agriculture teamed with several local and state partners this



Five-year-old Rocky Mitchell of Vidalia packs fresh produce boxes in Marietta.

spring to host a series of "Georgia Grown To-Go" events that directly linked farmers from South Georgia with consumers in North Georgia.

"This helps to move product to start with, but one big take-away from this thing is we're getting exposure for Georgia Grown, for our local grown products," said Ken Corbett, a produce grower from Lake Park who delivered two tractor-trailer trucks filled with mixed boxes of bell peppers, cucumbers, yellow squash, zucchini squash and sweet corn to Marietta.

Corbett said the COVID-19 pandemic has taught people how to get by without a lot of things, "but one thing we're not going to get by without is food. We have to have food."

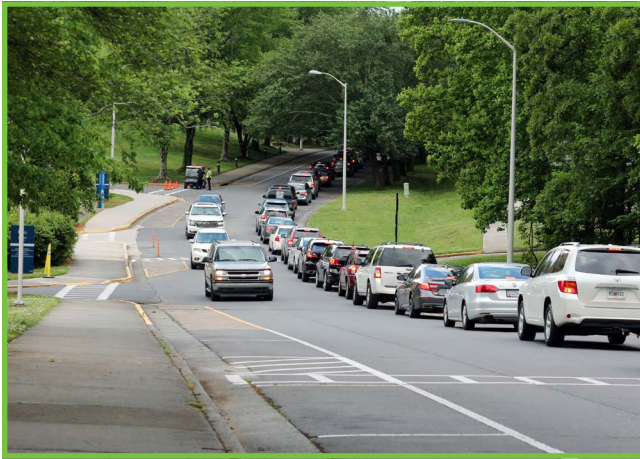


Growers Ken Corbett, left, and Austin Hamilton drove up to Marietta from Southwest Georgia to deliver produce and help with distribution.

For Paulding County resident Mike Gray, a truck-driver on his way home from a trip to Memphis, Tenn., the Georgia Grown To-Go market in Marietta offered a convenient way to gather fresh produce until his own backyard garden comes in.

"It's for a good cause, helping the farmers," he said.

For dairy farmers Jimmy and Ginny Franks – who left their Southern Swiss Dairy in Waynesboro at 3 a.m. on May



Cars line up along the main drive at Dalton State College May 20 to purchase \$20 boxes of mixed Georgia-grown produce. (Photos by Amy Carter/GDA)

23 to deliver 175 pre-ordered dairy boxes to Cobb County – the drive-thru market was a choke to slow a precipitous decline in their business.

"When this thing hit, we lost about 80 percent of our business," Jimmy Franks said. "We've lost more money in the last 90 days than I think I've lost in the last 10 years."

His drive time to Cobb County – nearly three hours – was about equal to the wait time some of the estimated 3,000 buyers logged in line at the Al Bishop Softball Complex in Marietta to pick up prepacked boxes of produce, frozen chicken and Franks' dairy boxes containing a gallon of whole milk, a half-gallon of chocolate milk, a pound of but-



A variety of fresh seasonal produce -- including peaches, blueberries and Vidalia onions -- were sold in Marietta.

ter and half-pints of whole cream and half-and-half. All are produced in the on-farm creamery from milk made by a herd of 160 Brown Swiss cows.

Nearly 300,000 pounds of produce – roughly 20,000 boxes – were sold at a May 20 event hosted by State Rep. Kasey Carpenter, a restaurant owner, in Dalton. Volunteers from various community organizations and businesses packed and distributed the boxes. Several companies purchased in



Volunteers of all ages helped distribute fresh produce boxes in Dalton.

bulk on behalf of their employees, while others bought multiple boxes to give away to friends, relatives and neighbors.

DeKalb County dedicated \$40,000 in funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act to purchase Georgia-grown produce and chicken for 1,200 care baskets distributed free on a first-come, first-served basis May 22.

Buying local means neighbors helping neighbors, which was the overarching theme of each To-Go event.

Personnel from the Cobb County Sheriff's Office represented roughly half of all volunteers who fulfilled orders in Marietta, which generated nearly \$150,000 in presales ahead of the event on May 23. Sheriff Neil Warren worked with Marietta Mayor Steve Tumlin and Agriculture Commissioner Black to organize the drive-thru market.

"The sheriff just believes wholeheartedly in helping the



Southern Swiss Dairy owners Jimmy and Ginny Franks delivered 175 dairy boxes to the Georgia Grown To-Go event in Marietta May 23.

community and giving back wherever we can. I mean that's kind of our role, to protect and to serve," said Chief Deputy Sonya Allen.

Those who volunteered to staff the event did so without being asked, she added.

"People said, 'I'll be there.' A lot of civilians here with the sheriff's office who don't typically get to work events like the deputies do said they wanted to help."

If anything good comes of this whole coronavirus epi-



People of all ages representing a variety of state and local organizations volunteered to pack 20,000 produce boxes in Dalton.

sode, it is that consumers previously unfamiliar with the breadth and depth of Georgia agriculture – the state's largest economic driver – will know the name Georgia Grown and the names of some of the thousands of growers and producers united under that label.

"I believe that one of the positive things that's going to come out of this is these Georgia Grown farmers will look their Georgia Grown consumers dead in the eye and I think these consumers are going to want that more," said Agriculture Commissioner Black. "I think these consumers are going to want that more whether they actually see the farmer or they see our brand with the farmer's brand and then they respond favorably with their retailers saying, 'This is what we want in your store.'"

Find Georgia Agriculture Online! www.agr.georgia.gov

 @GeorgiaGrown: <https://twitter.com/>

 www.facebook.com/georgiagrown

 @lamgeorgiagrown

 Georgia Grown: <https://www.pinterest.com/GaDepAg/>

Notice

Ads for the July 1 issue are due by noon, June 19. Ads scheduled to print in the July 1 paper will begin posting online June 19.