## 45th Annual Sunbelt Ag Expo

News Release Contact: Becca Turner 229-985-1968

Email:becca@sunbeltexpo.com

For Immediate Release

## 2023 - Agriculture in Action

The Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition will celebrate its 45th Anniversary show October 17-19, 2023. Over 1,200 exhibitors will display and demonstrate products and welcome thousands of visitors to the 100-acre show site.

Crowned as North America's Premier Farm Show ® and the largest Farm Show in America with field demonstrations, the Sunbelt Ag Expo brings together all segments of agribusiness, including farmers, educators, policy-makers, ag-enthusiasts, and families. All attending the show will see the latest innovation and technology that the agriculture industry has to offer.

A highlight of the show is the naming of the Sunbelt Ag Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year. After an intensive judging process, ten state winners attend the show to learn who will be selected as the overall winner. This year ushers in a new era for the award as Sunbelt welcomes new sponsors and a new look for the program.

Education is the key component of the show, with over 300 seminars and demonstrations offered over the 3-day event. These seminars and demonstrations are taught in exhibit areas for beef, dairy, poultry, forestry, pond management, equine, and cattle management. Farmers and ranchers attending gain beneficial knowledge on the latest in cutting-edge techniques from industry leaders and university specialists. The Expo works with over 20 different education sponsors to host a strong seminar and demo schedule. These education sponsors include major universities and colleges with six of these having permanent exhibit buildings on-site. The Expo will feature Youth Educational Challenges sponsored by Country Financial for 6th-12th graders as a competitive and fun opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge in five different content areas. Additionally, an Ag Mechanics contest sponsored by Farm Credit Associations of Georgia will be offered for students. Finally, the Advocacy in Action contest sponsored by Georgia Farm Bureau will be held for high school and college students with a particular interest in ag policy, law, and communication. The Backyard Garden Area focuses on topics for the specialty gardener. Flint River Fresh, created by the Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District (FRSWCD) and run by Frenando Jackson, "Farmer Fredo," will organize the display that attracts hobby gardeners and enthusiasts alike. A bounty of information on gardening tips, tools, healthy recipes, and more will be offered in the Georgia Metals Pavilion and in the demonstration garden. Be on the lookout this year for all things "pollinator bees!"

A crowd pleaser is the 600-acre research farm's field demonstrations. These demos showcase harvesting and tillage equipment for multiple crops. In addition, hay demos will include all facets of hay harvesting, from cutting to baling, and will provide visitors the opportunity to see different types of hay harvesting equipment run in a true farm setting.

Expo is honored to have Alabama as the 2023 Spotlight State. Take a road trip through Sweet Grown Alabama when you are at this year's Expo.

The Expo always features an array of aromatic compliments of the delicious food sold within the grounds during the show. In addition, many demonstration areas, including the Aquaponics display, the Georgia Peanut Commission building, and the Georgia Grown Marketplace within the Family Living Building, host segments throughout the day with chefs and food enthusiasts alike. Be sure to stop by for a sample of some scrumptious treats.

There's never a dull moment during the 3-day show, and attendees will find there is something for the entire family. There is a daily rolling Antique Tractor Parade, and this year we will feature an Antique Tractor Pull. Don't forget to make the Cow Milking Contest held every afternoon part of your plan. Add in rural lifestyle fun, truck, tractor, and ATV test drives, and the venue is perfect for rural enthusiasts.

Chip Blalock, Show Director, says, "The Sunbelt Expo is an unbelievable showcase of rural living blanketed with agriculture's newest ideas and technologies. It's 3-days of fun, education, and dreaming about agriculture's future as we team together to feed, clothe and house a growing population around the world."

The Sunbelt Ag Expo is open Tuesday through Thursday, October 17-19, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 (T, W) and 4:00 (Th). Admission at the gate is \$10 per person per day. Advanced and discount tickets can be purchased online. The Show site is four miles southeast of Moultrie, GA, on Hwy 133. For more information, see the show website at sunbeltexpo.com.

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MEDIA NOTE: Visit sunbeltexpo.com by October 10 to request media credentials if someone from your team plans to attend this year's Expo.