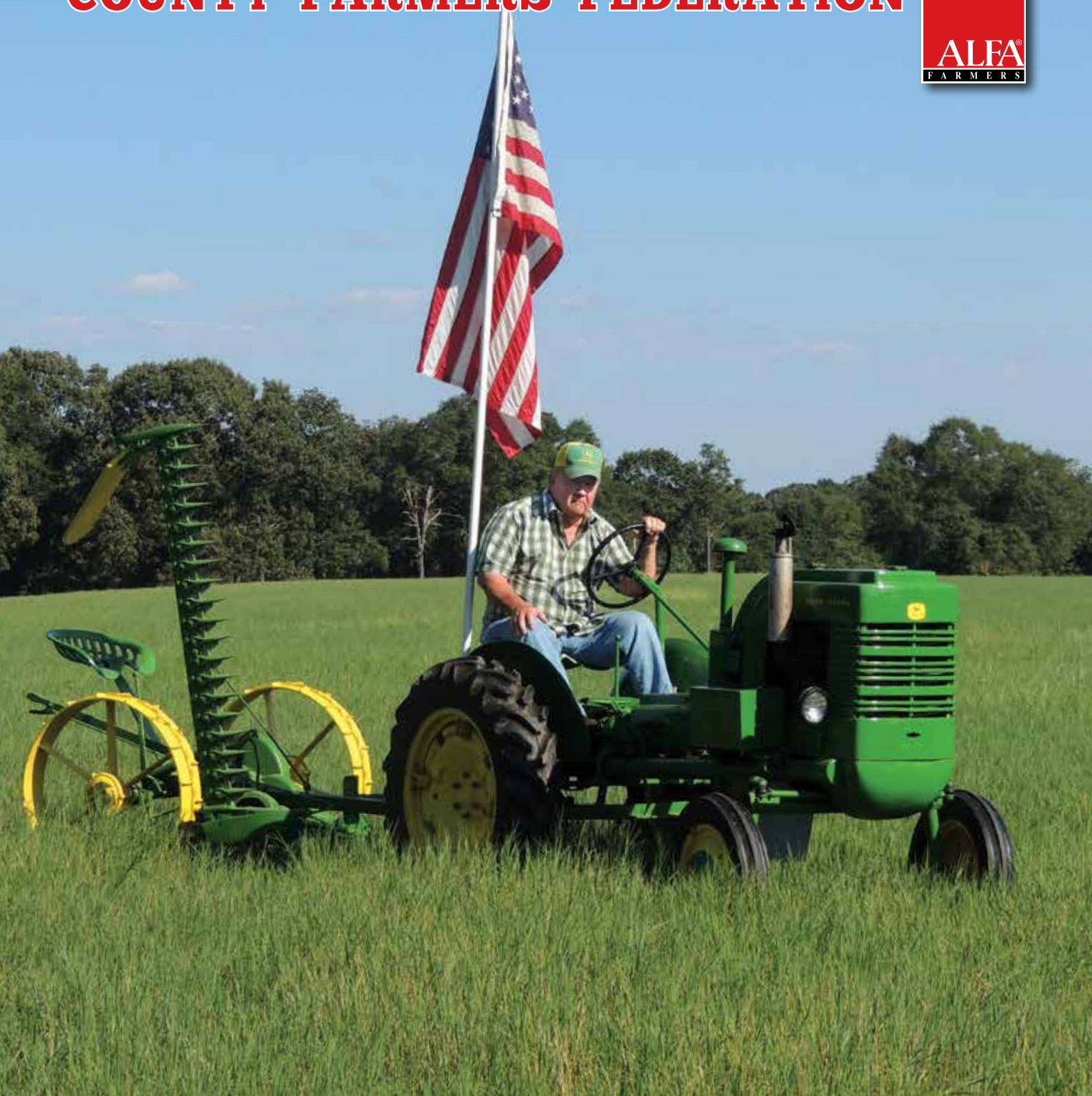


November 2014

RUSSELL

COUNTY FARMERS FEDERATION



Russell County Farmers Federation

The Russell County Farmers Federation is a membership organization created by farmers to be a county-wide organization to advance and improve agricultural industries of this county.

The County Federation cooperates with the Alabama Farmers Federation and other national farm groups to develop programs to bring better economic, social and educational opportunities to Russell County. These efforts help make farming profitable and rural life more attractive.

The Russell County Farmers Federation provides college scholarships to children of county members or to students who are members. Last year, the county provided a \$2,000 scholarship to a member student at Chattahoochee Valley Community College and provided \$500 to help fund a \$1,750 state scholarship to a Russell County student pursuing an agricultural degree from Auburn University or Alabama A&M University.

The organization provides financial support and participates in the Russell County Farm-City Program. The Russell County Extension System is important to the county, and the Federation proudly provides it financial support, especially funding the 4-H program administered by Extension.

The County Federation is a major contributor to the annual Russell County Sheriff's Department - Russell County Cattlemen's Association Stampede Rodeo.

The Alabama Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association and the Russell County Natural Resources Conservation



Russell County Women's Leadership Committee Chairman Nancy Reid presented a learning barn and books to children at Meadowlane Elementary during Farm-City week.

Service Soil Stewardship Week activities also are among the activities supported by the Russell County Farmers Federation.

Several county Federation leaders serve on Alabama Farmers Federation state committees. They are Jo Ann B. Laney, State Equine Committee; Jeremie Redden, State For-estry Committee; and Greg Edwards, State Poultry Committee.

County Officers and Directors



Eddie Reid, President



Becky Martin, Vice President



Jo Ann B. Laney, Secretary-Treasurer

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Jeremie Redden

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Bill Cantrell

Larry Laney

**Nancy Reid - Women's Lead-
ership Chairperson**

Stacey Trimback



◀ **About The Cover** - Larry Alexander is pictured on the foundation field for Russell Bermudagrass, which originated in Russell County, Alabama. The photo at left is of his wife, Carolyn Alexander, with an antique hay cutter and tractor.

Greg Edwards is pictured with his wife, Michele, and children Grayson and Lily at their poultry farm in Pittsview. Greg is the Russell County Farmers Federation Young Farmers chairman. ▼



▲ Becky Martin, Lisa Moore and Traci Moore placed first, second and third in the pound cake cook off. Martin went on to win first place in the State Heritage Cooking Contest sponsored by the Alabama Farmers Federation Women's Leadership Division.



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Federation members Jo Ann B. Laney and Becky Martin raised money with a bake sale for the local animal shelter at SunSouth's open house. ►

Agriculture's Impact On Russell County

A recent survey conducted by Auburn University shows how big of an economic impact agriculture and forestry have in Alabama and Russell County.

The study indicates agriculture, forestry and related industries have a \$1.6 billion annual economic impact on Russell County, which is 62.1 percent of the county's total economic activity.

"Farming drives the economies of many Alabama communities, including Russell County," said Alabama Farmers Federation President Jimmy Parnell. "With more than a \$70-billion economic impact on our state, our industry creates one in every five jobs. The future is bright, but we must continue to invest in

agriculture and allow farmers to compete in the marketplace."

Greenhouse, nursery and floriculture production ranks first in the county's top commodities.

Cattle is second, followed by **Forestry**, which was third, and **Corn**, fourth.

Russell County farmers also grow peanuts, cotton, soybeans, wheat and hay.

Of the 410,445 acres in Russell County, 306,526 acres are in timber and 94,233 are in farmland.

Russell County's agricultural, forestry and related industries generated approximately 9,884 full- and part-time jobs, representing 53.1 percent of the county's total workforce (18,621 jobs).

Russell County
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

\$1.6 Billion
Economic Impact

9,884 Jobs

TOP COMMODITIES

- Greenhouse, Nursery & Floriculture
- Beef Cattle
- Forestry
- Corn

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