

# South Carolina's Current Developments



Home of the first soil conservation district plan...February 4, 1938

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Spring 2003

From the Office of the  
State Conservationist  
**Walter W. Douglas**



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*Dear NRCSErs:*

I hope you are enjoying the beautiful South Carolina springtime weather as well as the plentiful rains we have had over the past several weeks. This time of year, we can be especially thankful that we are conservationists, as it is the perfect time to get outdoors and work in the field with our state's landowners.

South Carolina NRCS recently had the pleasure of a visit from NRCS Chief Bruce Knight who spent a day with us over at the University of South Carolina's Earth Sciences and Resources Institute (ESRI). Chief Knight made the trip to the Palmetto State to see first-hand the exciting products developed as a result of the partnership between NRCS and ESRI. Both USC and NRCS employees made presentations to the Chief in an interactive session. I was proud of the work that resulted from this unique partnership and am confident that the Chief was also impressed by the experience. I appreciate the time and energy of both the USC and NRCS employees that made the Chief's visit a success.



left to right: USC President Dr. Andrew Sorensen, NRCS Chief Bruce Knight, and NRCS State Conservationist Walter W. Douglas on April 10, 2003.

I am proud of the work you all are doing to improve the natural resources of South Carolina, and I hope you realize the impact that you are making.



# Notes from the Field

## York County Landowner Stuck on Wildlife

Amy O. Maxwell, Public Affairs Specialist, USDA-NRCS

Driving past *Flying King Ranch* in York County, South Carolina, it's hard not to glance at the gently sloping hills and lush green pastures that dot the countryside along this stretch of Highway 321. The 1,500-acre livestock ranch belongs to Indiana natives Robert and Deborah Stuck who moved south in 1971. The ranch was named in memory of King, a beloved English Setter belonging to the Stuck family. Home to sixty-head of cattle, the ranch is only one part of Stuck's passion for farming. Also located in York County, Stuck acquired 176 acres in 1984 (named *Rose of Sharon Farm*) which has grown to include 1,100 acres. Stuck works closely with USDA-NRCS District Conservationist Maryann Trent to establish conservation practices on his acreage with a focus on improving wildlife habitat. Utilizing the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), and the P.O.W.E.R. (Protecting Our Wildlife at Every Right of Way) for Wildlife Program, the York ranch and farm acreage provides an ideal oasis for wildlife to thrive.

Stuck has also utilized other conservation programs such as the continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to create wildlife areas such as a riparian buffer around 2 large ponds at the ranch. They provide travel corridors between wildlife areas and protect the pond banks from the cattle that graze adjacent to the ponds.

At the Rose of Sharon Farm, Stuck built seven marshes (or shallow water impoundments) that can be drained and planted with vegetation to support ducks, such as wild mallards and wood ducks. Soon after, people started referring to his place as "Little

Arkansas" (Arkansas is often referred to as the duck capital of the world). "Our vision was to bring back the family tradition of hunting duck, which over the year's has become a lost art," he said. Now, Stuck is focusing his efforts on creating a high quality, properly managed hunt club.

With 1,300 acres of the entire 1,500 (Flying King Ranch) managed for wildlife habitat, it's clear that Stuck is serious when it comes to habitat management. Trent consults with Stuck to help him plant appropriate plant species for sustaining wildlife. "We are working on establishing warm season grasses in the pasture," said Trent. "There is presently an abundance of fescue and bermuda grass, which was established for livestock, but

doesn't serve much of a purpose for attracting wildlife." Grasses once established for livestock on this farm are too thick for quail and don't produce overhead canopy, especially important for vulnerable young chicks. Stuck says quail need "bunch grasses," which provide a clear ground area for maneuverability, but also overhead canopy for protection. Stuck is particularly interested in supporting quail, deer, and turkey. "We have also established a number of food plots and pine plantations which provide both food and

shelter for the wildlife." Stuck believes he knows the key to supporting a healthy turkey population. "If you want turkey, you have to have bugs," he confirms. "First, provide the right plants to support insects, which in turn will support the turkey." Vegetation such as bi-color lespedeza, partridge pea, autumn olive, and switch grass, have already proven to be successful in attracting wildlife to the area.

Stuck has also found success through the P.O.W.E.R. for Wildlife Program, administered through the East Piedmont Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council. RC&D Coordinator Keith Cain said, "This unique rights-of-way management program is designed to create new wildlife habitat beneath electrical transmission lines." In cooperation with York Electric, Stuck established wildlife plantings along his electrical lines including milo, wheat, brown top millet, clover, and even turnips. "We planted greens into the wildlife food plot, and didn't ever expect that the deer



*This P.O.W.E.R. for Wildlife right-of-way was planted with milo, wheat, and clover which has been very popular with deer.*



Robert Stuck (left), York County landowner, worked with NRCS District Conservationist Maryann Trent to establish conservation practices on his farm and ranch.

would take a liking to the turnips,” said Stuck. However, a walk around the perimeter of the plot (that is marked by numerous deer prints!), proves that deer do in fact eat turnips.

Stuck’s dedication to improving wildlife habitat has certainly paid off for the many species that now inhabit his acreage in York County. “I enjoy seeing wildlife on our land and when I see species spring up where there were low populations previously, that makes it worthwhile.”

### South Carolina NRCS Provides Data for Watershed Consortium Study

A new study shows that the upper sections of Lake Greenwood in South Carolina were severely impacted by sediment. These upper sections of the lake lost 45 to 60 percent of their original capacity and now contain enough sediment to fill about one million dump trucks.

The study was performed by the Saluda-Reedy Watershed Consortium, in collaboration with USDA-NRCS. The Consortium is a broad-based group of non-profit organizations, universities, private consultants and public agencies, working together to provide clean, abundant, and healthy waters for Lake Greenwood and the entire Saluda-Reedy watershed. This study provides scientifically-based estimates of the amount of sediment deposited in the upper sections of Lake Greenwood. The results should be a wake-up call on the urgent need to take action to protect the lake.

Lake Greenwood, an 11,400-acre lake constructed in 1941, is a critically important economic and recreational asset to the region. It is the primary source of drinking water for the Greenwood community and

contributes significantly to the area’s economic well-being by attracting development, providing water-based tourism and recreation, and generating hydroelectric power. The lake has a watershed area of 1,165 square miles, including much of the rapidly growing urban Greenville area in the Upstate of SC.

For more information, contact Foothills RC&D Coordinator Dave Demarest at (864)467-2775, ext. 102.

## Conference Update

### Reaching New Heights

A conference for professional and personal growth

July 14-16, 2003  
Greenville, SC



Here are some of the speakers you will hear at the upcoming NRCS Employees Conference!



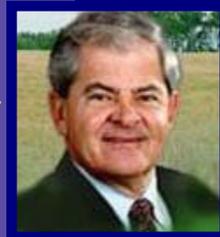
Charles Adams,  
NRCS Regional  
Conservationist



Judy Tso,  
Aba  
Solutions  
Founder



Glen Ward, Jr.,  
Speaker/Entertainer



Billy Ray Smith,  
Commissioner of  
Agriculture  
Kentucky

Don't forget to go ahead and make your reservations at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Greenville by calling **1-800-233-1234.**

Refer to our group as NRCS to get the government rate. The deadline for making your reservations at the government rate of \$65 is June 29, 2003.

## Elloree Museum Takes Visitors Back in Time

by Sabrenna Bennett, PAS Student Intern

Throughout the state of South Carolina, small towns give residents and visitors a warm feeling of the past. However, few towns are able to preserve the original foundations of their rich history, like the town of Elloree. This small, quaint Orangeburg town put forth a joint effort to restore their downtown buildings as they once were at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In doing so, they built the Elloree Heritage Museum, which is a tribute to the way of life in Elloree during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. SC-NRCS assisted in the creation of the museum by providing research materials and historic photographs.

The Farm Wing, located on the first floor of the museum, is the first section to be completed. It tells the story of farm life in Elloree through photographs, antique machinery, as well as tools displays and exhibits.

Covering most of the walls of the farm wing are enlarged black and white photographs of past farmers and their families, which depicts them performing everyday tasks, such as plowing the fields and milking cows. Several of the displays showcase antique equipment used by former residents, such as mule drawn plows and blacksmith tools. Perhaps the most impressive display is an 1890 cotton gin that was owned by an Elloree farmer. This cotton gin was considered new technology at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, making cotton bales easier and faster to produce.

Lastly, the museum steps back in time by recreating the home of William J. Snider, the founder of Elloree. Using the wood from his original house, a one-room cabin was built, giving visitors an idea of life in the late 1700's. The cabin is complete with 18<sup>th</sup> century tools, such as a wool spinning wheel, yarn winder, and flax wheel.

In the future, the museum plans to complete the Town Wing, a display of stores and businesses from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, and the Living Area Wing, a showcase of the style, décor, and furniture from the homes of the past.

The Elloree Heritage Museum's goal is to bring Elloree of the past back to life, and with their present progress and creativity, traveling back 100 years is only a few steps away.

For more information, visit the Elloree Heritage Museum website at [www.elloreesouthcarolina.com/heritagemuseum.htm](http://www.elloreesouthcarolina.com/heritagemuseum.htm)



*A turn-of-the-century cotton gin, which made the production of cotton faster and easier, is on display at the Elloree Heritage Museum.*

## USDA to Hold Outreach Meeting for Farmers on Highlights of the 2002 Farm Bill

On Saturday, May 17, 2003, USDA will hold a public outreach meeting to connect customers to agency programs and services while highlighting changes and new provisions in the 2002 Farm Bill. The event will be held in Columbia, SC, at the SC State Museum on Gervais Street. Special emphasis will be placed on how USDA can better serve non-traditional and traditionally underserved customers. There is no cost to attend.



Thirteen different USDA agencies will be represented. The meeting will consist of breakout sessions and attendees will choose which sessions they wish to attend. The event begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. To register, visit [www.usda.gov/da/briefings/briefing.htm](http://www.usda.gov/da/briefings/briefing.htm), or call 1-800-880-4183. This meeting is sponsored by the USDA Forest Service and USDA Office of Outreach.

## Wetland Reserve Program Improves Water Quality and Wildlife in Kingstree, SC

by Sabrenna Bennett, PAS Student Intern

When farmers decide to retire, there is always one important question to consider: What do I do with the land? Many pass their land down to future generations, some rent their land to active farmers, and others, like Ernest Prosser, convert their altered cropland back to its natural habitat. Prosser, a retired farmer and native of Kingstree, SC, enrolled 420 acres of his cropland into the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), with a 30-year easement. He received technical assistance from NRCS District Conservationist Reginald Hall and other NRCS employees, including Soil Conservationist Trinette Vereen, Field Engineer Larry Cantrell, and Soil Conservation Technicians Johnny Lee and Robbie Holcombe. By plugging up a network of ditches throughout his cropland, Prosser hoped to recreate a natural wetland habitat for wildlife and waterfowl.

Historically, Prosser's farm is a bicentennial farm that has been in his family since 1754. Over the years, much of his land was drained for use as cropland, by creating a network of ditches to remove the water. Prosser, who performed much of the wetland restoration himself, along with NRCS, plugged up these ditches, in an effort to hold water. He also installed several berms (round, natural earthen structures) to hold water on his

**“Restoring this site has brought an awareness of WRP to local landowners in Williamsburg county, and I hope to see more farmers get involved in the program to enhance wildlife habitat.”**

*-Reginald Hall  
NRCS District Conservationist*

cropland. “Berming these ditches and creating the dike has really helped to restore the natural hydrology that was removed,” explained Hall.

In addition, a dike was placed on the main ditch that drained a bay and the field ditches. A rock shoot was built in the middle of the dike to prevent flooding on the land of adjacent property owners by draining overflowing water into a ditch. The rocks lie on a geo-textile fabric and are held in place by honeycomb iron structures, which prevent the rocks from washing away.

Since the creation of the wetland, Prosser has seen an increase of wildlife. He has sighted several animals and waterfowl, including quail, deer, turkeys, maganza ducks, snipes, and wood ducks. Ultimately, he hopes that the wetland will bring native bobwhite quails back to his farm.

In the future, Hall hopes to see more WRP sites. “Restoring this site has brought an awareness of WRP to local landowners in Williamsburg county,” stated Hall.

“I hope to see more farmers get involved in the program to enhance wildlife habitat.”

Prosser is confident that the wetland will flourish and attract wildlife habitat. “I expect this wetland to do what it was created to do,” said Prosser. “And that is to improve overall water quality and enhance wildlife.”

For more information, contact the Kingstree NRCS office at (843) 354-9622.



*Ditches were plugged and berms installed that created shallow water impoundments to improve wildlife habitat and diversity.*



*A honeycomb pattern of geo-textile fabric is used to hold rocks in place along the rock shoot in the middle of the dike, which prevents flooding.*

## Allendale's Sycamore Farms Enhances Wildlife Habitat with Farm Bill Program

by Sabrenna Bennett, PAS Student Intern

To enhance wildlife habitat, the ideal environment should have a naturally diverse setting. Like humans, animals need a variety of resources to thrive. They may find it hard to adapt to a homogenous environment of only land, water or trees. With this in mind, Larry Huckabee, SC state chairman for Ducks Unlimited, enrolled 103 acres of his farm into the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), with a permanent easement. He received technical assistance from NRCS District Conservationist Walter Earley, Resource Conservationist Mike Lott, and Soil Conservation Technician Charles Murdaugh. "Diversity is the key to attracting wildlife," stated Huckabee. "By installing dikes, swales, and water control structures on his cropland, Larry was able to create a natural and diverse habitat for waterfowl and wildlife," said Earley.

Originally, Sycamore Farms was low, wet cropland with a network of drainage ditches to remove excess water. To convert the farm back to its native habitat, two dikes, with water control structures and a ditch plug, were installed. The dikes (round earthen structures) are used to hold water on the acreage, and the water control structures ensure a suitable level of water is maintained. The water control structures allow water to safely flow under the dikes to nearby drainage outlets. The flashboard riser connected to the pipe controls the amount of water in the diked

area, and allows for waterfowl management by manipulating the water levels during critical periods.

In addition to dikes, five swales were also constructed. A swale, also known as micro-topography, is a parabolic shaped channel that provides a more diverse habitat for wetlands. The soil removed from the channels can be piled on either one or both sides, providing varying water depth for wetland wildlife. In addition, the soil

bank on the side of the channel can be used to plant mast-producing hardwoods, such as native oaks and other perennial vegetation.

Since enrolling in WRP, Huckabee has seen an increase in wildlife and waterfowl, and has sighted several species, including deer, turkey, quail, and woodstork. In the future, he plans to further enhance the wetland by establishing plants, such as hardwood oaks, buttonbush, and Japanese millet.

"I was pleased that Larry was satisfied with the outcome," stated Lott. "It's satisfying to see the restoration of the wetland complete and the potential for excellent waterfowl management."

In the future, Huckabee plans to maintain the restored wetland and encourages other landowners to enroll into WRP.

"A hundred years from now, when Allendale is even more developed, I want Sycamore Farms to be one place people can come and see wildlife."

For more information, contact the Allendale NRCS office at (803) 584-4233.



*This water control structure ensures a suitable level of water is maintained.*



*Swales make wetlands more diverse and provide varying water depth for wildlife.*

**NRCS' Black Emphasis Program**

by Dorothea Martinez, Black Emphasis Program Manager (BEPM), SC NRCS

The Black Emphasis Management Program is designed to promote the employment and advancement of African Americans. As Black Emphasis Program Manager for NRCS in South Carolina, I feel there are several things we can do to help in the advancement process. First, we must prioritize our goals. Second, we must portray a positive attitude and work ethic, and third, we must treat others with respect.



Have a positive attitude.....

Goals are the main priority for upward mobility in the workplace.

We must put in writing how we plan to accomplish our goals, and constantly refer to our plan of action to stay focused. We must have perseverance, patience and believe in ourselves. If at any time we have doubts about accomplishing our goals, we have already defeated the purpose. We must always say to ourselves, "I think I can, I believe I can, I know I can."

A positive attitude will go far in the work place, and enables us to provide the best service to our clients. As team players, our supervisors will be more willing to call on an employee with a positive attitude and work ethic than on someone who makes a special effort to be uncooperative. Also, volunteering for collateral duty assignments can assist in career development. We must remember that beneficial experience is not always what we are getting paid to do.

Treating others with respect is a must in the workplace. Our motto should be "always treat others the way we'd like to be treated." We must always consider our actions before we act. When we respect others, we can earn respect in return.

Lastly, if we set goals for ourselves, have a positive attitude, and treat others with respect, we have already set a clear path towards advancement in the workplace.



Be a team player...

*Employee Trivia*

Based on the facts below, guess who the NRCS employee is!

Who Am I



-  I am a competitive bass fisherman, who competes in local tournaments.
-  I am a nature lover, who backpacks often in national and state parks. I have backpacked as far as 80 miles.
-  I am a very active Boy Scout leader.
-  I was born in Haskell, Texas. I am a father and grandfather, and I own and operate a family farm that was settled in 1906.
-  I have been employed with NRCS for 27 years. I started as a Range Conservationist in 1976.

Give up? Get the answer on page 11.



## Conservation Partnership News



### Legislators and Farmers Honored for Natural Resource Conservation Efforts

The South Carolina Association of Conservation Districts (SCACD) held its Annual Legislative Appreciation Dinner at Seawell's on March 5, 2003. Nearly 400 attended, including Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) commissioners and members of the SC General Assembly, representatives from Governor Sanford's office and staffers representing congressional leaders. Also in attendance were conservationists from USDA-NRCS and South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR), as well as county council members. SCACD President Larry Nates presided over the banquet and presented the association's two most prestigious awards.

Two lawmakers were recognized for their exemplary support of conservation in South Carolina. Representative William D. Witherspoon (Horry County, District 105) was applauded for his support of soil and water conservation and presently serves as the Chairman of the Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee. Senator Robert Waldrep (Anderson County, District 3) was also recognized for his efforts in furthering conservation and serves on two key natural resources committees in the Senate including the Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Fish, Game and Forestry Committees.

"While tonight we are honoring two very special individuals for their efforts to protect South Carolina's natural resources, all of you here can be proud of the fact that you play a crucial role in the protection of soil and water resources in our state," remarked SCACD President Nates.

SC Commissioner of Agriculture Charles R. Sharpe presented the award for SC's Outstanding Conservation Farmer for 2002. The recipient was Aiken's Ralph Fox. Commissioner Sharpe also presented Conservation Farmer of the Year awards to four area winners. They were William A. "Bill" Cox of Charleston; Johnny M. Shelley of Horry; Jack McCauley of Lancaster; and John Palmer of Pickens.

The Farmer of the Year Award program was a

cooperative effort of SCDNR, NRCS, SWCD's Clemson Extension, and SC Farm Bureau. The winners were selected from nominations made by local conservation districts.

For more information, contact Linda Tansill, SCACD executive director, at 803-253-3314.



Horry County Representative William D. Witherspoon (second from left) is congratulated by SC Commissioner for Agriculture Charles Sharpe (third from left) after receiving a Legislator of the Year Award from SCACD.



Anderson County Senator Robert Waldrep (holding award) was recognized for his efforts in furthering conservation with the presentation of a Legislator of the Year Award from SCACD.

## Spartanburg Commissioner Turner Wins State Environmental Award

Congratulations to Spartanburg SWCD Commissioner Dr. Jack A. Turner who received the 2002 South Carolina Environmental Awareness Award from Governor Mark Sanford on February 26, 2003. Turner was honored for developing an environmental education outreach center for Spartanburg County.

Dr. Turner's vision of providing an outreach program to enhance the environmental education of the young people and the community in Spartanburg County led to the creation of the Watershed Ecology Center at the University of South Carolina Spartanburg in 1999. The center collects, analyzes and disseminates sound scientific information on the watershed ecology of the region.

In addition to serving as Director of the Watershed Center, Dr. Turner teaches biology and environmental science at USC-Spartanburg and is a member of the SC Envirothon Committee and Secretary/Treasurer of the Spartanburg SWCD.

The South Carolina Environmental Awareness Award was established by the S.C. General Assembly to recognize outstanding contributions made toward the protection, conservation and improvement of South Carolina's natural resources.



SC Governor Mark Sanford (left) presented Dr. Jack A. Turner, Spartanburg SWCD Commissioner (right), with the 2002 SC Environmental Awareness Award. Von Snelgrove (center), conservation districts chief, also attended the ceremony.

## Natural Resources Board Names John Frampton as New SCDNR Director

The S.C. Natural Resources Board has appointed John Frampton, a 29-year agency veteran, as the new director of SCDNR. Frampton, 55, of Columbia replaces Paul Sandifer, who resigned after six years as director of DNR to accept a position with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



John Frampton is the newly appointed SCDNR Director.

Frampton earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Biology from the College of Charleston in 1970 and a Master of Arts in Teaching from the Citadel in 1972. In 1974, he began his career with the former S.C. Wildlife and Marine Resources Department after receiving his Master's degree in Wildlife Biology from Clemson University.

In 1999, he was promoted to DNR assistant director for development and national affairs. This new position allowed Frampton to devote his efforts, full-

**"These are probably the toughest times this agency has experienced, but I have a history of building partnerships."**  
*-John Frampton  
 newly appointed  
 SCDNR Director*

time, to securing private and federal funds for agency projects while coordinating the DNR's statewide habitat protection strategy.

The seven-member South Carolina Natural Resources Board selected Frampton partly because of his experience in forging partnerships with individuals, corporations or other public entities, according to Board Chairman, Joab Lesesne.

Frampton said he and his staff place great emphasis on continuing to develop public and private partnerships and obtaining federal and alternative funding sources to support agency projects, the state's habitat protection initiative and Homeland Security. "These are probably the toughest times this agency has experienced, but I have a history of building partnerships."

## 2003 Governor's Institute for Natural Resource Conservation Announced

Staff members of the Land, Water, and Conservation Division are putting the final touches on preparations for the 2003 Governor's Institute for Natural Resource Conservation. This annual environmental education event is a cooperative venture of SCDNR, SC Conservation Districts Foundation, the 46 Conservation Districts of South Carolina, and Lander University. This program exposes young people to careers in conservation, and as a true environmental study course, offers college scholarships and college credit to those who pass the comprehensive final examination.

Since its inception, over 3,000 students have participated in this program, winning over \$70,000 dollars in scholarships. The 2003 Institute will be held June 16th through the 20th on the Lander University campus in Greenwood.

Students currently in grades 11 and 12 are the intended audience. Students who are rising Seniors will be eligible to compete for a full four-year scholarship to Lander University in Environmental Science. The deadline for submitting applications is **Friday, April 25, 2003**. The last day to cancel and receive a full refund is Friday, May 23, 2003. No participant changes may be made except cancellations after Friday, June 6, 2003.

Completed applications, with payment for registration, should be sent to Neil Bartley at 304 Gray Street in Edgefield, SC 29824. Only 60 student positions are available, so registration is on a first come, first served basis. Applications beyond the limit will be prioritized for filling cancellations.

Students participating in the Governor's Institute must be sponsored locally through the Soil and Water Conservation District. For information about the institute, call your local Conservation District or contact Neil Bartley ([bartley@dnr.state.sc.us](mailto:bartley@dnr.state.sc.us)) or Ken Forrester ([forrester@water.dnr.state.sc.us](mailto:forrester@water.dnr.state.sc.us)) by email. The Institute is open to all high school juniors and seniors in South Carolina when approved by their local Conservation District.

**The 2003 Governor's Institute for Natural Resource Conservation will be June 16-20, 2003, on the Lander University campus in Greenwood.**

## User-Friendly Weather a Goal of On-Line Site

Weather information is now easily accessible to the public through the SCDNR web site. Up-to-date information and data from the SCDNR Southeast Regional Climate Center can be found directly at: [www.dnr.state.sc.us/water/climate/sercc/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/water/climate/sercc/index.html). Through the web site, the public can e-mail questions and receive a quick response from someone working in Southeast Regional Climate Center.

The Southeast Regional Climate Center site contains a "what's new" page that displays the latest resources including timely weather impacts analyses and tropical storm summaries. Pull-down menus are used to provide access to National Hurricane Center text products received through Southeast Regional Climate Center satellite system. Navigation tools using maps with hot spots are employed for viewers where appropriate. These maps direct viewers to current weather observations at several hundred National Weather System stations and regional forecast offices.

In support of a kindergarten through 12th grade weather and climate educational outreach program, the Southeast Regional Climate Center has developed "edutainment" activities and resources for teachers and students. One of these educational resources, the Southeast Regional Climate Center Weather Quiz, was selected by the National Science Teachers Association to connect textbooks to useful online content through a service called sciLINKS. Several other on-line "edutainment" resources are available, including a weather symbol concentration game and a slider puzzle of hurricane images.



# PERSONNEL NEWS

## REASSIGNMENTS

**Durant, Bethel** – 0457-12, Soil Conservationist, Columbia, effective 3/9/03.

## PROMOTIONS

**Jordan, Robin** – 0201-09, Human Resources Specialist, Columbia, effective 3/9/03.

**Maxwell, Amy** – 1035-12, Public Affairs Specialist, Columbia, effective 3/9/03.

## CAREER INTERNS

**Nicholson, Vincent** – 0499-02, Separation, Bishopville, effective 2/9/03

## It Could Be Worse!

Lighten the painful memories of the recent April 15th tax deadline by reflecting on past items that are no longer taxed--

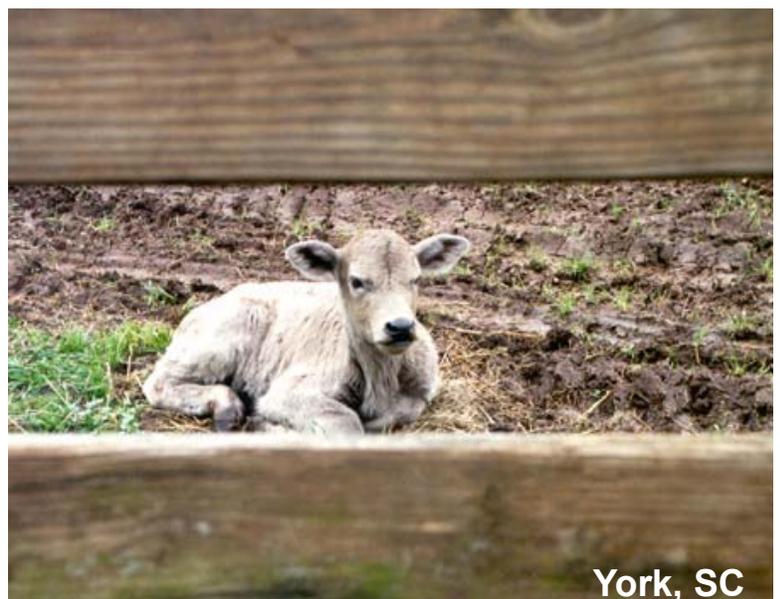
- Hearths (England, 1662)
- Windows (England, 1696-1798)
- Beards (Russia, 1698)
- Bachelorhood (England, 1695-1706, and Missouri, 1820-1822)

**Answer from *Guess Who I Am?* on page 7:**  
*Ron Hilliard, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, NRCS State Office.*

## Spring has sprung in SC...



Allendale, SC



York, SC

photos by Amy O. Maxwell, 2003