2015 Flood Impact on South Carolina Agriculture
The Agribusiness Cluster has a total economic impact of $41.7 billion in 2013.

Economic impact has increased 23% since 2006.

The Agribusiness Cluster accounted for 109,141 direct jobs and 212,530 jobs total, representing 10.5% of the state's workforce in 2013.

The Impact of the Agribusiness Sector on the South Carolina Economy
Farm in Darlington County
Poultry Farm in Clarendon County
Table 1: Estimated Losses in the Field and from Prevented Planting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Losses in the Field</th>
<th>Losses from Prevented Planting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$72,899,200</td>
<td>$24,331,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td>Oats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$86,121,984</td>
<td>$1,393,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soybeans</td>
<td>Canola/Rapeseed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$125,846,000</td>
<td>$284,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables</td>
<td>Vegetables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$45,000,000</td>
<td>$15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$329,867,184</td>
<td>$46,009,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Loss</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>$375,876,853</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: USDA, Farm Service Agency and South Carolina Department of Agriculture.
Farmers are still unable to reach their crops.
SCDA Involvement

- SERT ESF 11 (food) and 17 (animal agriculture)
- Damage assessment
- Hay and feed analysis
- Sample grades of peanuts and grain
- Fuel quality
- Developed protocols for evaluation of food crops in flooded areas
- 5 Team SC events and 6 farmer meetings
- Meeting with RMA Deputy Administrator
Flooding inside RJ Reynolds tobacco warehouse on east McIntyre street in Mullins via David Bellamy.
Crop Insurance

• 2015 would have been a break-even year at best
• Crop insurance does not even cover production costs
• Diversification when allocating acres usually provides some protection
• Farmers can not be paid until crop is harvested; or destroyed if 100% loss
Cotton Example

• Assuming farmers purchased 70% coverage
• 215,000 acres in SC (USDA NASS)
  – Production cost per acre = $580
  – Crop insurance payout for 100% loss = $330.75
  – $249.25 (43%) of production costs are unprotected loss
  – 215,000 x $249.25 = $53,588,750 unprotected loss statewide
The Landscape

• Severe infrastructure damage
  – Farm roads, irrigation pond dams, irrigation systems
• Farmers are frustrated by bureaucracy
• Farmers don’t want or need more loans
• Losing a house is bad, losing a job and income potential is hopeless
• This is a food and economic security emergency
Jeremy Cannon-Clarendon County; tobacco, cotton, corn, soybeans

“While the money does need to go to the farmer, it will end up being the support for our local communities, as we spread it to all the local businesses like we have done for so many years. To me it’s not my job. It’s my heritage, my family, my life, and now its future is in the balance, hoping for someone to throw out a lifeline.”