



**Federation of Southern Cooperatives/  
Land Assistance Fund**

*Celebrating the International Year of Cooperatives*

**29<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia Farmers Conference  
February 10 & 11, 2012**

**Theme**

*“Cooperatives Expanding the  
Future of Agriculture”*

**Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund**  
*Celebrating the International Year of Cooperatives*

**29<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia Farmers Conference**  
**Friday, February 10, 2012**

**Moderators: Cornelius Key & Jerry Pennick**

***Theme “Cooperatives Expanding the Future of Agriculture”***

8:00-Until	<b>Registration</b>	James Scott/ Atonya Jordan <i>FSC/LAF</i>
8:30	<b>Greeting</b>	Cornelius Key <i>FSC/LAF</i>
	<b>Prayer</b>	Latrince Hayes <i>FSC/LAF</i>
<b>9:00-1:00</b>	<b>Workshops Sessions:</b> <i>(Throughout the day attorneys will also assist Pigford II claimants with claim forms)</i>	

**Session A: Cooperative Development (Room: A)**

Facilitator: Latrince Hayes - *FSC/LAF*

Presenters: Melbah Smith & The Federation Cooperative Development Team

1. Starting and Sustaining a Cooperative
2. Benefits & Types of Cooperatives
3. Cooperative Structure
4. Marketing

**Session B: Farm and Facility Risk Mitigation (Room: B)**

Facilitator: Marquis Harris- *FSC/LAF*

Presenters: Laney Whitacre - *FSA*; Guy Harris - *Reiake Dealer*, (Walmart)

1. Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP)
2. Irrigation
3. Certification & Food Safety

**Session C: Marketing Opportunities (Room: C)**

Facilitator: Ricky Dollison - *FSC/LAF*

Presenters: Jim Campbell - *C. H. Robinson*, Josh Tanner - *Whole Foods*, (Wal-Mart)

1. Wal-Mart
2. C.H. Robinson
3. Whole Foods

**Session D: Resources (Room: D)**

Facilitator: Cathy Kendrick - *FSC/LAF*

Presenters: Vontice Jackson and Ric Hosmer - *NRCS*, Amadou Diop - *Forestry*,  
David Lassiter - *FSA*, Joelette Crawl - *FSC/LAF*, Carrie Furman *Climate- UGA*

1. NRCS
2. Forestry
3. FSA
4. Aphis
5. Climate

1:00–2:00

**Lunch**

Introduction of Guest Speaker,  
Cornelius Blanding  
*Director of Field Operations & Special Projects*

2:00-2:30

Guest Speaker, Carolyn Parker  
*Director of USDA Office of Advocacy and Outreach*

**“FSC Partner Activities”**

SWGA Project  
Albany Georgia

Commercial Kitchen & Farmers Market  
Newton, Georgia

**“Cooperative Activities”**

Moderator, Cornelius Blanding  
*FSC/LAF*

South Georgia Vegetable Producers  
Quitman, Georgia

West Georgia Cooperative  
Hamilton Georgia

Southern Alternative  
Leslie, Georgia

Coastal Plain Small Farmers Cooperatives  
Glennville, Georgia

Competitive Marketing  
Newton, Georgia

Flint River Farmers Cooperative  
Newton, Georgia

3:30

**Wrap Up**  
Cornelius Key  
*FSC/LAF*

***Reception – Hilton Garden Inn at 7:00 p.m.***

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**Saturday, February 11, 2012**

**Moderators: Cornelius Key & Cornelius Blanding**

***Theme: Cooperatives Expanding the Future of Agriculture***

**Agenda**

<b>8:00</b>	<b><i>Registration</i></b>	<i>Federation's Staff</i>
<b>9:00 – 9:30</b>	<b><i>Welcome</i></b>	Cornelius Key <i>FSC/LAF</i>
	<b><i>Prayer</i></b>	Ricky Dollison <i>FSC/LAF</i>
	<b><i>Song</i></b>	<i>Federation's Singers</i>
	<b><i>Greetings</i></b>	Satina James <i>Federation Georgia Board Member</i>
		Shirley Sherrod <i>Southwest Georgia Project</i>
		Christopher Pike <i>City Commissioner</i>
		Dr. Mark Lassiter <i>Ft. Valley State University</i>
		Dr. Jay Scott Angle <i>University of Georgia</i>
	<b><i>Song</i></b>	<i>Federation's Singers</i>
<b>9:30 – 10:15</b>	<b><u><i>Wal-Mart/USDA Initiative Panelist:</i></u></b>	Carmon Jones <i>USDA</i> Doug Miller and Jim Campbell <i>CH Robinson</i> Gibbs Patrick and Gibbs Patrick III <i>Patrick Farm</i>

*Questions/Answers*

<b>10:15 – 11:00</b>	<b><u>USDA Panelists:</u></b>	
	<i>Natural Resource Conservation Service</i>	James Tillman <i>NRCS State Conservationist</i>
	<i>Farm Service Agency</i>	Hobby Stripling <i>State Director</i>
	<i>Rural Development</i>	Al Burns <i>Business &amp; Cooperative Specialist</i>
	<i>Questions/Answers</i>	
<b>11:00-11:15</b>	<b><i>Congressional Update</i></b>	Sanford Bishop <i>US Congressman</i>
<b>11:15-12:15</b>	<b><i>Farm Bill</i></b>	Jerry Pennick <i>FSC/LAF</i> John Zippert <i>FSC/LAF</i>
	<i>Question &amp; Answers</i>	
<b>12:15- 1:15</b>	<b><i>Lunch</i></b>	
	<b><i>Introduction of Guest Speaker</i></b> Shirley Sherrod <i>Southwest Georgia Project</i>	
	<b><i>Guest Speaker</i></b> Quinton Robinson <i>Rural Development State Director</i>	
<b>1:15 – 2:30</b>	<b><i>Update on Pigford II</i></b>	Hank Sanders <i>Pigford II Class Counsel</i>
		Heather Gray <i>FCS/LAF</i>
		John Zippert <i>FSC/LAF</i>
<b>2:30</b>	<b><i>Wrap-Up</i></b>	Ralph Paige <i>Executive Director</i> <i>FSC/LAF</i>