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*For Immediate Release****AGSOUTH FARM CREDIT SHOWCASES LOCAL
DEMONSTRATION FARM***

Terry Wyatt, regional business development manager with AgSouth Farm Credit, is proud of the one-acre small farm located at 1325 Pearman Dairy Road in Anderson, S.C., beside the AgSouth office.

The AgSouth Demonstration Farm, which was planted this spring, was an idea initiated by Wyatt to be used as an educational and informational resource for the local community. The farm provides opportunities for local agricultural-related groups to have hands-on farming experience by actively participating in the planting, growing, harvesting and selling of the crops. In partnership with organizations such as the Haven of Rest, local 4-H clubs, Master Gardeners, FFA and Young Farmers, the farm is used to demonstrate, teach and test farming techniques.

During the spring and summer months the farm produced a variety of garden vegetables. The mission of educating, teaching and testing crop procedures were all accomplished in collaboration with others who are interested in promoting sustainable and small farms.

AgSouth provided the initial investment, production inputs and space for growing and harvesting the crops. Proceeds from the sale of the produce were donated to the groups involved. Volunteers from the Haven of Rest worked tirelessly on the farm during the summer, as well as volunteers from the Anderson School District 5 Future Farmers.

As the summer months come to an end and the fall season begins, watch for other crops on the farm. The volunteers have been hard at work getting ready for the next cycle of crops. Cotton has bloomed, bolts have formed and cotton will be ready to pick in a few short weeks.

Wyatt states that the AgSouth Demonstration Farm, “has given AgSouth Farm Credit an opportunity to collaborate with others in the community who are also passionate about agriculture.” AgSouth Farm Credit, a farmer’s cooperative, is one of the largest agricultural and

rural lenders in the Southeast. As of June 30, 2011, AgSouth had more than 7,300 members, \$1.65 billion in assets and \$245 million in capital and allocated accounts.

AgSouth provides loans for young, beginning and small farmers, agriculture operations, real estate, and rural homes, home construction and offers leasing for automobiles, equipment, buildings and commercial operations. The association also makes secondary home loans for home purchases, home improvements and refinances. For more information, call Terry Wyatt at 864.226.8507 or 800.675.8507 or visit AgSouth online at www.agsouthfc.com. Better yet, stop by the offices at 1325 Pearman Dairy Road and get a look at the demonstration farm in action.

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