2026 Southern Region Farmers Conference

The **2026 Southern Region Farmers Conference** will be held **December 9–11, 2026, in Mobile, Alabama**, bringing together farmers, landowners, agricultural professionals, educators, researchers, community leaders, agribusiness, cooperatives, and industry partners from across the Southern region. The regional conference is hosted by the Rural South Institute in collaboration with Strategic Alignment Network, LLC and the Alabama State Association of Cooperatives, Organic Trade Associates, and the Organic Center. Additional collaborative partners include universities, organizations, and USDA agencies. The conference is designed to provide hands-on training, practical solutions, resources available and new and emerging technologies, opportunities, and addressing topics/issues

Also, the conference will feature educational sessions focused on critical topics affecting today's agricultural community which includes not limited to heir property, agricultural risk management strategies, crop insurance USDA programs and services, Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) training, financial literacy, new and beginning farmer programs, organic production, value-added agriculture, mental health and farmer wellness, and outreach opportunities offered by agricultural institutions and organizations. Participants will also have the opportunity to engage in Farm Field Day Demonstrations, providing hands-on learning experiences and exposure to innovative farming practices.

Registration for the conference will **open on October 1, 2026**. Organizers are also seeking sponsors, collaborators, exhibitors, and partners to support the event and expand its impact throughout the region.

The conference is intended for a broad audience that includes **farmers, landowners, gardeners, extension agents, agricultural specialists, cooperatives, outreach providers, and educational institutions**. It serves as a platform to strengthen partnerships, increase awareness of available agricultural resources, promote sustainable farming practices, and enhance the long-term success and resilience of Southern agriculture.

The conference is supported by a diverse network of partners, including the **Rural South Institute**, **Strategic Alignment Network, LLC**, **Alabama State Association of Cooperatives**, **Southern Extension Risk Management Education Center**, **Fort Valley State University**, **University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff**, **Alcorn State University National Policy Research Center**, **The Organic Center**, **National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT)**, **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**, **Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)**, and the **USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture**, among others.

For sponsorship, partnership, or exhibitor opportunities, interested individuals and organizations may contact the organizers at **256-457-8564** or **info@ruralsouthinstitute.com**.