

# GEORGIA GRAZING LANDS CONSERVATION COALITION

*Providing a unified voice to support the management of grazing lands*

## **Georgia Grazing Lands Conservation Coalition**

[www.gglcc.com](http://www.gglcc.com)

American Forage and Grassland Council

Georgia Cattlemen's Association

Georgia Farm Bureau Federation

Georgia Milk Producers

Georgia Poultry Federation

Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Soil and Water Conservation Society - Georgia Chapter

The Nature Conservancy of Georgia

### **Advisors**

Agriculture Research Service

Cooperative Extension Service

Fort Valley State University

Natural Resources Conservation Service

University of Georgia

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## New Partnership Begins with Grazing Grant

The Georgia Grazing Lands Conservation Coalition (GGLCC) is pleased to announce the selection for our \$3000 grazing lands grant. The grant has been awarded to the Irwin County Young Farmers Association to assist them and other Irwin County contributors responsible for managing and enhancing the 'CASE Farm'.

In the fall of 2000, an Agricultural Advisory Task Force was formed to study the present impact and future implication of agriculture in Irwin County. This committee developed and implemented a program called the Irwin County Regional Center of Agricultural Study and Excellence (CASE) Farm Project, which began as a grant project and continues to function as a non-profit entity. Funds received from corporate sponsorships, private donations, and activities such as farm tours and the sale of products, such as grits, cornmeal, and vegetables, are maintained and accounted for through the Irwin County Board of Education, which serves as the fiscal agent for the project.

The CASE Farm provides an educational and training facility for people at all levels of experience. It specifically provides an increased awareness for sustaining farming as a viable means by which Irwin County citizens can live a productive life. The CASE Farm project, in collaboration with the Irwin County Board of Education, the 4-H Club, Future Farmers of America, and others, involves youth from Irwin County and its surrounding area.

The CASE Farm focuses on the following areas of interest:

- Education of students on the benefits of agriculture as a career choice and to encourage them to give serious consideration to becoming a part of the agri-business community;
- Assisting farmers in training their employees on a wide range of agriculture related topics including effective and efficient work habits, basic life skills, proper chemical applications, and effective machine operations; and
- Education and increased awareness of agriculture entrepreneurs regarding the methods and means by which their businesses can be productively increased, making way for additional jobs and profitability in the industry.

The GGLCC grant will be used as matching funds to establish a grazing demonstration on the CASE Farm. Fencing, a water supply system, livestock, and pasture seeding and fertilization will be added to the project. Demonstrations are planned to educate producers and students on soil and water quality, artificial insemination, chemical use for pastures, and other routine forage and herd management practices.

*Rozier Wingate*  
Rozier Wingate  
GGLCC Chairperson