



SC Women's Agricultural Network

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Clemson University Cooperative Extension

Introduction

The goal of the South Carolina Women's Agricultural Network (SC WAgN) is to provide all women in agriculture the tools they need to grow their success, feel confident in their roles and provide a network for women in agriculture in our state. In South Carolina, there are three existing program areas under the SC WAgN umbrella:



Membership is open to any person supporting the mission and purpose of SC WAgN. The network is comprised of female farmers, agricultural professionals, agricultural educators, and informed consumers committed to supporting and providing educational opportunities to women working in agriculture and agriculture-related businesses.

Objectives

The objectives of SC WAgN are:

- Empower women to be confident, strong stewards of the land.
- Provide unique opportunities for women in agriculture to expand their knowledge, expertise and experience in their role as agriculture producers, educators and professionals.
- Encourage networking opportunities by building a community of women ranchers, farmers, landowners, professionals and educators.

Programatic Efforts

SC WAgN accomplishes its goals through

- Monthly webinar series
- Quarterly newsletter
- Field days
- Annual conference

Webinar Series

Our monthly SC WAgN Webinar series runs from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm on the first Wednesday of the month during the months of September - May. This series provides educational information from a variety of speakers, from extension agents to industry personnel.

Webinar topics have included:

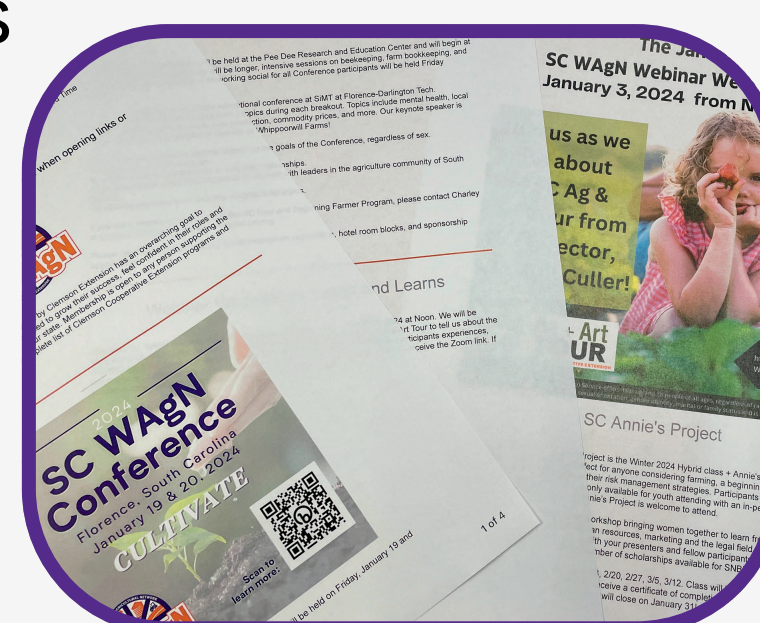
- Mental health
- Invasive species
- Farm finances
- Small ruminants
- Composting
- Ask an agent

Scan to register for our webinar series



Newsletter

We have 946 subscribers to our quarterly newsletter. Our newsletter covers upcoming programs, events, and educational articles.



Scan to register for our newsletter



Field Days

Field days allow women in agriculture to see first hand other practices in action by other female agriculturalists.

Field days include:

- Covered in Cotton farm tour
- CPR/First Aid training
- Farm Safety day



Annual Conference

Two-day SC WAgN conferences have been held in locations across the state. Conferences include in-depth pre-conference programs, educational sessions, and social networking events.

Conference Participant Quotes:



"This conference refocused me. I feel re-energized, and this was a big boost for me."

"I plan to use Clemson Extension resources more in the next year."

"It was great to hear from actual farmers sharing their experiences and being upfront about the challenges of farming."

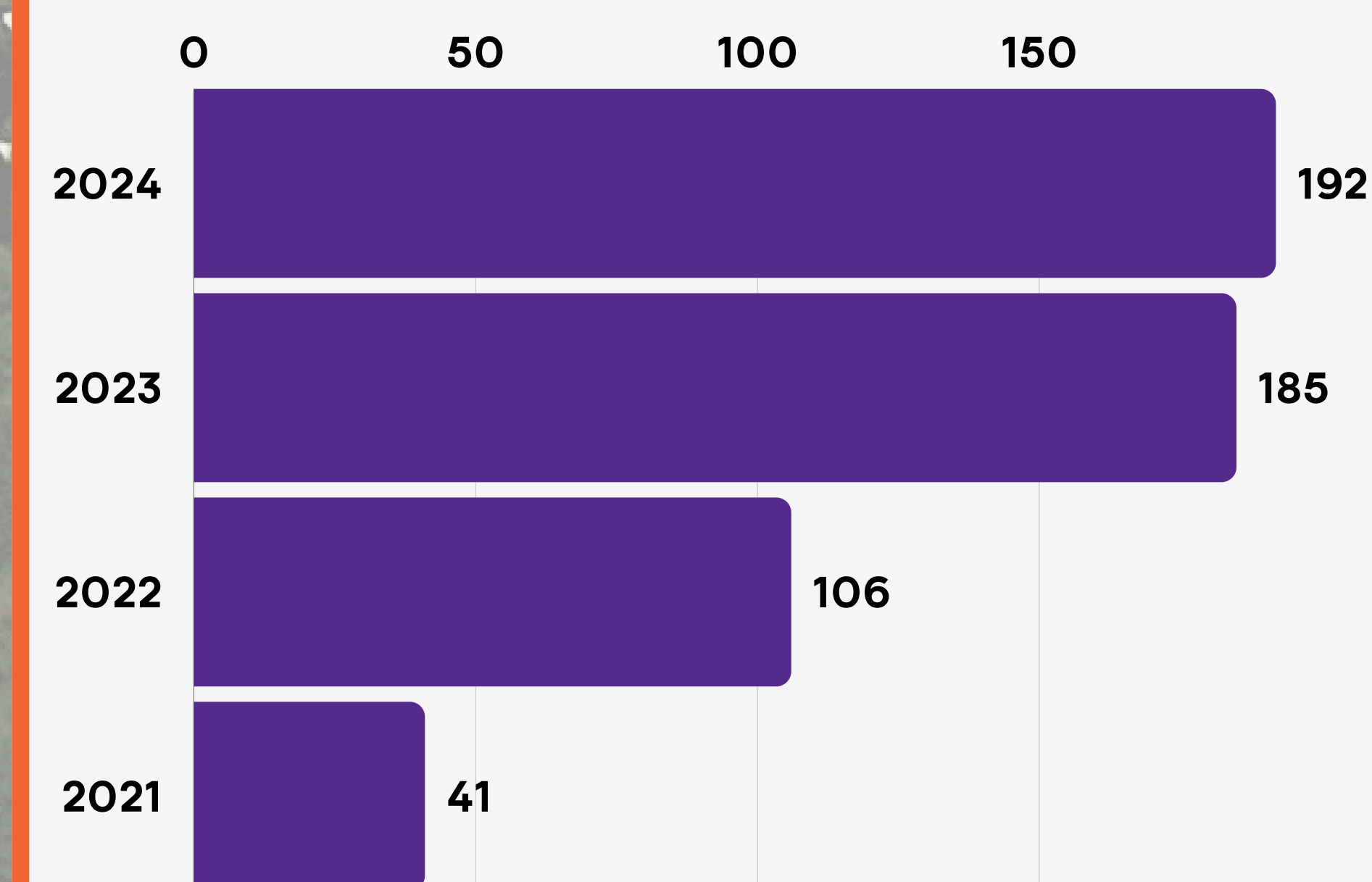


Scan for a SC WAgN Conference Video

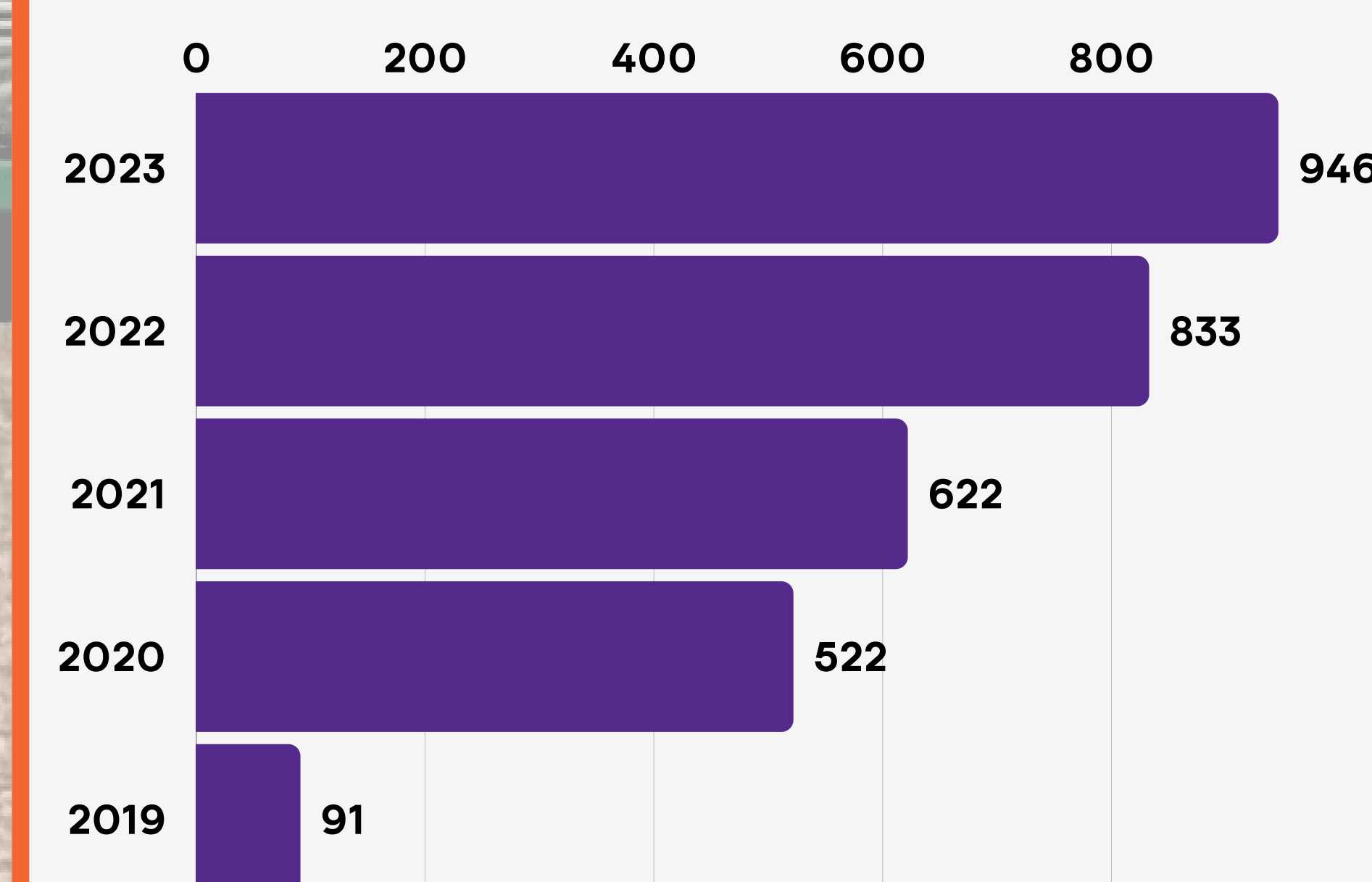


Results / Impacts

Increase in SC WAgN Webinar Subscribers over a four-year time span.



Increase in SC WAgN Newsletter Subscribers over a five-year time span.



Post-conference evaluations showed:

- 96% of the participants indicated that the conference met or exceeded expectations.
- 70% of the participants learned something during the pre-conference sessions that they intend to implement at home.
- Over 92% of the participants indicated they would attend the conference again.



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