



# CERTIFIED SOUTH CAROLINA Membership Application

Date Received

Date Approved

The Certified South Carolina program is a cooperative effort among producers, processors, wholesalers, retailers, restaurants, and the South Carolina Department of Agriculture (SCDA) to brand and promote South Carolina produce and products. Our goal is for consumers to easily identify, find, and buy South Carolina products. The Certified South Carolina program is **free** to join! Membership is made by application to and acceptance by the SCDA Marketing Department. All farm producers, food manufacturers, specialty food producers, packing facilities, and others engaged in the production or manufacture of agricultural products in South Carolina are eligible to apply. For additional information about the Certified South Carolina program and to view a list of our participating members please visit our website, [CertifiedSC.com](http://CertifiedSC.com).

Business/Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County Where Business is Located \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (If different than above) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Social Media Handles \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief description of your business and/or products. Include information relevant to potential buyers/customers. The information provided will be listed on our website ([certifiedsc.com](http://certifiedsc.com)) as a way to help promote your farm/business. (Attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

## Certified South Carolina Program Terms and Agreements

Through my signature below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the following terms during the application process and throughout my participation in the Certified South Carolina Program:

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture (“SCDA”) hereby grants Applicant a revocable, limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable license to use the Certified SC Grown and Certified SC Product logo symbols (the “Marks”) in connection with the making, growing, selling, promotion, marketing, and producing of South Carolina products. This license and the right to use hereunder is effective only so long as such products meet the quality and standards of this Agreement and Applicant complies with all the terms, conditions and reporting requirements of the Certified SC Program, or until sooner terminated hereunder.

Applicant hereby agrees, as part of the application process, and throughout the duration of this Agreement, to allow SCDA to conduct farm visits upon written request, with reasonable notice, and at a mutually agreeable time.

Applicant represents, covenants, and agrees that it will use the Marks only in the form and manner approved by SCDA. The Marks shall only be used on products identified herein and kept on file with SCDA. Alterations made to any identified products will require re-application for permission to use the Marks. Applicant understands the Marks may only be used on labels or packaging of South Carolina grown, processed, or manufactured products.

By submission of this survey, Applicant hereby acknowledges and agrees that the nature and quality of Applicant’s products, branding, marketing initiatives, and online presence (including but not limited to: blogs, websites, Instagram accounts, Facebook accounts, and other social media accounts) shall conform to any standards which may be set from time to time by SCDA. Applicant further acknowledges that the Certified South Carolina marks not be used in any derogatory, scornful, derisive or disparaging manner, in parody, or in connection with content that, at the discretion of SCDA, does not portray an image or connotation consistent with that desired by SCDA. In the event SCDA determines, at its sole discretion, that Applicant has failed to meet such standards, SCDA reserves the right to revoke Applicant’s use of the Marks immediately.

This license and the right to use hereunder is effective only so long as such products meet the quality standards and compliance measures set by the SCDA. Applicant agrees to only utilize the Marks on top quality products. No culls or second quality product may bear the Marks. Applicant agrees to immediately discontinue use of Marks on items that, as determined by SCDA, do not conform to the Certified South Carolina Program Standards, upon written notification from SCDA. In event of abuse of the Marks, SCDA reserves the right to revoke Applicant’s use of the Marks immediately. Upon revocation of Applicant’s license or termination of this Agreement, all rights and privileges herein granted to Applicant shall cease and terminate and Applicant shall immediately cease to use the Marks in any manner whatsoever and no products, containers, packaging, labels advertising or publicity material bearing the Marks shall be sold or otherwise publicly distributed. Unauthorized use after revocation of Applicant’s license or termination of this Agreement may result in liability and prosecution under Federal Trademark Law. Applicant agrees the Marks do not constitute any type of endorsement by either SCDA or the State of South Carolina. Applicant further agrees to abide by the terms and conditions for the reproduction and use of the logo as provided in the “Certified South Carolina Style Manual.”

Please allow 2 weeks for processing, provided a complete application is submitted.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Logo Usage and Trademark Statement

A signed licensing agreement or approved application must be on file with the South Carolina Department of Agriculture prior to use of the trademarked logos or slogans. Any unapproved use of these materials can result in liability under Federal Trademark Laws.



### **CERTIFIED SC GROWN LOGO**

Shall only be used on first quality products, grown in South Carolina, that meet the US #1 Quality Grade Standard, or higher U.S. Grade Standards, whichever is the accepted USDA industry grade standard for that commodity. The logo shall not be used on secondary labels or cull products.



### **CERTIFIED SC PRODUCT LOGO**

Products that are eligible for inclusion in the program are value added products, manufactured food products, and other agricultural products that may be further sorted, graded, blended, processed and packaged in South Carolina. In addition, specialty agricultural food businesses located in South Carolina may have an exclusive recipe manufactured in another state, under the South Carolina address and company label, and be eligible for membership in the program.

## Produce / Field Crops / Forestry

Please check all of the following items that apply to your farm or business.

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apples                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Cotton            | <input type="checkbox"/> Muscadine Grapes             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sorghum         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arugula                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Cottonseed        | <input type="checkbox"/> Mushrooms                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Southern Pines  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asparagus                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cucumbers         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mustard Greens               | <input type="checkbox"/> Soybeans        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barley                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Edamame           | <input type="checkbox"/> Napa Cabbage                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Squash (Yellow) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basil                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Eggplant          | <input type="checkbox"/> Oats                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Strawberries    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beans (Snap, Pole, Variety) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fennel            | <input type="checkbox"/> Okra                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Cane      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beets                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Figs              | <input type="checkbox"/> Onions                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Sun Chokes      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blackberries                | <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh Cut Flowers | <input type="checkbox"/> Parsley                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet Corn      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blueberries                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Garlic            | <input type="checkbox"/> Peaches                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet Potatoes  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bok Choy                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Ginger            | <input type="checkbox"/> Peanuts                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Swiss Chard     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Broccoli                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Gourds            | <input type="checkbox"/> Peas (Snap, Sugar)           | <input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butter Beans                | <input type="checkbox"/> Green Onions      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pecans                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tomatoes        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cabbage                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Green Peanuts     | <input type="checkbox"/> Peppers (Red, Green, Yellow) | <input type="checkbox"/> Turnip Greens   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cantaloupe                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Hay               | <input type="checkbox"/> Plums                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Turnips         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carrots                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Herbs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Turmeric        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cauliflower                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Kale              | <input type="checkbox"/> Pumpkins                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Watermelon      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Trees             | <input type="checkbox"/> Kohlrabi          | <input type="checkbox"/> Radishes                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheat           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cilantro                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Leeks             | <input type="checkbox"/> Raspberries                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Zucchini        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collard Greens              | <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuces          | <input type="checkbox"/> Rutabagas                    |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corn (Field)                | <input type="checkbox"/> Microgreens       | <input type="checkbox"/> Rye                          |  |

Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Produce

1. Are you a member of the SC Specialty Crop Growers Association?  Yes  No

For more information about SCSCGA, please contact Michael Cranford at [mcranford@scda.sc.gov](mailto:mcranford@scda.sc.gov) / 803-734-2224 or visit [scspecialtycrop.com](http://scspecialtycrop.com)

2. Is your operation GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) Certified?  Yes  No

3. Is your operation Certified Organic?  Yes  No

Certified By \_\_\_\_\_

Certification # (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Methods of sale for produce: (Check all that apply)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> On Farm Sales   | <input type="checkbox"/> Retail                | <input type="checkbox"/> State Farmers Markets          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roadside Market | <input type="checkbox"/> Farm to School        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pick-Your-Own Operation        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesale       | <input type="checkbox"/> Direct to Restaurants | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Based Farmers Market |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____     | Market Name _____                              |   |

5. Name of County Clemson Extension Agent \_\_\_\_\_

## Dairy

A copy of your SC DHEC permit must be submitted to the SCDA for review to ensure compliance with state and federal law, prior to application approval. For more information on how to obtain a SC DHEC permit, please contact the SC DHEC Dairy/Soft Drink Division at (803) 896-0644.

1. Product Type

- |                                    |                                      |                                 |   |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Milk      | <input type="checkbox"/> Cheese      | <input type="checkbox"/> Butter | <input type="checkbox"/> Bottled Water        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Cream | <input type="checkbox"/> Goat Cheese | <input type="checkbox"/> Yogurt | <input type="checkbox"/> Carbonated Beverages |

2. Additional Product Description \_\_\_\_\_

## Eggs

For eggs sold away from the farm, a copy of your SC Egg License must be submitted with your application prior to approval. For more information on how to obtain an Egg License, please contact the SCDA's Food Safety and Compliance Office at 803-737-9700 or visit the following link: [agriculture.sc.gov/food-safety-compliance](http://agriculture.sc.gov/food-safety-compliance).

Type of Eggs Sold  Chicken  Duck  Turkey  Guinea Fowl

## Livestock and Livestock Products

### PROCESSED MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

An approved label is required prior to application approval. For more information about obtaining a SC Meat-Poultry Inspection Department approved label, please contact the SC Meat-Poultry Inspection Department at (803) 788-8732 or visit the following link: [clemson.edu/public/lph/scmpid/index.html](http://clemson.edu/public/lph/scmpid/index.html)

1. Do you have a SC Meat-Poultry Inspection Department or USDA approved label for your meat/poultry product?  Yes  No

2. Name of Processing Facility \_\_\_\_\_ Establishment # \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Address \_\_\_\_\_

#### 3. Product Type

- |                               |                                     |                                      |                                 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep/Lamb | <input type="checkbox"/> Ducks       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pork | <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken    | <input type="checkbox"/> Guinea Fowl |                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goat | <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey     | <input type="checkbox"/> Squab       |                                 |

4. Additional Product Description \_\_\_\_\_

## Fish and Seafood



There is a separate application for the Certified SC Seafood Program. Please visit [certifiedsc.com/lists/certified-sc-seafood](http://certifiedsc.com/lists/certified-sc-seafood) for a copy of the application. The Certified SC Seafood logo shall only be used by approved Licensed Wholesale Dealers, Distributors, Retailers, Shellfish Mariculture Permit Holders, and Aquaculture Permit Holders on seafood products grown or landed in South Carolina.

\*Note: Processed seafood sold wholesale requires an RVC from the SCDA's Food Safety and Compliance Office.

## Ornamental Horticulture

### GREENHOUSE NURSERY, FLORICULTURE, AND TURF GRASS

Please list all Genera grown that will bear the Certified SC Grown logo. All plant material bearing the logo must be propagated and grown at a nursery within South Carolina. Products that are purchased from out of state and re-wholesaled to landscapers or retailers, for example, tropical or citrus materials, are not eligible to bear the Certified SC Grown logo. \*Attach separate sheet if necessary.

Plant License Number (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

For more information about how to obtain a plant license number please contact the Clemson Department of Plant Industries (DPI) at (864) 646-2140 or visit them at [clemson.edu/public/regulatory/plant-industry](http://clemson.edu/public/regulatory/plant-industry)

## Manufactured, Value Added, Specialty Food, or Further Processed Food Products

Foods (candy and non-potentially hazardous baked goods) prepared in a home kitchen under the Home Based Food Production Law (a.k.a. Cottage Foods Law) exemption are **not eligible** for the Certified SC program.

Clemson University's Food2Market program is a valuable resource for food entrepreneurs. Clemson can provide required product testing for canned/jarred/bottled products. They can also provide shelf-life and nutritional testing for food products. For help bringing your food product to market please contact Kimberly Baker or Adair Hoover with the Food2Market program.

[kbaker@clemson.edu](mailto:kbaker@clemson.edu) • 864-359-3386 | [cpepe@clemson.edu](mailto:cpepe@clemson.edu) • 864-656-9986

[clemson.edu/extension/food\\_nutrition/food2market/index.html](http://clemson.edu/extension/food_nutrition/food2market/index.html) | [agriculture.sc.gov/faq/food-safety](http://agriculture.sc.gov/faq/food-safety)

### 1. SC DHEC Permit Number \_\_\_\_\_

For retail sales only, please provide a copy of your SC DHEC permit number. For more information on how to obtain a DHEC permit, please contact SC DHEC Division of Food Protection at 803-896-0640.

### 2. Registration Verification Certificate (RVC) Number \_\_\_\_\_

Registration with SC Department of Agriculture's Consumer Protection Division is required in order to wholesale most food products to the public. The registration process is free and it includes review of retail labels. Specialized training and product testing may be required for some products. Registration certificates are issued upon completion of a compliant inspection by SCDA. For more information or to register, contact Emily Walker at [ewalker@scda.sc.gov](mailto:ewalker@scda.sc.gov) or 803-737-0147.

More Info: [agriculture.sc.gov/food-safety-compliance](http://agriculture.sc.gov/food-safety-compliance)

### 3. Is your product being Co-Packed? If so, please provide their name and contact information.

### 4. Please check all product types that will potentially bear the Certified SC Product logo

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acidified Foods*<br>(Pickles, Salsas, Relishes) | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry/Nonperishable Foods<br>(Grits, Cornmeal, Flour) | <input type="checkbox"/> Jams/Jellies*        | <input type="checkbox"/> Roasted/Boiled Peanuts        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baked Goods                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry Rubs/Spices                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Marinades/Dressings* | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandwiches                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Candy/Confections                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Fermented Foods*                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Pasta                | <input type="checkbox"/> Sauces/Condiments*            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dessert Foods                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Honey**   | <input type="checkbox"/> Pasteurized Juice*   | <input type="checkbox"/> Value Added Fresh Cut Produce |

Other \_\_\_\_\_

\*In addition to an RVC these products may require specialized training, licensing, certification and/or analysis to sell and produce.

\*\*For Beekeepers who have applied and been granted exemption for their honey, please provide copy of your honey exemption certificate. For more information on how to legally sell honey please visit: [agriculture.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Honey-Guidance.pdf](http://agriculture.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Honey-Guidance.pdf).

## Alcoholic Beverages

Please provide a copy of your license from Department of Revenue.

Brewery     Distillery     Winery

Additional Product Description \_\_\_\_\_

## Animal Feeds / Pet Foods and Treats

Animal feeds and pet foods/treats must be registered with SCDA. Please provide a copy of your current registration and label for each product.

For more information please contact Bernadette Mundo, Feed Liaison and Labeling Reviewer at 803-737-9713 or [bmundo@scda.sc.gov](mailto:bmundo@scda.sc.gov).

[agriculture.sc.gov/feed-safety-compliance](http://agriculture.sc.gov/feed-safety-compliance)

## Other

For all other products (i.e soap, cosmetics, etc.), please attach a detailed description of the product and its ties to SC agriculture along with a copy of your products labels.



### MEMBER BENEFITS

- License to use the Certified SC logo on your marketing materials
- Brand signage available
- Website listing with your farm / market's details
- New member certificate
- Participation in a brand with state-wide recognition

### OR PRINT AND RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO

South Carolina Department of Agriculture  
ATTN: Ansley Rast Turnblad  
P.O. Box 11280, Columbia, SC 29211

[aturnblad@scda.sc.gov](mailto:aturnblad@scda.sc.gov)

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