Farmland Program

The Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy works to secure our agricultural resources.

We strive to:

- **Protect** prime soils and productive farmland, now and forever.
- **Steward** these protected farmland properties to ensure that they remain agricultural assets.
- **Educate** farmers about conservation practices for water quality & the public about farming techniques.
- **Provide access** to productive lands for beginning farmers & expanding operations.

Claxton Farm, SAHC farmland easement in Buncombe County, NC. Photo courtesy of Steven McBride Photography

To produce local food, you have to have local farmland.

As we look to the future, we find ways to continue the legacy of our farming heritage.

"Because of the hard work of SAHC, our farm family remains on the land, able to continue providing healthy food and a farm experience for people of the region."

Jamie Ager, Hickory Nut Gap Farm

What are a few examples of our successful Farmland Program work?

- ***Duckett Farm in Sandy Mush*** – Preserving high-elevation balds helps sustain seasonal grazing rotation, an historic agricultural practice.
- ***Hickory Nut Gap Farm*** - Purchase of conservation easements enabled security & expansion for the farm business and protection of productive bottom land soils.
- ***Anderson Farm*** - We accepted the donation of a 100-acre farm when the landowner had no surviving heirs. We can accept similar donations of land to make available to new farmers for continued agricultural use.

"The soil is the great connector of lives, the source and destination of all."

Wendell Berry

Family – Heritage

Agriculture