



Our hearts are broken for the farmers in Southwest Virginia who have been severely impacted by Hurricane Helene. The devastation caused by this storm has left many in our agricultural community facing significant challenges, and our thoughts are with them during this difficult time.

In light of the circumstances, the state Women's Leadership Committee has made the difficult decision to postpone the Hay Bale Contest until 2025. While this event has always been a celebration of our local farming community, we believe it is essential to focus on recovery efforts at this juncture.

If your county has submitted an entry, we will be in touch.

We encourage everyone to come together and support our farmers in any way possible. If you are able to donate hay or other essential items, it would make a tremendous difference for those in need. Every little bit helps, and your generosity can help our valued farmers begin to rebuild their livelihoods.

If you'd like to provide monetary support, you can make contributions to the [Virginia Farm Relief Fund](#). For hay, feed, fencing materials, or services, you can notify Virginia Cooperative Extension [via a form in its Hurricane Helene-related online resources](#).

Please feel free to reach out if you would like more information on how to assist or if you have items to donate. Together, we can show our solidarity and support for the SWVA farming community.

-VFBF Women's Leadership Committee