CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF
Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia

ARTICLE I

The purpose for which this Association is formed and the powers which it may exercise are set forth in the Articles of Incorporation of the Association. In addition, the stated purposes of this association are:

To provide support to the Teaching, Research and Public Service Programs in Agricultural Economics.

To provide a medium through which those interested in Agricultural Economics can meet to discuss basic economic problems of Georgia’s agriculture.

To develop recommendations for the solution of economic problems of Georgia’s farm people for the consideration of the several groups working toward the improvement of agriculture in this state.

To promote the professional improvement of those interested in the field of Agricultural Economics.

To provide a means for promoting greater interest in the field of Agricultural Economics in Georgia.

To provide a means for those interested in Agricultural Economics to better cooperate with other professional groups working toward the improvement of Agriculture in Georgia.

ARTICLE II

Directors and Officers

Section 1. Number.

The business of the association shall be controlled by a Board of Directors, hereafter known as the Board, consisting of the President, who shall be Chairman of the Board, the First Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, Immediate Past President, Head of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Department(Athens), and up to 12 members-at-large elected by the Association for three-year terms.

Section 2. Election.

The Board shall be nominated by the Nomination Committee then elected annually by ballot or acclamation at the annual meeting of the members from the members of the association and shall hold office until their successors shall have been elected and qualified and have entered upon the discharge of their duties.

Section 3. Election of Officers.

The Board of Directors shall meet yearly to elect by ballot or acclamation a President, the First Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, each of whom shall hold office until the election and qualification of his successor unless earlier removed by death, designation, or for cause. All officers shall be members of the association.

Section 4. Vacancies.

Whenever a vacancy occurs in the Board of Directors other than from the expiration of a term of office, the remaining Board shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next regular meeting of the members by majority.
Section 5. Board Meetings.

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held each fall, the date of such meeting to be set by the President, or at such times and places as the Board may determine. Faculty and Ex-Officio may attend Meetings of the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Special Meetings.

A special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held whenever called by the President or by a majority of the Board. Any and all business may be transacted at a special meeting. Each call for a special meeting shall be in writing, addressed and delivered to the board, and shall state the time and place of such meeting.

Section 7. Notice of Board Meetings.

Notice of the regular or special meetings of the Board will be provided to each board member at least five (5) days prior to the time of such meeting. Special meetings may be called without prior notice provided a majority of the directors are present at such meeting and that each director present signs a written waiver of notice.

Section 8. Quorum.

Eight members of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the board.

ARTICLE III

Duties of Directors

Section 1. Management of Business.

The Board of Directors shall have general supervision and control of the business and affairs of the association and shall make all rules and regulations not inconsistent with law or with these by-laws for the management of the business and the guidance of the officers, employees, and agents of the association. They shall have installed an accounting system, which shall be adequate to the requirements of the business, and it shall be their duty to require proper records to be kept of all business transactions.

Section 2. Audits.

During the month of March of each year, the Board of Directors may secure the services of a competent and disinterested public auditor or accountant, who shall make a careful audit of the books and accounts of the association and render a report in writing thereon, which report shall be submitted to the members of the association at their annual meeting. This report shall include at least: (1) a balance sheet showing the true assets and liabilities of the association, (2) an operating statement for the fiscal period under review which shall show the cost of, and income from, sales and the gross income or loss from each of the commodities handled during the period; (3) and itemized statement of all expenses for the period under review. If the services of a competent and disinterested public auditor or accountant are not secured, the Treasurer shall then provide the above referenced items to the Executive Committee, with supporting documentation from the association’s accounts to promote transparency and integrity of the association’s transactions.
Section 3. Depository.

The Board of Directors shall have the power to select one or more banks to act as depository of the funds of the association and to determine the manner of receiving, depositing, and disbursing the funds of the association and to determine the manner of receiving, depositing, and disbursing the funds of the association in the form of checks. One of the officers of the association will sign each check.

ARTICLE IV

Duties of Officers

Section 1. Duties of President.

The President shall (1) preside over all meetings of the association and of the board of directors; (2) call special meetings of the association and of the board of directors and; (3) perform all acts and duties usually performed by a presiding officer. The President shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Duties of the First Vice-President

In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President, provided, however, that in case of death, resignation, or disability of the President, the Board of Directors may declare the office vacant and elect his successor.

Section 3. Duties of the Secretary.

The secretary shall keep a complete record of all meetings of the associations and of the board of directors and shall have general charge and supervision of the books and records of the association. He shall serve all notices required by law and by these by-laws and shall make a full report of all matters and business pertaining to his office to the members at the annual meeting. He shall keep a record showing the name of each member of the association. He shall act as secretary of the executive committee. He shall make all reports required by law and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the association or Board of Directors. Upon the election of his successor, the secretary shall turn over to him all books, records, and other property belonging to the association.

Section 4. Duties of the Treasurer.

The treasurer shall perform such duties with respect to the finances of the association as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V

Executive Committee

Section 1. Powers and Duties.

The Board of Directors shall appoint from their membership an executive committee of four (4) members-The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The executive committee shall have such powers and duties as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Board of Directors and these duties and powers may be all of the duties and powers of the said Board of Directors, subject to the general direction, approval, and control of the Board of Directors. Copies of the minutes of the meetings of the executive committee and any reports thereof shall be reviewed at a subsequent meeting of the Board.
ARTICLE VI

Committees

There will be two Standing Committees: Membership and Nominating

The Membership Committee shall be appointed by the President and shall consist of five members for a one-year term.

A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President and shall consist of three members and shall submit a slate of proposed officers for election prior to the annual meeting.

The President shall appoint other committees as needed.

ARTICLE VII

Members

Section 1. Qualifications.

Membership shall be open to graduates of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Department of the University of Georgia and to other persons actively engaged in Agricultural Economics work in Georgia. Membership shall be by application of the individual or upon invitation of any member of the Association.

Section 2. Voting.

Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote only.

ARTICLE VIII

Meetings

Section 1. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year of this association shall commence on the first day of October and end on the last day of September.

Section 2. Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the members of this association shall be held each fall, the date of such meeting to be set by the President with the concurrence of the Executive Committee and the Department Head, or at such times and places as the Board may determine.
Section 3. Special Meetings.

Special meetings of the members of the association may be called at any time by order of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Notice of Meetings.

Written or printed notice of meetings for every regular and special meeting of members shall be prepared and mailed to the last known post office address of each member or may be sent electronically to the members last known e-mail address, not less than ten (10) days before such meeting. Such notice, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, may be given by publishing the same at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. No business shall be transacted at special meetings other than contained in the call.

Section 5. Quorum.

Meetings of the membership require no quorum. Quorums are required for meetings of the Board of Directors only (Article II, Section 8).

ARTICLE IX

Dues

There shall be annual dues in the amount specified by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X

Amendments

The Constitution and By-Laws may be altered or amended at the annual meeting by a majority vote of those present, provided written notice of intention to so amend shall have been provided to all members of the Association by the President at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting; If necessary, the amendments may be approved by the board to be presented to the members for approval within 30 days.


*The amendments include the sections under Administration and a revision of the section on Amendments.