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**Pesticide Disposal** – The storage of unlabeled, unwanted pesticides can be very threatening to people and the environment. Many retired farmers, current farmers, and families of deceased farmers all find themselves with collections of pesticides that are no longer needed. Some are without any label identifying the material. Some have damaged packaging and are leaking, and some are now illegal to use. The average estimated cost of having these materials collected and destroyed by licensed companies is approximately \$5.00 per pound.

A program is in place in Georgia to help alleviate the burden of pesticide disposal for all citizens. Through money provided by the Georgia General Assembly, the Georgia Department of Agriculture organizes Georgia Clean Days at various locations across the state. The reason that I am mentioning this program is because one is coming up at the UGA Griffin Campus.

On October 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. anybody wanting to dispose of unwanted pesticides can do so at the Westbrook farm on the Griffin campus. All that you need to do is fill out a form stating what you are disposing and approximately how much. If you are unsure of a product you tell them this as well. There are no fees and you don't even have to get out of your vehicle. We have a list of acceptable and excluded materials here at the office, and we can get you a pre-registration form. Pre-registration needs to be sent in by the 13<sup>th</sup> of October. If you have any questions please call our office 836-3121.

This is a great opportunity to dispose of unwanted, unknown or illegal pesticides at no cost to you. The additional benefit is loss of liability for these families where these products were stored and a reduction in risk to family, neighbors, children, pets, and the environment.