

## Wrapping Up Planting Season & Kicking Off Summer



The second quarter of the year has continued to keep us busy. Planting was a success, with only minor frustrations along the way. All crops were planted by the second week in June, with the sweet potatoes last to finish. The next day, the crew started harvesting pickles, which are a labor-intensive crop. We are always thankful for our H2A guys, who work tirelessly.

An update on the crops to date: Everything is very dry, and rain is desperately needed. We have been irrigating the crops that are under pivots, but that is a small percentage. We are actively praying for rain for not only our crops but also to relieve workers of harsh working conditions.

## Remembering Grandma No

The Strickland family said goodbye to not only a landowner but a loving individual, Eva Hill, who was Laura's mom and Savannah and Grayson's grandma. She passed away at the end of May. She was the kindest and sweetest lady who never said an ugly word about anyone. Her grandkids lovingly referred to her as "Grandma No" because she never told Grayson and Savannah no. To know her was to love her, and we were very blessed to have her in our lives for as long as we did.



## Grayson's Graduation!

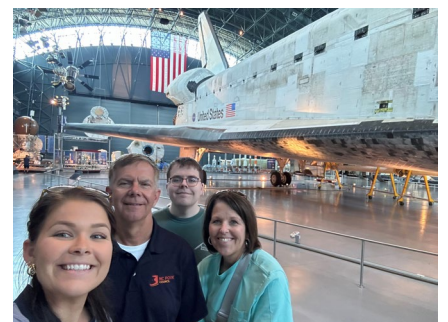


Grayson graduated from North Carolina State University as a part of the Class of 2024 with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and a minor in Pulp and Paper Technology. He started his job as an Accountant with Jackson Builders on May 13th. We are very proud of him for overcoming many obstacles during his college experience, completing his degree, AND landing his first job right out of college!

## Second Quarter Travels

### *Ag on the National Mall*

Reggie and Savannah traveled to Washington, D.C., in May to represent North Carolina and U.S. pork producers at the second annual 'Ag on the National Mall' event. This event highlights all the areas of agriculture. This year's theme, The Future of Food and Farming, showcased the advances that drive American agriculture's long history of producing more while reducing its environmental footprint. More than 15,000 people were in attendance that day, and many representatives, senators, and staff stopped by our tent to visit with us. We made the trip into a family affair and visited the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Center.



### *Trip to Southeast Asia & Eastern Europe*

The month of June was filled with travels in Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe for Reggie as he represented the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC). The 3rd Southeast Asia Feed Millers Association Dialogue (SEAFMAD) kicked off the trip on June 10th in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Reggie was able to speak at this event about cultivating sustainability from his perspective as a U.S. soybean grower. The following two days were spent at the 3rd Global Food and Agriculture Sustainability Symposium, which focused on "Navigating the Evolving Landscape: Uniting Standards for Enhanced Sustainability Impact." Discussions revolved



*Pictures from USSEC Meeting (above) and the Presidential Palace (below) in Vietnam*



*An aerial view of the city of Budapest*

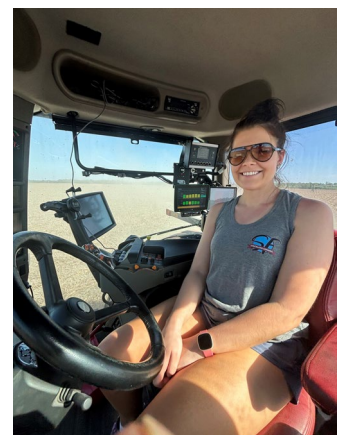


*Trevi Fountain in Rome, Italy*

the guarantee of a soybean supply from the United States that meets their needs. Topping off his travels, Reggie met with the two representatives from the USDA Foreign Ag Services office and then transferred to another meeting with the Director of the Italy Poultry Association.

## Savannah's Scoop

The first six months on the farm have flown by! To say I have learned a lot would be an understatement. I have dipped my toes into all areas of our business including finances, compliance, transplanting tobacco, running the planter, and managing the irrigation pivots. Like most farmers, every day looks different. I have enjoyed getting to know my other coworkers more. It is different seeing our H2A guys every day versus when I saw them hanging out with Dad every once in a while. These individuals are the most hardworking and dedicated workers; not only do they do a great job, but they care for us just as much as we care for them, which makes for a positive working environment. They are truly like family. Thanks to these guys, my Spanish comprehension and speaking skills are expanding daily. And I think I can say that they are learning English more too – although it does have a “Dobbersville-twang” to it! I recently had the opportunity to watch some of our turkey houses get loaded. This process was eye-opening to see how much our world truly does rely on truck drivers and the jobs no one else wants to do. I am enjoying being back on the farm and working alongside my family and this awesome team. I am proud and blessed to be a part of the agriculture industry!



*Savannah planting corn*

Strickland Farming is on social media! Follow us to see more photos, videos, and updates from around the farm. See something cool we posted? Give it a like and a share! Don't forget to check out our website [www.sfgnc.net](http://www.sfgnc.net).



[@StricklandFarming](https://www.facebook.com/StricklandFarming)



[@strickland\\_farming\\_group](https://www.instagram.com/strickland_farming_group)



[@strickland\\_fgnc](https://www.twitter.com/strickland_fgnc)