Black to Speak at ABAC Convocation on August 16

TIFTON – Caroline Black, the Education and Agritourism Coordinator at Jaemor Farms in Alto, will be the featured speaker on Aug. 16 at the annual freshman convocation at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. The 11:30 a.m. ceremony in Gressette Gym will conclude the Welcome Week activities at ABAC.

Black joined the Jaemor Farms staff in June where her duties include writing and designing a curriculum for fall and spring student field trip programs, managing the website,
planning major events, facilitating farm tours, maintaining the Facebook account, designing brochures and posters, and promoting the corn maze to consumers.

Prior to her employment with Jaemor Farms, Black served as a graduate teacher and research assistant in the Texas A&M University Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications. She assisted undergraduate students in the areas of media writing, magazine writing, photography, public relations, radio broadcasts, and web design. She also created a study abroad recruitment video and helped plan a 10-day Midwest agricultural tourism and field journalism trip for 45 students.

Black studied agriculture at ABAC for two years prior to receiving her bachelor of science degree in agricultural education from the University of Georgia (UGA). While at ABAC, she was named the Agriculture and Natural Resources Outstanding Agriculture Transfer Student. At UGA, she was named to the AGHON Honorary Society, the highest honor that students in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences can receive.

This year, she graduated from Texas A&M with a master of science degree in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. She was named the Outstanding Graduate Student in Ag Communications and Journalism in 2012 and the Ag Leadership, Education, and Communications Outstanding Masters Student in 2013.

In 2011, Black was one of five UGA students chosen for a 12-week fellowship on agricultural policy in Washington, D.C. where she researched 16 federal food nutrition assistance programs for the Appropriations Subcommittee for Agriculture and Research Development and established an agricultural profile for the 25 counties located in Georgia’s 1st Congressional
District. She also helped to prepare and set up a weekly Theme Team breakfast for members of the U.S. Congress.

   Black also worked at East Jackson Comprehensive High School in Commerce as an agricultural education apprentice teacher in 2011. She designed curriculum and taught 58 students in three courses. She also co-coached the state FFA winning marketing plan team and assisted FFA chapter officer candidates.

   She has served in a number of leadership positions in both a professional and collegiate capacity including active roles in the Farmers Fight Agricultural Advocacy Campaign, I Love Farmers, and the A&M Mentoring for Success in Research Cohort. Black also served as a UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Ambassador in 2011, a state FFA Vice President in 2007-2008, and a State 4-H Board Member in 2005-2006.

   Classes begin for the 2013 fall term at ABAC on Aug. 14.

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