

Eric Outlaw

North Augusta High School

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My career goal is to eventually start my own business in the agriculture field. I also plan to get a minor in Packaging Science so I hope that combined with my degree in Agribusiness, I can create a company that combines the two of them. I would like to ultimately produce a product whether it is a crop, some type of fertilizer, or something else that is not only safe for the consumer but also the environment. I wouldn't be able to live with myself knowing that I was harming someone or something with my product.

I became interested in this field because I grew up in an area where there are a lot of farms not very far from my house. I also liked helping my dad grow stuff in our garden at home. I have always been a huge food person and there is something about growing your own and eating it that is special to me. I have been a member of the Culinary Arts class at North Augusta, my entire High School career. My teacher, Rose Butler, has encouraged me to stay in this class even though it has been hard with football and my other courses. She has allowed me to only take her class for one period even when it is usually a two period class because she knew how much I enjoyed it. She has had a huge influence on me throughout high school and has encouraged me to continue this love of cooking and food in my future plans. She knew that I was interested in Clemson and tried to help me find a program that would suit me.

Once I visited the Agribusiness department at Clemson and talked to some of the staff, I was hooked. I felt an excitement about the field that I knew I wanted to be a part of. I think that my enjoyment and energy for this field will carry me a long way.