



SFOP Quarterly NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2023

Angus isn't the Only Beef!

There's a lot at stake: SFOP steers Virginia's exploration of new cattle breeds that can weather the effects of climate change and produce top-grade meat.

By Dr. Neil Brown, assistant professor,
VSU College of Agriculture

Worldwide, there are over 250 cattle breeds that are used primarily to supply beef; yet few breeds are represented in steak houses, and on dinner tables and backyard grills across the United States. Each breed is unique, and finding the right breed for the right situation is crucial to meet the growing demand for beef, especially with changing climates, markets and consumer preferences.

Well, this is exactly what the most recent Small Farm Outreach Program project strives to do: find the right breed or right combination of breeds for small operations that raise cattle for beef production in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

—continued on page 2



Pure-bred Dexter and Dexter X Mashona cattle are grazing alongside Angus cattle at Randolph Farm.

Dear Small-Scale Farmers, Ranchers and Veterans,

Summer is here! At SFOP we've been making changes to better serve you.

First, Agribusiness and Financial Management, a self-paced online course, was launched. It enables those who successfully complete it to meet the required prerequisites to apply for FSA loan programs. Upon successful completion of the course, you will receive a certificate to present to the loan officer at the FSA office. For more information, visit <https://www.technologyed.org/vsu/>.

Second, SFOP Text Alerts will keep you informed so you don't miss upcoming training sessions or important notifications. When you receive an introductory text from us, simply accept and subscribe. No introductory text? No problem! You may also sign up at <https://vsusmallfarms.com/sfop-text/>.

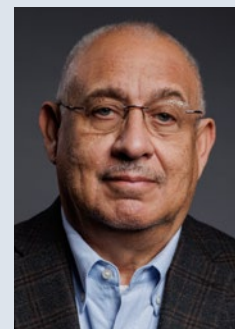
Summer Ag Tips offer tidbits of information to elevate your farming experience. For more valuable information, visit the Virginia Small Farm Resource Center at vsusmallfarms.com.

Would you like an SFOP program assistant to consult with you about your farm operation's development? If so, please complete the confidential **SFOP Program Entry Survey** at <https://vsusmallfarms.com/small-farm-outreach-program-annual-survey/>.

Thank you for participating in our educational training workshops, demonstrations, field days and conferences. To view upcoming events, visit <https://www.ext.vsu.edu/small-farm-outreach-program>.

Continue to stay safe and practice the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) safety precautions guidelines.

William Crutchfield, SFOP Director



Angus isn't the Only Beef! *continued from page 1*

This is a really exciting project. Small producers often do not have the luxury to take risks and experiment with different breeds. Having a place like SFOP that takes those risks on behalf of small-scale farmers and involves them in the process of gathering new knowledge is really special.

SFOP is working in collaboration with Dr. Richard Browning at Tennessee State University, who provided the animals, and Minority and Veteran Farmers of the Piedmont, a Virginia-based grassroots non-profit organization focused on supporting farmers, veterans and youths.

Currently grazing at VSU Randolph Farms are 14 animals, a combination of Dexter, Mashona and Angus cattle. The Dexters are a small, versatile Irish breed that has been used for both milk and meat in different parts of the world. Mashona cattle are a Zimbabwean meat breed known for their heat tolerance, which is important because extreme heat can reduce the appetites and reproductive capacities of cattle. If animals aren't eating, then they aren't growing, and if they are not reproducing, then the supply of beef stops. As increased heat risk is projected in Virginia's climate future, SFOP, a transformational leader,

is addressing the risks now with this innovative approach. Finally, Angus cattle, a widely used beef breed in the US, will serve as a good measuring stick for the growth and quality of meat resulting from the other animals.

Dexters and Mashonas, innately docile animals, offer the opportunity to provide hands-on experiences for students at VSU, even those that are new to cattle management. I will be teaching a beef production course in fall 2023, so you know these animals will be featured in a classroom near you

For more information, contact Alston Hillard, SFOP assistant director, at ahilliard@vsu.edu or me at nbrown@vsu.edu.



Cover Crops and Green Manure Can Boost Your Soil's Health

By Tim Sexton, SFOP grants specialist and soil expert

It's important to maintain the health and productivity of your soil. One way to do this is by planting summer cover crops or green manure crops in areas that have been harvested or will be planted later in the growing season.

Summer annuals such as buckwheat and pearl millet are great options for cover crops as they help to prevent erosion and suppress weed growth. They also have the added benefit of adding nutrient-rich organic matter back into the soil, which can be especially helpful in areas that have been depleted of nutrients by previous crops.

One of the main benefits of planting a cover crop is that it retrieves the residual nutrients from the previous crop, reducing the amount of fertilizer required for the next crop. By adding organic matter back into the soil, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium are released back into the soil, which can be used by the next crop.

In addition to providing nutrients, cover crops can also help to improve soil structure, increase water-holding capacity and create a more favorable environment for the next crop.

Buckwheat and pearl millet are great options for summer cover crops as they are easy to mow and can be quickly turned over to prepare the soil for the next crop.

Planting a summer cover crop or green manure crop is a smart and sustainable way to maintain the health and productivity of your soil. By reducing the need for synthetic fertilizers and improving soil structure, you can help create a more sustainable and resilient agricultural system for the future.

If you're interested in planting a summer cover crop, consult with your SFOP program assistant for more detailed information on the best options for your area.

All Over-the-Counter Livestock Antibiotics Now Require Prescriptions

Effective June 11, 2023, the Food and Drug Administration Center for Veterinary Medicine Guidance for Industry #263 takes effect. Livestock antibiotics that also are important for human medicine will be relabeled for legal sale by prescription only from a licensed veterinarian.

To purchase these antibiotics, you'll need a valid relationship with a veterinarian to secure a prescription. If you do not already have one, be sure to heed these suggestions from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association:

- Talk to a veterinarian and build a relationship.
- Schedule routine visits.
- Set treatment protocols and on-farm training for employees.
- Download and read the Beef Quality Assurance Antibiotic Stewardship for Cattle Producers guide.

For more information, visit <https://www.ncba.org/producers/updated-antibiotic-guidelines>.

Summer Ag Tips from our SFOP Program Assistants

Livestock/Fish/Poultry

There are several tips for late summer that will help your livestock thrive:

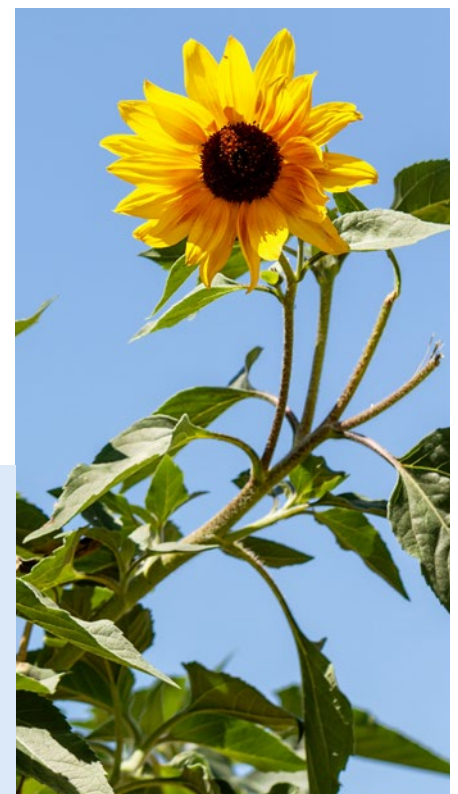
- Always observe proper withdrawal times on dewormers, antibiotics and other drugs before sending any animals to be harvested.
- Have your veterinarian perform a breeding soundness exam on bucks and rams.
- Check udders on does and ewes; cull any with noticeable problems.
- Provide livestock access to minerals, fresh water and shade at all times.
- Plan ahead. Seed winter annuals in September for late fall and early spring grazing, this includes rye, ryegrass, crimson clover, vetch, oats and brassicas.

Health and Safety

Farming is one of the most dangerous industries in the U.S. with long hours, stress and fatigue contributing to injuries. Prevent accidents and stay safe:

- Inspect and make repairs to the machinery before the busy season.
- Always shut off the power before leaving the operator's seat.
- Replace all missing safety shields, especially on power and rotating equipment.
- Check that all lights, flashers and reflectors on your machine are working properly. Replace any that are not functional.
- Always use your lights, flashers and reflectors when traveling on any road or highway.
- Clean or replace "Slow Moving Vehicle" emblems that are not clean and bright.

- Never, ever enter a manure pit, grain bin or silo without following confined-space entry procedures. Not following proper procedures could be lethal. Visit https://bit.ly/Confined_Ag_Spaces.
- Take time to learn CPR, First Aid and Emergency Response protocols.
- Never assign a job to a child unless you are positive they are physically and mentally ready to perform the job safely.



Without **AGRICULTURE**,
there is no **CULTURE**.

—Elijah Muhammad

Drones in Agriculture

By Leonel E. Castillo, SFOP state program assistant, Hispanic Outreach, and UAS-FAA certified drone pilot.

Aerial Imagery and Photogrammetry Tools in Agriculture

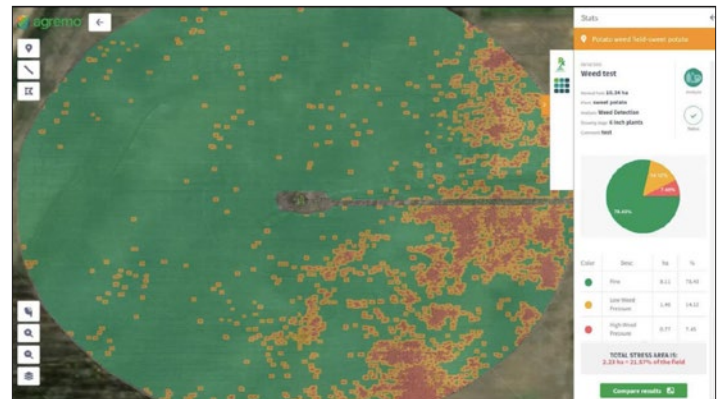
Drones designed for agricultural use can help small-scale farmers improve yields and lower operational costs. SFOP uses aerial photography, videos, 360 panoramic views and interactive maps processed by Drone Deploy to help farmers make decisions. The tools available on the processed maps assist in planning the layout of their fields, determining water movement and drainage needs and locating water sources for irrigation. The active maps assist to determine distance measurements, acreage calculations and elevation differences.

The processed interactive maps enable 3D views to assist in vertical and horizontal precision to view infrastructure, crops, wooded areas and topography.

Other photogrammetry tools on the maps use RGB spectrometry to enable the interpretation of crop health issues, such as weed and insect outbreaks and field losses based on estimated plant counts.

Drones for Variable Rate Spot Applications

Farmers understand that boom sprayers and conventional aircraft cannot perform spot applications and that until now backpack sprayers were the only way to apply spot treatments. The use of spray drones to perform timely, variable-rate spot applications with precision is a turning



This processed weed analysis map tells the farmer where to spray.

point in crop-protection history. Now artificial intelligence is available to apply nutrients or insecticides, pesticides and herbicides to areas that are difficult to access by hand, tractor or conventional aircraft.

The use of spray drones for timely, low-volume spot applications in targeted treatment areas is environmentally friendly and reduces inputs and costs.

For more information about how drones could help your farm enterprise, contact LCastillo@vsu.edu.

Conventional Spraying vs. Precision Spraying

Pros

- Can cover a large area quickly and efficiently.
- May be cost-effective for some crops and applications.
- Does not require specialized equipment or expertise.

Cons

- May result in overuse or waste of product.
- Can harm non-target species and the environment.
- May not effectively control pests or diseases in all areas of a field.



Pros

- Can reduce pesticide use and waste.
- Can target specific areas or pests more effectively.
- May result in better crop yields and quality.

Cons

- Requires specialized equipment and expertise.
- Requires accurate data collection and analysis.
- Requires changes in farming practices to optimize the effectiveness of precision spraying.

Spraying Pesticides: Beware Droplet Drift



Spraying Pesticides on your fields has a narrow margin of error both in terms of protecting neighboring fields and getting the job done. A tiny 100-micron droplet takes about 11 seconds to fall 10 feet. A droplet that is 50 microns takes about 40 seconds to fall the same distance. Therefore, when you increase the pressure in the sprayer, the droplets get smaller and drift further. **It would be very wise to reduce sprayer pressure and slow down when you spray near a neighbor's crops or gardens.**

In summer, when spraying post-emergent herbicide, the droplets can vaporize in just a few seconds and can drift a good distance. While your nozzles may be identical, the droplet size they produce is not identical and may drift. **Above all, Read the Label!**

Ten Steps to Successful Strawberry Production

By Grace Summers, SFOP state program assistant and VSU Randolph Farm high tech tunnel manager

Spring has long been associated with the ritual of picking fresh local strawberries. Too often, however, prospective growers think planting strawberries in early spring will produce a spring crop. Many people, including some farmers, do not realize that the local strawberries that are available in early April started out as a plant plug nine months prior. The timeline for growing strawberries starts in the spring before the fall planting of the crop. Let's walk through the timeline:

- 1** During spring, select a field in a sunny location with well-drained soil. If offering a roadside stand, try to select a field close to the highway.
- 2** Take soil samples and send them to a soil test laboratory to determine the pH, the available nutrients, and any nutrient deficiencies.
- 3** Plant a cover crop that will retain available nutrients and add biomass to the soil.
- 4** Review a crop budget for strawberries. This will serve as a production guide to help price out supplies, plan, and maintain a record of production costs.
- 5** Research strawberry varieties to determine those best suited for your operation and growing zone. Choose from a wide selection in one of three growth phases: tips, plugs or bare root plants.
- 6** In June, order your strawberry tips and plugs. Know the order amounts needed and preorder from the supplier for the earliest fall delivery or pickup.
- 7** From about the middle of August through the first week of September, lay black plastic mulch. This allows time to connect the irrigation lines and pre-soak the beds. At least half of the recommended fertilizer should be pre-bedded into the rows of black plastic mulch.
- 8** Based on the location, generally around the end of September, start planting plugs into the fields of black plastic mulch. During the fall, the strawberry plants establish a good root system. Within about three months, they will grow and set their crowns which will determine berry size and amount.
- 9** Secure row covers for future cold weather. Check the plants throughout the winter months for insects, diseases and weeds.
- 10** In February, the strawberries are well on their way. First blooms should start to appear, and in 30 days, ripe, red strawberries will be ready for picking. Ideal climate conditions and varieties can give a grower up to eight weeks of picking.



Be Tick Savvy

By Amanda Fletcher, program assistant, Southwest Virginia Region

Spring and summer are the most active time for ticks—and the diseases they carry. Protect yourself, your family, your pets and your livestock.

Know their habits and habitat.

Awareness and prevention reduce the risks of contracting tick-borne diseases, which can be debilitating if left misdiagnosed or untreated. Ticks live in both rural and urban areas. Because they can't fly or jump, they rest on the forest floor, in leaf litter, or on the tips of low grasses and shrubs awaiting a host whose breath, body odors, or heat, moisture and vibrations are detected. Then, they attach to people's feet or shoes or animals' legs and crawl upward.

Practice prevention.

As Benjamin Franklin noted in 1736, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." That advice is still good today. Save yourself the pain, suffering and expense of contracting and treating a disease by practicing a few quick and easy prevention strategies recommended by the Virginia Department of Health. The following steps can reduce your risk of tick-borne diseases:

Prepare.

Dress to protect.

- Wear light-colored clothing to better see ticks and remove them.
- Tuck pant legs into socks and boots.
- Tuck shirts into pants.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts buttoned at the wrist.



Follow repellent and pesticide directions for protection.

- Apply the appropriate tick repellent to areas of the body and clothing that may come in contact with a tick habitat.
- Follow repellent directions carefully and do not overuse it.
- Conduct tick checks on yourself and your children every four to six hours while in a tick habitat.

DEET on the skin?

- Repellents for use on the skin should not exceed the following DEET amounts:
 - Children: Less than 30% DEET.
 - Adults: up to 50% DEET.
- Repellents containing other active ingredients may also be effective on the skin:
 - Picaridin
 - bioUD
 - oil of lemon-eucalyptus
 - IR3535

Use permethrin on clothing ONLY: Do NOT use it on your skin.

A repellent or insecticide containing permethrin may be applied to shoes, socks, pants and other clothing, but should not be used on the skin.

Trek the trail.

- Walk in the center of trails to avoid brushing against vegetation.
- Avoid potential tick habitats. (Forests, forest edges, leaf litter and low vegetation in shaded areas.)

Protect your pets.

Ask your veterinarian to recommend tick control methods for your pets. Animals can get Lyme disease, ehrlichiosis, and RMSF, but they do not transmit these diseases to people.

Pesticides and property precautions.

- To reduce tick habitats, keep the grass cut and underbrush thinned in yards.
- To prevent small rodents from carrying ticks on your property, eliminate wood piles and objects that provide cover and nesting sites.
- To control ticks on your property, hire a professional or follow directions carefully.

Small Herd? Big Rewards!

A new program offers expert technical assistance—and up to 100% cost reimbursement—for small cattle herds.

By Rebecca Jones, Department of Conservation and Recreation

It's a good time to be a small farmer. Especially a small cattle farmer.

If you are a farmer with 20–49 head of cattle, you can now receive exclusive benefits through the new Small Herd Initiative.

Under this program, your small cattle operation can receive significantly higher cost-share rates for Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share best management practices that exclude cattle from streams.

The Small Herd Initiative is run by the Virginia Department of Conservation and administered through the state's Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Large cattle operations receive 55–75% reimbursement rates for most stream-exclusion practices. But under the Small Herd Initiative, your small farm can now get up to 100% reimbursement—as much as \$50,000—starting July 1. Covered practices:

- Stream exclusion with buffer and land management.
- Stream protection fencing with buffer.
- Portable fencing.

Experienced farmers know that excluding livestock from streams benefits a farm in several ways. It reduces

rates of animal injury and disease, promotes greater weight gain in cattle and increases the quality and quantity of milk produced. It also helps curb soil loss from stream bank erosion.

If you opt to enroll in the Small Herd Initiative, you will also get ongoing, expert technical support for installing and maintaining these practices in ways that maximize these benefits to your operation. This assistance is tailored to the needs of smaller livestock operations. And, as always, it's tailored to your goals and priorities for your farm.

Why not let the Small Herd Initiative foot the bill for significant improvements to your small cattle operation? Reach out to your local Soil and Water Conservation District to learn more. Your animals and your bottom line will thank you.

Find your district at www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil-and-water/swcdlist.



SFOP Workshops: July–September 2023*

Date	Workshop	Time	Location	Program Assistant	Limit
7/8/23	Blueberry Pruning	9–11 am	Virginia Beach, VA	Ben Dukes	20
7/10/23	High Tunnel Production for Season Extension	10 am–noon	VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion 4415 River Road, Petersburg, VA	Dennis Hatch & Grace Summers	
7/10/23	Growing Strawberries	3–5 pm	VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion 4415 River Road, Petersburg, VA	Grace Summers	
7/11/23	Southside Sustainable Ag Tour	9 am–4 pm	Meet at Wedgewood Golf Center 2131 Mountain Road, Halifax, VA	Clifford Somerville	15
7/11/23	Hispanic Vegetable Hoop House Tour	10 am–noon	Lawrenceville, Virginia	Leonel Castillo	20
7/17/23	Free Union Flower Farm Day	1–4 pm	Free Union, Virginia	Tammy Holler	
7/18/23	Small Farm Orientation	9–11 am	Virtual	Derrick Cladd	40
7/18/23	Controlling Varroa Mites	8:30 am–noon	VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion 4415 River Road, Petersburg, VA	Dennis Hatch	
7/18/23	Filing Farm Taxes	10 am–3 pm	Carver Center, 9432 N. James Madison Highway, Rapidan, VA	Leonel Castillo & Michael Carter Sr.	15
7/18/23	USDA Information Session	4–6 pm	VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion 4415 River Road, Petersburg, VA	James Gibson	
7/19/23	USDA Information Session	10 am–noon	Virtual	Michael Carter Sr.	
7/19/23	Summer Vegetable Marketing Tour–Raleigh State Farmers Market	7 am–5 pm	Meet at 4415 River Road, Petersburg, VA 23803	Derrick Cladd	25
7/20/23	Growing Ethnic Crops for Soil Health and Nutrient Density	6–8 pm	Unionville, Virginia	Roland Terrell	
7/25/23	Business Management	10 am–noon	VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion 4415 River Road, Petersburg, VA	Cartelius Travis	
7/25/23	Increasing Profits through Rotational Grazing with Rabbits	10 am–noon	Lake Country Advanced Learning Center, 118 E. Danville Street, South Hill, VA	Marilyn Estes & Tammy Holler	20
7/26/23	Dug In Farms Tour	1–3 pm	White Stone, Virginia	Tammy Holler	25
7/26/23	Estate Planning For Farmers	1–4 pm	Virtual	Michael Carter Sr.	
7/27/23	Small Ruminants: Flock/Herd Selection Considerations for Breeding Season	6:30–8:30 pm	Southwest VA Agricultural Research & Extension Center 12326 VPI Farm Road, Glade Spring, VA	Mandy Fletcher	
8/4/23	Agroforestry Farm Tour with Q&A	9–11 am	Virginia Beach, VA	Ben Dukes	
8/9/23	Dexter 101	10 am–noon	Keysville, Virginia	Leonard Elam	
8/9/23	Recordkeeping On Your Computer or Smartphone	10 am–noon	Virtual	Michael Carter Sr.	
8/9/23	USDA Information Session	10 am–noon	Lake Country Advanced Learning Center, 118 E. Danville Street, South Hill, VA	Marilyn Estes	20

For more information and to register, visit www.ext.vsu.edu/calendar.

SFOP Workshops: July–September 2023*

Date	Workshop	Time	Location	Program Assistant	Limit
8/15/23	Invasive Species Affecting Virginia: Spotted Lanternfly and Asian Longhorn Tick	10 am–noon	Virtual	Leonard Elam	
8/17/23	SNAP Program for Small Farmers	9 am–3:30 pm	VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion 4415 River Road, Petersburg, VA	Derrick Cladd	
8/22/23	Small Farm Orientation	9–11 am	Virtual	Derrick Cladd	40
8/22/23	USDA Information Session	4–6:30 pm	VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion 4415 River Road, Petersburg, VA	James Gibson	20
8/24/23	High Tunnel Vegetable Production	5:30–8:30 pm	Wytheville, Virginia	Brent Noell	15
8/29/23	Dexter 101	10 am–noon	Carver Center, 9432 N. James Madison Highway, Rapidan, VA	Roland Terrell	
8/31/23	Extending the Sheep & Goat Grazing Season Virtual Pasture Walk	7–8 pm	Virtual	Mandy Fletcher	
9/7/23	Sustainable Forestry & Small Wood Lot Management	9 am–noon	Wedgewood Golf Center 2131 Mountain Road, Halifax, VA	Clifford Somerville	20
9/7/23	High Tunnel Vegetable Production	5:30–8:30 pm	Carroll County, Virginia	Brent Noell	
9/9/23	Small Engine Maintenance	10 am–noon	VSU Agriculture Engineering Building 101 Myster Macklin Street, Ettrick, VA	James Gibson	20
9/14/23	High Tunnel Vegetable Production	5:30–8:30 pm	Blacksburg, Virginia	Brent Noell	15
9/14/23	Preparing High Tunnel for Fall Tropical Plant Production	6–8 pm	Unionville, Virginia	Roland Terrell	
9/19/23	Small Farm Orientation	9–11 am	Virtual	Derrick Cladd	40
9/21/23	Farm Liability Issues	3–5:30 pm	VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion 4415 River Road, Petersburg, VA	James Gibson	20
9/21/23	High Tunnel Vegetable Production	5:30–8:30 pm	Montvale, Virginia	Brent Noell & Leonard Elam	15
9/28/23	Farm Insurance: Do I have the Correct Coverage?	6:30–8:30 pm	Sugar Hollow Park–Waldo Miles Pavilion 23261 Sugar Hollow Road, Bristol, VA	Mandy Fletcher	

Contact Our Program Assistants

To find out who is covering your area, please call 804-524-3292.

Michael Carter Sr	804-481-1163	mcarter@vsu.edu
Ben Dukes	804-731-7916	bdukes@vsu.edu
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Tammy Holler | 804-229-2730 | tholler@vsu.edu
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Wanda Johnson | 804-894-4858 | wjohnson@vsu.edu
Community Gardens, Food Services

Grace Summers | 804-712-0093 | gsummers@vsu.edu
NRCS, SFOP High Tech Tunnel



Volunteer for Virginia Tech Study on Responsible Innovation in Precision Agriculture

The purpose of this study is to understand responsible innovation that promotes economic welfare and environmental security on farms by co-designing precision agriculture technologies.

Benefits and Compensation:

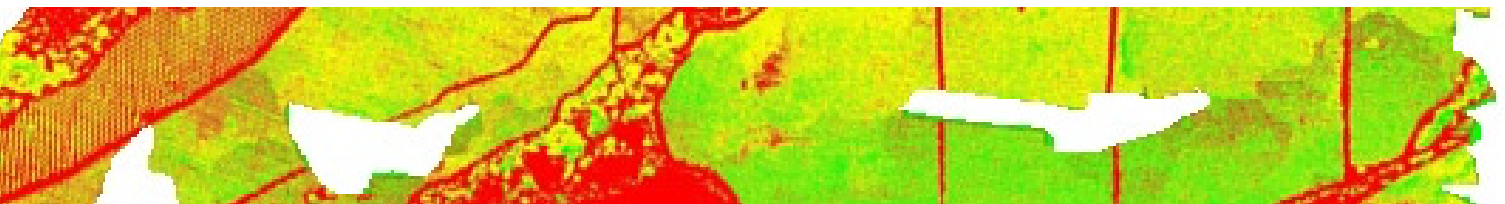
- **\$500 baseline participation payment** over two years equivalent to \$50/hr
- Opportunity for **\$500-\$1000/year of additional incentives** for reducing nitrogen and/or phosphorus amounts to be decided and agreed upon based on baseline measurement (random selection)
- Free access to your field level data on crop yields, soils and nutrients.

What is required of participants:

- 10 hours total over two years
- Interviews and surveys (1.5 hours each year)
- Two design workshops / trainings for technology use each year (3 hour each)
- 30 minutes phone check-in (twice per year for three years)
- Play serious computer game (1 hour)
- Unmanned areial drone flights with hyperspectral camera over fields (twice per year)

Field-level information on soil and water will be collected through unmanned aerial drone flights (twice/year) with explicit participant permission before each flight.

In a subset of your farm (identified by you), we may setup a soil and water sampling program to collect periodic soil and water samples. This data will be help supplement imagery collected from the drones.



For more information contact Dr. Brianna Posadas at (951) 387-0022 or email at bposadas@vt.edu, or contact the Principal Investigator: Dr. Maaz Gardezi (515) 686-1594, or email at maaz@vt.edu

National Science Foundation Future of Work Human-Technology Frontier # 2202706

Seeking Research Participants for Study on **Black Farming in the Midst of Racial Discrimination and the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Who is eligible to participate:

- Must self-identify as Black/African American
- Must be a farmer who works on a farm, owns a farm, or in the process of establishing a farm since March 2020
- Must be 18 years of age or older

More about the project:

- Interested participants can join a **focus group and/or complete an individual interview** with Dr. Loren Henderson to **share their story as a Black Farmer**
- Focus groups and Individual interviews will be between **60-90 minutes** and will be completed online via zoom or webex
- All participants will receive a **\$25 gift card** as a thank you for their time
- The research is sponsored by the University of Maryland Baltimore County and was approved by UMBC's Institutional Review Board in January of 2023

How to get involved:

- Email Dr. Loren Henderson at **loren@umbc.edu**



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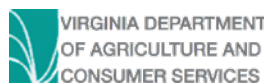
Where Virginia's small and beginning farmers and ranchers access comprehensive resources to help make their farm businesses profitable and sustainable.

vsusmallfarms.com

Education & Training Resources · Diverse Models of Farm Production & Operation · Ag-Related News & Events · Federal, State & Local Agency Contacts · Agro-Equipment Rental Programs · Expert Advice Online or by Phone
...and More

The Virginia Small Farm Resource Center is developed and supported by Virginia State University's Small Farm Outreach Program.

Contact the Small Farm Outreach Program: 804-524-3292, or smallfarm@vsu.edu.
 Office hours: Monday–Thursday, 8 am–5 pm, Friday, 8 am–noon. 95% of SFOP is out in the field.



If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact the Small Farm Outreach Program office at smallfarm@vsu.edu or call 804-524-3292/TDD 800-828-1120 during business hours of 8 am and 5 pm to discuss accommodations five days prior to the event.

Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and local governments. Its programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, military status, or any other basis protected by law.

8K 6/2023

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