

Physical Resources

Land and Facilities	Description
Virginia Tech owned, Holland Road	163 acres: Office complex, laboratories, farm buildings, cropland, swine research unit, lake
Virginia Tech owned, Hare Road locations	216 acres: Hare Road Farm, buildings, pond; 3 acres: research boar stud unit
Duke Farm lease	35 acres of cropland contiguous with the Holland Road location

Director – David Langston, 757-657-6450 (ext. 410), dblankston@vt.edu

Resident Faculty

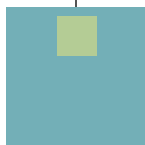
Faculty	Research and Extension Focus Areas
Maria Balota Associate Professor, Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science (PPWS)	Peanut and sorghum physiology. Leader of the multi-state Peanut Variety and Quality Evaluation program.
Mark Estienne Professor, Animal and Poultry Sciences (APSC)	Swine physiology and reproduction, management, and welfare in commercial swine herds; Extension programming in swine production.
Hunter Frame Assistant Professor, Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences (CSES)	Agronomics in field crops with emphasis on cotton production and management
David Langston Professor, PPWS	Plant disease, diagnostics, and applied plant disease management
Ames Herbert Professor, Entomology	Insect management in cotton, soybean, peanut, corn, small grains
David Holshouser Associate Professor, CSES	Agronomics in field crops with emphasis on soybean production and management
Hillary Mehl Assistant Professor, PPWS	Disease management in cotton, soybean, peanut, corn, small grains

Other Faculty Conducting Research and Collaborative Work

Faculty	Research Involvement
Charles Cahoon Assistant Professor, PPWS	Weed management in staple crops
Michael Flessner Assistant Professor, PPWS	Weed extension
Elizabeth Grabau Professor, PPWS	Transgenics for improved disease resistance in peanuts
Carl Griffey Professor, CSES	Small grain genetics and breeding
Rory Maguire Associate Professor, CSES	Nutrient management
Mark Reiter Associate Professor, Eastern Shore AREC	Fertilization management of field crops
Steve Rideout Associate Professor, Eastern Shore AREC	Disease management in winter wheat
Wade Thomason Associate Professor, CSES	Corn and small grain variety testing

Farm Management, Technical, Office Staff, Postdoctoral Scientist and Graduate Students

Funding Category	Employees	Comment
State Funded, full-time	10	Includes farm manager, assistant, 2 office staff, 6 technical staff
Grants and Contracts, full-time	11	Technical staff employees
Grants and Contracts, part-time	25	Includes 1500 hour/year, seasonal and summer employees
Graduate Students	8	Graduate Students, M.S. and Ph.D. candidates



Research and Extension Programs

- Improving the accuracy of potassium fertilization for full-season and double-cropped soybean.
- Impact of alternative tillage systems in cotton growth and lint yield.
- Development of peanut varieties with increased oleic vs. linoleic fatty acid ratio, drought tolerance, improved water use efficiency, and earlier maturity characteristics for the Virginia-Carolina production region (PVQE program).
- Use of dietary copper supplementation to improve reproduction in sows.
- Determining research-based crop hybrid and variety selection information through variety testing programs in corn, cotton, peanut, sorghum, soybean, and wheat.
- The Peanut - Cotton InfoNet (<http://webipm.ento.vt.edu/cgi-bin/infonet1.cgi>) and Peanut Hotline (1-800-795-0700) providing crop management information including crop disease and frost advisories updated daily throughout the growing and harvest seasons.
- The Virginia Ag Pest and Crop Advisory (www.ext.vt.edu/agadvisory), a blog for rapid delivery of up-to-date information crop pests in Virginia.
- Plant disease and insect pest diagnostic services and annual Pest Management, cotton production and peanut production guides.
- Certification programs in production quality assurance for pork producers as required by process verified marketing systems.
- Educational programs, field tours, seminars and demonstrations on current issues relevant to row crop and swine production for Extension Agents, growers and industry workers.
- Using commercially available hormones to enhance swine reproductive efficiency in batch management systems.
- Evaluation of genetically altered cotton varieties for insect tolerance and performance.
- Development of systems to improve thrips control in cotton and peanuts.
- Statewide soybean insect pest surveillance program.
- Management of invasive insect pest species: the brown marmorated stink bug and kudzu bug.
- Mid-Atlantic regional project to increase yield and profitability of double-crop soybeans.
- On-farm validation of a fungicide decision aid in soybean.
- High throughput phenotyping for tolerance to biotic and abiotic constraints to sorghum production in the V-C region.
- Variable-rate soybean seeding.
- Development of wheat varieties adapted to early planting to facilitate early harvest and early double-crop soybean planting.
- Development of practices allowing early wheat harvest and double-crop soybean planting.

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