

Southern **A**ssociation of **A**gricultural **E**xperiment **S**tation **D**irectors



SAAESD

Gary A. Thompson, Ph.D. - Executive Director

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Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors



- Host - University of Arkansas
Division of Agriculture
- Offices - Don Tyson Center for
Agricultural Sciences Annex
- Cindy Morley, Program Coordinator



Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors



Retirements

- Robert Houtz (UK)
- David Ragsdale (TAMU)
- Keith Owens (OSU)
- Reuben Moore (MSU)

Transfers

- Henry Fadamiro
Auburn to TAMU
- Robert Godfrey (UVI)
NIFA Division Director for Animal Systems

New COOs

- Jamie Matthew (UK)
- Scott Senseman (OSU)
- Authur Appel (Auburn)
- Tom Zimmerman (UVI)

SAAESD Strategic Roadmap

Focus Areas

- *Promote Collaborative Discovery* – accelerating innovation
- *Create Strategic Alliances* – extending reach and impact
- *Enhance Reputation* - promote success of individual institutions
- *Effective Advocacy* – Southern regional research system
- *Create Impact* – facilitate cutting edge science that matters

GOALS

1. *Increase scope, diversity and relevance of our collective research*
2. *Strengthen collaborative research that has regional relevance*
3. *Support and develop excellent human capital*
4. *Showcase our member successes, both internally and externally*



SAAESD

Collaborative Discovery



Research Platforms	Arkansas	Auburn	Clemson	Georgia	Florida	Kentucky	Louisiana	Mississippi	N Carolina	Oklahoma	Puerto Rico	Tennessee	Texas	Virginia	Virgin Islands
Data-Driven Science															
Precision Ag															
AI, Big Data & Digital Ag															
Sensors & Remote Sensing															
Animal Behavior															
Decision Support															
Controlled Environments															
Cybersecurity/GSS															
Integrated Health															
Ag & Human Health															
One health															
Microbiome															
Vector borne Disease															
Precision Nutrition															
Food Safety/Packaging															
Biosecurity															
Water															
Water Quality-Quantity															
Precision Irrigation															
Sustainable Ecosystems															
Wetland Conservation															
Coastal Ecology/Resiliency															
Climate Smart Agriculture/Forestry															
Climate Change															
Conservation/Nat Resources															
Regenerative/Sustainable Ag															
Carbon Sequestration															
Advanced Energy Systems															
Invasion Science															
Plant/Animal Improvement															
Genomics															
Precision Breeding															
Informatics/Data Science															
Specialty Crops															
New Crops/Livestock															
Heat stress - Livestock															
Consumer-Related Issues															
Urban Ag/Forestry															
Food Security															
Food Supply Chain															

Artificial Intelligence

Survey

“AI Activities at SAAESD Institutions”

Workshop

“Opportunities for Cross-Institutional Collaborations in Artificial Intelligence”

NIFA Conference Grant

“Envisioning 2050 in the Southeast: AI-driven innovations in agriculture”

Multistate Research Project

“AI in Agroecosystems: Big Data and Smart Technology-Driven Sustainable Production”

Effective Advocacy Enhance Reputation



Southern Region Communicators Consortium

Working Group

Frankie Gould, Chair (LSU)

Nick Kordsmeier (U Arkansas)

Ruth Borger (U Florida)

Lyndall Stout (OSU)

Richard Campbell (NCSU)

NIFA Liaison - Andy Thigpen

Goal: Showcase member successes

- Increase the clarity, consistency, and scale of messaging from our research programs
- Speak with a coordinated voice on regional issues that complements, reinforces and elevates messages from our respective universities
- Broaden the scope of our individual communications from member institutions to network and provide substantive and regular information to generate impact

#SouthernAgResearch

Communication Liaisons

Josh Woods (Auburn)

Nick Kordsmeier (U Arkansas)

Chris Vivian (U Florida)

Cassie Ann Kiggen (U Georgia)

Tobie Blanchard (LSU)

Karen Brasher (MSU)

Richard Campbell (NCSU)

Lyndall Stout (OSU)

Yolanda Toro Adorno (UPRM)

Jonathan Velt (Clemson)

Patty McDaniels (U Tennessee)

Gabe Saldana (TAMU)

Zeke Barlow (Virginia Tech)

Marthious Clavier (UVI)