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The Stalk

VOLUME III ISSUE I



JANUARY 2022

From The Director

Extension meeting season is among us and we look forward to seeing farmers, industry representatives, and other stakeholders as we present our information around the Commonwealth. Locally, we are excited to visit with everyone in-person at the Eastern Shore Agricultural Conference and Trade Show. This year the Ag Conference is back at the Exmore Moose Lodge #683 and Ursula, Theresa and team are planning an excellent event with a refreshed layout to facilitate personal interactions among attendees. As always, we thank the Association of Virginia Potato and Vegetable Growers for sponsoring the event. Make sure you check out the agenda within this newsletter and join us on January 26 and 27, 2022!

We are still working towards filling our Research Specialist, Sr. in Weed Science position. This person will be responsible for assisting the Weed Science program within the Eastern Shore AREC with

applied field and laboratory research and Extension trials. Candidates can still apply by visiting: <https://careers.pageuppeople.com/968/cw/en-us/job/517944/research-specialist-sr>. Also, stay tuned for a final schedule as we interview for our Applied Plant Pathology Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist. Save the dates of Monday, January 31 and Tuesday, February 8 to attend interview meetings and seminars at the Eastern Shore AREC.



As always, let us know if you have any questions!

— *Mark*



The 32nd Annual

Eastern Shore Agricultural Conference & Trade Show

Wednesday & Thursday,

Exmore Moose Lodge

January 26th - 27th, 2022

Belle Haven, VA

Sponsored by:



Virginia Tech • Virginia State University



VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
EASTERN SHORE AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER
VIRGINIA TECH.

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE



Exmore Lodge No. 683
P.O. Box 181
Belle Haven, VA 23306

Pesticide Recertification

Commercial Categories: 1A, 10 and 60 & Private Category: 90

To Receive Recertification Approval Growers MUST attend:

1. Pesticide Legal Updates—Rodney Knight, VDACS Investigator

- 1/26, 9:00 am—General Session, Lodge Room

2. Pesticide Safety Updates

- 1/26, 2:30 pm—Vegetable Session, Seafood Room
- 1/27, 11:30 am—Hot Topics, Lodge Room

3. Grower may pick one full session of their choice:

- Agronomic, Soybean, Vegetable, Hot Topic, Potato



**You must sign-in at the Registration Table
in order to receive pesticide credits**

2022 Ag Conference Oyster Roast

Annual Eastern Shore Ag Conference Oyster Roast

Location: Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Extension Center
33446 Research Dr.
Painter, VA 23420

Thanks to our Hosts!!

Time: Social Hour & Raw Bar 6:00 pm
BBQ and Oysters 6:30 pm



Tickets: Cost is \$50/person

Each ticket will include all you can eat oysters and BBQ. Ticket also include beverages (beer, soda, and water) in lieu of a cash bar.

Tickets available at the Conference Registration Table

General Session—Wednesday, January 26th—Lodge Room

Presiding—Bruce Richardson, President, Association of Virginia Potato & Vegetable Growers Association, Inc.

8:20 a Welcome & Opening Remarks—Bruce Richardson, President, Association of VA Potato and Vegetable Growers, Inc.

8:30 Market Outlook 2022—Robert Harper, Grain Division, Virginia Farm Bureau Fed.

Robert will discuss what some current influences are on futures and basis and take a look back at price action in 2021. The discussion will be aimed at helping producers make decisions regarding old crop and new crop sales. An emphasis will be placed on having a written marketing plan to work from while making sales in 2022.

9:00 Pesticide Legal Updates—Rodney Knight, Pesticide Investigator, VDACS

9:30 Break - Visit with Exhibitors

Great Room

10:00 VOSHA Facts and Fallacies—What is VOSHA's role on your farm?—Stefanie Corbitt, President of SSI OSHA

Topics discussed will include OSHA vs Department of Labor, Applicability to your farm, Farm Employer's Rights/Responsibilities, and how to handle a VOSHA inspection. Stefanie will provide handouts and templates for a Hazard Communications Plan as well as other important safety topics.

11:00 Eastern Shore AREC Update—Dr. Mark Reiter, Director, ESAREC

11:10 Update from Virginia Cooperative Extension —Dr. Ed Jones, Director, VCE

11:25 Excitement about Virginia Agriculture: Insight and Goals from Virginia's 18th Commissioner of Agriculture—Joe Guthrie, Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture, VDACS

11:45 Award Ceremony — Bruce Richardson, President, Association of VA Potato and Vegetable Growers, Inc.

12:00 Please Enjoy Lunch Catered by the Moose Lodge—served in the Great Room



Agronomic Session—Wednesday, January 26th—Lodge Room

Moderator - Mark Reiter, Professor of Soils and Nutrient Management, ESAREC

- 1:00 p** *Soybean IPM: an update on corn earworm and stink bug pest management*—Kemper Sutton, Graduate Research Assistant, Entomology, VT Blacksburg
- Corn earworms have historically been the biggest pest of soybeans in Virginia. For decades pyrethroids have been a cheap and effective control strategy, but for some people they aren't working like they used to. Additionally, the southern green stink bug has been an uncommon visitor to the Eastern shore, but since 2019 they have been in abundance. This talk is focused on the investigation of pyrethroid efficacy on corn earworm and the southern green stink bug.
- 1:30** *An update on small grains management and breeding efforts for Virginia*—Dr. Nicholas Santantonio, Small Grains Specialist, VT Blacksburg
- I will provide an update on recommended agronomic practices and the latest breeding efforts for soft red winter wheat for the state of Virginia. The breeding program continues to produce new varieties adapted to the mid-Atlantic region, and a wide variety of maturities with excellent agronomic characteristics are evaluated in the state test every year. I will discuss some of our recent effort to modernize the program and discuss factors to consider during soft red variety selection. Finally, I will highlight our efforts to produce hard wheat and malt barley varieties to provide seed products to growers interested in expending into specialty grain markets.
- 2:00** *Designing an IWM program for Corn and Soybean with a Limited Toolbox*—Dr. Kurt Vollmer, Weed Science, University of MD
- Management of herbicide-resistant weeds continues to be a problem for crop production. Furthermore, certain herbicides, such as glyphosate, are expected to be in short supply for the upcoming growing season. This presentation will provide tips on how to incorporate non-chemical tactics into a weed control program, as well as optimize the performance of available herbicides.
- 2:30** *Fertilizer: Making sure you are getting your money's worth*—Dr. Mark Reiter, Professor, Soil and Nutrient Management, ESAREC
- Fertilizer prices are reaching record highs, so you need to make sure that you are using these valuable nutrients properly. Using soil tests and accompanying fertilizer recommendations is still the best way to ensure that you are not applying fertilizer when not needed. We will discuss oilseed and grain cropping systems. We will also talk about places you can cut corners this year and where you should still spend your money.

Vegetable Session—Wednesday, January 26th—Seafood Room

Moderator - Ursula Deitch, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, Northampton County

1:00 p ***Pest Management Update for Vegetables***—Dr. Tom Kuhar, Entomology, VT Blacksburg and Helene Doughty, Research Technician, VT ESAREC

This presentation will discuss some emerging pest issues facing vegetables as well as current insecticide options for their control

1:25 ***Mite Management Alternatives for Virginia Strawberry Growers***—Dr. Lorena Lopez, Postdoctoral Associate, Entomology, ESAREC

All strawberry-producing states are constantly challenged by severe two-spotted spider mites (TSSM) as well as cyclamen mites that can cause significant yield reductions. Relying solely on chemical applications against mite outbreaks is not a sustainable option for Virginia growers as increasing miticide applications not only imply higher pest management costs and increased risk to develop pesticide resistance but also involve sale losses due to closings to meet the required PHI.

1:45 ***Developing a vegetable research program for the Eastern Shore of Virginia***—Dr. Emmanuel Torres, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Horticulture, ESAREC

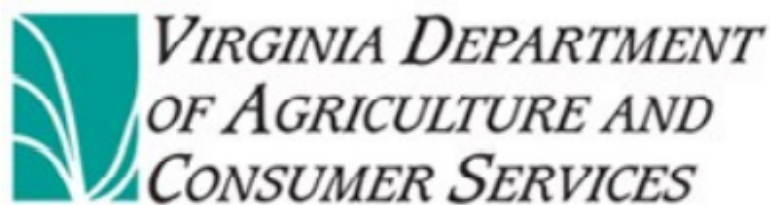
The horticultural program of the ESAREC is currently working on three main objectives: 1) Improving the profitability and sustainability of traditional crops of the Eastern Shore, 2) Evaluating and adjusting new production systems for alternative crops with production potential for the Eastern Shore, and 3) Identify and adapt precision agriculture technologies to create solutions to support agriculture and food systems, the environment, and communities.

2:05 ***Vegetable Disease Management Update for 2022***—Dr. Steve Rideout, Plant Pathology, VT Blacksburg

New techniques to manage diseases will be discussed, including relevant research findings. In particular, cover crops and rotations involving other crops commonly grown on the Eastern Shore will be a focal point. New and updated products and varieties for disease control will be presented to growers

2:30 ***Pesticide Safety Updates*** – Ursula Deitch, Northampton County ANR Agent, VCE

You must attend one of the two *Pesticide Safety Update* presentations in order to receive recertification credit.



Potato Session—Thursday, January 27th—Seafood Room

Presiding—Bruce Richardson, President, Association of Virginia Potato & Vegetable Growers Association, Inc.

- 8:20 a** **Update from the National Potato Board**— Bruce Richardson, Representative to the National Potato Board
- 8:30** **Update from Potatoes USA**—Kayla Dome, Global Marketing Manager, Potatoes USA
An update on the state of the potato industry as well as retail and foodservice trends.
- 9:00** **Potato Market Outlook for 2022**— Brett Richardson, Marketing Specialist, VDACS
A review of last year's market conditions and a look forward as to what we can possibly expect in the upcoming year.
- 9:30** **Microbial Quality of Water Used in Potato Packinghouse Operations in 2021**— Theresa Pittman, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, Accomack & Dr. Laura Strawn, Food Safety, ESAREC
This project evaluated the microbial quality of water used in potato packinghouse operations to assist potato packers with food safety audit compliance. The results presented will include the data collected in the Summer of 2021
- 10:00** **Break - Visit with Exhibitors** **Great Room**
- 10:30** **Research Update on Wireworm and Colorado Potato Beetle** —Helene Doughty, Research Technician, VT ESAREC and Dr. Tom Kuhar, Entomology, VT Blacksburg
This presentation will review current research on pheromone trapping for adult wire worms (click beetles) as well as insecticide efficacy update for Colorado potato beetle populations on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.
- 11:00** **2021 Eastern NC yield Trial Review**—Mark Clough, Potato Breeding & Genetics, NCSU
2021 climatically was a challenging year - it never really got consistently hot, we had drought, flooding and drought again. The stress certainly had an impact on the crop and we'll talk about the trials from that perspective as well as what has looked good over the last several years. We'll also spend some time talking about our chipping clone NC470-3 and the challenges we have encountered getting to commercial scale.
- 12:00** **Please Enjoy Lunch Catered by the Exmore Moose Lodge —served in the Great Room**

****Please fill out the Conference evaluation and return it to the Registration table to be entered for \$100 Gift Certificate to the Salt and Sand Family Restaurant in Cape Charles, VA,**

****We appreciate your willingness to provide feedback to the Planning Committee.**

Hot Topics Session—Thursday, January 27th—Lodge Room

Moderator - Ursula Deitch, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, Northampton County

8:00 ***Enlist Applicator Training*** — John Boston, Corteva Agriscience

Learn more about the Enlist® weed control system and achieving successful, on-target applications of Enlist herbicides. This session will cover how to achieve effective weed control on acres of Enlist crops, tank-mixing with Enlist herbicides, field planning scenarios and spray requirements.

10:00 ***Break - Visit with Exhibitors***

Great Room

10:30 ***Dicamba Applicator Training*** — Chelsea Valenti, BASF Agricultural Solutions

This training satisfies the annual dicamba training requirement. You will be required to sign-in/register to receive credit. This process is different from your VA Pesticide License. Please make sure to register with BASF in order to receive credit

11:30 ***Pesticide Safety Updates*** — Ursula Deitch, Northampton County ANR Agent, VCE

You must attend one of the *Pesticide Safety Update* presentations in order to receive recertification credit.

12:00 ***Please Enjoy Lunch Catered by the Exmore Moose Lodge—served in the Great Room***



Soybean Session—Thursday, January 27th—Lodge Room

Moderator - Mark Reiter, Professor of Soils and Nutrient Management, ESAREC

- 1:00 p Soybean lodging due to insect pests**—Dr. Sally Taylor, Entomology, TAREC
Sally will discuss **decates and three-cornered alfalfa hopper injury** will be described and samples of each will be shared. Participants will be able to determine if lodging in their fields is a result of these pests
- 1:30 Soybean Sulfur Management**—Karen Brooks, Graduate Research Assistant, Soil Fertility, ESAREC
As we continue to fine tune soil fertility plans to best manage plant nutrients we must consider sulfur. We will discuss why it's necessary, how it moves in the soil, and if soybeans on the eastern shore could benefit from sulfur additions.
- 2:00 Nematode Management in Soybean**—Dr. David Langston, Plant Pathology, TAREC
Soybean cyst and root-knot nematodes can reduce yields in Virginia soybeans but often their damage is not very evident until harvest. In 2021, on-farm trials were conducted to evaluate nematode-resistant varieties and seed treatments for reducing yield loss to both nematode species. Information on soybean nematodes and results of field trials will be discussed.
- 3:00 Mid-South Soybean Variety Trial Database - A New Tool for Soybean Variety Selection**—Dr. David Holshouser, Agronomist, VT Tidewater AREC
Which soybean variety is best suited to my region? State variety testing programs provide critical research to help answer that question by evaluating hundreds of soybean varieties every year across multiple locations within a state. But what if we think beyond the bounds of our state borders when it comes to variety evaluation? While a single state alone provides valuable data, our growing regions often cross state lines. A location on Virginia's Eastern Shore may share more similarities to sites in Maryland or Delaware or even coastal Carolina than it does to western Virginia. By combining variety testing data across multiple states, we created a more robust dataset that allows us to better predict which varieties are best suited to specific regions and growing conditions.

Visit the Eastern Shore Agricultural Conference Website:

[https://accomack.ext.vt.edu/programs/
eastern_shore_ag_conference.html](https://accomack.ext.vt.edu/programs/eastern_shore_ag_conference.html)

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Virginia Cooperative Extension brings the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of the commonwealth. VCE provides education through programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development and Community Viability.

Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Extension Center

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<https://www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/arec/eastern-shore.html>

The Virginia Tech, Eastern Shore AREC is committed to supporting commercial vegetable, grain, oilseed, and fiber production throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Centrally located on Virginia's Eastern Shore, the center conducts basic and applied research on more than 25 agricultural crops.



ESAREC & VCE Contact Information

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If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in any activity, please contact Lauren Seltzer at 757-807-6586 (*TDD number is (800) 828-1120) during business hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations.*



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