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"Live in the sun-  
shine. Swim in the  
sea. Drink in the  
wild air." —Ralph  
Waldo Emerson



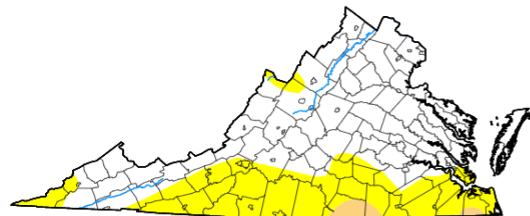
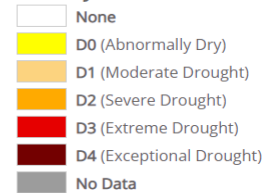
## From The Director

**I**rrigation seems to be the recent theme as many of us are experiencing very dry conditions on our sandy loam and loamy sand Eastern Shore soils. Technically we are still not in a drought, but crops are certainly suffering. The positive is warm and dry weather to harvest our barley and wheat acreage. According to the last USDA-National Agricultural Statistics Service survey for the 2021 wheat harvest, Virginia farmers planted 205,000 acres of wheat and harvested 120,000 acres across the Commonwealth.

**Map released: Thurs. June 30, 2022**

**Data valid: June 28, 2022 at 8 a.m. EDT**

**Intensity**



**Authors**

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):  
**Curtis Riganti**, National Drought Mitigation Center  
Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):  
**Richard Tinker**, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

We recently had a field day that focused on vegetable production on June 22, 2022. Crops presented included potato, fresh market tomato, tea, strawberry, and edamame. Thank you to everyone who attended and interacted with our faculty, staff, and graduate students. We always enjoy spending time with stakeholders from all three of our land grant missions of extension, research and teaching. This year after field day, we also had graduate students present their research during a poster competition. Also, we plan to have a field day focused on corn, soybean, and wheat later this summer.

We are hiring! Come join our team as a Research Specialist, Sr. working with horticultural activities at the Eastern Shore AREC. This person will be responsible for assisting in the field with potato, fresh market tomato, snap bean, and other vegetable crops related to plasticulture, high tunnels and large scale field systems on sandy loam and loamy sand soils. Check out job posting #520611 by visiting [jobs.vt.edu](http://jobs.vt.edu) or [click here](#).

We always want to hear from you! Let me know when is best to come visit your farm to hear your ideas for advancing our applied research and extension programming to best meet your farming needs. We also have several new faces at the Eastern Shore AREC and want to bring them out and showcase what you do and to help shape their programs.

— *Mark*

# Agents Corner

Summer is in full swing – wheat, potatoes, and green beans are being harvested and double crop soybeans are being planted. Everyone is busy! Ag agents are out in fields scouting your crops and making sure your season is moving along smoothly.



## Bug Traps

Bug Traps are installed in both Northampton and Accomack Counties. Counts have shown a large presence of Corn Earworm already this year so please scout your fields. Corn Earworm can not only affect your corn crop but also your soybean crop so monitoring is key to know when you are at threshold for a spray application.

## Commercial & Registered Tech Certification Renewal Update:



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Joseph W. Guthrie*  
Commissioner

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Division of Consumer Protection  
*Office of Pesticide Services*

PO Box 1163, Richmond, Virginia 23218  
Phone: 804/786-3798 • Fax: 804/786-9149 • Hearing Impaired: 800/828-1120  
[www.vdacs.virginia.gov](http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov)

June 21, 2022

**TO: Pesticide Businesses**

**RE: 2022 Commercial Pesticide Applicator and Registered Technician Certification Renewals**

Dear Owner/operator:

The Office of Pesticide Services (OPS) recently implemented an online system for applicator certification and is in the process of entering recertification credit into the new system. **Applicators whose certificates expire on June 30, 2022 and who have taken the required recertification course(s) will have their certificate automatically renewed and a new certificate will be sent to them. OPS is issuing and mailing certificates at regular intervals, however, not all applicators will receive their renewed certificates at the same time and some may not receive their renewal until after June 30, 2022. If an applicator has taken the required recertification course, even if they do not receive an updated certificate until after the expiration date, the applicator is considered certified.**

## Agents Corner Continued

### Well Water Testing

We had a great turnout for the 2022 Household Water Quality Clinic. We distributed 132 well water kits to local homeowners in Northampton and Accomack Counties to test their water on the Eastern Shore. Thanks to a grant from SERCAP testing, kits were subsidized to \$10 per kit. This is a great program for our community and we had a very positive response from them!

### 4-H Updates

4-H Agents in Northampton and Accomack Counties have been busy preparing and training teens for multiple camps! July 11-14<sup>th</sup> they are offering a Computer Science & STEM Day Camp hosted at the Eastern Shore Community College. Campers will have instructors from A&N Electric Cooperative, NASA, and Virginia Tech.

4-H Camp for Northampton and Accomack Counties will be hosted the following week July 18-22<sup>nd</sup> in Wakefield, VA. This week long residential camp is a fun opportunity for youth to learn skills through hands-on experiences.

Ag Camp at the Barrier Islands Center is a Day Camp spanning over 2 days - August 2-3<sup>rd</sup>. The Northampton County 4-H Agent and the Eastern Shore Soil and Water Conservation District Education Coordinator are the instructors for this camp where campers learn about agriculture on the Eastern Shore and how it is applicable to their everyday life.

### YouTube Production videos

Do you follow the Accomack and Northampton County VCE Facebook pages? If not, go follow us! County Agents are working on short production videos for the public that helps answer some of our most received questions in the office. We have videos on pumpkins, potatoes, pesticide recycling, sheep shearing and more! The County Agents will be posting videos throughout the summer in hopes to educate the general public on agriculture and the Eastern Shore. Please share on your pages so we can reach a larger audience.

### Eastern Shore Agricultural Fair – SAVE THE DATE –

After a hiatus due to COVID, the Northampton County Agricultural Fair will be coming back in 2022!! Now under the management of the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce and Virginia Cooperative Extension the newly branded – Eastern Shore Agricultural Fair will be held on Saturday, October 8th at the old Northampton Middle School in Machipongo, VA. We are excited to bring this family oriented event back to the community and to make it bigger and better! Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!



*Wanda & Theresa*







- ◆ The Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1776 and granted America's independence from Great Britain.
- ◆ The tradition of fireworks began in Philadelphia in 1777.
- ◆ John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826 - the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- ◆ July 4<sup>th</sup> became an official holiday in 1870.
- ◆ Americans consume approximately 150 million hotdogs on July 4<sup>th</sup>, which is enough to stretch from D.C. to L.A. more than five times.
- ◆ There are 31 towns in the U.S. that contain the word 'liberty.'



The full buck moon occurs on July 13th and will be the biggest and brightest supermoon of 2022. Male deer antlers are in full growth mode this time of year, which gives the moon its name.

*Each month has a full moon theme and name, which is historically derived from Native Americans, Colonial or European sources, and used in the Old Farmer's Almanac.*



## Staff Recognitions



Three staff were recognized by Virginia Tech for years of service:

Ursula Deitch, ANR Agent Northampton County—15 years

John Mason, Research Specialist, Soils & Nutrient Management—10 years

Theresa Pittman, ANR Agent Accomack County—10 years



# ES AREC Vegetable and Strawberry Field Day June 22, 2022





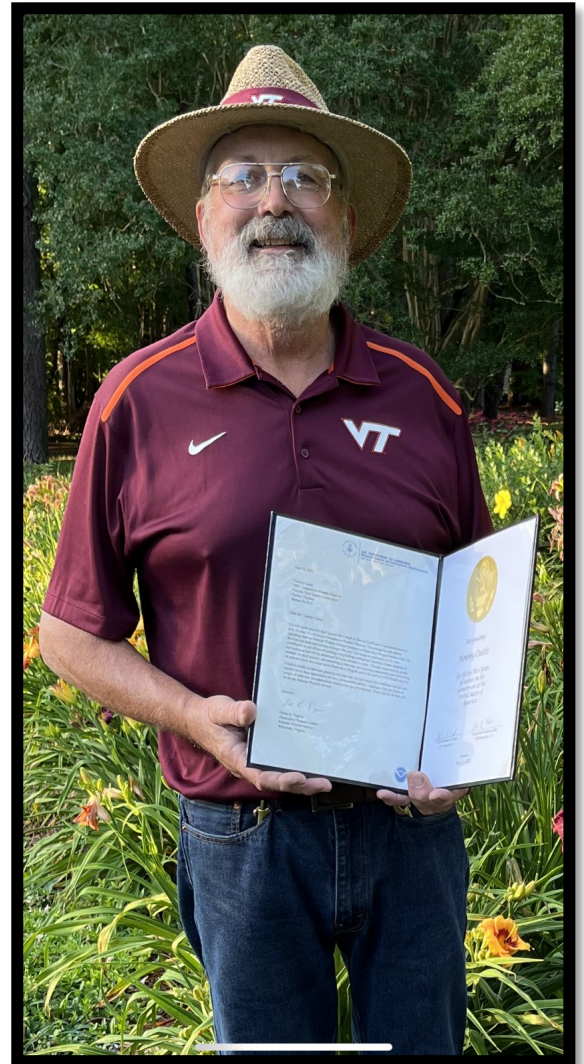
## Eastern Shore AREC Awards

The Eastern Shore AREC received the “Honored Institution Award” from the United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for 100 years of uninterrupted Weather Observations in cooperation with the National Weather Service this June. Data collection by the station began in May of 1918 on a farm where Nandua High School is located in Onley. Operations continued until November of 1955 when construction of the current facility in Painter was completed.

Mr. Tommy Custis was also recognized for 35 years of service to the United States Government in support of this program. These awards were presented by Ms. Jordan K. Pegram of the National Weather Service, Wakefield.

### Fun Station Weather Facts

- Snow depth was not added to the records until January 18<sup>th</sup>, 1926 at the Onley Station
- At the Painter Station, the coldest recorded temperature is -5°F on 1/17/1965, the highest recorded temperature is 101°F on 7/26/2010 and the highest recorded 1 day rainfall is 9.67 inches on 9/1/2006
- At the Onley station, the coldest recorded temperature is -3°F on 2/2/1934, the highest recorded temperature is 103°F on 7/23/1953, 7/21/1930 and 7/22/1926 and the highest recorded 1 day rainfall is 11.1 inches on 8/15/1953
- The Onley Station was named “Onley 1S” and the Painter Station is “Painter 2W”. If you know why they have these names, email Lauren ([mlpeyton@vt.edu](mailto:mlpeyton@vt.edu)) with your guess and the first correct response will receive a prize!





## VT Faculty and Staff Featured

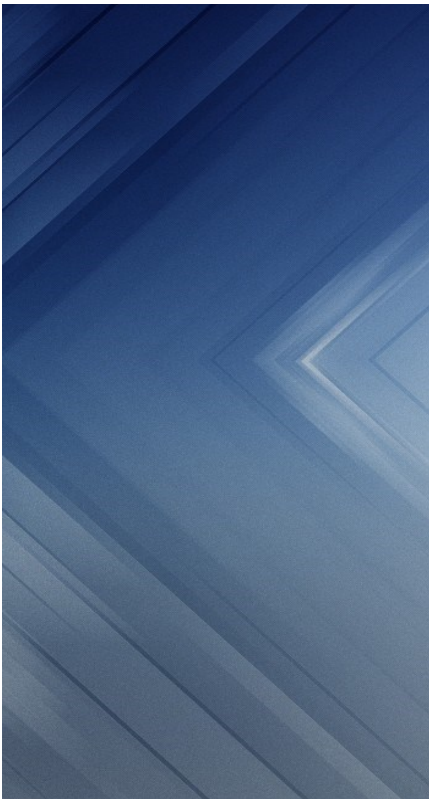
Dr. Vijay Singh, Assistant Professor of Weed Science, and Mr. Vipin Kumar, graduate student, Weed Science, and other Virginia Tech faculty graduate students were featured in the June 21<sup>st</sup> issue of the Delmarva Farmer during the VCE & Southern Piedmont Weed Management Field Day. Faculty and students reported research results and provided recommendations to attendees. Click [here](#) to read the entire article.

The Delmarva Farmer, June 21, 2022 19



Dr. Vijay Singh, left, Virginia Tech weed scientist, recommends terminating a cover crop before it reaches 50-percent flowering. Cover crop termination should be based on the growth stage and the fully labeled rate of herbicide applied. At right, Virginia Tech weed science graduate student Cynthia Sias reported that utilizing cereal rye as a cover crop can provide up to six weeks of weed suppression.

Photos by Shannon Tignor Ellis



Virginia Tech weed science graduate student Vipin Kumar explained the opportunity to increase nitrogen through cover crops is best achieved with the inclusion of vetch.

Photos by Shannon Tignor Ellis



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES  
**ALUMNI ORGANIZATION**  
VIRGINIA TECH.

# CALS ALUMNI SOCIAL

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2022**

6 - 9 p.m.

Meadow Hall at The Meadow Event Park

13191 Dawn Blvd., Doswell, VA 23047

Join us for heavy hors d'oeuvres, adult beverages, and opportunities to network with CALS alumni, faculty, and friends. The evening will include a welcome from a member of the CALS Alumni Organization and an update on the college by Dean Alan Grant.

Registration is required by July 25. \$25 registration includes a \$5 gift to the CALS Annual Fund.

Hokies 21 and under are free!

Current and incoming Fall 2022 students are welcome to attend!

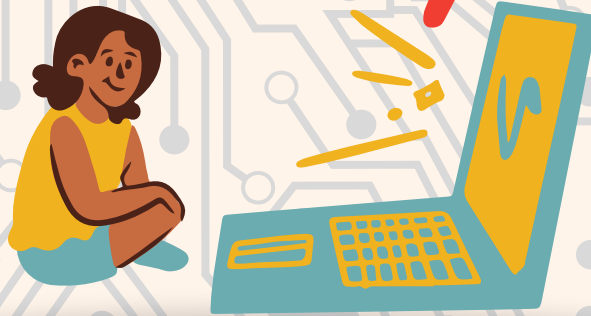
**REGISTER: <https://aimsbbis.vt.edu/CALS-summer-social-2022>**

Questions: [calsadvancement@vt.edu](mailto:calsadvancement@vt.edu) or 540-231-5532





# Computer Science & S.T.E.M. Day Camp



July 11-14, 2022

1:00pm – 5:00pm

Eastern Shore Community College

For youth ages 8-13

Cost \$10.00

Register online: [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com)

Campers will explore Computer Science through both unplugged and plugged-in activities and experiences. Instructors from A & N Electric Cooperative, NASA and Accomack County Public Schools will teach campers the basics of coding, computational and creative thinking skills, circuits and electricity, use Scratch, learn about drones and how to fly them and much more!

For more information please contact: Marcus Riley, 4-H Youth Development Agent for Accomack County at 757-787-1361 ext. 16 or Erin Morgan, 4-H Youth Development Agent for Northampton County at 757-678-7946 ext. 15.



*If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Marcus Riley at 757-787-1361 ext. 16 during business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations upon registration.*



[www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)

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# SAVE THE DATE

## Eastern Shore Agricultural Fair

October 8, 2022 | 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

7247 Young St., Machipongo, VA (old Northampton Middle School)

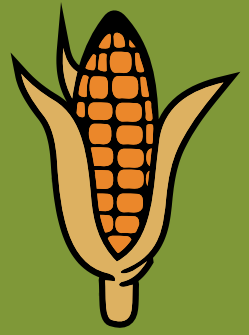
**FREE  
& OPEN  
TO THE  
PUBLIC**

- Skillet Throwing & Keg Rolling
- Baking Competition
- Antique Tractor Parade
- Oyster Shucking Contest
- Educational booths & craft vendors
- Kids' Activities including pumpkin painting, pedal tractor competition and much more!

*Now Accepting  
Vendor  
Applications*

<https://www.facebook.com/events/319237273621282>

Vendor applications contact: ESVA Chamber at [sjohnson@esvachamber.org](mailto:sjohnson@esvachamber.org)  
For more info contact: Northampton Cooperative Extension at [amandalh@vt.edu](mailto:amandalh@vt.edu)



Virginia Cooperative Extension

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757-787-1361

*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

33446 Research Dr  
Painter, VA 23420  
757-807-6586



<https://www.ares.vaes.vt.edu/ares/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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Emmanuel Torres	<a href="mailto:etorres@vt.edu">etorres@vt.edu</a>		352/682-0708	Assistant Professor, Horticulture
Lorena Lopez	<a href="mailto:lorelopezq257@vt.edu">lorelopezq257@vt.edu</a>		954/529-9042	Postdoctoral Associate, Entomology

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VACANT		757/807-6583		Research Specialist, Horticulture

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

