

EASTERN SHORE

Agricultural Research and Extension Center



Steve Rideout instructs former graduate student Stephanie Pollard on tomato fruit diseases and quality

Graduate student research at the Eastern Shore AREC greatly impacts our stakeholders, growers and industry on a local, national and global level. Currently, students are working on eliminating foodborne human pathogens in packinghouses, conversion of chicken litter ash into comparable phosphorus fertilizer sources and decreasing weed pressure using new, innovative modes of action.

Students participate in monthly seminars, guide AREC tours and assist in all outreach activities. They work hand in hand with faculty, staff, fellow students and hourly employees in all aspects of their research. These interactions ensure that students are prepared to become the next generation of teachers, researchers and innovators.



“The ability to make an impact at a local community level is the preferred facet of my position. I am proud of our outreach efforts focusing on education, training and awareness that have widely broadened our community’s knowledge of research, agriculture and integrated pest management.”

HÉLÈNE B. DOUGHTY
RESEARCH SPECIALIST SR.



“The Eastern Shore AREC is my most valuable resource for receiving accurate and timely information to ensure my farming operation remains competitive and relevant in today’s market.”

STEVE STURGIS
OWNER OF TRI-S FARMS, INC.

PARTNER WITH US

33446 Research Drive, Painter, VA 23420

(807) 807-6585

www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/arec/eastern-shore



EASTERN SHORE AREC AT A GLANCE



DISCIPLINES

- Integrated Pest Management
- Foodborne Illness Research & Prevention
- Weed Management Technologies
- Vegetable Disease Epidemiology
- Soil & Nutrient Management

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

- Molecular Identification of Plant & Human Pathogens
- Drones to monitor and assess plant health
- Advanced pollinator habitats - struggling help

FACILITIES

- 220-acre farm
- 3 Biosafety Level 2 Laboratories
- 7500 sq. ft. Modern Equipment Building
- Onsite Student Housing

INDUSTRY PARTNERS

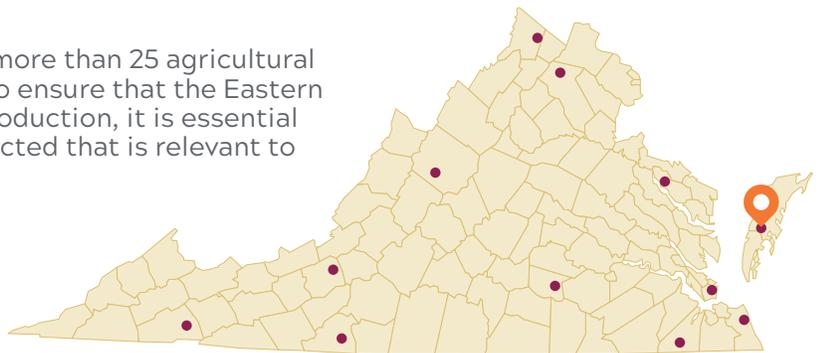
- Commercial Tomato Producers and Packers
- Potato, Vegetable and Soybean Associations
- Virginia Master Gardeners, DEQ and Environmental Programs.

ABOUT THE EASTERN SHORE AREC

Established in 1956, the Eastern Shore AREC grows more than 25 agricultural crops annually for research and Extension studies. To ensure that the Eastern Shore remains a leader in commercial agriculture production, it is essential that new, state-of-the-art applied research is conducted that is relevant to local large and small-scale farming operations.

A COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

The ARECs are a network of 11 centers strategically located throughout the state that emphasize close working relationships between Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Virginia Cooperative Extension, and the industries the work with. The mission of the system is to engage in innovative, leading-edge research to discover new scientific knowledge and create and disseminate science-based applications that ensure the wise use of agricultural, natural, and community resources while enhancing quality of life.



Virginia Cooperative Extension 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, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg



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