



FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY™

A State and Land-Grant Institution • University System of Georgia

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FAMILY SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

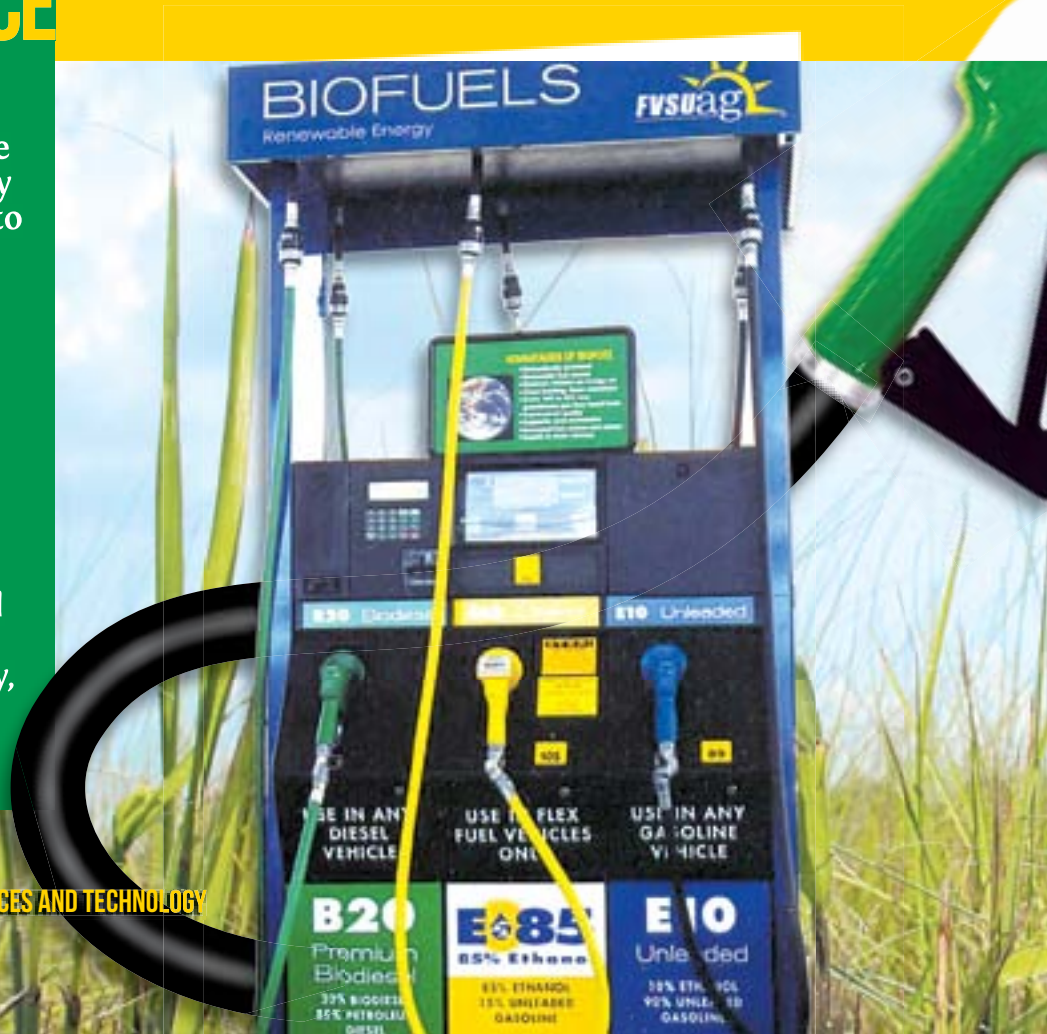
GROWING OPPORTUNITIES



EXPERT ADVICE AT YOUR SERVICE

You don't need to be an expert when it comes to agricultural topics because Fort Valley State University faculty and staff are here to help. They are available to offer you personal advice, one-on-one assistance and group educational opportunities on a variety of issues. Whether you are seeking information for personal fulfillment or entrepreneurial purposes, trained individuals can get you on track in several areas, including those topics related to bioenergy, livestock and organic gardening.

FVSU COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FAMILY SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY



FUEL FOR THE FUTURE

Millet for Ethanol

Corn isn't the only crop that can be used to make ethanol. The grain, pearl millet, doesn't require as much water and fertilizer as corn. The idea for using it to produce ethanol is being explored by skilled scientists at Fort Valley State University, who are using high-tech equipment to see how efficiently it can be used.

Contact: Dr. Bharat Singh
Professor of Agronomy, FVSU
478-825-6829
singhb@fvsu.edu

Switchgrass for Biofuel

Switchgrass, a summer perennial native to North America, is attracting interest because it's excellent for ethanol production. Switchgrass is grown abundantly in Tennessee for biofuel purposes and studies at Fort Valley State have shown the grass can be grown in Georgia.

It's resistant to many plant diseases and capable of producing high yields with very low applications of fertilizer.

Contact: Dr. Mark Latimore Jr.
Professor of Soil Microbiology, FVSU
478-825-6296
latimorm@fvsu.edu

Paulownia Trees for Renewable Energy

The fast growing paulownia tree can be used for lumber and as a renewable source of energy. Preliminary research indicates this plant may be used as a source of fuel for generators, as oppose to using coal. It can also be used as a supplement for animal feed.

Contact: Dr. Nirmal Joshee
Assistant Professor of Plant Science, FVSU
478-825-6373
josheen@fvsu.edu

GROWING OPPORTUNITIES

FEED FOR THOUGHT



Grazing for Rapid Growth

Sheep and goats require a nutritious diet that can be difficult to provide during some seasons of the year. Dr. Will R. Getz, a Fort Valley State University professor of animal science, knows a relatively inexpensive solution. He has demonstrated how warm season annuals, such as millet and sorghum plants, provide improved levels of energy and protein and excellent grazing conditions for rapid growth and the final stage before the livestock go to market.

Contact: Dr. Will R. Getz
Professor of Animal Science, FVSU
478-825-6955
getzw@fvsu.edu

Multiple Animals, One Plot

Dr. Thomas Terrill, forage specialist at Fort Valley State University, knows techniques for raising two different species of animals that can share the same plot of land to feed. This method, known as co-grazing, has economic benefits for farmers.

Contact: Dr. Thomas Terrill
Forage Specialist, FVSU
478-825-6814
terrillt@fvsu.edu

Forget Organic Sheep, Go Forage

Growing sheep organically can be costly and time consuming, but the grass-feeding method provides an alternative that allows sheep to be sold at a higher price than if they were fed grains.

Dr. Brou Kouakou can tell you how to possibly put more dollars in your pocket by raising grass-fed sheep.

Contact: Dr. Brou Kouakou
Assistant Professor, FVSU
478-827-3091
kouakoub@fvsu.edu



No Need to Ruminant Over Your Ruminants

There's a high-protein legume for small ruminants, such as goats and sheep, that's not on the market yet, but Dr. Thomas Terrill, forage specialist at Fort Valley State University, can tell you all about it. This expert can tell you about the benefits of sunn hemp, a warm season annual, and sericea lespedeza, a plant that goats and sheep can eat to fight off internal parasites.

Contact: Dr. Thomas Terrill
Forage Specialist, FVSU
478-825-6814
terrillt@fvsu.edu

Grass for Grazing

The protein content of eastern Gamagrass is similar to that of most high-bred Bermudagrass. Eastern Gamagrass has the potential to be used in conservation plantings, as a bioenergy crop and for making high-fiber flour. It is an excellent forage grass for cattle, goats and sheep. To learn more, talk to our expert on this topic.

Contact: Dr. Mark Latimore Jr.
Professor of Soil Microbiology, FVSU
478-825-6296
latimorm@fvsu.edu

GROWING OPPORTUNITIES

ORGANICALLY SPEAKING

Organic/Green Practices

Opportunities are available for those who want to learn about organic gardening. Dr. James Brown, Fort Valley State University professor of horticulture, teaches individuals how to build inexpensive mini-greenhouses, dubbed “hoop houses.” Brown says hoop houses have low-input costs and extend the growing season by fighting off frost. This mini, mobile organic container garden can serve as a source of therapy for the elderly and disabled persons who are physically unable to work outdoors in a garden.

Contact: Dr. James Brown
Professor of Horticulture, FVSU
478-825-6805
brownjo1@fvsu.edu

Small Fruits

You don't have to be an expert to grow organic fruit. Jerald Larson, a Fort Valley State University county extension agent who's been working with organic fruits for 15 years, can tell you all about growing peaches, muscadine grapes and blackberries. Throughout the years he has given personal advice, taught the proper way of how to prune fruit trees and demonstrated how to build a trellis, which is a support system that holds up muscadine vines as they grow.

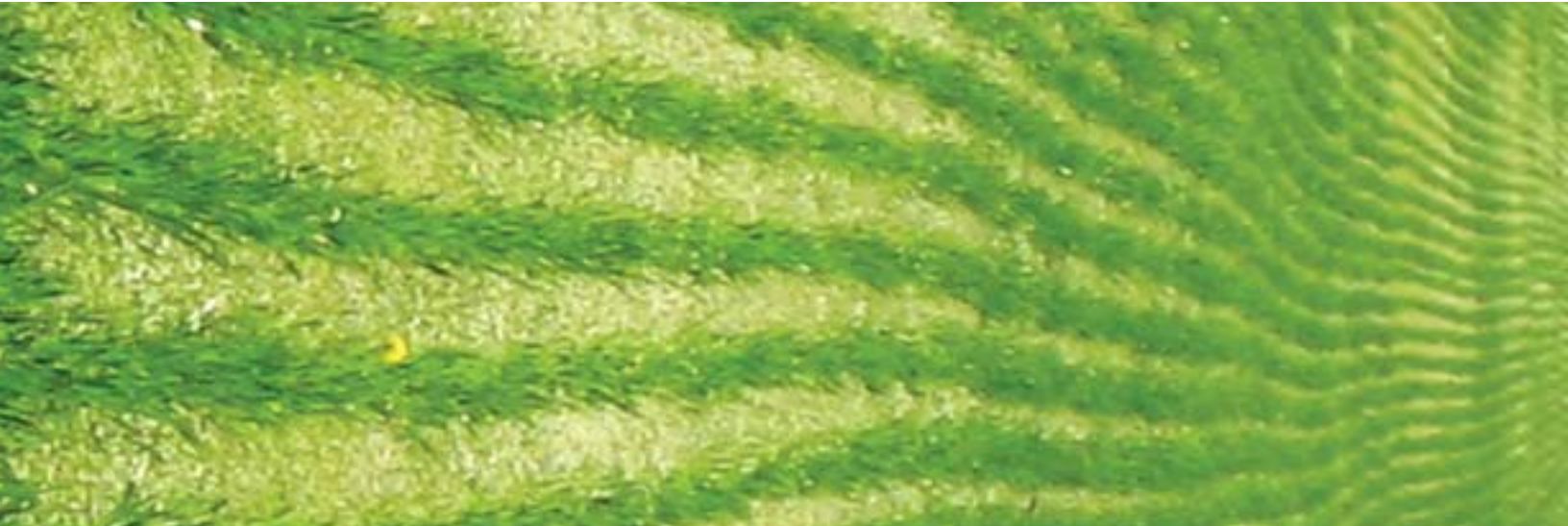
Contact: Jerald Larson
County Extension Agent, FVSU
478-237-1226
larsonj@fvsu.edu





GROWING OPPORTUNITIES

FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FAMILY SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY
1005 State University Drive
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030
478-825-6327
www.ag.fvsu.edu



Fort Valley State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate, baccalaureate and master's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Fort Valley State University.