Overview of CSU Agricultural Experiment Station

Mission

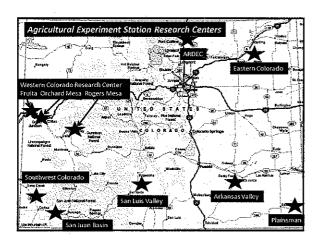
Conduct research supporting an agriculture that is economically viable, environmentally sustainable, and socially acceptable

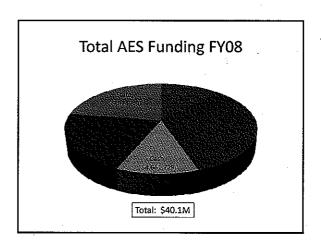




Departments with AES Research

- Animal Sciences
- Horticulture & Landscape Architecture
- Bioagric, Sciences & Pest Management
- Soil & Crop Sciences
- Agric. & Resource Economics
- Forest, Rangeland, and Watershed Stewardship
- Civil & Environmental Engineering
- · Atmospheric Sciences
- Food Science & Human Nutrition
- · Health & Exercise Science
- Statistics
- Biology
- Biomedical Sciences
- Sociology





AES Programs

- · Animal Production Systems
- · Plant Production Systems
- Natural Resources and Environment
- · Nutrition and Food Safety
- Community Resource Development

Accomplishments

- Wheat improvement
 - 65% of wheat grown in Colorado are CSU developed varieties
 - Economic benefit: \$27M+ per year
- · Potato improvement
 - 60% of potatoes grown in Colorado are CSU developed varieties
 - Certified seed sales both in and out of state
 - Economic benefit: \$15M+ per year
- Certified wheat seed and potatoes are assessed a royalty to support CSU research

Accomplishments

- Pinto bean improvement
 - CSU varieties Bill Z, Montrose, and Grand Mesa are grown on 35%+ of acres
- Dryland cropping systems increase diversity of crop production and profit
 - 24 year program in eastern Colorado
 - Transition from wheat-fallow to more intensive rotations
 - Economic benefit: \$22M per year

Accomplishments

- Initiated animal identification using retinal scanning
- Start-up company OptiBrand was formed
 Developed new methods to improve meat safety
- Techniques adopted by packing plants & meat processors
- Reduce E. coli and Listeria in meat and other food products
- Provide training for industry and health care workers in safe food handling practices
- Developed new video-based meat grading system
- Contributed to the re-opening of the Japanese market for US meat exports following the BSE issue
- Economic benefit: Reduced food-borne illness and deaths, decreased recall of contaminated meat, increased meat exports

Accomplishments

- Improved vegetable production in the Arkansas Valley
 - Plasticulture and subsurface drip irrigation
 - Released new variety of peppers
- Determining water use by crops grown in Arkansas Valley
 - CWCB funded installation of weighing lysimeter
 - Initial studies will determine water use by alfalfa
 - Impact: Arkansas River Compact

Accomplishments

- Disease prevention and control in onions
 - Pest management can increase yield 10%
 - Economic benefit: \$5M per year
- Decision support systems for livestock
 - Data for 7 breed associations in decision support and 18 breed associations for genetic evaluation
 - Estimated economic benefit: \$7M+ per year
- Colorado Climate Center
 - Weather data available to public
 - Data available via internet
 - Impact: irrigation, water resources, emergency planning, engineering and construction

Contact Information

Lee Sommers, Director Agricultural Experiment Station Colorado State University Fort Collins, CO 80523

Phone: 970-491-1421 Cell: 970-222-6428

Email: lee.sommers@colostate.edu



