

Research Farms Services
101 Ag Service Center
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Clemson, SC 29634-0385

CLEMSON
UNIVERSITY



Research Farm Services

101 Ag. Service Center
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Director: Garland Veasey

Our Mission

“To support the agricultural research, teaching and public service activities of Clemson University in an efficient and effective manner, while maximizing available resources!”

The Research Farm Services administrative offices are located in the USDA’s Agricultural Service Center on Old Cherry Road, about 1 mile from the Clemson University Campus. This facility houses the Business Center, which handles all the financial, accounting, human resource and administrative duties for each of the farm units. The Director’s Office is also housed here along with support staff for IT/ telecommunications, engineering and specialty maintenance/fabrication. This facility is the hub of farm operations and serves as the central mail, shipping and receiving location.

Research Farm Services Units

Aquaculture Facility

Mgr: Scott Davis
Phone: (864) 656-2785 Fax: (864) 656-0276
Calhoun Experimental Fields
Clemson, SC 29634

Charles Lee Morgan Poultry Center

Mgr: Carol Mosley
Office: (864) 656-3064 Fax: (864) 656-7717
Old Cherry Road Extension
Clemson, SC 29631

Crop & Equipment Services

Phone: (864) 656-3477 Fax: (864) 656-0276
Clemson Station - Cherry Farm - Mgr: Ray Hubbard
Hopewell Rd., Clemson, SC 29634
Simpson Station - Douthit Headquarters - Mgr:

Sam Shirley
Phone: (864) 261-8125 Fax: (864) 656-0276
2103 Lebanon Rd., Pendleton, SC 29670

Equine Center

Mgr: Kari Tankersley
Phone: (864) 646-3554 Fax: (864) 646-5323
815 W. Queen Street

LaMaster Dairy Center

Mgr: Steve Waggoner
Phone: (864) 656-3189 Fax: (864) 656-2507
800 Old Stone Church Rd.
Clemson, SC 29631

Musser Fruit Research Center

Mgr: Billy Newall
Phone: (864) 882-0028 Fax: (864) 656-0276
604 South Friendship Rd.
Seneca, SC 29678

Simpson Beef Cattle Farm

Mgr: Gary Burns
Phone: (864) 646-3678 Fax: (864) 656-0276
1648 Cherry Street
Pendleton, SC 29670

Starkey Swine Center

Mgr: Harold Abercrombie
Phone: (864) 646-3629 Fax: (864) 646-5323
210 Starkey Drive
Pendleton, SC 29670



Aquaculture Facility

The Clemson Aquaculture Facility was founded in 1983. There are currently: 18 fingerling and broodfish catfish ponds totaling approximately 5 water acres; 4 unit 0.1 acre Partitioned Aquaculture System (PAS); 6 unit 2 acre PAS; single unit 2 acre PAS; 0.25 acre greenhouse covered marine PAS; and 0.25 acre crayfish ponds at the Facility. There is an indoor system consisting of (4) 1500 gallon tanks which has been used to over winter Tilapia. We are currently culturing crayfish, channel catfish, tilapia, and mussels for research. Currently there are 3 professors, and 6 graduate students working at the Facility on a daily basis. Several of our undergraduate workers have found aquaculture interesting enough to earn graduate degrees and then continue in the field as a career.



Charles Lee Morgan Poultry Center

The poultry farm maintains a variety of species of birds, either reared at the farm, or purchased from commercial vendors, and those occasionally donated to the farm. The various species are used primarily for the purpose of research which includes studies in nutrition, egg quality, physiology, anatomy, reproductive physiology, endocrinology, environmental housing, litter studies, integrated pest management, and other related research areas.



The farm is also used for teaching activities, extension programs and as an area for the public to view the various species of birds. Local and regional public and private schools frequently tour the facility.

Crop & Equipment Services

Established in 1920 as the Farms Department and later called Ag Support, this division of Research Farm Services performs operational, facility, machinery and crop production support for all other units within RFS. There are two main headquarters facilities for this unit: The Simpson Research Center, five miles east of Pendleton and Clemson Station Headquarters at the Cherry Farm in Clemson.

Services provided to the different farm units include: Hay, silage and crop production, pasture management, vehicle and equipment maintenance, facility maintenance and upgrade, engineering services, grading construction and land management, utility installation, grounds care, carpentry and machine shop services and diesel fuel/gasoline storage.

There are two managers and eight FTEs in the department. Much of the seasonal type labor is accomplished by the hiring of 8-10 undergraduate students. The department manages 4,400 acres of land, 150+ pieces of machinery and 100+ buildings.

Equine Center

The Equine Center maintains approximately 100 head of Quarter Horses, Paints and Thoroughbreds. The horses maintained by the university are utilized for research, teaching, and extension purposes. The main farm consists of 80 acres of pastureland where approximately half of the herd is housed year round. There is an additional 60 acres of grazing at the Simpson Experimental Station where horses not actively involved in teaching are kept. The classroom at the main farm allows for a lecture period before the hands-on portions of the equine classes.

The Clemson University Equine Center is strongly involved in reproduction research. Clemson was instrumental in the development and testing of a drug that would help alleviate the problems seen in pregnant mares grazing fescue. Domperidone, developed at Clemson by Dr. Dee L. Cross, is a drug that minimizes fescue induced foaling complications in mares. For more information on Domperidone contact Dr. Cross at 864/646-6443 or online at www.equitox.com.



Clemson University offers an Equine Business Concentration in the Animal and Veterinary Science Major. Classes conducted by Kristine Vernon and Laura Morgan offer instruction for students to gain a more in depth understanding of equine nutrition, reproduction, management, horsemanship and training. Students also have the opportunity to work at the Equine Center to gain valuable hands-on experience to aid them in future jobs in the horse industry.

LaMaster Dairy Center

The dairy farm is located with one mile of campus. The farm has a total of 677 acres for all locations. The main farm consists of an office building, a milking parlor, experimental barn, calf barn, classroom teaching facility, free stalls, pastures, and feed storage. The dairy farm maintains 140 milking cows and 100 head of young stock. The herd consists of registered Holstein, Jersey, and Guernsey cattle. Newborn heifer calves are raised in the calf barn until they are weaned at two months of age. Heifers are moved to larger pastures as they grow. They are bred by artificial insemination at fifteen months of age, and they enter the milking herd when they are two years old.



Teaching and research activities at the farm include nutrition, waste management, and dairy production. The dairy provides animals and support for research and several classes are taught including Dairy Science Techniques, Dairy Cattle Selection, and Dairy Cattle Feeding and Management. The Animal Science Techniques course also has several students who halter-break, fit, and show dairy cattle for the little North American as a part of their curriculum. The farm crews assists with classes and student projects. The dairy also participates in Clemson's annual Ag. Field Day and the Dairy Science Club shows cattle from the farm at the Anderson Fair, State Fair, and Spring Dairy Show.

Musser Fruit Research Center

Musser Farm is a 240 acre fruit tree research farm. It has an excellent collection of commercial peach cultivars and related wild Prunus species, as well as nectarine, almond, apricot, plum, cherry and various interspecific hybrids.

This facility, totaling nearly 6,000 sq. ft., includes 2,500 sq. ft. of "wet chemistry" laboratory space, offices, a greenhouse, lathe house, walk-in cold rooms, post harvest storage rooms, and two growth chambers. This planned as a model fruit research center for the Southeast. Interdisciplinary teams of scientists from the disciplines of horticulture, entomology, plant pathology, packaging science, post harvest physiology, economics, soils, engineering, meteorology and molecular biology cooperate to create new information to advance the fruit industry.

Musser Farm has an excellent collection of commercial peach cultivars, rootstocks and related Prunus species. Current orchard acreage maintained for horticulture, plant pathology and physiology and entomology research and extension programs are 50 acres of peaches, 4 acres of apples and pears, 2 acres of minor fruits and 1 acre of small fruits. Edible landscaping has been implemented around the buildings for academic teaching.



Simpson Beef Cattle Farm

The Beef Cattle Farm is located on the Simpson Experiment Station and Operates on approximately 1000 acres for grazing and hay production. The Beef Cattle Farm's teaching facility is located at the Brick Barn.



The Beef Cattle Farm is basically a cow calf operation. The cow herd graze fescue during the spring and fall, Bermuda grass during the summer and is fed hay, corn silage or graze winter annuals during winter. Cows begin calving in January and end in March. Breeding begins in April for Heifer and cows. Calves are weaned in September/ After weaning replacement heifers are retained, calves are assigned to research projects and surplus calves are sold.

Starkey Swine Center

The Clemson University Starkey Center is a Farrow-to-Finish operation that breeds swine and gets them to market weight. Our average breeding herd consists of 100 females and 6 males, with several breeds represented. Our three main breeds are Duroc, Yorkshire, and Landrace with numerous crosses as well. The farm is a vital part of teaching and research for programs in Animal and Veterinary Science and other university departments. High quality swine are produced for commercial, biomedical, the Cooperative Extension Service, as well as Public Service Activities (PSA). The Starkey Center is also used to host a variety of youth-based activities, including 4-H and FFA, school field trips, and judging clinics.



Location

Research Farm Services administrative office is located about 1 mile from campus. The individual farms are located close to this central office.

From Campus

From Perimeter Road and Cherry Rd., take Cherry Rd. away from campus and at approximately 1/4 mile, at the 3-way stop, turn right on Old Cherry Road and the office will be about 100 yards on the left.

From Off Campus

Take I-85 south to exit #19B (Hwy. 76/28 west). Exit toward Clemson University (tiger paws mark the way). Follow Hwy. 76/28 west for approximately 12 miles. At the traffic light past Tri-County Tec, turn left on Old Stone Church Rd. Go 1/4 mile and at the 3-way stop, turn left on Old Cherry Road and the office will be about 100 yards on the left.



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