



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF PLANT AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
VIRGINIA TECH.

E-NEWS



Announcements/News:

Important Upcoming Dates:

Faculty Meeting—March 12, 3:00-4:15 pm

Zoom Link: <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/97740997903>

Staff Meeting—2nd Monday of the month, 12:00 pm -1:00 pm via Zoom (see email)

Donut Tuesday—TBA, 8:30 am at 311 Latham

Graduate Student Lunch with Director -TBA, 12:00 pm-1:00 pm at 311 Latham

SPES Social—TBA, 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm via Zoom (see email)



Employees:

Sheldon Hilaire, Research Associate, Corporate Research Center working with Dr. Kang Xia.

Dr. Sheldon Hilaire has been hired as Research Faculty in Environmental Sciences/CRC Lab Manager effective February 1st, 2021 and will work primarily with Dr. Kang Xia and Dr. Brian Badgley. He recently obtained his PhD in Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences from Virginia Tech. His research looked at the impact of manure land management practices on manure borne antibiotic resistant elements in agroecosystems. In his new role he will continue to investigate physical, chemical, and biological environmental stressors that affect water and soil quality, ecological and human health, and plant health. He will also assist and support scientific research that concerns chemical and biological analytical method development, validation, and implementation for analytes such as microorganisms, biomolecules, and organic contaminants. He will manage daily operation of designated SPEs laboratories located in the CRC, serve as the chemical hygiene and safety officer for these labs, and conduct laboratory safety training for new SPES students and employees, among other things.



Shawn Jadrnick, Director, Homefield Farms, Kentland Farm working with Dr. Michael Evans.

Shelia Young, Administrative Assistant to the Director, working with Dr. Michael Evans.



Graduate Student Awards:

Matt Spoth (left, MS advised by Michael Flessner) and Vasilii Lokoba (right, PhD advised by Jacob Barney) tied for second place in the graduate student paper contest at the 2021 Northeastern Weed Science Society annual meeting.



Publications:

Sanghamitra Das and Jayesh Samtani. Strawberry Variety Evaluation, Opportunities, and Challenges of High Tunnel Production. Virginia Cooperative Extension, SPES-273P. Pages 1-6.

Yu D, Lin T, Sutton K, Lord N, Carneiro R, Jin Q, Zhang B, Kuhar T, Rideout S, Ross J, Duncan S, Yin Y, Wang H and Huang H (2021) Chemical Compositions of Edamame Genotypes Grown in Different Locations in the US. *Front. Sustain. Food Syst.* 5:620426. doi: [10.3389/fsufs.2021.620426](https://doi.org/10.3389/fsufs.2021.620426)

Beam, S. C., Cahoon, C. W., Haak, D. C., Holshouser, D. L., Mirsky, S. B., & **Flessner, M. L.** (2021) Integrated weed management systems to control common ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia* L.) in soybean. *Frontiers in Agronomy* 2:598426. doi: [10.3389/fagro.2020.598426](https://doi.org/10.3389/fagro.2020.598426)

Schwartz-Lazaro, L. M., Shergill, L. S., Evans, J. A., Bagavathiannan, M. V., Beam S. C., Bish, M. D., Bond, J. A., Bradley, K. W., Curran, W. S., Davis, A. S., Everman, W. J., **Flessner, M. L.**, Haring, S. C., Jordan, N. R., Korres, N. E., Lindquist, J. L., Norsworthy, J. K., Sanders, T. L., Steckel, L. E., VanGessel, M.J., Young, B., & Mirsky, S. B. (2021) Seed shattering phenology at soybean harvest of economically important weeds in multiple regions of the United States. Part 1: broadleaf species. *Weed Science* 69:95-103 doi: [10.1017/wsc.2020.80](https://doi.org/10.1017/wsc.2020.80)

Schwartz-Lazaro, L. M., Shergill, L. S., Evans, J. A., Bagavathiannan, M. V., Beam S. C., Bish, M. D., Bond, J. A., Bradley, K. W., Curran, W. S., Davis, A. S., Everman, W. J., **Flessner, M. L.**, Haring, S. C., Jordan, N. R., Korres, N. E., Lindquist, J. L., Norsworthy, J. K., Sanders, T. L., Steckel, L. E., VanGessel, M.J., Young, B., & Mirsky, S. B. (2021) Seed shattering phenology at soybean harvest of economically important weeds in multiple regions of the United States. Part 2: grass species. *Weed Science* 69:104-110. doi: [10.1017/wsc.2020.80](https://doi.org/10.1017/wsc.2020.80)

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March 1, 2021