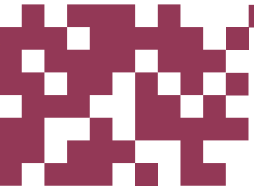


# The Stalk

Accomack & Northampton County Cooperative Extension  
Eastern Shore Agricultural Research & Extension Center



## EASTERN SHORE AG CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW January 29 - 30th 2025 - Exmore Moose Lodge



### HIGHLIGHTS

- ESAREC, VCE, VDACS, Farm Bureau, USDA & Office of the Secretary Updates
- Keynote: "Rising Cost of Electricity: How Does it Affect Agriculture?"
- Soybean, Agronomic, Potato / Vegetable Sessions
- **NEW**  
• Economic Sustainability in Ag Session
- Pesticide Recertification in one day (commercial / private VA/MD)
- Lunch (Exmore Diner) provided
- Visit our VCE table for 2025 updates and resources
- Meet our 4 new Extension specialists!



The 35th year of the Eastern Shore Agricultural Conference and Trade Show has a packed agenda with new sessions to keep you updated on the latest and most relevant information and research to benefit your agricultural production systems. Sessions include a soybean, agronomic, potato/vegetable and an economic sustainability session.

Speakers will include Virginia Tech Extension Specialists from the ESAREC, TAREC, Southern Piedmont, and Virginia Tech, as well as invited presenters from supporting industry. Come meet four of our new Extension specialists!

We encourage you to take full advantage of our program by attending the general session and educational sessions, visiting exhibitors and networking with agribusinessmen and women from all over the region. As always, make sure to register to obtain pesticide license recertification credits for commercial and private categories in both Virginia and Maryland.

Below you will find the complete brochure for this year's conference. We are looking forward to seeing you at the 35th Annual Eastern Shore Agricultural Conference and Trade Show!



*Theresa, Helene and Mark*



# SAVE THE DATE



## JANUARY 23RD

### Private Pesticide Recertification

Categories 90 & 91

#### When:

January 23rd, 2025  
8:00am - 1:45pm

CATERED LUNCH INCLUDED!

#### Where:

Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Extension Center  
33446 Research Dr  
Painter, VA 23420



#### RSVP Required:

Helene Doughty  
Northampton ANR Agent  
hdoughty@vt.edu  
757-999-0780

Theresa Pittman  
Accomack ANR Agent  
tpittman@vt.edu  
757-787-1361 ext. 14

*If you cannot attend this program, recertification will be offered at the 2025 Eastern Shore Ag Conference on January 29th and 30th FOR CATEGORY 90 ONLY*

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assisted devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Amanda Hurley at the Northampton County Extension office, 757-678-7946 x 1, during regular business hours (8:00am-4:30pm) to discuss necessary accommodations no later than 5 days prior to the event. TDD 1-800-828-1120

Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments. Its programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, sex (including pregnancy), gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, ethnicity or national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or military status, or any other basis protected by law.

## FEBRUARY 13TH



### EASTERN SHORE SMALL FARMS & HOMESTEADERS WORKSHOP

Thursday, February 13th 2025 \* 8am - 4pm  
Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Extension Center  
33446 Research Drive, Painter, VA

Get the latest science-based information from our specialists from Virginia Tech, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia State University and VDACS



### Small Flock / Backyard Chicken Raising & Care

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/VCE-ES-SFW-2025>

#### Featured Speakers

Cost: \$15 (lunch provided)



Updates on NRCS, Eastern Shore Soil Water Conservation District programs, and Virginia State University programs for small farms

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## IF YOUR PRIVATE PESTICIDE LICENSE EXPIRED IN DEC 2024...

Recertify with one of the following methods:

1. Attend the VCE Private Pesticide Recertification Class on January 23rd, 2025
2. Attend the Eastern Shore Agricultural Conference on January 29th and 30th, 2025
3. Call your County Agent to arrange to take the Private Pesticide License Test for recertification credits
4. Take the Online Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Course by [visiting this link](#)



# EASTERN SHORE AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW BROCHURE

## THE 35TH ANNUAL EASTERN SHORE AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY  
JANUARY 29TH & 30TH, 2025

EXMORE MOOSE LODGE  
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VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
EASTERN SHORE AGRICULTURAL  
RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER  
VIRGINIA TECH.



# VA & MD Pesticide Recertification

**IMPORTANT**

## HOW TO OBTAIN PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION CREDITS AT THE 2025 EASTERN SHORE AG CONFERENCE



**TO RECEIVE CREDITS, APPLICANTS MUST SIGN UP AT THE PESTICIDE REGISTRATION BOOTH AND ATTEND**



### 1. Pesticide Legal Updates - Nikita Higgins, VDACS Investigator

a. 1/29, 9:15am - General Session, Lodge Room

### 2. Pesticide Safety Updates - Choice of the following:

a. 1/29 1:50pm - Soybean Session, Seafood Room

b. 1/29 2:30pm - Agronomic Session, Lodge Room

### 3. Your Choice of One of the Following Sessions:

a. 1/29 1:00pm - 3:30pm Soybean Session, Seafood Room

b. 1/29 1:00pm - 3:30pm Agronomic Session, Lodge Room

c. 1/30 8:15am - 12:00pm Potato/Vegetable Session, Lodge Room

**MARYLAND RECERTIFICATION CREDITS ALSO AVAILABLE  
1A, 10, CORE, PVT**

## CONFERENCE EVALUATION

*Fill out the conference evaluation to be entered to win a prize!!!*

*Copies available at the pesticide recertification desk or via QR code*

*We appreciate your willingness to provide feedback on the AG Conference*

*Program as well as future educational programs*



# Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech. • Virginia State University

Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments. Its 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, military status, or any other basis protected by law.

# 2025 Eastern Shore Agricultural Conference Oyster Roast



## Eastern Shore Agricultural Conference **Oyster Roast**

**Wednesday, January 29th**

**Tickets available for purchase  
from Bruce Richardson, Chairman**

**Location: ESAREC  
33446 Research Dr., Painter, VA 23420**

**Time: Social Hour - 6:00 pm  
BBQ and Oysters - 6:30 pm**

**Tickets: cost is \$50/person**



***AgriBusiness***

# General Session—Wednesday, January 29th—Lodge Room

*Moderator —Bruce Richardson, Chairman, Association of Eastern Virginia Agricultural Producers, Inc.*

## **8:00 a Registration**

**8:15 Welcome & Opening Remarks**—H. Bruce Richardson, Chairman, Association of Eastern Virginia Agricultural Producers, Inc.

**8:30 Updates from the Eastern Shore AREC**—Dr. Mark Reiter, Director, Virginia Tech Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Extension Center

**8:45 Updates from Virginia Cooperative Extension**—Dr. Mike Gutter, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension

**9:00 Pesticide Legal Updates**—Nikita Higgins, Pesticide Investigator, VDACS

***You must attend the Pesticide Legal Updates presentation to receive recertification credit.***

**9:45 Updates from USDA NAREE Board and Office of the Secretary**—Kate Lewis, Office of the Secretary, USDA NAREE

**10:00 Break - Visit with Exhibitors**

***Trade Show***

**10:15 Keynote Presentation: Rising Cost of Electricity: How Does it Affect Agriculture?** — Butch Williamson - ANEC

**10:45 2025 Market Outlook** —Robert Harper, Grain Division, Virginia Farm Bureau Fed.

**11:15 VDACS Updates**—Matt Lohr, Secretary of Agriculture, VDACS; Joseph Guthrie, Commissioner of Agriculture, VDACS;

**11:45 Awards Ceremony** — H. Bruce Richardson, Chairman, Association of Eastern Virginia Agricultural Producers

**12:00 Enjoy Lunch Catered by the Exmore Diner—served in the Trade Show**



## Keynote Speaker:

### Chris Cosby —ODEC

Chris Cosby will become president and CEO of Glen Allen's Old Dominion Electric Cooperative on Feb. 1, 2025. Cosby is currently ODEC's chief operating officer. Since joining ODEC in 2018, he has served as senior vice president of power supply, vice president of regulatory affairs and director of asset management. Before joining ODEC, Cosby held varying positions at General Electric, Dominion Energy and Alstom Power. Prior to his career in the utility industry, Cosby served on active duty in the U.S. Navy as an officer and pilot, flying the P-3 Orion, for 10 years. Cosby deployed throughout Western Europe, South America, Iceland and Puerto Rico.



He holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy.

ODEC is a not-for-profit, member-owned power supply cooperative. The cooperative has 11 member electric distribution cooperatives that supply electricity to 1.5 million people in 70 counties

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and The Eastern Shore of Virginia.*

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## Soybean Session—Wednesday, January 29th—Seafood Room

*Moderator - Theresa Pittman, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, Accomack County*

**1:00 p** **Key Decisions to Support Enhancing Soybean Yields**—Dr. Carrie Ortel, Virginia Tech Soybean Specialist, Dr. Joseph Oakes, Dr. Mark Reiter

**Official variety trials conducted across Virginia are intended to support stakeholders in their variety selection decisions. Within each maturity group category, yields vary by greater than 20 bushels per acre between varieties, emphasizing the importance of variety selection. Similarly, planting dates have a large impact on yield and seed quality, and seeding rate should be adjusted for the planting date and environment.**

**1:30 p** **IPM Strategies to Minimize on Farm Costs** —Dr. Kemper Sutton, Assistant Professor of Entomology, ESAREC., Hélène Doughty, ANR Extension Agent, Northampton VCE

**In 2024 where poor commodity prices and drought are issues most growers dealt with, it is important to utilize on farm strategies that reduce production costs while still producing a quality crop. This talk will cover integrated pest management strategies that can be used to reduce insect pressure through the use of thresholds.**

**1:50** **Break - Visit with Exhibitors** **Trade Show**

**2:10** **Effective Management of Major Insect Pests of Soybeans** — Dr. Tim Bryant, Assistant Professor of Entomology, TAREC

**This talk will cover how to scout for, identify, and manage insect pests of soybean. The status of insecticide resistance and efficacy of new insecticide products will be presented.**

**2:30** **Pesticide Safety Update**— Theresa Pittman, ANR Extension Agent, Accomack County—VCE

**You must attend the *Pesticide Safety Update* presentation in order to receive recertification credit.**

**3:30** **Association of Eastern Virginia Agricultural Producers Meeting**—Lodge Room

**NOVEMBER**

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## Agronomic Session—Wednesday, January 29th—Lodge Room

Moderator - *Hélène Doughty, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, Northampton County*

**1:00 p** *Enhancing the Value of Virginia's Grain Crops through Quality* — Dr. Olga Walsh, Grain Crops Extension Specialist, Virginia Tech

The talk will cover grain crops quality issues with a focus on High DON in Wheat, and High Nitrates in Corn. Research on improving nutrient management in grain crops will be highlighted.

**1:30** *Aflatoxins on Corn*— Dr. David Langston, Professor of Plant Pathology, TAREC

Aflatoxins on corn can cause serious post-harvest losses in certain years. Information on what causes aflatoxins and how aflatoxin-contaminated corn should be handled will be covered.

**1:50** *Herbicide Resistant Weeds Updates*—Dr. Vijay Singh, Assistant Professor of Weed Science, ESAREC., Milos Viric, Akash Brar, Robert Cooley

Increasing numbers of multiple herbicide resistant weeds is a challenge to sustainable crop production in Virginia and presents an obstacle to Integrated Weed Management strategies. We have conducted field surveys and screened weeds (Italian ryegrass and Palmer amaranth) for herbicide resistance to major herbicides. Screening results indicated that 15% of Palmer amaranth populations in Virginia are multiple-resistant to both glyphosate (EPSPS-inhibitor, and ALS-inhibitor). For Italian ryegrass, results showed a high level of resistance to individual ALS- and ACCase-inhibitor herbicides and also cross and multiple herbicide resistance in four populations

**2:10** *Break - Visit with Exhibitors*

*Trade Show*

**2:30** *Pesticide Safety Update*— Hélène Doughty, ANR Extension Agent, Northampton County— VCE

You must attend the *Pesticide Safety Update* presentation in order to receive recertification credit.

**3:30** *Association of Eastern Virginia Agricultural Producers Meeting*—Lodge Room

## SUPPORT THE MERCHANTS OF



## SHOPPING, SERVICES & DINING

## Potato/Vegetable Session—Thursday, January 30th—Lodge Room

Moderator —Bruce Richardson, Chairman, Association of Eastern Virginia Agricultural Producers, Inc.

**8:00 a Registration**

**8:15 Potato Market Outlook for 2025** — Brett Richardson, Marketing Specialist, VDACS

**A review of last year's market conditions and a look forward as to what we can expect in the upcoming year.**

**8:45 Update from Potatoes USA** — Chelsea Gray, Potatoes USA

**9:15 Insect Control in Potatoes** —Hélène Doughty, ANR Extension Agent, Northampton VCE, Dr. Thomas Kuhar, Professor of Entomology, Virginia Tech, Hannah Swarm, PhD student, Entomology, Virginia Tech

**This presentation will provide results of the 2024 on-farm, at planting insecticide trial for the control of wireworms in potatoes as well as discuss insecticide updates in potatoes.**

**9:35 Potato Varieties for the Eastern Shore of Virginia** —Dr. Mark Reiter, Professor of Soils and Nutrient Management, ESAREC

**Potato varieties are an ever-evolving science to bring us the most suitable varieties to be grown in our climate. We will discuss current varieties available along with clones being researched by Eastern USA breeding programs. Focus will be on emergence, disease pressure, rot, yield, and size. The overall idea is to have the best tubers produced with the least amount of fungicide application to facilitate integrated pest management goals.**

**10:05 Break – Visit with Exhibitors**

**Trade Show**

**10:20 Disease Management Updates: Potato and Snap Beans** —Dr. Doug Higgins, Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology, ESAREC

**In this talk we will review the 2024 disease campaign for potatoes and snap beans on the Eastern Shore and discuss available integrated pest management options.**

**11:00 Herbicides for Weed Management in Potato and Cole Crops** —Dr. Vijay Singh, Assistant Professor of Weed Science, ESAREC, Robert Cooley, Research Specialist, ESAREC

**Herbicides were evaluated for weed management and tolerance to potato and Cole crops. Tested preemergence herbicides can provide control of herbicide-resistant weeds. Information on herbicide tolerance to Cole crops, can allow for 24c labeling of major herbicides**

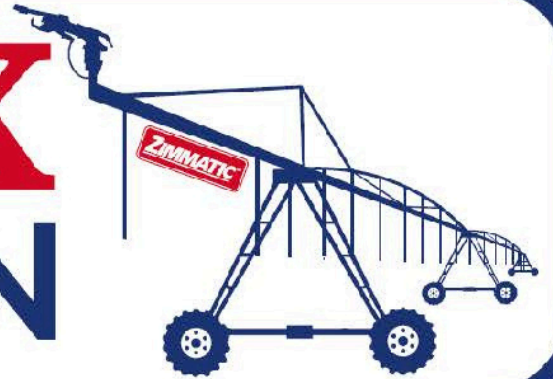
**11:30 Pesticide Applications with Drones in Row-crops and Vegetables** —Dr. Vijay Singh, Assistant Professor of Weed Science, Akash Brar, Fatemeh Esmailbeiki, Milos Viric, Rutvij Wamanse, Robert Cooley, ESAREC, Hélène Doughty, Extension Agent, Northampton VCE

**Aerial drone-based pesticide applications have been gaining popularity in the Mid-Atlantic region. We have conducted several studies in row-crops and vegetables for aerial-drone based herbicides and insecticide applications, evaluated different nozzles, and optimized spray parameter**

**12:00 Enjoy Lunch Catered by the Exmore Diner—served in the Trade Show**

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Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
102 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219, [vdacs.virginia.gov](http://vdacs.virginia.gov)

## Economic Sustainability—Thursday, January 30th—Lodge Room

Moderator - Theresa Pittman, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, Accomack County

### **8:00 a Registration**

**8:15 Meta-Analysis of In-Field Fungicide Trials in United States Row Crops**—Kevin Caffrey, Sr. Agronomist—Sales Enablement, Simplot

**8:35 NRCS Cost-share Program Updates**—Jenny Templeton, District Conservationist

**8:50 ESSWCD Cost-share Program Updates**—Carmie Ross, District Manager, Eastern Shore Soil and Water Conservation District

**9:05 A New Ag-Econ Faculty's Vision for Supporting Virginia Growers**—Dr. Shourish Chakravarty, Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics, Southern Piedmont AREC  
**Dr. Chakravarty will present his research and extension program which focuses on evaluating the profitability and economic viability of technology adoption, crop diversification, and conservation practice adoption in diverse production systems.**

**9:25 Enterprise Budgets**—Scott Reiter, ANR Extension Agent, Prince George Cooperative Extension

**9:55 Conserving Eastern Shore Working Farms and Forests**—Hali Plourde-Rogers, Executive Director, Eastern Shore Land Trust

**Conservation easements protect working farms and forests from development and allow landowners to take advantage of the economic benefits of working lands. The presentation will cover conservation easement basics, highlight the benefits of conservation easements, introduce tax incentives, and feature case studies**

**10:15 Break – Visit with Exhibitors**

**Trade Show**

**10:30 Crop Insurance: Your Best Risk Management Tool**—Luke Southern, RCIS  
**2024 will be a year that none of us forget anytime soon. Low commodity prices, high input cost, drought, and severe storms. Did your coverage meet your needs? What changes could you potentially make to better protect your farm in 2025?**

**10:50 Perdue Specialty Crops Options**—Jayson Gill, Perdue Agribusiness

**11:35 DEQ Overview and Regulatory Requirements of Surface and Groundwater Permits**—Trevor Lawson, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

**The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will provide an overview of the surface and groundwater permitting programs, regulations, and permitting requirements for agricultural users on the Eastern Shore.**

**12:00 Enjoy Lunch Catered by the Moose Lodge—served in the Trade Show**

Join the Association of Eastern Virginia Agricultural Producers

**The Association of Eastern  
Virginia Agricultural  
Producers, Inc.**



# **ITS TIME TO RENEW YOUR 2025 MEMBERSHIP**

## **How To:**

- \$50/annual fee
- Make a check Payable to The Association of Eastern Virginia Agricultural Producers
- Pay via credit card:
- <https://esva-ag-conference.square.site/>

**Annual Board Meeting**  
January 29th at  
3:30pm at the  
Eastern Shore  
Ag Conference

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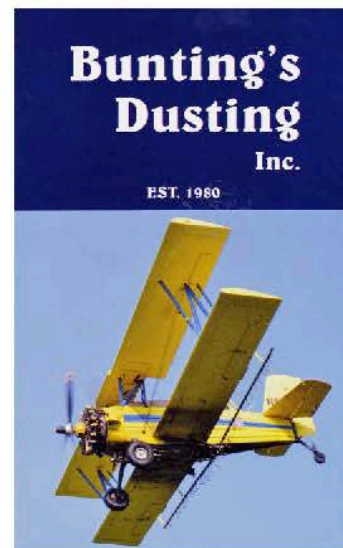
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## VCE & ESAREC Contact Information

	Faculty/Staff	Title	Email	Work/Cell Phone
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	Faculty/Staff	Title	Email	Work/Cell Phone
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	Faculty/Staff	Title	Email	Work/Cell Phone
<b>Eastern Shore Agricultural Research &amp; Extension Center</b> 33446 Research Dr. Painter, VA 23420 <a href="https://www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/arec/eastern-shore.html">https://www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/arec/eastern-shore.html</a>	Mark Reiter	Director/Professor, Soils & Nutrient Management	mreiter@vt.edu	W 757/807-6576 C 757/693-2556
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VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
 EASTERN SHORE AGRICULTURAL  
 RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER  
 VIRGINIA TECH.

Virginia Cooperative Extension brings the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of the commonwealth. VCE provides education through programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development and Community Viability.

The Virginia Tech, Eastern Shore AREC is committed to supporting commercial vegetable, grain, oilseed, and fiber production throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Centrally located on Virginia's Eastern Shore, the center conducts basic and applied research on more than 25 agricultural crops.

Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments. Its 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, military status, or any other basis protected by law.  
 If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in any activity, please contact Amanda Hurley at 757-678-7946\* (\*TDD number is (800) 828-1120) during business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to discuss accommodations.