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## BLUE LETTER

April 2025

No. 3876



FROM THE DIRECTOR

# Spring into Service

I once heard a joke that went something like this: A man dies and goes on to his eternal reward. As he's being shown around Heaven, he encounters all kinds of people enjoying the eternal bliss of paradise. However, he encounters one unfortunate gentleman who is bound hand and foot and chained up to a tree. He is struggling against his bonds with all his might, obviously desperate to get loose.

"My goodness!" he exclaims to his guide. "What is that about? I didn't expect to see anything like that here."

"Oh, that's Jim," his guide explains. "You see, he's from Arkansas. It's springtime down there. This time of year, this is just about the only way we can keep him here."

I doubt that springtime in the Natural State really does beat Heaven, but it is awfully nice: the blooming redbuds and dogwoods, greening hillsides with grazing cattle, and peaceful valleys cut with babbling streams. The balmy weather is nice, too. Except when it's trying to kill you. We've had our share of that this

spring, unfortunately. Many of our communities have been hit with damaging storms this season, including widespread floods that put a lot of prime farmland underwater. I know many of our Extension personnel have been busy lately helping friends, neighbors, and other stakeholders with storm recovery – in many cases when they have had their own messes to deal with at home.

We have also had a large team of county agents and specialists working to develop estimates of economic losses from flooding. Those estimates are used by community leaders and policy makers as they seek state and federal assistance for disaster recovery. I don't think any other organization has the statewide network or the necessary subject matter expertise to do this work.

To be honest, storm recovery work and disaster estimates probably aren't the kind of thing that looks all that impressive on anyone's vita, but it is definitely the kind of thing that provides our stakeholders with a tangible reminder of our value to the state. ■

## INSIDE SCOOP

- 2. 4-H Volunteer Week
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- ...And much more!





# 4-H Volunteer Week

As a part of April's National Volunteer Month, Arkansas 4-H is celebrating the amazing volunteers who support our program during 4-H Volunteer Week, April 21-27! Every year, hundreds of 4-H volunteers work diligently across the state to provide opportunities to youth in a variety of roles, including club leading, project learning, in-school programming, event planning, skills teaching, and so much more. These volunteers, like Larry Bachman from Johnson County, invest their time and skills to educate and prepare youth for the future. These valuable opportunities not only provide a fun experience for young people but also give them life skills to succeed and grow.

Volunteers are the heart of Arkansas 4-H, and the program could not function without their hard work,

passion, and drive to help youth thrive. If you see a volunteer, make sure to thank them for their hard work giving back to their community, and encourage others to get involved! For more information on volunteer programming, contact Breanna Wade at [bwade@uada.edu](mailto:bwade@uada.edu). ■



Volunteer Larry Bachman teaching leathercrafting to kids.

## Sowing Seeds of Excellence

Twenty-five new agents participated in Sowing Seeds of Excellence: Building Foundations for Success – Levels 1 & 2, a training held April 8-9 at the Vines 4-H Center.

Extension director Dr. John Anderson opened the training by discussing how the Division of Agriculture's core values, Relevance and Excellence, play a significant role in Extension's mission. Then agents in the Level 1 training worked on collaboration and teambuilding with Drs. Steve Siegelin and Julie Robinson.

In the afternoon, agents enjoyed a beautiful day outside participating in ExCEL activities with Taylor Knox and David Rice. On the second day, Drs. Steve Siegelin and Julie Roberts led a Level 1 session on Leading in Communities, emphasizing the importance of agents' roles and responsibilities in community leadership. Later, in Level 2, they facilitated a Values and Purposeful Professionalism session, which involved activities for agents to determine how their personal values play a significant role in their professionalism at work.

Both Levels participated in a Thriving with 4-H session led by Dr. Carrie Stark, who explained the structure and scope of 4-H, explaining how agents could improve 4-H involvement in their communities. Both levels also featured program specific training. Chad Norton and Les Walz led the agriculture and natural resources training, while Leigh Ann Bullington and Keith Statham-Cleek directed the FCS agents in developing cooking demonstrations. Four delicious recipes were prepared and demonstrated, then shared with all the group. The last session featured an experienced agent discussion with Anna Harlan, Courteney Sisk and Kevin Van Pelt. The next Levels 1 and 2 training will be held November 18-19, 2025, at LRSO. ■



Agents participated in many fun trainings such as teambuilding and collaboration.



# Extension Honors Retirees at Luncheon

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The Cooperative Extension Service honored its retirees March 31 at the annual retirees' luncheon held at the Arkansas 4-H Center.

Nearly 100 retirees and guests attended the event, where they reminisced and reconnected with former colleagues. The following program included the presentation of four retiree scholarships, guest speakers, and an update from extension director Dr. John Anderson.

Dr. Anthony Bowden, extension assistant professor and ornamentals specialist, presented on "Arkansas Diamonds," locally grown plants that are proven to be tough and thrive in Arkansas.

LaTaaka Harvey, Saline County Extension family and consumer sciences agent, presented a lesson on optimism and positivity.



Lane Fritch

Extension retirees awarded four \$850 scholarships to Lane Fritch, Kevin Lawson, McKenzie Rigdon and Heather Wingo.

Lane Fritch is a program technician for 4-H Programs at the Vines



Extension director Dr. John Anderson delivers Division updates to retirees at the annual retiree luncheon.

Center. She is pursuing a master's degree in agriculture & extension education at the University of Arkansas – Fayetteville.

McKenzie Rigdon works in Miller County as the county extension 4-H agent. McKenzie is attending the University of Arkansas – Fayetteville and pursuing a master's in agriculture and extension education.



McKenzie Rigdon

Kevin Lawson works as a county extension agriculture agent in Faulkner County. He is working on a Ph.D. at the University of Arkansas – Fayetteville. Ag education, communications and technology is his field of study.



Kevin Lawson



Heather Wingo

Heather Wingo works in Family and Consumer Science as a health program associate. She is attending the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and pursuing a doctor of public health in public health leadership. ■



Retirees pose for a group photo at the 2025 Retiree Reception & Luncheon.



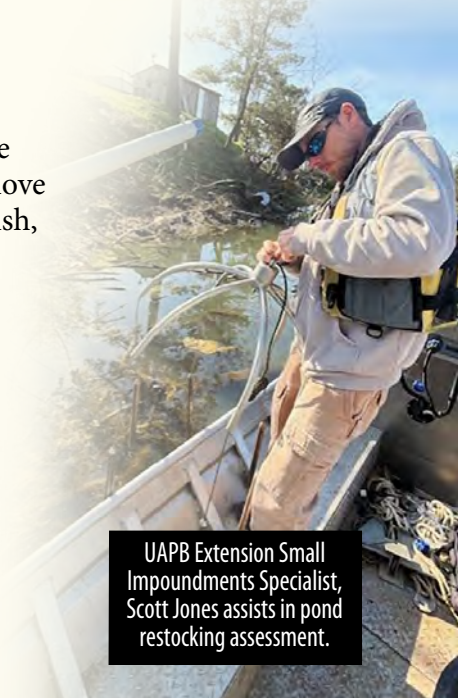
# Pond Restocking Assessment

Scott Jones, extension small impoundments specialist for the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, visited Calhoun County to help county producers Rick Newton and Ricky Belin establish a pond restocking assessment. Scott Jones and Shaney Hill, Calhoun County Extension agriculture agent, were able to assist by electroshocking the pond.

Information gathered included:

- **Population Assessment:** Electroshocking allows biologists to quickly and efficiently survey fish populations, determining the types, sizes, and abundance of fish in a pond.
- **Health Evaluation:** By examining captured fish, biologists can assess their health, identify potential diseases, and evaluate the overall health of the fish population.

- **Stock Management:** Electroshocking can be used to selectively remove unwanted or stunted fish, allowing for the improvement of the fish population and the creation of a more desirable ecosystem.
- **Water Quality Assessment:** Electroshocking can also help identify water quality issues that might be affecting the fish population. ■



UAPB Extension Small Impoundments Specialist, Scott Jones assists in pond restocking assessment.

## Grant County SNAP-Ed

# Growing Healthy Habits

The Grant County Senior Center along with Susan Thomason, extension family and consumer sciences agent in Grant County, have launched a SNAP-Ed nutrition and gardening project aimed at improving the health and well-being of local seniors. Monthly nutrition lessons were provided by Thomason throughout the spring and fall seasons. Seniors grew vegetables and herbs and learned how to cultivate, harvest, and use them in healthy recipes. The participants were responsible for maintaining the garden site, which helped them incorporate physical activity into their daily routines. Thomason also provided food demonstrations featuring the seniors' fresh produce.

At the end of the program, participants completed an evaluation to assess its impact. The results were positive: 9% of participants ate more

fruit, 62% improved their food safety practices, 54% increased physical activity, 54% read nutrition labels more often, and 46% ate more vegetables. One participant shared, "I learned the benefits of healthy eating and have more energy now." This SNAP-Ed program not only enhanced seniors' knowledge of nutrition and gardening but also

encouraged healthier eating habits and a more active lifestyle. ■



Susan Thomason



Susan Thomason teaching the Fresh Conversations Curriculum



# LEADERSHIP LOG

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## iLEAD Announces Members of Cohort V

The Division of Agriculture is proud to announce the members of the fifth cohort of the Internal Leadership Education and Development (iLEAD) program. This initiative continues to build a strong foundation for leadership within the organization, cultivating the next generation of leaders through meaningful experiences, personal reflection, and collaborative learning.



iLEAD is designed to provide Division of Agriculture professionals with immersive leadership development through a combination of training, hands-on activities, and peer interaction. By identifying and addressing real-world challenges, participants will grow their capacity to lead effectively, think strategically, and drive positive organizational change.

Participants of Cohort V will engage in a year-long journey that focuses on:

- Enhancing interpersonal, communication, and relationship-building skills
- Exploring leadership roles and responsibilities within the land-grant mission
- Gaining a deeper understanding of Arkansas communities and public policy
- Expanding their vision to meet the challenges of a dynamic social, political, economic, and environmental landscape

Please join us in congratulating the following individuals selected for iLEAD Cohort V:

1. **Samantha Barker**, Video Conferencing Manager, LRSO - IT
2. **Renae Blackmon**, Administrative Specialist III, LRSO - Animal Science
3. **Tyler Caston**, CEA-Staff Chair, Stone County
4. **Rachel Chaney**, Program Associate - Health, LRSO
5. **Wesley France**, Program Associate, Precision Agriculture, CSES CROP, Fayetteville
6. **Marla Lane**, Family and Consumer Science Agent/Staff Chair, St. Francis County
7. **Casey M. Owens**, Professor, UA-Fayetteville
8. **Lacie Rothrock**, Human Resource Generalist, DTYS
9. **Nyatalya Salter**, Leave Specialist, LRSO
10. **Spring Sneed**, Regional Accountant, ASU, NERREC, NERE, CTST, Judd Hill
11. **Rita Watson**, Program Associate - Virtual Education, LRSO
12. **Adam Willis**, CEA-Staff Chair, Newton County
13. **Betty Wingfield**, County Extension Agent - 4-H, Hempstead County
14. **Brandon Wodka**, Rosen Center Director, UA-Fayetteville

This diverse and talented group of professionals represents the breadth and depth of expertise across the Division of Agriculture. Through the iLEAD program, they will build connections, explore innovative approaches to leadership, and emerge ready to help shape the future of the organization. We look forward to the growth, insight, and impact that Cohort V will bring. Congratulations to all the participants!

## Leadership Lunch and Learn

*The Plan*, Reviewed by Eleanor Baker. In the latest Leadership Lunch and Learn series, Eleanor Baker, extension organizational development program associate with North Carolina Cooperative Extension, reviewed "*The Plan*" by Kendra Adachi. Adachi is the founder of the Lazy Genius movement, which encourages people to be intentional about the things that matter and to let go of the rest. This philosophy is reflected throughout the book, offering readers a balanced and compassionate framework for managing their time. Read the details [here](#). Watch the video recording [here](#). ■



## UADA Data Inventory

Due May 9, 2025

It is time to begin the Data Inventory efforts for UADA for 2025. This is an important task that is directly related to information security and is a proactive measure to ensure we are prepared in the event a cyber-security incident occurs and UADA information is at risk. Additionally, conducting a comprehensive Data Inventory improves UADA's security posture and keeps us in compliance with U of A System security audit requirements.

## What is Data Inventory?

A data inventory is a compiled spreadsheet that logs the types of data you collect, where the data is located within UADA, and the business purpose of such data. Data Stewards have been assigned for each program area/department. They will be reaching out to you with the data inventory template that will need to be completed. For more information visit the data inventory webpage.

## Windows 11 Upgrade

Windows 11 is the biggest major Microsoft operating system update since 2015. With the release of this new operating system, Microsoft will stop supporting Windows 10 in October 2025. What does this mean for us? All UADA computers will need to be upgraded to Windows 11 or replaced with a new Windows 11 computer by October 2025. We are currently in Phase 2 - Volunteer migration.

### Volunteer Migration - Phase 2

We are currently in phase 2 of the migration, which is completely voluntary. For those wanting to move forward with the Windows 11 upgrade, fill out the volunteer [request form](#) for each computer.

### Mandatory migration - Phase 3 (May 2025)

Any computer that is eligible to be upgraded to

Windows 11 unless they qualify for an exception.

Exceptions will only be approved for the following devices:

- Any device that is used strictly with research\testing\ networking equipment & not connected to the internet.

## Contact the Help Desk

New ways of serving you! We have technicians ready to answer your calls. You can request help from the IT Help Desk by calling 1-866-779-3375, (501) 340-0265, visiting [services.uada.edu](https://services.uada.edu), or emailing [tickets@uada.edu](mailto:tickets@uada.edu).

## Zoom Pro Tip

### Zoom Pro Tip – Let AI Companion Take Meeting Notes

Zoom's AI Companion is an approved AI for taking notes during Zoom meetings and is available for licensed Zoom accounts. Using the Meeting Summary feature during a meeting, AI Companion will put together a meeting summary and action items after your meeting has ended. The host can then share this summary with attendees. To learn more about using Zoom AI Companion, visit the Zoom Support [website](#). To request a licensed account for short-term or long-term use, fill out the software request [form](#).

## Hump Day Hacks

Hump Day Hack resources can be found on the Hump Day Hacks Resource page in Team Dynamix. March's hacks included Kanban boards in Microsoft Loop, choosing text colors for readability, Microsoft Scheduling Poll, scheduling messages in the new Microsoft Outlook, and using the waiting room in Zoom. Join us on May 28, 2025! [Register Now](#). ■



## 2025 TECH TUESDAYS WEBINARS

Have you missed any past Tech Tuesday webinars or want to join future webinars? Check out the recordings and other resources on the Tech Tuesday Blog [page](#). More Tech Tuesday topics coming soon! Did you miss March's Stay in the Loop with Microsoft [Loop](#) Tech Tuesday? Check out the recording and resources.



# Food Preservation Team Retreat

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The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Family & Consumer Science (FCS) Arkansas Food Preservation Team recently gathered in Little Rock for a two-day retreat, which focused on building connections, sharing ideas, and gearing up for the year ahead. With space to step back from daily routines, the team engaged in thoughtful planning, shared successes, and explored ways to grow and support food preservation efforts statewide.

Key sessions included a presentation by Karen DiCicco and Andrea Price on leveraging Microsoft Teams and OneDrive and professional development insights from Steve Sieglin.

Special guests from the National Center for Home Food Preservation (NCHFP), Dr. Carla Schwan and Mallika Mahida, shared the latest insights on safe home food preservation practices, offering valuable guidance that will help strengthen our programming across the state.

The retreat wrapped up with a strong sense of momentum and shared enthusiasm for the year ahead. With new ideas and stronger connections, the team is ready to continue making a meaningful impact across the state by supporting Arkansans with safe, reliable food preservation education and resources. ■



UADA's Food Preservation Team Pictured with Dr. Carla Schwan and Mallika Mahida. Top left to right: JoAnn Vann, Amber Hairston, Christie Wagley, and Terrie James. Bottom left to right: Quad Whitson, Carla Schwan (NCHFP), Mallika Mahida (NCHFP), Julian Carpenter, and Shannon Autrey.

## Benefits Corner

### What's Right for Me – Flexible Spending Account(s) versus Health Savings Account

Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) are healthcare tax-advantaged accounts that you can use to pay for eligible medical, prescription drug, dental, vision, hearing and dependent day care expenses. Your contributions to an FSA are deducted from your pay before taxes, which lowers your taxable income. You have two FSA options:

- Healthcare FSA
- Dependent Care FSA

If you enroll in an FSA at Open Enrollment or when you first become eligible, you can start using benefits the first of the month after you enroll. Your contributions will be taken from your paycheck after your benefits start. Contributions cannot be changed outside of open enrollment without a qualifying life event. FSA is a use it or lose it account. For detailed information regarding FSAs, click [here](#):

A Health Savings Account (HSA) is required once you enroll in The Health Savings Plan, which is a qualified high-deductible health plan and one of three of the University's medical plans. The plan provides the lowest monthly premiums of the University's medical plans between the

Classic or Premier Plan(s). The Health Savings Account (HSA) is a tax-advantaged account with contributions made by you and the University.

Enrollment in a Health Savings Plan requires that you pay for all medical expenses, including prescription drugs, yourself or with money from your HSA until you meet the deductible. There are no copays. The HSA can be used to pay for eligible medical, prescription drug, dental, vision and hearing expenses.

Your pre-tax contributions are deducted from your paycheck and deposited directly into your HSA. The University's contributions will also be deposited into your HSA, half in January and half in September of the plan year. Money in your HSA is always yours and will roll over to the next plan year or if you leave the University, you can take the account with you. For detailed information regarding HSA (Rules, Growth, IRS regulations), click [here](#).

If you elect the Health Savings Plan with HSA, you will not be eligible to contribute to a healthcare FSA. Consider which savings account is right for you and your family prior to enrollment. If you questions, please email: [yourbenefits@uada.edu](mailto:yourbenefits@uada.edu). ■

# Grants & Contracts

PROJECT TITLE	AWARD AMOUNT	PI	GRANTING AGENCY
Mid-South Entomology Working Group Insect Management in Mid-South Cotton	35,000	Ben Thrash	Cotton Incorporated
Economics of Automatic Applications in Arkansas Soybean	40,104	Ben Thrash	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Educating Growers and Consultants on Insect Monitoring and Control	3,000	Ben Thrash	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Refining Insect Thresholds in Arkansas Soybean	43,833	Ben Thrash	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Developing Scouting, Threshold and Management Practices for Stinkbug Complex in Arkansas Soybean	6,165	Ben Thrash	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Investigating Emerging Production Recommendations for Sustainable Soybean Production	47,694	Ben Thrash	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Managing Insects in Arkansas Rice	6,256	Ben Thrash	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Soybean Weed Management: A Team Approach for Improved Control and Profitability	65,995	Bob Scott	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Drone Applications in Integrated Pest Management: Fertility, Weed Control, Insect Control, and Disease Management	14,260	Bob Scott	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Rice Breeding and Extension Plant Pathology Technical Support	92,328	Bob Scott	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Soybean Enterprises Budgets and Production Economics Analysis	10,000	Breana Watkins	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Rice Enterprise Budgets and Production Economic Analysis	7,500	Breana Watkins	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Economic Analysis of Soybean Production and Marketing Practices	7,500	Brian Deaton	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Development, Evaluation and Production of Agricultural Biologicals for Arkansas Crop Production	3,500	Camila Nicolli	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Drone Applications in Integrated Pest Management: Fertility, Weed Control, Insect Control, and Disease Management	18,230	Camila Nicolli	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Revising the Prevalence and Stability of Host Resistance of Rice Blast Races in Arkansas	97,366	Camila Nicolli	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Integrating Host Resistance and Fungicides to Control Cercospora in Rice	48,958	Camila Nicolli	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Monitoring and Management of Fungicide Resistance of Sheath Blight in Arkansas	35,513	Camila Nicolli	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Effects of Inclusion of Soybean Oil in Beef Heifer Diets on Heifer Development, Reproductive Function, and Calf Growth Performance	1,200	Charles Looney	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Ag Day	4,815	Christine Wagley	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Economics of Automatic Applications in Arkansas Soybean	1,100	Glenn Studebaker	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Refining Insect Thresholds in Arkansas Soybean	8,720	Glenn Studebaker	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Developing Scouting, Threshold and Management Practices for Stinkbug Complex in Arkansas Soybean	5,092	Glenn Studebaker	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Training Small-Scale Producers on Whole Farm Revenue Protection and Micro Farm Crop Insurance	212,480	Hunter Biram	USDA Risk Management Agency
Impact of Specific Agronomic and Post-Harvest Practices on Rice Quality and Milling Yields	2,780	Jarrold Hardke	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Managing Insects in Arkansas Rice	20,576	Jarrold Hardke	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
DD50 Thermal Unit Thresholds and Seeding Date Effects for New Rice Cultivars	66,000	Jarrold Hardke	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Nitrogen Recommendations for New Rice Cultivars	64,000	Jarrold Hardke	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Arkansas Rice Variety Advancement Trials	98,000	Jarrold Hardke	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Arkansas Rice Performance Trials	94,000	Jarrold Hardke	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Rice Research Verification Program	109,570	Jarrold Hardke	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Agronomic Production Practices for Rice	103,000	Jarrold Hardke	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Validation of In-Season Tissue Sampling for Rice Nutrient Management	44,000	Jarrold Hardke	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Development of a Turn-Row Soybean Vegetative Health Analysis Using UAS Imagery for Production Decision Support	19,682	Jason Davis	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Determining the Value of Fungicide Application Using On-Farm Trials	17,340	Jason Davis	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Drone Applications in Integrated Pest Management: Fertility, Weed Control, Insect Control, and Disease Management	18,182	Jason Davis	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Quantifying Nitrogen Credits from Soybean Year 2	20,000	Jeremy Ross	Mississippi State University
Monitoring the Extent of Potassium Deficiency and Chloride Toxicity in Arkansas Soybean Fields	10,500	Jeremy Ross	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Development of Data-Driven Recommendations for Variable Soybean Seeding Rate in Arkansas	47,296	Jeremy Ross	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
<b>TOTAL AWARDS FOR MARCH 2025: \$3,184,006</b>			



# Grants & Contracts (cont.)

PROJECT TITLE	AWARD AMOUNT	PI	GRANTING AGENCY
Investigating Emerging Production Recommendations for Sustainable Soybean Production	181,822	Jeremy Ross	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Science for Success	128,549	Jeremy Ross	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Soybean Research Verification Program	200,213	Jeremy Ross	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Improving Technology Transfer for Profitable and Sustainable Soybean Production	77,443	Jeremy Ross	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Soybean College	14,717	Jeremy Ross	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
AR Future Ag Leaders Tour	5,000	Julie Robinson	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Soybean Science Challenge	85,525	Julie Robinson	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Drew County Wildlife Habitat Education Program	1,467	Lynn Lanthrip	Drew County Conservation District
Drew County Youth Shooting Sports and Outdoor Club	2,337	Lynn Lanthrip	Drew County Conservation District
AR Discovery Farms	28,220	Mike Daniels	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Site-Specific Assessment of Soybean Response to In-Field Variability Using Remote Sensing	35,000	Mike Hamilton	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Insecticide Efficacy of Corteva Seed Treatment in Rice	15,000	Nick Bateman	Corteva Agriscience LLC
Economics of Automatic Applications in Arkansas Soybean	2,050	Nick Bateman	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Refining Insect Thresholds in Arkansas Soybean	15,351	Nick Bateman	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Determining Factors Associated with Poor Grain Quality in Soybean and Management Options	24,862	Nick Bateman	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Managing Insects in Arkansas Rice	134,060	Nick Bateman	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Drone Applications in Integrated Pest Management: Fertility, Weed Control, Insect Control, and Disease Management	10,145	Nick Bateman	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Rice Breeding and Extension Plant Pathology Technical Support	157,950	Camila Nicolli	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Comprehensive Disease Screening of Soybean Varieties in Arkansas	43,504	Terry Spurlock	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Monitor and Management of Fungicide-Resistant Soybean Diseases in Arkansas	23,004	Terry Spurlock	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Developing a Satellite-Based Field Scouting Tool	14,730	Terry Spurlock	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Determining the Value of Fungicide Application Using On-Farm Trials	34,660	Terry Spurlock	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Understanding Taproot Decline and Orange Leaf Spot; Soybean Disease of Increasing Importance in Arkansas	39,075	Terry Spurlock	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Determining Factors Associated with Poor Grain Quality in Soybean and Management Options	30,138	Terry Spurlock	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Drone Applications in Integrated Pest Management: Fertility, Weed Control, Insect Control, and Disease Management	11,624	Terry Spurlock	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Soybean Weed Management: A Team Approach for Improved Control and Profitability	64,569	Tom Barber	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Rice Breeding and Extension Plant Pathology Technical Support	82,726	Tom Barber	Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board
Comprehensive Disease Screening of Soybean Varieties in Arkansas	59,872	Travis Faske	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Integrated Management of Soybean Nematodes in Arkansas	46,880	Travis Faske	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Monitor and Management of Fungicide-Resistant Soybean Diseases in Arkansas	36,724	Travis Faske	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
Fast Tracking MG4 Cultivars with Southern Root-Knot Nematode Resistance	25,254	Travis Faske	Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board
<b>TOTAL AWARDS FOR MARCH 2025: \$3,184,006</b>			

# Personnel Changes



## Welcome Aboard:

Jackson McMinn – Program Technician, Crop Soil & Environmental Science, Rice Research & Extension Center

## Farewell to:

Shaw nee Marie Tichenor – County Extension Agent, Family Consumer Sciences, Sebastian County