Welcome to the
Tennessee State University (TSU)
College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences
Cooperative Extension Program
Chandra Reddy, Ph.D.
Dean of the College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences
Director of Research
Administrator of Extension at Tennessee State University
OUR VISION

Our vision is to be a leader in outreach educational programs. Using a variety of program delivery strategies, we offer practical and useful research-based programs, resources, and publications in agriculture and natural resources, family & consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and community resource and economic development.

Latif Lighari, Ph.D.
Associate Dean
Cooperative Extension Program
History

TSU/UT Extension

James E. Farrell, Ph.D.
First Extension Administrator
Tennessee State University
Cooperative Extension Program
for 1890 Extension Programs

January 1, 1972 the Cooperative Extension Program came to Tennessee State University with joint leadership of The University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service.
TSU Extension County Operations:

50 TN Counties
60 County Agents
Total County Staff = 77
18 Campus Specialists
Family and Consumer Sciences

National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
Leslie Speller-Henderson, MS
State Program Leader
Family & Consumer Sciences - FCS

FCS Program Areas

- TSU SNAP-Ed
- TSU EFNEP
- Nutrition Education
- Consumer Food Safety
Dr. Chiquita Briley, Ph.D.
Extension Associate Professor
Public Health Nutrition Specialists

FCS Program Areas

• Childhood Obesity
• Chronic Disease Prevention Education
• Food Security
Rita Fleming, MS  
Extension Assistant Professor  
Health Education Specialists

- Mobilizing Against Threats of Community Health (MATCH)
- Food Safety for Residential Childcare Centers
- Living Well with Chronic Diseases
- Youth Active Media Savvy (YAMS)
- Childhood Health Education & Wellness (CHEW)
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Extension Faculty and Area of Focus
Extension Program:
Small Farms & Ag Program Leader

• Sustainable Weed Management
• Integrated Sustainable Agriculture
• Train county agents on innovative small farms programs
• Provide leadership for County based programs
Extension Program:

- Consumer And Ornamental Horticulture and Community Gardening
- Alternative ornamental production crops for small, limited producers
- Small Farms Programs
- Science Education (adult and youth)
Extension Program:

- Develop harvesting strategies to improve switchgrass quality
- Determine measures to enhance sustainability and reduce cost of switchgrass production through the use of organic amendments
- Increase producer knowledge of biofuel crops and production
- Create demonstrations of biofuel crops and production at TSU farms
Sam O. Dennis, Ph.D.
Environmental Soils and Water Quality
Assistant Professor

Extension Program:

• Water Quality (Watershed Scale)
• Watershed Assessment and Management
• Surface water monitoring for nutrient contaminants
• Re-visioning water education for youths
• Monitoring groundwater (wells) with down-well camera
Extension:

• Soil Carbon in Tree-based Land-use (Forest and Agroforest)

• Positively affect global climate change by sequestering carbon in small farmer and forest woodland soils of Tennessee.
Jason Oliver, Ph.D.
Integrated Pest Management and Biological Control
Associate Professor

Extension Program:

• Nursery Crops-related Pest Issues
• Identify New Insecticides, Biopesticides And Treatments
• Effective Rates For Field Grown Nursery Stock
• Reduce Worker Exposure
• Pesticide Environmental Stewardship
An H. Peischel, Ph.D.
Small Ruminants
Assistant Professor

Extension Program:

• Master Goat Program, Goat Farming In TN
• Multi Specie Grazing, Applied Research In Goat Management For Economic Enhancement
Dharma Pitchay, Ph.D.
Horticulture
Assistant Professor

Extension Program:

• Plant Nutrition, Sustainable Organic Farming
• Plasticulture/Hydroponics Production System
• Organic And Consumer Horticulture - Floriculture, Greenhouse Management, and Operation, and International Horticulture
Extension Program:

• Vegetable Production In Organic Farming System
• Vegetable Grafting For Disease Resistance And Quality Organic Transplants
• Cultivar Evaluations (Horticultural Crops)
George R Smith, Ph.D., RLA  
*Sustainable Community Planning and Design*  
Assistant Professor

**Extension Program:**

- Sustainable Landscapes
- Improve Quality Of Life Through Outdoor Education, Recreation, And Community Gardening Opportunities
Maureen Thiessen, MS
Nursery Crops
Area Specialist Extension

Extension Program:
• Commercial Horticulture
• Nursery Crops
• Greenhouse Industry
Extension Program:

• Landownership And Small Farm Outreach and Assistance
• Conservation And Environmental Stewardship
• Benefits of Estate Planning
• Property Owner’s Rights and Responsibilities
De’Etra Young, Ph.D.
Urban Forestry and Spatial Sciences
Assistant Professor

Extension Program:
• Potential Impact Of Urban Forestry On Urban Communities In Tennessee
• Improve Ecosystem To Support More Sustainable Tree-based Land Use
4-H... the POWER of YOUTH

18 USC 707
Thomas Broyles, Ph.D.  
State Program Leader  
4-H & Youth Development

Area of Specialization:

- Agriculture Education
- Teaching and Learning
- Youth and Adult Leadership
Tyrone Miller, Ed.D.
Leadership & Organizational Development
&
Interim, Specialist Program Planning, Evaluation & Accountability

Areas of Specialization:

• Provide Leadership And Training For Extension Professionals, Community Members And Youth

• Generates Annual Report For Extension And Plan Of Work
John C. Ricketts, Ph.D.
Agricultural Education
Associate Professor

Applied Research:

• Student Achievement (leadership development, critical thinking, academic science/math)
• Impact of Agricultural & Extension Education
• Agricultural and Extension Education via Agritourism

Extension Education:

• Teacher and Agent Development for Program Planning and Teaching methods
• Agricultural and Extension Education via Agritourism
Dr. John Hall, Ph.D.  
Agricultural Education & Leadership  
Assistant Professor

Research Areas:  
Youth and Adult Leadership Models/Development  
• Agriculture Teachers/Extension Agents  
• Agriculture Community Leaders  
• FFA/4-H Youth  
• At-Risk Youth and Families
What Questions Do You Have?