

Agroecology Education Farm 2024 Annual Report



Our Work

The Agroecology Education Farm...

Serves as a space to train the future generation of farmers and agricultural workers.

Provides fresh, organic produce to the NC State Dining Halls,



emphasizes sustainable agriculture principles,

and connects the broader
NC State & Raleigh
community to local,
organic food and their
environment.





8,050

lbs of produce harvested

1,621

visitors + volunteers

122

contact hours with visitors

13

undergraduate student crew members

8

NCSU classes hosted at the farm

Our team

Meet Ann!



Welcome Dr. Ann Bybee-Finley, the new director of the Agroecology Program. She directs the Agroecology Education Farm and the Agroecology major and minor program. We are so grateful to have her at the helm of the program!

Farm Manager

Sara Snyder

Student Worker Crew

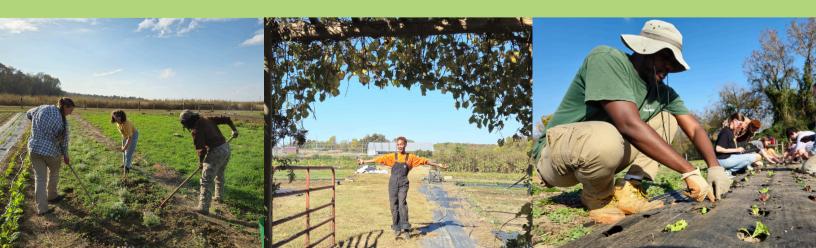
Leah Guercio - Spring 24'
Mika'el Chabeda - Spring 24'
Roman Velasco - Spring 24'
Emma Carter - Spring & Summer 24'
Gisele White - Spring, Summer & Fall 24'
Izzi Practico - Spring, Summer & Fall 24'
Paige Brecheisen - Spring & Fall 24'

Peyton Rudman - Summer 24'
Camille Ingram - Summer 24'
Jackson Meisner - Summer 24'
Jaleel Hewitt - Summer & Fall 24'

Cormac Holland - Fall 24'

John Carter - Fall 24'

Moriah Bollman - Fall 24'



Farm Impact

Camille Ingram, Recent Graduate Summer Internship

"My time at the Agroecology Education Farm taught me invaluable and practical lessons in farming and agricultural education. It was incredible to be able to apply what I had learned in the classroom in a supportive learning environment! This internship gave me skills in time management, and leadership that I continue to use in my career on and off the farm."



Dr. Bob Patterson, Instructor of CS 214 lab and STS 323Q

"On behalf of all the students in two of my courses, most sincere thanks for providing our most fortunate students an opportunity to "Think and Do" in genuinely empowering ways during (and following, at Fountain Dining Hall!!) our most satisfying visits to your truly splendid Farm. What a blessing to hear our students say "Can we stay a little longer?" when we are ready to return to campus after a farm tour. A statement that underscores so fully the great value our students realize is the result of our visit to the remarkable resource your Agroecology Education Farm represents. Most sincere thanks for caring so fully for inspiring our students in the very best of ways!!"

Izzi Practico, AEF Student Worker for 2024

"Working on the farm is really what made my undergraduate experience as an Agroecology student. The hands-on applications of my course material helped me better comprehend everything that was being taught to me in lectures"



Where are our alumni?

Emma Carter (Class of 2024)

Agricultural Specialist at Interfaith Food Shuttle

Leah Guercio (Class of 2024)

International Agricultural Education Fellow

Mika'el Chabeda (Class of 2024)

Park Technician of Agriculture at Beech Bluff County Park

Adrian Evans (Class of 2023)

Owner & Operator of Switchgrass Nursery; Driver for Wilmington Compost Company







Recruiting for NC State & the Agroecology Major

The Agroecology Education Farm provided tours and educational programming to nearly 600 K-12 students in 2024

This was many of these student's first engagement with NCSU and introduced them to the multitude of opportunities at NCSU and within the Agroecology program.



Looking Foward

The Agroecology Education Farm is getting a glow-up!

This year we're focusing on some much-needed repairs and upgrades. We aim to prepare the farm to be a premier agroecological demonstration farm that is accessible and useful to a wide array of people.

Hoop House Repair + Upgrades

AEF's two hoop houses are getting an upgraded exterior along with solar-powered irrigation

Native Pollinator Habitat

The farm is improving it's native buffer, native pollinator garden, and installing a native prairie. We benefit from using the land and it is important to be good stewards of it

Brand New Wash+Pack Area

A wash+pack area will serve as a space to teach students an important component of vegetable production and help us meet the farm's food safety goals

Deer Fence

A much-anticipated deer fence will allow us to improve production and be more efficient growers!

Grant Support

Agroecology Student Success Fund awarded by Gerry Luginbuhl

BW Wells Stewardship Fund award by the NC Native Plant Society

CEFS Career Pathways Micro-Grant awarded for 2024 Recent Graduate Summer Internship

NC State Sustainability Grant
awarded for project: SolarPowered Hoop House Technology
Innovations at the NC State
Agroecology Education Farm

Professional Experience
Program (PEP)
awarded by NC State's Provost's



A special thank you to our partners and Board Members. We wouldn't be able to do this work without your support!

NC STATE

DINING



NC STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP AND SOIL SCIENCES



Advisory Board Members:

Moriah Bollman

Agroecology Student, AEF Intern

Angel Cruz

CEFS Academic and Extension Initiatives Manager

Carla Davis

Director of the University Sustainability Office

Liz Driscoll

HS, CSS Faculty, K-12/4H education

Jaleel Hewitt

Agroecology Student, AEF Intern

Shawn Hoch

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Amy Johnson

Director of Fike Agronomy Field Lab, CSS Faculty, Ag Institute Coordinator

Bridget Lassiter

Supervisor of Lake Wheeler Road Field Lab

Matt Morrison

AS, Research Operations Manager at the E. Carroll Joyner Beef Educational Unit

Keith Smith

Director of NC State Dining, Board Operations and Sustainability

David Suchoff

CSS Faculty, Alternative Crops Extension Specialist

Alex Woodley

CSS Faculty, Sustainable Soils Lab



NC State University Agroecology Education Farm

Want to support the work we are doing at the Agroecology Education Farm - <u>Donate</u> <u>Here!</u>



Connect with us at:

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https://agroecologyeducation farm.wordpress.ncsu.edu/



ncsu_agroecology_farm



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