



*Virginia Agricultural Council*

*ANNUAL REPORT*

*Fiscal Year Ending  
June 30, 2004*

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**Virginia Agricultural Council  
Members Effective 10/31/02**

Joseph H. Barlow  
8204 Longvue Circle  
Suffolk, VA 23436  
Commodity: peanuts, cotton

Jason O. Bush  
Route 3, Box 281  
Castlewood, VA 24224  
Commodity: cattle, tobacco

Jean Brown  
Oakland Green Farm  
Box 154  
Lincoln, VA 20160

Kathy Coffee  
2255 Fletcher Chapel Road  
Kenbridge, VA 23944  
Commodity: tobacco, soybeans

Gregory M. Carey  
773 Drum Bay Road  
Hague, VA 22469  
Commodity: grains (wheat, soybeans,  
corn and barley)

Philip B. Glaize, Jr.  
P. O. Box 2077  
Winchester, VA 22604  
Commodity: apples

Albert G. "Sambo" Johnson  
9493 Frederick Hall Road  
Mineral, VA 23117  
Commodity: beef cattle

C. Frank Jordan  
3607 Labrador Lane  
Suffolk, VA 23435  
Commodity: peanuts, cotton, soybeans,  
pork

David Welch Morrisette  
P. O. Box 766  
Meadows of Dan, VA 24120  
Commodity: wine, grapes

Cecil "Sonny" Myerhoeffer  
1386 River Bluff Road  
Mount Crawford, VA 22841  
Commodity: corn, soybeans, dairy,  
turkey

Mark H. Newbill  
105 Darlington Drive  
Rocky Mount, VA 24151  
Commodity: dairy

Paul W. Rogers, Jr.  
1233 Southampton Road  
Wakefield, VA 23888  
Commodity: peanuts, cotton, grain

John Sponaule  
8888 Leroy Road  
Grottoes, VA 24441  
Commodity: sheep, turkey

Lynn Rush St. Clair  
4176 Swover Creek Road  
Edinburg, VA 22824  
Commodity: vegetables, berries –  
direct marketing

Tscharner Watkins, III  
2260 Chalkwell Drive  
Midlothian, VA 23113  
Commodity: nursery stock

**VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL  
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

J. Carlton Courter, III, Commissioner  
VA Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer  
Services  
1100 Bank Street  
Suite 210  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dr. Sharron Quisenberry  
Dean, College of Agriculture & Life  
Sciences  
VPI & SU  
104 Hutcheson Hall  
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Dr. Lorenza W. Lyons  
Associate Vice President for  
Agriculture and Extension  
Virginia State University  
100 Owens Hall  
Box 9081  
Petersburg, VA 23806

## PURPOSE OF THE COUNCIL

The General Assembly of Virginia recognizes that the industry of agriculture is important to the prosperity of the State and is a major source of income to a large segment of the State's population. A healthy industry of agriculture is essential to the welfare of the citizens of the State.

As a result, the Pennies for Progress Act was passed in 1966 by the General Assembly, establishing the Virginia Agricultural Council to administer the objectives of the Act. Provisions of the Act permit financial assistance and support for agricultural research, education, and services. Activities sponsored are to complement rather than substitute for existing programs. See Code of Virginia, Chapter 4.1, Virginia Agricultural Council, Section 3.1 22.1-22.5, as amended.

The Act states that additional research is required to find new uses for agricultural products, to develop new markets for such products, and to promote more efficient and economical methods of agricultural production. An expanded program of agricultural research is essential to these objectives and will be beneficial to the State.

The Virginia Agricultural Council is directed by 18 members, 15 of whom are engaged in farming and all appointed by the Governor. Insofar as practical, each of the members should be engaged in the production of a different agricultural commodity.

The General Assembly specified in the Act, that it is in the public interest that assessments be levied upon certain agricultural supplies used by farmers. Monies will be received from one-half cent per gallon of the State gasoline tax refund made on motor fuel used for agricultural purposes; five cents per ton levy on lime sold; twenty-five cents per ton on fertilizer sold, with 5 cents per ton for Virginia Agricultural Council use; and seven cents a ton on feed, except Vi feed sold in individual packages of ten pounds or less; 3/10 of 1% of gross sale receipts from lawn and turf seed with 50% to the Council. The Council is also authorized to accept gifts and grants.

The Council will accept requests for financial assistance from any organized group within, or, serving Virginia's industry of agriculture. This includes suppliers, farmers, marketers, extension centers, colleges, and universities.

The Council's philosophy in selecting projects for support is that projects should exhibit the capabilities of yielding timely results applicable and useful to Virginia's industry of agriculture. Studies should address current or foreseeable problems and interests and should have the potential of providing benefits to a reasonably broad spectrum of agricultural needs. This is not to say that very specialized projects or basic studies will not be considered; they should show promise, however, of leading to results that can be applied in a reasonable length of time.

There are five basic considerations, as follows:

- a. Importance of the project to Virginia's agricultural economy.

- b. Recognition by the public and/or the Council of the project's importance.
- c. Availability of other funds from industry, commodity groups, governmental agencies, and/or private individuals for support of the projects.
- d. Availability of personnel and facilities to conduct the project, if Council support is received.
- e. Ability of the group, organization, or agency to execute the proposal.

To help the Council in its work, all proposed projects should be submitted in writing on either an approved form, available upon request from the address shown below, or in a format that includes the following essential elements: (a) title; (b) date of proposal; (c) date of study initiation; (d) estimated duration; (e) objectives; (f) justification; (g) summary of procedures; (h) how results will be disseminated and utilized; (i) personnel and facilities involved, including project leaders and their resumes; (j) itemized budget request, by each fiscal year; and, (k) source and amount of other supporting funds, facilities, and personnel. This will aid the Council in evaluating the need and importance of each request.

Twenty copies of each proposal should be sent to the address shown below along with twenty copies of any letters of endorsement from commodity interest groups, associations, or individuals that might help indicate the amount of interest and need for the project. Council members meet at least twice each year, once in the spring, and again in August. New project proposal requests are heard only at the spring meeting which is the fourth Monday in March. Requests must be received by the Executive Director no later than 5:00 p.m. January 31 of each year in order to be placed on the March meeting agenda. Project leaders are encouraged to appear in person to summarize orally their requests and answer questions. They may also bring others who may make short statements in support of the project.

The Council only approves project funding for one fiscal year at a time (July 1 - June 30). Continued financial support past the first fiscal year depends upon reports of progress, availability of funds, and priority in relation to other requests. Periodic progress reports and completed reports by the project leaders are required by the Council.

The second Council meeting in August (fourth Monday) is the Council's Annual Business Meeting.

Executive Director  
Virginia Agricultural Council  
P.O. Box 1163  
Richmond, Virginia 23218

**Listing of Projects and Approved Funding by the Virginia Agricultural  
Council for the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 at the March 22-23, 2004  
Meeting**

Cattle Grazing Study	\$5,000.00
Weed Management in Newly Planted, Established, and Overseeded Bermudagrass Turf	\$7,500.00
Develop Protocols for Production of Floating Aquatic Plants	\$4,000.00
Multiple Fungicide Resistances of Phytophthora Species in Nursery Production	\$10,000.00
Education of Virginia Grain and Livestock Industries about New Barley and Wheat Value Added Opportunities	\$5,000.00
Effect of Embryonic Incubation Environment on Immunocompetency of Commercial Broilers or Turkeys	\$18,000.00
Fatty Acid Deposition in Edible Tissues from Pasture – and Concentrate – Fed Steers	\$8,000.00
Expanded Research on Management of Soil Insect Pests in Corn and Potatoes	\$5,389.00
Research on the Use of Thin-Foam Sheets for Rapid Establishment of Turf	\$7,000.00
Post-Fermentation Thermal Unification to Improve Virginia Red Wine Quality	\$14,000.00
Sorting Out Astible Using Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms and Diagnostic Morphology	\$10,000.00
Genetic Analysis of Induced Dilated Cardiomyopathy in Turkey	\$20,000.00
Characterization of Mild Lameness in Horses Using Portable, Objective Measurement Techniques	\$17,000.00
Methods for Converting Golf Fairways to Seeded Bermudagrass	\$12,000.00

AITC-Virginia Laminated Agricultural Desk Map	\$9,000.00
Examination of Selected Factors Affecting Earliness in Virginia Cotton	\$23,000.00
Nutritional Approaches for Enhancing Reproduction in Swine	\$11,065.00
Predisposition of Apple Trees to Fire-Blight by Periodical Cicada Injury	\$8,523.00
New Approaches for Detection and Management of Grape Root Borer in Virginia Vineyards	\$10,000.00
Management Techniques to Optimize Grain Yields of Hullness and Grain Yield and Quality of Bread Wheat in Virginia	\$10,000.00
Total      20 new projects	\$214,477.00



## RESEARCH PROJECTS APPROVED FOR SECOND AND THIRD YEAR CONTINUED FUNDING IN 2004-2005

### Second Year Project Funding:

Development of Specialty Wheat Varieties with Value Added End Use Properties	\$12,500.00
Role of Bovine Mammary Stem Cells In Prepubertal Mammary Development	\$20,912.00
Improving Cost Efficiency of Expensive Plant Growth Regulators (Apogee, Retain, 6-BA, or others) in Apple Orchards	\$18,000.00
Control of Pre-harvest Apple Fruit Drop, Firmness, and Quality While Extending the Harvest Window for Increased Crop Value	\$7,000.00
Amino Acid and Peptide Utilization in Pre- and Early Weaned Pigs	\$18,000.00
Enhancing Disease Resistance in Peanut	\$15,000.00
Crabgrass – Winter Annual systems for Extending Forage Production	\$4,000.00
Monitoring Root Growth of Container – own Plants During Production and Transplanting	\$8,000.00
Potential of Organic Growth Stimulants to Decrease Turfgrass Irrigation Requirements	\$15,000.00
Crown Cut Broccoli Production and Market Development for SW Virginia	\$11,000.00
Integrated Pest Management of Thrips and Tomato Spotted Wilt in Tomato	\$7,500.00
Comparisons of No-Till and Conventional-Till Pumpkin Production Systems	\$3,000.00
Variable-Rate Nitrogen and Phosphorus of Wheat and Corn	\$10,000.00

Development of Compost-Based Container Sub-strates for Ornamental Nurseries	\$16,000.00
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Third Year Project Funding:

Tomato Ringspot Virus Management in Raspberries	\$6,000.00
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Herbage Quality, Bio-mass and Animal Performance of Cattle Grazing Lakota Prairie Grass, Kentucky 31 Tall Fescue and Max Q Tall Fesue	\$6,100.00
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Total	16 continuation projects	\$178,012.00
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## **Grants Completed June 30, 2004**

Evaluation of Disease Susceptibility and Resistance of New Apple Cultivars

An Internet-based Surveillance and Decision-making Tool for Turfgrass Managers

Apple Marketing Research

Root Restriction an Alternative to Rootstocks, for Control of Flowering, Fruiting, Tree Growth, Yield Efficiency, and Fruit Quality of Fruit and Ornamental Trees

Competitive Fertilization Using Mixed Semen from Holstein and Jersey Bulls

A Loblolly Pine Management Model for Virginia Landowners

Tomato Ringspot Virus Management in Raspberries

Improving the Productivity of Virginia Pastures: Alfalfa/Tall Fescue Mixtures

A Pilot Educational Program to Introduce and Assess ISO 14001-Based Environmental Management Systems for Dairy Enterprises in Virginia

Selecting, Producing and Marketing Utility Easement Compatible Trees

Identification and Pathogenicity Testing of Pythium Species Recovered from Virginia Nursery Irrigation Water

Assessing the Productivity and Nutritive Value Characteristics of Grasses Grown Under Different Tree Species and Different Tree Spacing Aspect

Aquatic Phytoremediation Systems Development

Lateral Movement of Herbicides on Golf Fairways and Effects on Bentgrass Greens

Evaluation of the Multi-Use System Insecticide Imidacloprid for Use

Against Bark Infesting Insect Pests of Conifers

Direct and Comparative Genomics-based Analysis of Immune Response in Chickens

Development Phytoremediation Plant Coral Systems

Pregnancy Rate and Embryo Survival for Gilts Housed Individually or in Groups During the First Thirty Days of Gestation

Using Remote Sensing Technologies to Determine Soybean Leaf Area and Yield Variability

Agriculture in the Classroom – Agricultural Map Project

A Novel Strategy to Enhance Skeletal Muscle Growth in Beef Cattle

Expanded Research on the Ecology and Management of Wireworm in Virginia

Establishment of a Hatchery to Provide Specific Pathogen Free Fingerlings and Fry to Farmers for Establishing Aquaculture Businesses for Either Supplemental or Alternative Income

TOTAL            23 projects

**VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JULY 1, 2003 - JUNE 30, 2004  
Revenue & Expenditures**

Cash Balance - June 30, 2003		\$474,405.26
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Add: Revenues

Feed Tonnage	\$245,971.55	
Seed	30,436.70	
Fertilizer Tonnage	39,443.21	
Lime Tonnage	20,825.80	
Motor Fuel	5,402.23	
Interest	7,898.12	
Miscellaneous	20.00	

Total Balance and Receipts	\$349,997.61	\$824,402.87
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Less - Expenses:

Postal/Printing/Miscellaneous	\$1,495.48	
Travel-Members Meeting Expenses	6,815.35	
Wages-Assistant Secretary/FOAI	16,739.28	
Grant Expenditures	<u>365,216.22</u>	
	\$390,266.33	

Cash Balance - June 30, 2004		<u>\$434,136.54</u>
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## Revenue Differentials - 2003-2004

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Fertilizer Tonnage Inspection	\$ 45,943.43	\$ 39,443.21	- 6,500.22
Feed Tonnage Inspection	\$196,954.25	\$245,971.55	+ 49,017.30
Lime Tonnage Inspection	\$ 40,936.74	\$ 20,825.80	- 20,110.94
Seed Inspection Fee	\$ 48,995.96	\$ 30,436.70	+ 18,559.26
Interest on Balance	\$ 19,576.43	\$ 7,898.12	- 11,678.31
Motor Fuel Receipts – Refunds	\$ 5,474.63	\$ 5,402.23	- 72.40
Miscellaneous	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 20.00</u>	<u>+ 20.00</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$357,881.44</b>	<b>\$349,997.61</b>	<b>- \$ 7,883.83</b>

With regard to the financial information of the Virginia Agricultural Council for the year ending June 30, 2004 the following attachments submitted by the Finance Office of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Department of Accounts, verified and reconciles to the State's CARS system.

Thomas R. Yates  
Executive Director