

*History of the Animal & Dairy
Science Department at the
University of Georgia Tifton
Campus*

Pre 1932

- ✓ There wasn't a formal livestock program at CPES initially.
- ✓ There was cooperative research with USDA including the identification of mules, jennies, and horses suitable for working



Dr. Byron Southwell

- ✓ Mr. Byron Southwell was hired in 1932 to establish a livestock research program at the Coastal Plain Experiment Station. Initially, all work was cooperative research with various USDA livestock and range management personnel. Retired in 1967



First beef herd

- ✓ First beef herd was established in 1932 and consisted of 12 polled Hereford cows
 - Research focus was on nutrition, genetics, and health
- ✓ George Dillard was hired in 1942 to conduct livestock research
- ✓ Dr. Southwell received his Ph.D. from Texas A&M in 1954 based on his research at CPES.
 - Dissertation title: “An Eighteen-year Genetic Study of a Herd of Polled Hereford Cattle”



First Dairy

- ✓ First dairy herd consisted of 28 purebred jersey cows and 9 crossbred cows (1933)
- ✓ In 1940, a new 40 stall stanchion dairy and small milk processing plant was constructed
 - Provided milk for dining hall and staff at Georgia State College of Men (ABAC), CPES staff and a retail delivery route in Tifton.
 - Garrett Jones was hired to manage dairy research in 1947

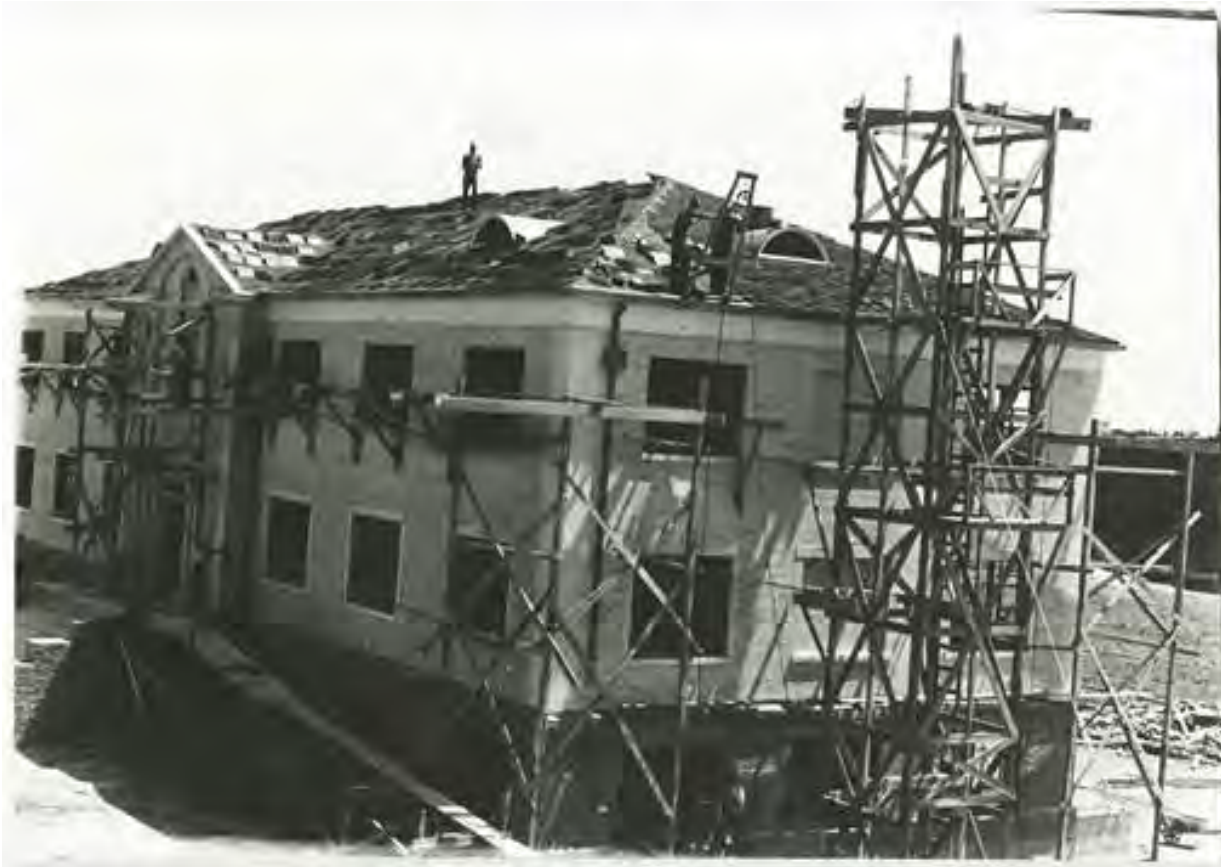


Swine

- ✓ In 1933, swine research began with a herd of purebred Duroc and Poland China breeding stock.
 - Very limited facilities consisting of outdoor pens and minimal shelter
 - Most hogs were grazed on crop residues at that time
- ✓ Parasitological research in cooperation with Zoological Division of the Bureau of Animal Industries began in 1943

1937

- ✓ Agriculture Research Building was constructed



Beef Research

- ✓ In 1940 the grazing research center was established in Alapaha with native crossbred cows: mix of Coriollo, Jersey, Shorthorn, Devon, and Red Poll
- ✓ Dr. Glen Burton released Coastal bermudagrass in 1943
- ✓ Angus herd was established through the purchase of 13 purebred cows and heifers from Otto Battle in Iowa in 1944.

Evaluation Centers

- ✓ Boar Test and Bull Evaluation Centers opened in 1958
- ✓ These programs were transferred to extension in 1974.
- ✓ New Bull Evaluation Center opened in Irwinville in 1995.

1970's

- ✓ In 1971, the Georgia legislature appropriated funding to build new swine and beef research facilities.
- ✓ 21 registered Holstein heifers purchased in 1971
- ✓ Environmentally controlled, aluminum slatted floor confinement swine research unit opened in 1974
- ✓ Beef feedlot and feed mill was opened in 1974
- ✓ The Department of Animal Science and Department of Dairy Science merged to form the Department of Animal and Dairy Science in 1974
- ✓ 100 cow dairy facility with free stalls and flush system opened in 1975

Aquaculture

- ✓ In 1987, aquaculture research program was reinstated and Dr. Gary Burtle was hired
- ✓ A well, reservoir and twelve 0.1 acre ponds were built during 1998 to 1989.
- ✓ In 1990, twelve 0.24 acre ponds were constructed.

Additional Facilities

- ✓ In 1998, construction was completed on a new 250 cow dairy facility
- ✓ The ARB was completely renovated and rededicated in 2018
- ✓ A new beef feeding facility with 24 pens was completed in 2018

Research Highlights

- ✓ Evaluation and development of improved forages including bermudagrass, pearl millet, Bahia grass, alfalfa, and other forages
- ✓ Nutrition and management of beef and dairy cattle and swine
 - Basic nutrition, byproducts, forage utilization, etc.

Research Highlights

- ✓ Swine housing and management systems
- ✓ Work to eradicate or control many of the parasites that affected swine and cattle
- ✓ Heat stress abatement and nutritional management of dairy cattle
- ✓ Waste water management

Department Heads and REI's

- ✓ Dr. Byron Southwell, 1932-1967
- ✓ Dr. W. C. McCormick, 1967-1982
 - ❖ Resident Director of CPES, 1982-1986
- ✓ Dr. Phil Utley, 1982-1996
 - ❖ Assistant Dean, UGA Tifton Campus, 1995-2001
- ✓ Dr. Jerry Baker, 1996-2003
- ✓ Dr. Joe West, 2003-2008
 - ❖ Assistant Dean, UGA Tifton Campus, 2008-
- ✓ Dr. John Bernard, 2008-Current

Additional Faculty

- George Dillard
- Garrett Jones
- W. P. Duncan
- Mr. Harrison
- Joe C. Johnson
- O. M. Hale
- D. W. Beardsley
- Robert S. Lowery
- Hollis Chapman
- Larry Newton
- Walter Neville
- Clyde Triplett
- Gary Hill
- Robert Stewart
- Keith Haydon
- Gary Burtle
- Robert Dove
- Neil McCarter
- Tim Shell
- Johnny Rossi

Current Faculty

- Gary Burtle, Aquaculture
- John Bernard, REI and Dairy Nutrition
- Claudia Dunkley, Poultry Science
- Jacob Segers, Beef Extension
- Sha Tao, Heat stress physiology
- Jennifer Tucker, Beef nutrition

Currently Staff

- Leslie Cromer, Business Manager I
- Katie Wilson, Administrative Associate I
- Jacob Nyhuis, Senior Farm Manager
- Andy Dunn, Farm Manager, beef
- Tracey Cook, Farm Manager, dairy
- Zach Collins, Sr. Ag. Specialist, farm
- Mike Keeler, Sr. Ag. Specialist, bull test
- Melissa Tawzer, Lab technician III
- Grace Nyhuis, Program Coordinator III, beef ext