



UF | **IFAS Research**
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

**Plant Science Research
and Education Unit**

OUR INFRASTRUCTURE | YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Plant Science Research and Education Unit (PSREU) serves faculty with the infrastructure needed to conduct diverse row and specialty crop research projects, facilitate hands-on classes, and host thousands of visitors in outreach events.

1,086 acres

with \approx 700 acres of
cultivable land

30 minute

drive from UF campus

26 staff

on site

RESEARCH

Approximately 140 UF/IFAS researchers conduct more than 400 projects at the PSREU that include trees and woody ornamentals, turf production and maintenance, plant breeding, minimum and reduced tillage, crop water management, plant pathology, plant fertility, corn genomics, vegetable production, organic agriculture, citrus, wetland ecology, entomology, nematology, weed science, climate change, and more.

“ PSREU has been essential to obtain **stakeholder-relevant results** through the support of our plant breeding and applied research. ”

-Patricio Muñoz, Assistant Professor
Dept. of Horticultural Sciences

CURRENT PROJECTS



Turfgrass Breeding

For reduced irrigation, enhanced functionality, and maintaining aesthetic value.

-Kevin Kenworthy, Agronomy Dept.



Remote Sensing

For improved field-management strategies.

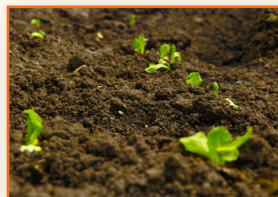
-Jasmeet Judge, Dept. of Agricultural and Biological Engineering



Watermelon Grafting

For integrated disease-management tools.

-Xin Zhao, Dept. of Horticultural Sciences



Soil Science

For increased efficiency of fertilizer application.

-Vimala Nair, Soil and Water Sciences Dept.



Biological Control

For an alternative to conventional pesticides.

-Oscar Liburd, Entomology and Nematology Dept.



Wheat Genetics

For genetic improvements to increase wheat yield and develop resilient varieties.

-Ali Babar, Agronomy Dept.

TEACHING

Classes are taught at PSREU each year on tractor maintenance, sprayer calibration, irrigation techniques, soil horizons implement operation, and more. The PSREU's staff assist UF faculty in their effort to make the classroom "come to life." Students gain hands-on experience in a real-time working-farm environment to develop their passion for and knowledge of the agriculture industry.



“ The PSREU is an **invaluable resource** for my on-campus and distance-education teaching programs. ”

-Allan Bacon, Assistant Professor
Soil and Water Sciences Dept.

EXTENSION

With more than 20 Extension events annually, the PSREU provides a platform where groups can experience state-of-the-art research technology. With a conference center that can accommodate 200 people, area farmers, producers, industry professionals and Master Gardeners are given the opportunity to gain valuable information from UF/IFAS Extension experts and faculty to increase their knowledge and improve their procedures.

“ The facilities and staff are truly **world class**. They go above and beyond to make your training a success. ”

-Wendy Wilber, Program Coordinator
UF/IFAS Florida Master Gardener Program



HISTORY OF THE UF/IFAS PLANT SCIENCE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION UNIT



1995

The PSREU began its transition into a row and speciality crop research facility.



2002

Vegetable and small fruit crop research was moved from the Horticultural Unit in Gainesville to the PSREU.



2010

The PSREU Administration building was completed.

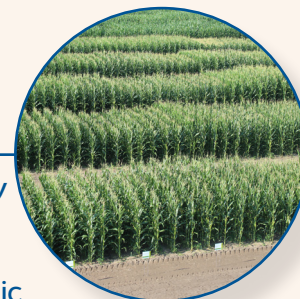
1972

The PSREU property was donated to UF by the Bedford family for cattle research.



2000

The Green Acres Agronomy Farm was relocated from Jonesville to the PSREU. Experiments with agronomic row crops began, along with infrastructure development.



2005

Turfgrass and ornamental research moved from Gainesville to the G.C. Horn Memorial Turfgrass Field Lab at the PSREU.



2012

The PSREU conference center was completed.



FEDERAL EXCESS PROPERTY PROGRAM

The PSREU administers this statewide program that allows UF/IFAS to obtain general supplies, vehicles, and heavy equipment from the Federal Government to be used in food and agricultural research programs. UF/IFAS is currently utilizing \$10 million worth of federal property. The PSREU also has the responsibility for all heavy and emergency response equipment for UF/IFAS and other UF facilities.

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