



GEORGIA SEED DEVELOPMENT

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Seed for Thought

Roger Boerma, Executive Director



Are you safety conscience? Are you organized? I was thinking about safety and organization last weekend. This may have been prompted by GSD being in the middle of peanut harvest or it may have been a personal experience at our home last Friday evening.

Our daughter's family (Erica, Austin, Anna, and Sawyer) had to evacuate from their Isle of Hope home near Savannah due to Hurricane Matthew. They arrived at our home in Athens on Thursday evening. My wife, Cindy, decided it was a great opportunity to have a dinner party for our daughter's family and another family friend, Debra Lassiter. Debra is the founder of the Etiquette and Leadership Institute and also operates a second business, Perfectly Polished. Cindy told me she was inviting Debra for dinner to provide our 11-year-old granddaughter, Anna, some tips on formal dining etiquette. In hind sight, I believe her plan was an attempt to improve my table manners.

Although we had a wonderful meal, you can image me being sensitive every time I picked up or put down my fork! The reason I bring this experience to your attention is a story that Debra shared with us during dessert. She told of a recent experience when she was employed to provide an etiquette training session for the UGA football team at the Georgia Center.

That night she was completing her regular etiquette routine with the team when a rather large lineman somewhat sheepishly raise his hand with the following question, "Miss Debra, do you do all this proper etiquette stuff when you are at home eating alone?" Debra being the consummate and seasoned professional turned the question on him by asking, "Do you play on Saturday like you practice during the week?" He smiled and didn't feel the need to respond.

When it comes to harvest safety, we need to keep this story in mind. When we are tired, under pressure, and stressed the habits that we have formed during the rest of the year tend to direct our actions. Being safety conscience is not about what we do during just one time of the year, it is about practicing safety each and every day. Related to safety is being organized. One of the many ways proper organization keeps us safe around machinery and our businesses is by preventing stress in the first place. Please keep Debra's story in mind all year long. I hope you have a safe and bountiful harvest.



Licensing

Blake Fleeman, Licensing/Marketing Manger

SIGN
HERE

Dr. Zenglu Li's three new soybean lines are continuing to generate interest. In the past few weeks, I have taken representatives from two companies out to view the production fields of the three lines. Both companies are very interested in placing bids on the new lines. Hopefully by the next update we will have bids in and have selected the new licensees. Over the past two months licensing activity has been steady. One of the activities was Dr. Hanna (pictured right) and I made a trip out to Kansas to visit with a potential licensee for one of his millet varieties. The outcome of the trip was very productive in that a new license agreement for the millet has been signed and production is under way. Other activity during the past two months is the signing of several new license agreements; we have new agreements for pecans, blueberries, and muscadines.



Marketing

Blake Fleeman, Licensing/Marketing Manger

We have just had a meeting with the GICRS partners and one of the items on the agenda was the upcoming trade show season. The group decided to have the GICRS exhibit at seven different trade shows this coming fall and winter. GSD will also be exhibiting at a couple of other trade shows during this time. We have continued to have request for additional copies of the brochures Erin has designed for the different commodities. Erin has also been working on updating the cultivar information on the GICRS website. She is removing some of the varieties that are no longer in the market place and replacing them with the newly released varieties. The GICRS site continues to be visited frequently, averaging 34 visitors per day.

Education

Blake Fleeman, Licensing/Marketing Manger

GSD hosted Dr. Nick Hills CRSS 2010 course the first part of September. Dr. Hill brought his two lab classes to GSD for a presentation and tour of the seed processing plant. Each class included 14 students; Doug and Corey led the tours. Doug showed the class examples of the different seeds we work with and showed them the Almaco purity combine (*pictured on Page 4*). Corey took his group on a tour of the conditioning plant and showed the class the machinery in operation cleaning wheat seed. Dr. Hill took the class across the street to the turf plots to talk about the differences in plant types in the bermuda grass family. The end of September Dr. Boerma, Ralph, JT, and I attended the Peanut Farm Tour which was based out of Tifton. One of the stops on the tour was Premium Peanut, which is the largest single shelling facility in the USA.

Processing/Production

Doug Batchelder, Athens, and Ralph Johnson, Plains; Production Managers

2017 SMALL GRAINS PRODUCTION

The 2016 Foundation small grains processing is complete and we are currently shipping small grains from the Athens warehouse. As of October 17th we are planning to grow four Foundation wheat varieties in North Georgia for 2017 production; Savoy and three new experimental increases from UGA's wheat breeders. At Athens we will also be overseeing the production of Foundation Ga Gore wheat and Wrens Abruzzi rye.

2016 SOYBEAN PRODUCTION

We have seven Foundation soybean varieties planted in Allendale, South Carolina, and in Plains, Midville, Lavonia, and Commerce, Georgia. All of them are approaching maturity and should be ready to harvest between the last week of October and the first part of November.

2015 PEANUT PRODUCTION

As of October 17th we have about 80% of our contracted Foundation poundage in the warehouse. Our peanut grades are lower than normal and yields are less than expected. Grades are off on average about 5% with a heavier hull. We are not seeing the 6,000 lb/ac yields that we've grown accustomed to the past several years. The 2016 growing season will probably be remembered as the year, for whatever reason (prolonged heat?), that we couldn't get peanuts to optimum maturity. If there are no surprises with seed quality we should still have adequate supplies of Foundation peanut seed. This year we have the following varieties in production: GA 06G - 1,050 acres, GA 14N - 150 acres, GA 13 M - 50 acres, GA 16 HO - 18 acres, and Tif NV-HI O/L - 14 acres.



Dr. Branch and Dr. Boerma inspecting Foundation 06-G field

PECANS

Doug Batchelder attended the UGA Pecan Variety Tour in Tifton at UGA's Ponder farm and in Albany at Nilo and Graham Angus plantations. It was an excellent learning experience and a good opportunity to see the new varieties and meet with the breeders and producers.

TURF PRODUCTION

We have fulfilled several Foundation TifTuf™ orders since August including two separate orders to licensees in California. The recent weeks of cool nights in North Georgia have slowed the growth in all of our Foundation turfgrass fields. Our Foundation Sea Star paspalum field was doubled in August in our Sand Field located at the GSD offices in Athens, and has filled in nicely. All of our turfgrass fields at GSD, GCIA, and the Iron Horse Farm are prepared for winter.

Sights around Georgia Seed Development

Plains: The new drying shed (*pictured below, left*) has been completed and is in service. The remodel of the employee break room (*pictured below, right*) has been completed and has been well received and much appreciated by the staff.



Athens: Recently released cultivar TifTuf™, a bermuda grass, was laid on UGA's North Campus near the Arch (*pictured below, left*). Students in Dr. Hills CRSS 2010 class examine GSD's Almaco purity combine with Doug Bachelder (*pictures below, right*).



Important Dates

- *Georgia Seed Development Annual Board Meeting, Athens, GA, November 9, 2016
- *Peanut Farm Show, Tifton, GA, January 19, 2017
- *Golf Industry Show, Orlando, FL, February 4-9, 2017

Georgia Seed Development is a proud member of Georgia Grown, a program of the Georgia Department of Agriculture.
<http://georgiagrown.com>

