“No civilization has outlived the usefulness of its soils. When the soil is destroyed, the nation is gone.”

- Lloyd Noble
MISSION STATEMENT

To deliver solutions to great agricultural challenges.
PRODUCTION ECONOMICS

CHALLENGE:
Uncertain economic viability of agricultural production systems due to risks associated with variable climates, markets, and consumer demand.
ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE: Degradation of soil health and ecosystem services resulting from poor management practices.
EDUCATION AND TRAINING

CHALLENGE

Declining professional education and resources for land managers and agricultural producers.
7 Research Farms/13,500 Acres
Basic to Applied Research
Forage Quantity and Quality
Wildlife & Grazing Management
Applied Technologies
Cattle Weight
Asset Inventory
Producer Relations
Forage-based beef cattle
# Land Resources of Cooperators

(1,935,298 total acres)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>% Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rangeland</td>
<td>929,205</td>
<td>48.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber, ponds (25,392 ac.)</td>
<td>362,664</td>
<td>18.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bermudagrass, etc.</td>
<td>323,138</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter annuals</td>
<td>71,116</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat (grain)</td>
<td>52,468</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfalfa/hay</td>
<td>28,460</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fescue, etc.</td>
<td>23,724</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other crops, ann. forages</td>
<td>30,777</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pecans</td>
<td>27,568</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resource inventory data

Average cooperator
1,385 acres
83 cows, 4 bulls
69 stockers
(~20% without livestock)
Resource inventory data

Upper range
72,000+ acres
2,700+ cows
7,000+ stockers
NOBLE NEWS & VIEWS

September 2018 | Volume 36 | Issue 2

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NOBLE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

LIVESTOCK

Using Bermudagrass Pastures to Nutrient Replenish

One Noble Summer: About the Lloyd Noble Scholars Program

EDUCATION

Students Test Their Resource Knowledge

Inspiring the Next Generation

Youth Hunts Provide Memories, Opportunities

NOBLE NEWS & VIEWS

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Youth Hunts 6

Graduate Student Fellowships 9

UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information or to register, visit www.noble.org/events or call 580-233-5930. Pre-registration is required. For other agricultural questions, please call our Ag Helpline at 580-234-5000.

So You Want to Grow Series

Pecans | Sept. 4
Vegetables | Sept. 18
Fruits | Sept. 18

6:30-8 p.m.
Noble Research Institute
Kruse Auditorium
No Registration Fee

Backyard Farming: Intensive Small Space Food Systems
6-8 p.m.
Small-Scale Ag Demo Area

Pecan 101 Workshop
9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Kruse Auditorium
$25, Includes Lunch

Feral Hog Management Training
8:30 a.m.-noon

Pecan Harvest Field Day
5:30-4 p.m.
Noble Research Institute
Red River Farm
No Registration Fee
Cover Crop Series: 26 episodes

Sunn Hemp: Noble Cover Crop Series

COVER CROP SERIES

SUNN HEMP
New National Research Initiative Aims to Improve Cover Crops

WASHINGTON — The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) and The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation launched a national cover crop initiative today during a special press conference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

The $6.6 million research initiative, made possible by a $2.2 million grant from FFAR, will promote soil health through the development and adoption of new cover crops across the United States.

"The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research is committed to improving the nation’s soil health, which is essential to ensuring a productive and sustainable future for food and agriculture," said Sally Rockey, Ph.D., executive director of FFAR. "We look forward to working with the Noble Foundation and a talented team of researchers to develop better-than-ever, soil health-promoting cover crops that will contribute to thriving farms across the United States."

Cover crop is a term applied to a number of plant species that farmers, ranchers and landowners may plant to help manage soil erosion and fertility, preserve moisture content, and control weeds and diseases. "Cover crops play a significant role in sustainable agriculture practices," said Bill Buckner, Noble Foundation president and chief executive officer. "The Noble Foundation has been a leader in developing forages (grazeable plants for livestock) and new cover crop varieties since the 1950s. It’s only fitting to help further research advancement in this area at the national level, which is made possible through the FFAR grant and our team of collaborators."

The initiative will bring together many collaborators, including representatives from the seed industry, the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), three land grant universities, and an existing Legume Cover Crop Breeding Team, comprising another six land grant universities, ARS sites and a producer network.
To advance ecosystem service markets that incentivize farmers and ranchers to improve soil health systems that benefit society.
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Range and Pasture Consultant
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djgoodwin@noble.org