



Southeastern
Coastal Center

for Agricultural Health and Safety

State of the Science 2021

Welcome Session

The Importance of Ag Centers

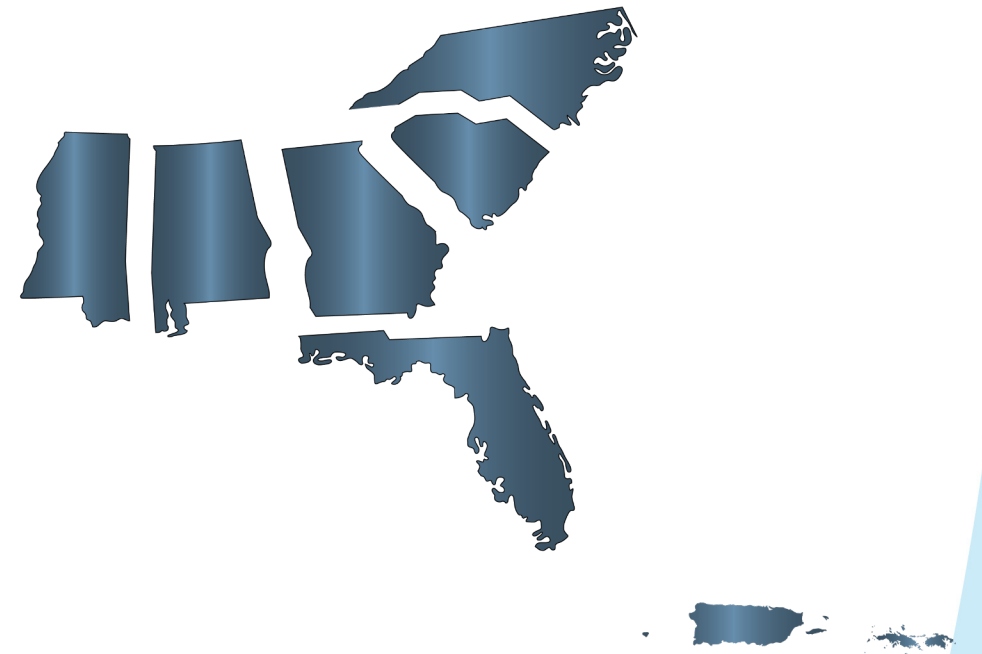
SCCAHS is one of **11 agricultural health/safety centers** around the country that have been funded since 1990.



About SCCAHS

The Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (SCCAHS) includes:

- 8 states/territories
- 7 major universities:
 - University of Florida
 - Emory University
 - Florida State University
 - Florida A&M University
 - Georgia Southern University
 - University of South Florida
 - University of the Virgin Islands
- Strong linkage with Extension Service
- Strong links with community partners



- Florida
- Georgia
- South Carolina
- North Carolina
- Alabama
- Mississippi
- Puerto Rico
- U.S. Virgin Islands

Research Highlights: 2017 - 2021

- 63 published peer-reviewed journal research articles
- Major Research Projects:
 - Extent of Agricultural Pesticide Applications in Florida Using Best Practices
 - PISCA: Pesticide & Heat Stress Education for Latino Farmworkers that is Culturally Appropriate
 - Heat Stress and Biomarkers of Renal Disease
 - Heat and Pesticide Stress on the Kidney
 - Using Social Marketing to Prevent HRI and Improve Productivity Among Farmworkers
 - Occupational Health and Safety Surveillance of Gulf Seafood Workers
- Mental Health and Resiliency
 - More than 200 people trained in mental health first-aid and mental health resilience

Pilot projects in basic/etiologic research, translational research, intervention studies, and surveillance



Pilot study of the acute psychological and health impacts of Hurricane Irma in UFAS extension workers
(Lynn Grattan, University of Maryland)

Uncovering patterns of mental, physical, and occupational health issues among migrant farmworkers with different socio-cultural networks: A pilot study among Haitian and Mexican farm workers in Immokalee, FL
(Gülcan Onel, University of Florida)

Chronic low back pain in seafood workers: a pilot intervention study to identify modifiable work and movement solutions (Kim Dunleavy, University of Florida)

Pilot study of mobile app monitoring to prevent heat-related symptoms among Hispanic farmworkers
Juan Luque, Florida A&M University

Understanding the scope of the opioid epidemic for agricultural industries Heidi Radunovich, University of Florida)

A novel approach (sweat patches) to monitoring pesticide exposure in farmworkers (Gregg Stanwood, Florida State University)

Agro-ecological practices in the face of climate change: Resilience, sustainability, and preparedness in Puerto Rico (Antonio Tovar-Aguilar, University of Florida)

Field evaluation of N95 filtering facepiece respirators against airborne dust and microorganisms during cotton harvest (Atin Adhikari, Georgia Southern University)

A pilot study to assess personal PM2.5 exposure and respiratory virus infections among farmworkers in the Southeast (Eric Coker, University of Florida)

Exploring mental health and natural disasters in agricultural communities in Puerto Rico Marysel Pagán-Santana, Migrant Clinicians Network

Developing an Integrated Decision Support Tool and Network for WPS Respirator Compliance in Florida Agricultural Industries (Maria Morera, University of Florida)

The background image shows a professional conference setting. In the foreground, a woman with blonde hair is seen from the side, looking towards a man. The man, who is Black, is wearing a dark suit and a name tag that reads "Davies Toluh". He is holding a glass of white wine and gesturing with his right hand as if speaking. In the background, other attendees are visible, some standing and talking, and a large poster or display board is partially visible on the right side of the frame. The overall atmosphere is one of a formal yet interactive academic or professional gathering.

Outreach Highlights

Annual symposiums educate the Southeast regional academic community and frontline professionals on clinical and public health science driving new thinking on emerging issues among agricultural, fishery, and forestry workers.

These **State of the Science Meetings** support and advance multidisciplinary collaboration and share cutting-edge research.

- 2018** Heat-related Illness State of the Science Meeting
- 2019** Stress and Resilience Among Agricultural Workers in Vulnerable Rural Communities
- 2020** Global Pandemics and the Agricultural Workforce: Research and Policy Implications
- 2021** Pathways to Health Equity in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2020-2021 Webinar Series

March: Death on the Farm: Characteristics and Contextual Factors in Farmer and Agricultural Worker Suicide in Georgia from 2008-2015

April: Uncovering Patterns of Mental, Physical, and Occupational Health Issues Among Migrant Farmworkers with Different Socio-cultural Networks

May: Stressors, Resilience Factors and Applicability of New Interventions for Substance Misuse

June: Rurality, Social Networks and Mental Well-being in Rural Latinos

August: COVID-19 Training Toolkit for Extension in Agriculture; Impacts of COVID-19 on Extension

Preparing for the 2020 Hurricane Season in the Midst of a Pandemic

November: Adapting Agriculture in Florida during the COVID-19 Pandemic: COVID-19 testing for migrant workers in Florida and the Farm to You webpage

December: Development and Deployment of a Farmworker Housing Simulator for COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

January: COVID-19 Vaccine Town Hall

February: Impacts of COVID-19 on Florida Agriculture and Marine Industries

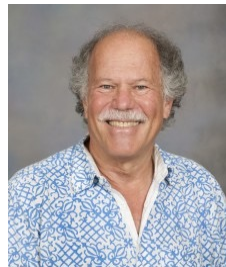
April: Facilitating Pandemic Preparedness in Agricultural Industry via COVID-19 Hazard Assessment and Mitigation Plan (CHAMP) e-tool

May: Communicating for Vaccine Adoption

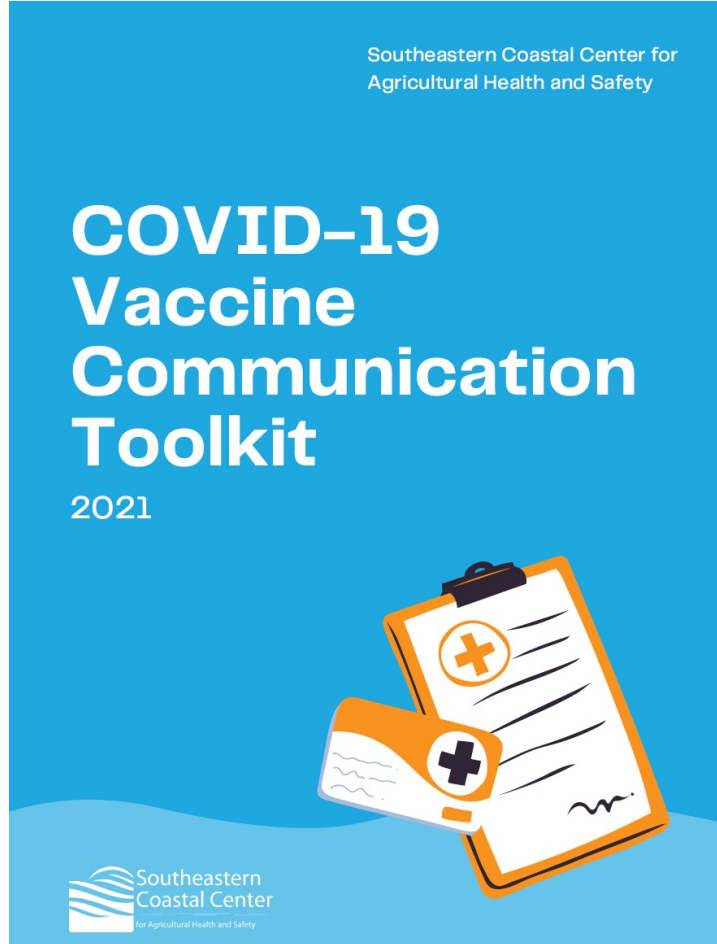
June: Pandemic and Heat-related Illness Mask Safety

July: 2020-2021 Economic Outlook Results from Rapid Grant

August: Update on How Extension Agents are Faring Post Pandemic



COVID-19 Resources: 2020 - 2021



- 10 Videos
- 15 Fact Sheets & Guidelines
- 4 trainings
- 30 presentations and webinars
- 40 social media posts
- 3 radio/TV/podcasts
- 1 newspaper article and press release
- 4 survey tools
- 4 mini grants
- 2 pilot projects
- 10 manuscripts and articles
- Israel, G. D., James, H. E., & Gariton, C. E. Anxiety disorders among Extension Professionals' during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Paper presented at the virtual annual meeting of the Southern Rural Sociological Association, February 2021.
- Israel, G. D., Diehl, D. C., Galindo, S., Ward, C., Ramos, A. K., Harrington, M., & Kasner, E. J. (2020). Extension Professionals' Information Use, Protective Behaviors, and Work-Life Stress During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Journal of Extension*, 58(6), 5.
- Sampson, S., Mazur, J., Israel, G., Galindo, S., & Ward, C. (2020). Competing Roles and Expectations: Preliminary Data from an Agricultural Extension Survey on COVID-19 Impacts. *Journal of Agromedicine*, 1-6.
- Sampson, S., Mazur, J., Israel, G., Galindo, S., & Ward, C. (2020). Competing Roles and Expectations: Preliminary Data from an Agricultural Extension Survey on COVID-19 Impacts. *Journal of agromedicine*, 25(4), 396-401. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1059924X.2020.1815619>
- Israel, G., Galindo, S., & Ward, C. (2020, June). Maximizing Response to Surveys of Extension Professionals: The Case of the COVID-19 Impacts Survey. *EEE TIG NEWS: AEA Extension Education Evaluation TIG Newsletter*, 3.

Meeting Goals

- Share an overview on health equity challenges and opportunities across agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector
- Foster ideas and collaboration among industry leaders to improve health and safety outcomes in the region. Particularly as it relates to:
 - Extension's updated national health equity framework
 - COVID-19 communication (especially within rural and minority populations)
 - Injury prevention and surveillance