



## BACKGROUND

From genetics and plant and animal breeding, to nutrition education and international development, feeding our world requires more than just producing more food. It involves developing better plant varieties using cutting-edge technology, increasing the use of sustainable farming practices to protect our land and water supply, decreasing food loss and waste after harvest, and educating communities on the power of proper nutrition, both locally and abroad.

## LEAD BY EXAMPLE: CURRENTS EFFORTS

From our own backyards to farms in distant countries, here are a few of our many efforts to feed a hungry world:

**Local:** In local communities, such as Bryan-College Station, children as young as 9 years old are learning how to make healthy food choices and reduce disease risks through menu planning, food purchasing and preparation by competing in Texas A&M AgriLife Extension's Food & Nutrition Project. For many students, this is their first look at the impact food choices can have on overall wellness, which is crucial, as the **obesity rate in Texas has risen to more than 30 percent.**

**State:** Texas has millions of acres of land and nearly as many growing environments as there are across the globe. Collecting accurate crop data across these vast spaces using traditional methods is difficult and expensive. Using the latest technology with Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, (aka drones), our faculty can measure as many as 100,000 plants per day to better understand crops produced, drought resistance, and nutritional components. We are dedicated to developing and utilizing cutting-edge technology that will feed our state, nation, and world.

Our meat science program, **ranked #1 in the nation**, conducts research focused on food safety and meat quality as well as provides award-winning outreach programs and workshops attended by citizens from across the state. The program is also instrumental in its work with the National Beef Quality Audit, a comprehensive report that addresses key issues facing the beef industry.

**Nation:** Building on the success of Dr. Norman Borlaug's life-saving and Nobel Prize winning research, we continue to develop varieties of crops that will produce more food using fewer resources. For example, our corn and wheat breeding programs are **among the most planted varieties in the US** and are

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## FAST FACTS

- The world's population is expected to reach 9 billion people by 2050
- There are an estimated 925 million hungry people in the world
- 30% of food produced world-wide is wasted or lost
- The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences was home to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and father of the Green Revolution



## KEY LEADERSHIP

### Genetics and Breeding

- Dr. Seth Murray, Soil and Crop Sciences
- Dr. Penny Riggs, Animal Science
- Dr. Libo Shan, Plant Pathology and Microbiology



### Development of Technology

- Dr. Steve Searcy, Biological and Agricultural Engineering
- Dr. Alex Thomasson, Biological and Agricultural Engineering



### Nutrition Education

- Dr. Boon Chew, Nutrition and Food Sciences



### International Development

- Ms. Julie Borlaug, The Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture

Additionally, we have access to key stakeholders, such as farmers, international program participants and 4-H students, in our network that could provide on camera testimonials about our outreach efforts to ensure a safe and plentiful food supply.



known for their disease resistance and drought tolerance. We are also national leaders in livestock breeding and production, including a statewide cattle program that focuses on better beef through nutrition, management, selection, and reproduction.

Not only are we present in the fields, but also in the government, educating officials on agricultural issues. The Agricultural & Food Policy Center works directly with the U.S. Congress to analyze the impacts of government policy on farmers, agribusinesses, taxpayers, and consumers.

**Global:** With more than 900 million hungry people in the world, the college and agencies have made it a top priority to increase global food production. The Borlaug Institute works with small-scale farmers around the globe by teaching them essential farming skills while providing valuable resources and market knowledge.

One example of this is the **Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Small-Scale Irrigation** that is teaching farmers in Ethiopia, Ghana, and Tanzania how to improve effective use of scarce water supplies through interventions in small-scale interventions. Another of the institute's recent leading projects is the **World Coffee Research** program, aimed at increasing the supply and quality of Arabica coffees, while providing economic security.

## SUPPORTING THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: WHY IT MATTERS

Hunger is not some affliction only heard about in far-off lands. It's a local, state, national, and international problem. More than 44,000 people living in Brazos County are food insecure. That number jumps to 4.6 million people in Texas and 49 million in the United States. With an ever-growing global population, those numbers will continue to rise. Hunger is real and it's in our backyard.

Supporting our fight to the feed the billions means you are investing in our hunger warriors – true boots on the ground in the labs, classrooms, and fields. In today's world, it takes more than just a plow to produce the food needed to feed a hungry world. It takes genetics, technology, and outreach, just to name a few. It is our responsibility to educate tomorrow's leaders to feed our world. Our college and its partners are committed to not only addressing, but also solving the global issue of food security. Aggies together will bthoHunger!

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN THEMES ADDRESSED

- Making a difference in the lives of Texans and people across the globe.
- A comprehensive research university with instructional and research programs ranging from anthropology to zoonotic disease.
- The model of a world class public university that is meeting the challenges of today and creating innovations that define the future
- Conducting research that expands understanding, solves problems, and creates economic opportunities.
- Committed to disciplinary excellence and multi-disciplinary collaboration.
- Preparing outstanding state, national and international leaders of tomorrow
- Engaged in multi-disciplinary educational and research initiatives to address the issues of today and meet the challenges of tomorrow.



## AVAILABLE RESOURCES

- B-roll available of fields of crops, laboratories, classroom setting, etc. For examples of some of the footage, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KpnBj8z2Bhw>
- Still photography <https://www.flickr.com/photos/agrilife/sets/72157622426463532>
- Recent stock photography taken for most departments in the past two years
- Boiler plate text for all academic departments and agencies
- Norman Borlaug video footage and photographs