

## Agricultural Engineering

Develop methods and equipment for conservation agriculture to optimize both timing of cash crop planting and cover crop management across different farm scales for sustainable crop production.



## Agricultural Economics

Integrate existing production agriculture and conservation system research using analysis tools and/or models to evaluate profitability and risk associated with conservation systems.



## Personnel

### Scientists

Dr. Kipling S. Balkcom – Research Agronomist  
Dr. Leah M. Duzy – Agricultural Economist  
Dr. Ted S. Kornecki – Research Agricultural Engineer  
Dr. Andrew J. Price – Research Weed Scientist

### Support Staff

Corey Kichler – Agricultural Engineer  
Dexter LaGrand – IT Specialist  
Trent Morton – Agronomic Technician  
Dr. Juan B. Rodriguez – Soil Scientist  
Jeffrey A. Walker – Agronomic Technician  
Morris G. Welch – Engineering Technician

# Conservation Systems Research



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### Contact us:

Conservation Systems Research  
USDA-ARS  
National Soil Dynamics Laboratory  
411 S. Donahue Dr.  
Auburn, AL 36832-5806  
Phone: (334) 887-8596 FAX: (334) 887-8597

Web: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/sea/nsdl>  
YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/usdansdl](http://www.youtube.com/user/usdansdl)

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**Southern Soils** are prone to degradation associated with low organic matter. These soils are highly susceptible to erosion, nutrient leaching/runoff, and compaction that increases the risk of nutrient pollution to ground and surface waters. All these factors can reduce soil quality, productivity, and profitability for farmers in the region.

**Our primary mission** is to develop conservation systems that will improve soil quality, conserve natural resources, and increase production efficiency, considering input costs and profitability.

**Our multi-disciplinary research approach** will benefit producers directly through equipment advances, management techniques to maximize benefits associated with improved soil quality, and economic comparisons to illustrate profitability associated with these systems.

## Agronomy

Develop, evaluate, and provide decision support for cropping systems that increase soil organic matter accumulation, enhance productivity, and maximize profitability of degraded southeastern soils.



## Soil Science

Develop management systems and technologies that mitigate economic risks from short-term droughts for southeastern producers.



## Weed Science

Determine optimum herbicide management intensity, cover crop biomass, and soil applied herbicide placement for weed control and yield in conservation agriculture corn, cotton, soybean, and peanut.

