THIRD GRADE SOIL LESSON

The science lesson for the week was “What are some types of soil?” Ms. Jewelin Patulot, a UGA College of Education student, wanted to give her pupils at Howard B. Stroud Elementary School a hands-on lesson. With an idea in mind, she contacted Dr. David Radcliffe.

Using the ten soil samples provided by Dr. Radcliffe and graduate student Ken Bradshaw, Ms. Patulot came up with two projects for the kids. In the first one, soils were laid out on a table, grouped by type and color. The students were able to look and touch the various soil types for approximately ten minutes. As they examined the soil, Ms. Patulot asked some basic questions about the soil they were examining.

To further this lesson, clear plastic bottles were given to each child. The children then filled the bottles with the soil, layering the different colors and types.

At the end of the lesson, each student had spent 30 minutes out in the fresh air and sunshine, knew some basic differences in soil types, and had a one-of-kind soil sculpture to take home with them.

FROM THE DESK OF DR. SHILLING

This year has been challenging for all of us. However, even with severe budget constraints we accomplished much in 2009. Our faculty again excelled in attracting extramural funding to support our diverse research efforts. We continue to enjoy wide-spread support from many organization that value our outstanding expertise and focus on fundamental and applied research based information and solutions. Our statewide graduate and undergraduate programs continued to grow and our faculty embraced innovative methods to enhance the educational experience for our students. The demand for information also increased and our extension faculty met the challenge through their traditional “hands-on” problem solving and using new forms of communication. Although 2010 will no doubt be challenging I’m confident we will find innovative ways to maintain our exceptional programs and success.

Thank you for your continued dedication and support. Our future success is assured because of you.
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Soil Judging Team

The UGA soil judging team spent the week of October 12-16 describing the soils of the Cumberland Plateau in Crossville, TN, in preparation for the Southeast Regional Soil Judging competition. When all was said and done, UGA placed fifth overall in the team rankings, with Louise Jacques and Audrey Morgan placing in the top 10 individual scores out of more than 80 contestants. The team will travel to Lubbock, TX in April 2010 to compete in the National contest.

Agronomy Graduate Student Association

AGSA kick started the year with a Coffee Hour at CAGT in September. They followed it up in December with another Coffee Hour at the Miller Plant Sciences Building. Both Hours provided hot coffee from Jittery Joe’s, fresh pastries, donuts and bagels, and plenty of time to mingle, relax, and get to know graduate students, faculty and staff.

Turf Club

Sam Burgess has been elected Turf Club President for the 2009-2010 academic year. Assisting Sam are Vice-President Trevor Floyd, Secretary Adam Leakey, Treasurer Britt Hendrix, Ag Hill reps Thomas Aiken and Daryl Jones, and Activities rep Kyle Leblanc.

The members of the Turf Club put in many hours preparing the the Annual Peanut Sale, mailing order forms, labeling peanut cans, and preparing orders for pickup during the first week of December.

BIRTHS

Jeremy and Kelly Connell welcomed a daughter, Ella Rose, into their family on August 14, 2009. Ella is their first child. Jeremy is a Masters student working under Dr. Dennis Hancock.

Dr. Stanley Culpepper and wife welcomed daughter Sarah Grayce into their family in August 2009. Sarah is their first daughter.

Carrie Neely and husband Greg Etheridge have a new baby boy, named Charles Samual Neely Etheridge. Sam was born on October 12, 2009, at a healthy 8 lbs. 14 oz. This is the first child for Carrie and Greg.

Dr. Scott Tubbs and wife, Danielle, welcomed their second child on September 23, 2009. Reid Samuel Tubbs entered the world at 11:20 am, weighing almost 7 1/2 lbs. Both mom and baby are doing well.

Dr. Brian Schwartz and his wife welcomed their first child into the world in November 2009. They named their new daughter Madison Grace.

2010 Agronomy Club Recruitment Campaign

Interested in joining the Agronomy Club? For more information, please visit the Agronomy Club website at www.uga.edu/agronomy, or contact Dr. Dennis Hancock (dh Hancock@uga.edu) or Dr. Aaron Thompson (aar ont@uga.edu).
Doug Heckart won Second Place in the Oral Presentation competition at the Agronomy Society of America Annual meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, in November. Doug is a graduate student working under Drs. Paul Raymer and Wayne Parrott, and was competing in Plant Breeding & Genetics division.

Vivienne Sturgill, Academic Advisor in Athens, completed the Academic Advising Certificate Program through the Staff Training & Development Center.

Dr. Stanley Culpepper, of the Tifton campus, received the D.W. Brooks Award for Outstanding Extension. He was presented with a plaque in recognition of this achievement at a college banquet on October 6, 2009.

Dr. Monique Leclerc, Griffin campus, received the D.W. Brooks Award for Outstanding Research. She was presented with a plaque commemorating this achievement at a college banquet on October 6, 2009.

Dr. Guy Collins joined the Tifton Campus as an Assistant Professor and Cotton Agronomist. Guy received his Ph.D. from North Carolina State University in 2009.

Dr. Jerry Johnson retired from his position as Professor after 32 years of service to the University.

Dr. Monique Leclerc, Griffin campus, received the D.W. Brooks Award for Outstanding Research. She was presented with a plaque commemorating this achievement at a college banquet on October 6, 2009.

Doug Heckart won Second Place in the Oral Presentation competition at the Agronomy Society of America Annual meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, in November. Doug is a graduate student working under Drs. Paul Raymer and Wayne Parrott, and was competing in Plant Breeding & Genetics division.

Vivienne Sturgill, Academic Advisor in Athens, completed the Academic Advising Certificate Program through the Staff Training & Development Center.

Dr. Stanley Culpepper, of the Tifton campus, received the D.W. Brooks Award for Outstanding Extension. He was presented with a plaque in recognition of this achievement at a college banquet on October 6, 2009.

Dr. Monique Leclerc, Griffin campus, received the D.W. Brooks Award for Outstanding Research. She was presented with a plaque commemorating this achievement at a college banquet on October 6, 2009.

Dr. Guy Collins joined the Tifton Campus as an Assistant Professor and Cotton Agronomist. Guy received his Ph.D. from North Carolina State University in 2009.

Dr. Jerry Johnson retired from his position as Professor after 32 years of service to the University.

Have a safe and wonderful holiday!!!!

ALUMNI: If you would like to Invest in Our Future, please visit www.cropsoil.uga.edu, and follow the link to “Invest In Our Future.” Also, please update your contact information by visiting our Alumni page at: http://www.cropsoil.uga.edu/alumni/form.html