

INSIDE AGRONOMY

ISSUE 27 - OCTOBER 13, 2025



Agronomy

All issues of *Inside Agronomy* are available on the Agronomy website.

Congratulations to Dr. Shams Rahmani!

Recipient of the University-Wide Recognition for Excellence in Teaching through the Excellence in Online Course Design & Delivery Award (Degree). The celebration took place on Tuesday, September 23, at the Beck Center.



This award specifically recognizes the design and successful delivery of the Soil Science (AGRY/NRES 255) course, which has now been launched three times since 2023.



PLASTIC CAP COLLECTION

Hosted by the Agronomy Club

500 LBS of Caps & Lids = 1 Bench!
Bench to be placed at ACRE Wetlands

PLEASE NOTE: Caps should not contain any metal or rubber/paper seals

The Agronomy Club is collecting plastic caps and lids. Collection containers have been placed throughout the department, including in the kitchen and main office. Please see the note at the bottom of the graphic to the right regarding types of lids to avoid.

WPS Training

The USEPA mandates pesticide safety training for employees who encounter agricultural use pesticides while working at a farm, greenhouse, nursery, or forest and do not possess a Certified Pesticide Applicators license. To ensure compliance, EHS is offering Worker Protection Standard (WPS) training at the times and location listed below. Annual training is required.

October 13, 10am – 11am

LILY 2425

October 16, 9am - 10am

LILY 2425

October 21, 1pm-2pm

LILY 2425

Contact Jennifer Kraus, jakraus@purdue.edu with any questions or concerns.

BOILERMAKER RECEPTION

AT



11/10/2025 • 5:30-7:30 PM

MARRIOTT SKYLIGHT BALLROOM - LIGHT HORS D'OEUVRES TO BE SERVED



All Day Field Trip to Southern Indiana

You are invited to join the upcoming all-day field trip to southern Indiana, part of AGRY 565 (Soils and Landscapes).

If you are new to the state, this trip is a great opportunity to see a cross-section of Indiana, including soils, landscapes, agriculture, and land use.

The trip is fully geoenabled with statewide digital maps available on iPads throughout the day.

Trip Details

Departure/Return: Depart promptly at 7:00 am (please arrive by 6:45 am) from the west side of Lilly Hall; return around 7:00 pm.

Transportation: Comfortable bus.

Meal: Lunch stop will allow easy access to multiple restaurants.

Date: Saturday, October 18th.

Southern Indiana Trip: If you think all of Indiana is "flat," this trip will change that misconception. We will be in the scenic sandstone and limestone hills of southern Indiana at a time. We will see soils formed in loess over paleosols in older glacial till and bedrock, karst topography, including a close encounter with a sinkhole, lake plains, and fragipans. Lunch will be in Bloomington, followed by a drive through the Indiana University campus. Seating may be limited.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Shams Rahmani at rahmani@purdue.edu.

GRAIN CENTER DEDICATION

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16TH | 3 PM

@ NEW ACRE GRAIN BINS

REMARKS, REVELRY,
& REFRESHMENTS

**THIS WILL BE AN
OUTDOOR EVENT*

RSVP



purdue.ag/acre-bin-dedication

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Research and Education



Congratulations to Ayomide Adepeju!

Dr. Laura Bowling is pleased to share the news that her graduate student, Ayomide Adepeju welcomed a son, Greatlight Allen on Sunday, October 5th.



AGSO CHILI COOKOFF RESULTS

Thank you very much for your support in joining our AGSO Chili Cook-Off! We had nine delicious chilis entered into the competition, and it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm from our community.

We are excited to share the results:

First Place: Plant Genetics and Breeding major undergraduate student Arianna McCrory, with her Vegan Chili, won first place. Arianna is currently working in Dr. Cankui Zhang's lab.

Second Place: Narciso Zapata - Navy Bean Strike Force Chili

Third Place: Chris Barron - Creole Texan Chili



GRADUATE STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

To recognize the accomplishments resulting from the hard work of our Graduate Students, the Graduate Committee will regularly feature recently published papers, peer-reviewed or extension articles by our graduate students in the

Bogati S, Carpenter J, Jung Jinha, **Schafer S**, **Danao J**, Woods E, Song Q, Kantar MB, Ma J, Wang DR. Divergence of root system plasticity in soybean between modern breeding lines and diverse germplasm accessions. September 2025. Crop Science, in press.

Graduate students: Sujata Bogati, Sam Schafer and Jairam Danao

In cultivated soybean (*Glycine max*), evidence of breeding-driven changes in root system architecture (RSA) has been mixed. This study examined whether RSA differs between elite Midwest breeding lines (n=8) and USDA diversity lines (n=16) across three growth stages (V2–V6, V7–R2, R3–R7) and two soil types. In total, 432 root systems were phenotyped for 12 structural traits and biomass. A root modeling approach using photogrammetry-derived pointclouds was also tested on a subset of 30 contrasting root systems. Results show that diversity lines had smaller root systems overall but displayed greater plasticity to soil environment than breeding lines.

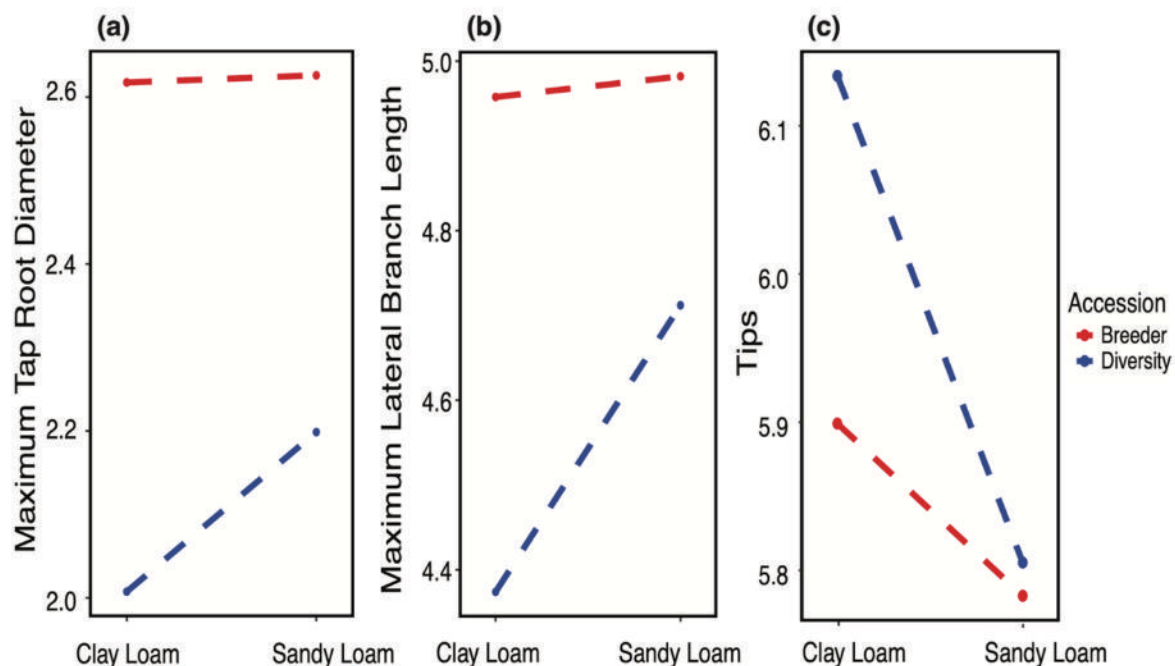


Figure. Interaction plot of root traits across soil types for genotype groups. The transformed mean trait values are shown for two soil environments (Clay Loam and Sandy Loam) in breeder (red dashed line) and diversity (blue dashed line) lines. (a) Maximum lateral branch length, (b) Maximum tap root diameter, (c) Number of root tips.

CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO READ INDIANA CORN UPDATE



FROM NORTH to SOUTH

- **Indiana's Corn Progress Update**

NORMAL SENESCENCE vs. TOP DIEBACK:

- **A Quick Check in Corn**

PURDUE CORN TEAM RESEARCH UPDATE

CORN GRAIN SAMPLES NEEDED

MID-SEASON INSECT PESTS in 2025

- **Survey Results**

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES:

- **Mapping the Future of Corn Production & US Agriculture**

DROUGHT CONDITIONS IMPROVE in SOUTHERN INDIANA, & WORSEN in NORTHERN INDIANA

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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CORINNE ALEXANDER

Spirit of the Land-Grant Mission Award 2025



College of Agriculture

Dr. Linda Lee

*DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF
AGRONOMY*

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Seminar: 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Reception: 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Deans auditorium, PFEN 241



Dr. Lee is an outstanding example of faculty embracing the land grant mission to improve the lives of people around the world. She has gained a national and international reputation based on her basic process-level research to unravel the complexity of environmental dynamics of a broad spectrum of mixtures of contaminants."

— LAURA C. BOWLING, PROFESSOR AND HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY



An equal access/opportunity university.

BEGIN PLANNING NOW!

If you are in a shared space, such as a grad student office, and would like to split into groups, see Stephanie in the main office for a door assignment elsewhere in the department.



Deck the Halls with Seasonal Cheer!

AGRONOMY DOOR DECORATING CONTEST

***Doors must
be decorated
by Monday,
December
1st to be
included in
the voting.***

***Prizes for
three categories!***

- Most Creative
- Best Constructed
- Most Agronomic

A QR Code for voting will be shared after December 1st.

Winners will be announced December 11th!

ONE VOTE SUBMISSION PER PERSON!

AGRONOMY FALL 2025 SEMINAR SERIES

**Mondays at
2:30 p.m.
LILY 2-425**
(unless otherwise noted)

**Join friends and
colleagues as they
discuss the latest
in Agronomy and
other related
topics.**

Zoom links for virtual attendance and online-only seminars will be shared closer to their scheduled date.

A detailed flyer will be shared prior to each seminar. Please refer to the specific event flyer for any changes.

**Visit the Agronomy
Seminar Series Website at:
purdue.ag/agryseminars
or by scanning the QR code
below.**



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Agronomy

Date	Speaker
September 8th	Dr. Shalamar Armstrong - Purdue University Topic: Contributions of Cover Crops to Sustainably Intensified Agricultural Systems Host: Dr. Eileen Kladvko
September 15th	Dr. Alex Lipka - University of Illinois Topic: Leveraging recent biological findings and resources into crop statistical genetics Host: Dr. Diane Wang
September 19th 10:30 a.m.	Dr. Jianhua Yu - University of California, Irvine Distinguished Ag Alumni Special Seminar Host: Dr. Laura Bowling
September 22nd	Dr. Shofi Islam - Indiana Crop Improvement Association Topic: Indiana Crop Improvement Association R & D overview and potential collaboration Host: Dr. Torbert Rocheford
September 29th	Dr. Abebe Menkir International Institute of Tropical Agriculture Hosts: Dr. Torbert Rocheford & Dr. Gebisa Ejeta
October 6th	Dr. Mike Castellano - Iowa State University Topic: "The Iowa Nitrogen Initiative: Integrating research, extension, and education for the benefit of all" Host: Dr. Ignacio Ciampitti
October 20th	Dr. Caio Canella Vieira - University of Arkansas Topic: Soybean Breeding Host: Dr. Katy Rainey
October 27th	Dr. Bo Guo - University of Arizona Topic: Fate and Transport of PFAS Hosts: Dr. Linda Lee & Dr. Laura Bowling
November 3rd	Dr. Bryan Runck - University of Minnesota Topic: TBD Host: Dr. Diane Wang
November 17th	Dr. Scott Jackson - University of Georgia Topic: Designer Crops - Integrating Engineering and Biology to Meet Future Demands Host: Dr. Jianxin Ma
November 24th	Dr. Max Leung - Arizona State University Topic: Cannabis Sativa, The Environment, and Your Health Host: Dr. Yichao Rui
December 1st	Dr. Veena Veena - Danforth Plant Science Center Topic: "Unlocking the Potential of Plant Genetic Engineering: Opportunities and Challenges" Host: Dr. Cankui Zhang
December 8th	Dr. Lisa Ainsworth - University of Illinois Topic: Optimizing soybean canopies for improved photosynthesis in current and future atmospheres Host: Dr. Jianxin Ma

POSTER PRINTING GUIDELINES



Poster printing requests must be submitted 24-hours in advance of the time the poster needs to be picked up. Last minute requests are not guaranteed to be printed.

Posters should be designed in the size needed and saved as a PDF file prior to requesting print.

Posters may be designed in either landscape or portrait directions, however one direction must not exceed 41.5" (*landscape not more than 41.5" in height and portrait not more than 41.5" in width*).

PROOF PROOF PROOF

BEFORE you request that your poster be printed, ensure that it has been proofed by your faculty and anyone else that is knowledgeable about the information included. It is very expensive to print posters and reprints due to lack of proofing is an unnecessary expense.

Poster printing is for Agronomy & Botany only. Please do not direct your peers from other departments to request a poster print from the Agronomy Main Office. Requests from students outside of these departments will be denied.

Be sure you are following the poster guidelines

<https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/agry/about/posters.html> or by scanning the QR code.



Please email your poster as a PDF to:
AGRYadmin@purdue.edu