

STUDENT RUN FARM OVERVIEW

Urban/ CEA Ag Students and Kentucky State University student interns operate a student-run farm with outdoor plots on the Harold Benson Farm in Frankfort, Kentucky. The student run farm has traditional ag field plots and several raised beds for annual crop production including several varieties of tomatoes, cucumbers, summer squash, winter squash, herbs, peppers, leafy greens, and many more veggies.



MISSIONS

The students learn many farm skills through hands on experience such as how to: use farm tools, install drip irrigation, planting, pest management, and composting systems. They learn how to raise crops using sustainable and organic production principles, including cover cropping, crop rotation, composting, and natural fertilizers. They seldom use pesticides and herbicides and determine when to use natural products when relevant. The student run farm takes pride in helping reduce food insecurity in their campus and community.

COMMUNITY & CAMPUS DONATION & OUTREACH

They donate all of their the produce to the University staff, students, and local community to enhance nutritional status and decrease promote local food movements. They provide educational material such as fact sheets, receipe cards, and research publications with all of their donated veggies. The consumers of the student run farm produce can learn how to use these veggies in a healthy way and grow these types of foods in their own urban patios, homes, and backyards. The urban ag department ensures they provide urban grower information and farm demos throughout their outreach efforts.



EXPLORE URBAN AG/CEA

STUDENT RUN FARM

DR. THEO'S LAB

MAIN PROGRAM AREAS

- Student Run Farm
- Greenhouse Management
- Hydroponics
- Aquaponics



LAB ACTIVITIES

The urban ag/CEA team work together in the lab to collect data, perform experiments, and provide hands on experience for our students. They also create many lab solutions such as hydroponic Hogland solution for their experiments. Additionally, they periodically conduct water quality, EC, and PH testing to ensure plants are grown healthfully. They aim to perform various nutrient, mineral, and water analysis through lab analysis and an HPLC machine in their lab. In the urban lab growing setting they care for indoor plants, perform seed germination, and produce microgreens.

