



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Program Aid No. 2104

AgDiscovery 2012:

Investing in the Future of American
Agriculture



Apply online at www.aphis.usda.gov/agdiscovery



ARE YOU...

- a middle or high school student looking for a unique summer internship with an opportunity to live and study on a college campus?
- a high school student looking to improve your resume for college?
- a teacher looking for opportunities to expand your students' view of agriculture?
- a parent looking for learning opportunities for your teen?

Look no further... the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers you an opportunity of a lifetime.

WHAT IS AGDISCOVERY?

AgDiscovery is an outreach program to help teenagers learn about careers in plant and animal science, wildlife management, and agribusiness. The program allows students to live on a college campus and learn about agriculture from university professors, scientists, and administrative professionals who work for the U.S. Government in a variety of fields. They study the life cycles and habits of insects (entomologists); research micro-organisms, such as bacteria and viruses (biotechnologists); examine cells and tissues under a microscope to identify diseases (plant pathologists); work to conserve and manage wild animals and their habitats (wildlife biologists); carry out animal health programs (veterinarians); provide education on the humane care and treatment of animals (veterinarians and animal care inspectors); and manage the business aspects of protecting plants and animals (agribusiness).

This 2- to 4-week summer boarding program for 2012 targets middle and high school students¹ who are interested in learning more about plants, animals, and agribusiness. Students chosen to participate in AgDiscovery will gain experience through hands-on labs, workshops, and field trips. Students will also participate in character- and team-building activities and a variety of workshops.

¹ Students between the ages of 12 and 16 are eligible to participate in the AgDiscovery program at Alcorn State University. For all other participating universities, the eligible ages for participation are 14 through 17 years old.

AgDiscovery

WHO SPONSORS AGDISCOVERY?

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) partners with various universities and colleges to deliver the AgDiscovery program at locations throughout the country. Many of the Federal Government's professional plant scientists, biotechnologists, veterinarians, and wildlife biologists work for APHIS. The agency funds AgDiscovery each year, and partner universities host program participants on their local campuses.

In 2012, there are 17 universities participating in AgDiscovery: Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, South Carolina State University, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Kentucky State University, Tuskegee University, Alcorn State University, University of Hawaii at Mānoa, Fort Valley State University, University of Arizona, Delaware State University, University of Maryland at College Park, Iowa State University, North Carolina State University, Virginia State University, Lincoln University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Each university's AgDiscovery program focuses on a specific area of interest to our Nation's agriculture, such as plant health, entomology, veterinary science, animal care, biotechnology, and agribusiness.

AgDiscovery is a unique opportunity for students to gain a first-hand look at the many career paths open to them in the agricultural sciences. For those interested in an agricultural career, AgDiscovery is a great way to get started. Read on to learn more about this year's program, including dates, locations, cost information, and how to apply.



FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY

JUNE 10–22, 2012

Students will live on the Tallahassee campus and work with a variety of animal species. In addition, students are exposed to opportunities in animal science to help them better understand and refine their career paths. Funding is provided by APHIS' Animal Care program.

Contact: Carmen Lyttle-N'guessan, M.S., M.Ed., (850) 412-5363, carmen.lyttlenguessa@famuedu; Dr. Glen Wright, (850) 599-3546, glen.wright@famuedu

www.famuedu/herds

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) was founded as the State Normal College for Colored Students and, on October 3, 1887, began classes with 15 students and 2 instructors. Today, "FAMU," as it has become affectionately known, is the premiere school among historically black colleges and universities. Prominently located on the highest hill in Florida's capital city of Tallahassee, FAMU remains the only historically black university in the 11-member State University System of Florida.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 3–17, 2012

Learn the business aspects of protecting plants and animals while exploring careers in agribusiness. The 2-week program, held on the South Carolina State University (SC State) campus, features a series of interactive activities, presentations, and educational field visits. Funding is provided by APHIS' Marketing and Regulatory Programs Business Services.

Contact: Christopher C. Mathis, Jr., Ph.D., (803) 536-8974, cmathis@scsu.edu
www.scsu.edu



Since 1896, SC State has maintained a legacy of excellence in education. It has been home to generations of scholars and leaders in business, military service, government, athletics, education, medicine, science, and engineering technology. Located in Orangeburg, SC State was founded as a land-grant college with a mission of providing education and service to the citizens of the State.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF

JUNE 16–29, 2012

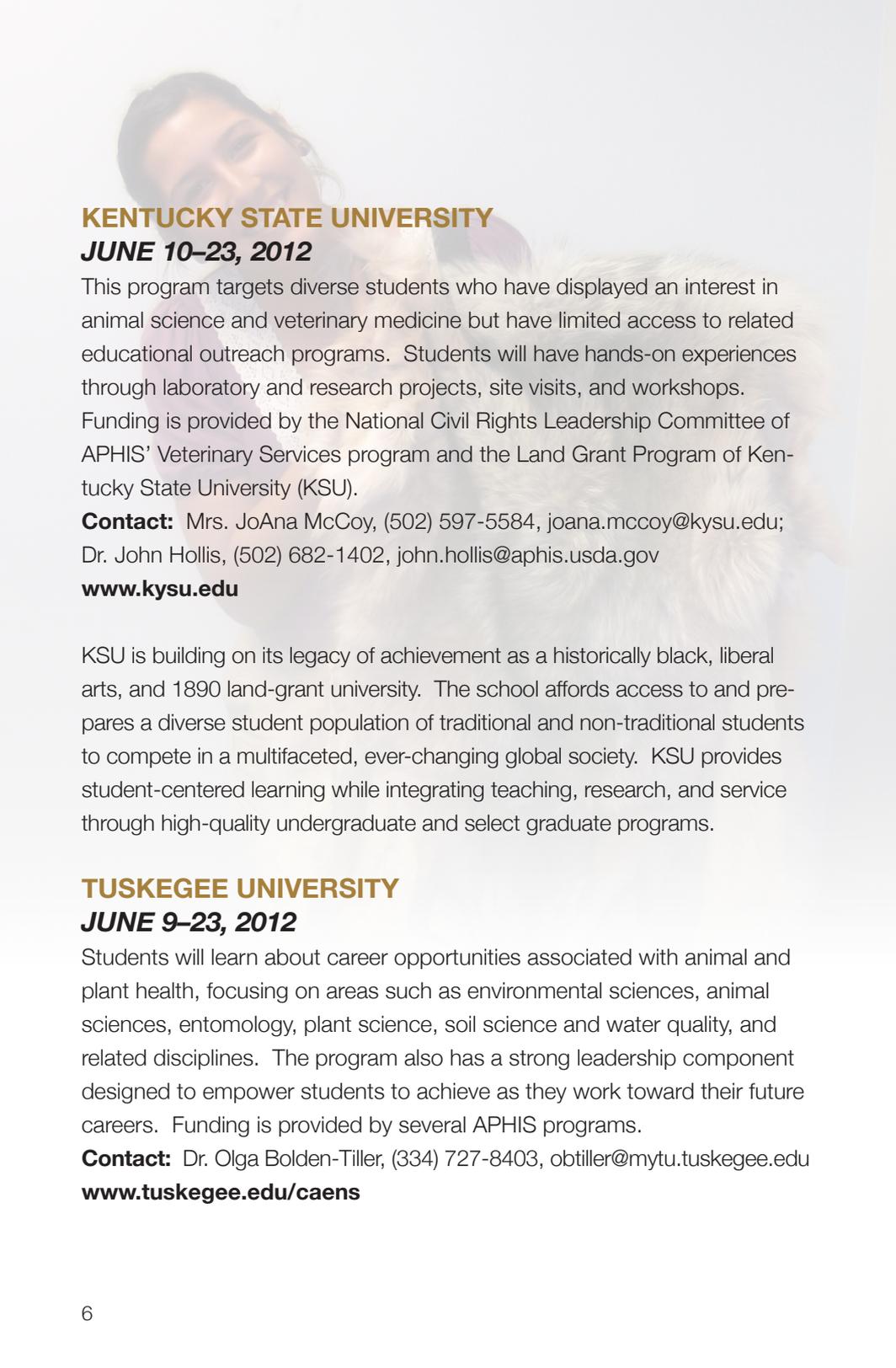
Students will work with plants and animals to discover the effects of insects and diseases on American agriculture. Students will also learn about the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB) Regulatory Science program, which offers an undergraduate major in the development and writing of governmental regulations. Funding is provided by several APHIS programs.

Contact: Meghan Eddy, M.Ed., (870) 575-7962, eddym@uapb.edu

www.uapb.edu

Unique career choices are available at UAPB. The university's Aquaculture/Fisheries (AQFI) Center of Excellence, created in 1988, is recognized as a leader in aquaculture/fisheries teaching, research, and extension programs. UAPB is the only school in the University of Arkansas system to offer bachelor and master's degree programs in aquaculture/fisheries.



A background image of a woman with dark hair, smiling and holding a light-colored dog. The image is slightly faded and serves as a backdrop for the text.

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 10–23, 2012

This program targets diverse students who have displayed an interest in animal science and veterinary medicine but have limited access to related educational outreach programs. Students will have hands-on experiences through laboratory and research projects, site visits, and workshops. Funding is provided by the National Civil Rights Leadership Committee of APHIS' Veterinary Services program and the Land Grant Program of Kentucky State University (KSU).

Contact: Mrs. JoAna McCoy, (502) 597-5584, joana.mccoy@kysu.edu;
Dr. John Hollis, (502) 682-1402, john.hollis@aphis.usda.gov

www.kysu.edu

KSU is building on its legacy of achievement as a historically black, liberal arts, and 1890 land-grant university. The school affords access to and prepares a diverse student population of traditional and non-traditional students to compete in a multifaceted, ever-changing global society. KSU provides student-centered learning while integrating teaching, research, and service through high-quality undergraduate and select graduate programs.

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 9–23, 2012

Students will learn about career opportunities associated with animal and plant health, focusing on areas such as environmental sciences, animal sciences, entomology, plant science, soil science and water quality, and related disciplines. The program also has a strong leadership component designed to empower students to achieve as they work toward their future careers. Funding is provided by several APHIS programs.

Contact: Dr. Olga Bolden-Tiller, (334) 727-8403, obtiller@mytu.tuskegee.edu

www.tuskegee.edu/caens

Tuskegee University, founded in 1881 by Booker T. Washington, is a national, independent, and State-related institution of higher learning in Alabama that services a diverse, coeducational student body of more than 3,000. Tuskegee's College of Agricultural, Environmental, and Natural Sciences (CAENS) offers an education that prepares future professionals and leaders in the life sciences through coursework along with research and outreach activities. CAENS programs are influenced by the college's inherited legacy of George Washington Carver and his many contributions to teaching, research, and outreach in agriculture.

ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 17–30, 2012

Learn veterinary care through hands-on experiences with a variety of live animals. Students will live on the main Alcorn State University campus in Lorman, MS, during the program. Funding is provided by the National Civil Rights Leadership Committee of the APHIS Veterinary Services unit.

Contact: Dr. Cassandra Vaughn, (601) 877-6541, cfvaughn@alcorn.edu
www.alcorn.edu

For more than 138 years, Alcorn State University has educated leaders in the full range of professions in agriculture, the arts, business, human services, education, law, politics, medicine, and nursing. The university's low student-to-faculty ratio (16:1) is an important reason for the graduates' success: at Alcorn, students form close, collaborative relationships with faculty mentors.



A woman wearing a dark blue lab coat and a matching cap is focused on her work in a laboratory. She is looking through the eyepiece of a microscope. In the background, there is a piece of laboratory equipment with a circular gauge on top. To the right, a poster is partially visible with text that reads "Create callus. Select cells with desired genes" and "growth".

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

June 10–23, 2012

Students will learn about career and educational opportunities in the fields of animal and plant health, including agricultural sciences, veterinary sciences, animal and plant disease eradication, plant pathology, entomology, wildlife services, investigative enforcement, and activities of APHIS' Center for Plant Health, Science, and Technology. Students will experience many aspects of agribusiness and college campus life through various field and lab activities. Funding is provided by APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine program.

Contact: Charles Kinoshita, Ph.D., P.E., (808) 956-6997, kinoshitac@ctahr.hawaii.edu; Tess A. Williams, (602) 431-3208, tessie.a.williams@aphis.usda.gov

www.hawaii.edu

Founded in 1907, the University of Hawaii at Mānoa (UH Mānoa) is the flagship campus of the University of Hawaii System. Students and faculty come from across the Nation and the world to take advantage of UH Mānoa's unique research opportunities, diverse community, nationally ranked Division I athletic program, and beautiful landscape. UH Mānoa is consistently ranked a "best value" among U.S. colleges and universities, giving students a strong education at an affordable price.

FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

June 18–29, 2012

Students will learn veterinary care and management of a variety of animal species, including small ruminants, cattle, companion animals, and laboratory animals, through hands-on experiences. The program is funded by the National Civil Rights Leadership Committee of the APHIS Veterinary Services unit.

Contacts: Dr. Cristopher A. Young, (770) 922-7860, cristopher.a.young@aphis.usda.gov; Dr. Brou Kouakou, (478) 827-3091, kouakoub@fvsu.edu
www.fvsu.edu

Fort Valley State University (FVSU), located in Fort Valley, GA, is the only 1890 land-grant university in the 35-member State University System of Georgia. FVSU is a comprehensive institution with over 3,800 students and a 1,365-acre campus (the second largest public university campus in Georgia). The university offers bachelor's degrees in more than 50 majors—education, business administration, and agriculture are particularly popular—as well as master's degrees in animal science, biotechnology, education, and counseling. The university provides instruction, research, and public and extension services for all segments of the population to achieve their personal, educational, and professional goals.





UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

June 17–28, 2012

Learn about career opportunities and possibilities in animal and plant health, including agricultural sciences, veterinary sciences, animal and plant disease eradication, plant pathology, and entomology. Students experience many aspects of agribusiness and college campus life through various field and lab activities. The 2-week program is cosponsored by APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine and Veterinary Services units.

Contacts: Dr. Kurt Nolte, (928) 726-3904, knolte@cals.arizona.edu; Tess A. Williams, (602) 431-3208, tessie.a.williams@aphis.usda.gov

<http://ag.arizona.edu/>

The University of Arizona (UA) is a premier, public research university. Established in 1885 as the first university in Arizona and the State's land-grant university, UA is building a better Arizona through access, quality, and discovery. As the primary land-grant component of the university, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences administers a variety of programs at its regional Agricultural Centers and engages in cooperative extension efforts with Federal, State, and county governments and agencies. These efforts enhance agriculture, the environment, natural resources, family and youth well-being, and the development of local communities.

DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY

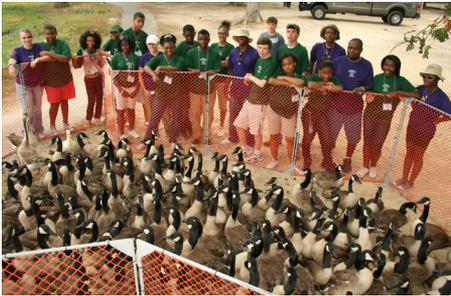
JULY 8–21, 2012

Learn about the business aspects of protecting plants and animals while exploring careers in agribusiness. Students live on the Delaware State University (DSU) campus in Dover and learn about a variety of administrative professions from university professors and agriculture employees. This program is funded by APHIS' Marketing and Regulatory Programs Business Services.

Contact: Dr. Dyremple B. Marsh, (302) 857-6400, dmarsh@desu.edu;
Mr. Harry Thayer, (302) 857-6434, hthayer@desu.edu

www.desu.edu

DSU, founded in 1891 as the State College for Colored Students, takes pride in its heritage as one of the country's first land-grant educational institutions, rooted early on in agriculture and education. DSU's current population includes a 76-percent African-American enrollment and an increasing number of Caucasian, Hispanic, Asian, and other international students.



A woman with her hair in a bun, wearing a light blue short-sleeved shirt and shorts, is leading a brown horse by a lead rope. They are in an outdoor setting with a white fence and a line of trees in the background under a blue sky with some clouds. The text is overlaid on the lower portion of the image.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK

JULY 8–27, 2012

Learn about plants and animals, the importance of protecting America's food supply from insects and disease, the role of regulation in genetically engineered organisms, and the challenge of managing and resolving wildlife conflicts. The 3-week program at the University of Maryland's College Park campus provides an educational odyssey exploring food, culture, and the environment. Participants also receive 3 hours of university-level course credits through the Young Scholars Program. Funding is provided by several offices within APHIS.

Contacts: Dr. Leon Slaughter, (301) 405-2078, lslaugh@umd.edu;
Ms. Elizabeth Weiss, (301) 314-7222, eweiss@umd.edu

www.umd.edu

As the State's flagship university and original 1862 land-grant institution, the University of Maryland educates the most talented students from Maryland and beyond. The university is ranked 11th among all public U.S. universities and 37th worldwide in a recent international survey, and it was named one of the top 15 "green universities" in the country. The faculty includes Nobel laureates and Pulitzer Prize winners. Students have won prestigious awards for their academic achievements and civic engagement, and graduates enjoy successful careers in their chosen fields. In the past decade, University of Maryland sports teams have won nine NCAA national championships. The university embraces diversity and takes advantage of its proximity to Washington, D.C., to educate tomorrow's leaders and address global challenges.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

JULY 8–21, 2012

Students learn about the interconnection between wildlife biology and conservation, laboratory technology and diagnostics, animal science, and veterinary medicine. Every student will have hands-on experience on the farm, in wildlife environments, and in the laboratory. Activities will include field trips to several types of farms; lab exercises such as bacterial culture, egg candling and inoculations, animal necropsies, veterinary clinical procedures, and diagnostic testing; and field trips to conservation areas, zoological facilities, animal shelters, and research facilities. Funding is provided by several APHIS programs.

Contacts: Rebecca Christoffel, Ph.D., (515) 294-7429, christof@iastate.edu; Janet B. Payeur, D.V.M., M.P.H., Ph.D., (515) 337-7003, janet.b.payeur@aphis.usda.gov

<http://agdiscovery.nrem.iastate.edu>

www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/lab_info_services

Iowa State University (ISU) is an international, prestigious university with a friendly, welcoming personality. Nearly 30,000 students choose from over 100 majors, study with world-class scholars, and hone their leadership skills in more than 800 student organizations. ISU offers a great environment where students can enjoy reaching their potential and discovering their passions. The school's culturally diverse student body includes students from all 50 States and more than 110 countries.





NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 18–29, 2012

Students learn about careers in plant science, including entomology (the study of insects), plant pathology (the study of plant diseases), botany (the study of plants), and agronomy (the science of soil management and production of field crops). Students live on campus in dorms, learning field and laboratory research techniques from university professors and practicing entomologists, botanists, and plant pathologists who work for the U.S. Government. The program is facilitated by The Science House at North Carolina State University (NCSU) and funded by APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine unit.

Contacts: Kelly Fair, (919) 513-3419, agdiscovery@science-house.org;
Camille Morris, (919) 855-7340, camille.e.morris@aphis.usda.gov

www.science-house.org

With more than 31,000 students and nearly 8,000 faculty and staff, NCSU is a comprehensive university known for its leadership in education and research, and it is globally recognized for its science, technology, engineering, and mathematics leadership. As one of the leading land-grant institutions in the Nation, NCSU is committed to playing an active and vital role in improving the quality of life for the citizens of North Carolina, the Nation, and the world. Consistently ranked among the Nation's top 50 public universities and ranked by Princeton Review as a best value for students, NCSU is a place where students can fit in—and dig in. NCSU students start work on their major as freshmen, whether it's conducting research alongside faculty or starting a challenging co-op or internship.

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

June 24–July 8, 2012

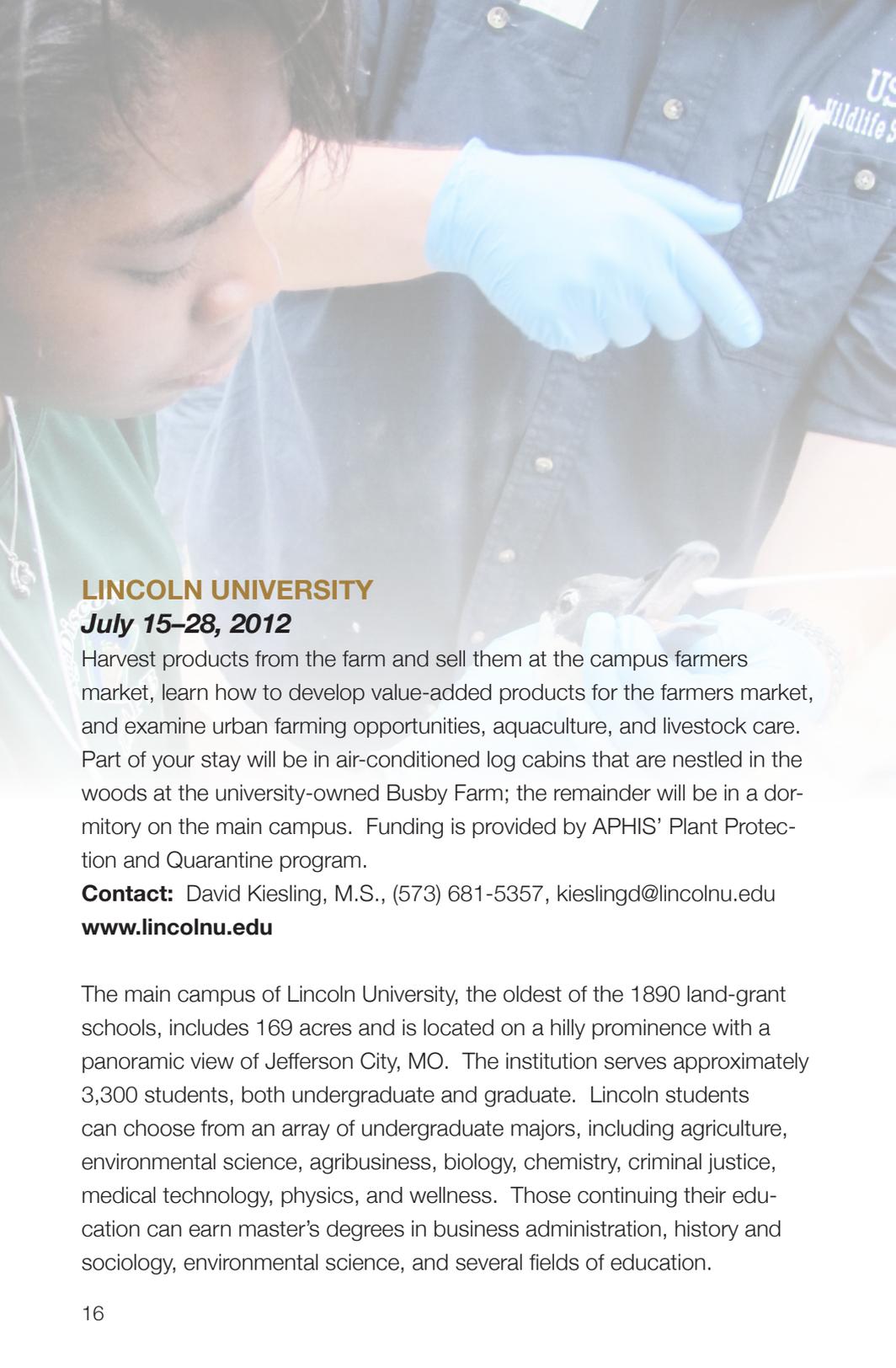
Students gain hands-on experience in the disciplines of veterinary science and food safety under the “farm-to-table” theme. Participants also observe small ruminants and on-farm processing techniques. Students reside on campus in a dormitory and learn field and laboratory research techniques from university professors. Field trips and guest speakers provide enhanced exposure to agricultural production and research. This program is facilitated by the Virginia State University (VSU) School of Agriculture, with collaboration from USDA partners and industry representatives.

Contact: Antonio McLaren, (804) 524-6872, amclaren@vsu.edu; Paula McCapes, (804) 524-5839, pmccapes@vsu.edu

www.vsu.edu

Founded in 1882 by an act of the State legislature, VSU is the Nation’s first fully State-supported historically black college or university. With a mission emphasizing the integration of academic instruction, research, and public service, VSU welcomes students of any race, religion, or ethnic heritage. VSU also owns and operates a 416-acre farm and agricultural research center. The university embraces diversity and continues to work on internationalizing the campus—particularly through opportunities offered by its Office for International Education to educate tomorrow’s leaders and address global challenges.





LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

July 15–28, 2012

Harvest products from the farm and sell them at the campus farmers market, learn how to develop value-added products for the farmers market, and examine urban farming opportunities, aquaculture, and livestock care. Part of your stay will be in air-conditioned log cabins that are nestled in the woods at the university-owned Busby Farm; the remainder will be in a dormitory on the main campus. Funding is provided by APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine program.

Contact: David Kiesling, M.S., (573) 681-5357, kieslingd@lincolnu.edu
www.lincolnu.edu

The main campus of Lincoln University, the oldest of the 1890 land-grant schools, includes 169 acres and is located on a hilly prominence with a panoramic view of Jefferson City, MO. The institution serves approximately 3,300 students, both undergraduate and graduate. Lincoln students can choose from an array of undergraduate majors, including agriculture, environmental science, agribusiness, biology, chemistry, criminal justice, medical technology, physics, and wellness. Those continuing their education can earn master's degrees in business administration, history and sociology, environmental science, and several fields of education.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

July 15–28, 2012

Students learn about careers in plant biotechnology, plant microbiology, water quality, nutrient management, horticulture, and natural resource sciences. In an active learning environment, students have experiential learning opportunities through state-of-the-art research, education, and farm facilities, as well as field trips to conservation areas and research centers. Students will reside on the university campus located in Princess Anne, MD, and work with a variety of university faculty and other agriculture professionals. In addition to APHIS, funding for the program is provided by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Contact: Dr. George S. Shorter, (410) 651-6193, gsshorter@umes.edu;
Dr. Bessie M. Green, (410) 651-6200, bmgreen@umes.edu

www.umes.edu

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), the State's historically black, 1890 land-grant university, is a teaching, research, and doctoral institution that nurtures and launches leaders in a student-centered environment, particularly from among ethnic minorities. UMES was founded in 1886 and ranked in the top tier of America's Best Black Colleges in 2011 by *U.S. News & World Report*. The campus is a strong engine of growth and development in its community, providing students with opportunities to learn from a well-balanced array of academic programs that respond to local needs as well as global concerns.



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

July 1–28, 2012

Learn about career possibilities in the plant, animal, and veterinary sciences and learn how USDA protects America's food supply. Over a period of 4 weeks, students will live on the university's campus and have hands-on experiences in animal and plant laboratories under the supervision of plant and animal scientists and veterinarians from the university and USDA. Field trips allow students to experience the vast aspects of the U.S. food and agriculture system. The program is facilitated in partnership with the university's Research Apprentice Program and funded by APHIS.

Contact: Dr. Jesse Thompson, (217) 333-3380, jthomps5@illinois.edu
www.illinois.aces.edu

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) is a world-class, comprehensive research university, established in 1862 as the land-grant institution in Illinois. The university's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) is recognized as a leader in many science fields, particularly in the disciplines of agricultural and biological engineering and the crop, animal, and nutritional sciences. ACES serves a key role in providing programs and instruction aimed at educating the next generation of future managers and scientists.



HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Students selected for the 2012 AgDiscovery summer session will pay only the cost of their transportation to get from home to the college campus for the start of the session and back again at the end of the session. *(Note: Students are also responsible for arranging their transportation at the start and end of the session; AgDiscovery does not provide a shuttle or other such transportation services at those times.)* The cost of tuition, room and board, and lab supplies for the 2- to 4-week program will be covered by various offices within APHIS.

HOW DO I APPLY?

For the program at Alcorn State University, students between the ages of 12 and 16 are eligible to apply for admission to AgDiscovery. For all other participating universities, the eligible ages for AgDiscovery program admission are 14 through 17 years old. *(Note: You must be at least the minimum eligible age and no older than the maximum eligible age for your selected program as of May 31, 2012.)*

A complete application package **must be received no later than March 16, 2012**. Applications can be submitted as follows:

- Online applications can be completed at www.aphis.usda.gov/agdiscovery.
- Hard copy applications must be received no later than March 16. APHIS will not accept application packages that are incomplete or received after March 16.

Here's what to put in your application package:

- **A two-page essay** entitled "Why I Want To Attend the AgDiscovery Program at _____ (indicate the participating university you would like to attend) and What I Want To Learn." In the essay, include information on your interests and hobbies and explain what you want to do when you grow up. Be sure to include your full name, age, home address, home telephone number, and email address.

- **Three character references**—letters from people not related to you who know you well. At least one of the three references must come from a teacher or counselor. If applying by mail, references must be submitted in sealed envelopes within the application package. If applying online, please follow the instructions on the application page for submitting reference letters.
- **A completed application form.** If you did not receive one with this leaflet, you can print the form from the Web. Go to www.aphis.usda.gov and click on the AgDiscovery Program hotlink.

Mail your completed package to:

Ms. Beatrice Jacobs

USDA-APHIS Office of the Administrator
 Civil Rights Enforcement and Compliance
 4700 River Road, Unit 92
 Riverdale, MD 20737-1234

On or prior to April 30, 2012, APHIS will notify you if you have been selected for this summer’s AgDiscovery program. Meanwhile, if you’d like to learn more about APHIS or this year’s participating universities, visit these Web sites:



www.aphis.usda.gov



www.famu.edu/herds



www.alcorn.edu



www.kysu.edu



www.uapb.edu



www.umd.edu



www.desu.edu

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

www.ncsu.edu

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

<http://agdiscovery.nrem.iastate.edu>



www.scsu.edu



www.arizona.edu



www.tuskegee.edu/caens



www.hawaii.edu



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www.fvsu.edu



www.vsu.edu



www.lincolnu.edu



www.umes.edu



ILLINOIS

www.illinois.aces.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional information about the AgDiscovery program, contact:

Ms. Terry Henson or

Ms. Beatrice Jacobs

USDA-APHIS Office of the Administrator

Civil Rights Enforcement and Compliance

4700 River Road, Unit 92

Riverdale, MD 20737-1234

Phone: (301) 734-6312 or (301) 851-4200

Fax: (301) 734-3698

Email: terry.a.henson@aphis.usda.gov

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