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Office of CESTA Communications

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 12, 2007

The Office of CESTA Communications would like to publicize the following summer events sponsored through departments and programs in the College of Engineering Sciences, Technology and Agriculture (CESTA) at Florida A&M University (FAMU).

Maize Project Field Day

TALLAHASSEE, FL — High school students and summer camp groups are invited to attend the upcoming “**Maize-10-Maze**” **Project Field Day** on **Wednesday, June 20, 2007** at the FAMU Research Farm located on Highway 267, North, in Quincy, Florida. The venture is funded by the National Science Foundation, and is an collaborative outreach effort presented by Drs. Kome Onokpise and Dreamel Worthen, College of Engineering Sciences, Technology and Agriculture (CESTA), Florida A&M University; (FAMU) and Dr. Hank Bass, Department of Biological Science, Florida State University (FSU).

The field day is open to the public and will be hosted by the students participating in the FAMU Forestry and Conservation Education (FACE) Summer Program, which is a three-week program designed to expose minorities youth to the scientific disciplines of forestry and natural-resource conservation, including the genetics of plants and related disciplines.

The Maize-10-Maze project helps expose students to the related aspects of maize (corn) production and management and encourages the students to consider plant science as a future career in food production, as well as forestry and natural-resource management.

Persons and groups interested in participating in the field day event should contact the following:

FAMU Contacts:

Dr. Oghenekome (Kome) U. Onokpise, Professor and FACE Summer Program Director;

Telephone: 850-461-2217/ 850-412-7044; Email: oghenekome.onokpise@famu.edu; or o.onokpise@worldnet.att.net.

Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Associate Professor and FACE Summer Program Co-Director; Telephone: 850-599-3440 or Email: dworthen@hotmail.com

FSU Contact

Dr. Hank Bass, Associate Professor of Biological Science, Florida State University, Telephone: 850-644-9711;

Email: bass@bio.fsu.edu or Kari Price at 850-644-8058.



FAMU hosts “Farmer-Friendly” Technology Workshop

TALLAHASSEE, FL — The Cooperative Extension Program at Florida A&M University is inviting farmers and woodland owners to register to participate in a two-day **“Farmer Friendly” Technology Workshop** which is scheduled for **July 2-3, 2007** at the FAMU Research Farm and Center in Quincy, Florida, located on Highway 267, North. Daily schedules are as follows: July 2 – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; July 3 – 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The workshop is one of a series hosted at nine 1890 land-grant institutions in collaborative project coordinated by the Tennessee State University (TSU) Cooperative Extension Program with the USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Minority Landowner Magazine and state forestry agencies. As a part of the “Mobile Technology Forestry Programs for Limited Resource Audience Project at 1890 Land Grant Institutions,” the workshop is offered to provide hands-on training and support to farmers and woodland owners at an onsite mobile information technology van. Registration to attend this activity is free to the public. Meals will be served to attendees on both days. Agenda topics for the workshop will include the following to name a few:

- *Introduction to Using the Internet*
- *Website Essentials for Small Farmers*
- *Using Digital Photography*
- *Conservation Easements as Estate Planning Tools*
- *Forest Farming: Land Appraisal and Mapping through County Property Tax Assessor’s Office*
- *Using Public Library Resources*

Persons interested in attending should register by contacting Dr. Cassel Gardner, FAMU Cooperative Extension Program, at 850-561-2546/ 850-599-3546 or email: cassel.gardner@famuedu.

Registration for FAMU Grape Harvest Festival

TALLAHASSEE, FL – The eighth annual FAMU Grape Harvest Festival has been scheduled for the first time as a weekend event instead of during the work week. On Saturday, August 25, 2007, the flavorful festival will take place at the Center for Viticulture Sciences and Small Fruit Research from 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The center is located at 6505 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32307.

The popular festival highlights the research on the muscadine grape conducted at the Center, and it is educational and entertaining for all ages. The schedule includes vineyard and laboratory tours, grape tasting, home winemaking, trailer rides, run/walk competitions and the exciting grape-stomping competition. Persons and groups interested in attending are encouraged to register at the earliest convenience.

On-site registration will also be available. A donation of \$5.00 per person for a delicious lunch is requested on the day of the event. Call the Center at 850-599-3996 to register today.

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