

Kentucky State University

The **Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm** near Frankfort consists of 293 acres and is home to the **Center for Sustainability of Farms and Families**, a 12,000-square foot facility that is used for field days and conferences. KSU's Sustainable and Organic Vegetable Production Program conducts research on organic vegetable cropping systems in the field and in high tunnels and on alternative biofuel feedstock production.

The farm is home to the **Fruit Horticulture and Plant Molecular Genetics Program**, which is developing pawpaw, primocane fruiting blackberries, table and wine grapes, spicebush, and eastern filbert blight-resistant hazelnuts as new or alternative crops for Kentucky.

The KSU farm is home to the only pawpaw research program in the world. KSU has served as the USDA National Clonal Germplasm Repository or gene bank for *Asimina* species (pawpaw), as a satellite site of the [NCGR repository](#) at Corvallis, OR. More than 2,000 accessions from 17 states are planted on 12 acres at the KSU farm.

The south side of the KSU campus features a **High Tunnel Complex**. The 1-acre site is home to four high tunnels that offer students hands-on learning opportunities throughout the school year.

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