

West Virginia University

West Virginia University's **Organic Research Farm** is among the largest certified organic research farms dedicated to teaching, research and outreach. Research activities include long-term organic farming systems research, understanding habitat use by brown marmorated stink bugs, and creeping thistle control. Currently, there are 77 acres of certified organic farmland available for research and teaching use. Approximately 60 additional acres from the WVU Dairy Research Farm are being transitioned from conventional to organic practice.

Currently, a range of organic cropping options are pursued at the farm including fruit, vegetable, poultry and lamb production as well as agronomic crop rotations. Academic disciplines involved in on-going projects include horticulture, agronomy, soil science, animal science, soil biology, plant pathology, entomology, weed science and agricultural economics.

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The 28,250-square foot **Evansdale Greenhouse** on the WVU campus consists of two primary structures, the headhouse and the greenhouse area. Completed in the summer of 2012, this state-of-the-art facility under the direction of the Division of Plant and Soil Sciences is a center for teaching, research and outreach. The headhouse features:

- Two classrooms with laboratory and presentation capacity
- Office facilities for staff
- A tissue culture room
- A cooler
- A reference room
- A large open work area
- A student lounge
- A conference room

The greenhouse area features:

- 13 growing rooms
- A mist room

The affixed plastic facility features a 9,635-square foot space for cultivation and sales.

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Kearneysville Tree Fruit Research and Education Center is located in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. The Center, which includes 158 acres, was developed to serve the fruit industry that is dominant in that region of the state. The Center features:

- Office, laboratories, cold storage rooms, library, kitchen and a conference room in the 8,000 square-foot Edwin Gould Building
- Equipment shop
- Six storage buildings
- Pesticide storage and loading facility
- Greenhouse
- Wind machines to protect orchards from frost damage

Research activities

- Integrated management of tree fruit insects
- Alternative disease control strategies for production of apples for processing
- Assessment of alternative and conventional integrated pest management strategies for production of fruit for processing
- Multidisciplinary evaluation of NE apple cultivars
- Evaluation of tunnel spray systems

Educational programs include fruit schools, grower meetings, tours, publications (including a biweekly newsletter), and diagnostic services.