

**Position Announcements, Virginia Tech [In advance of posted positions]  
Director and Entomologist, Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Extension Center,  
Blackstone, VA  
Director and Entomologist, Alson H. Smith Jr. Agricultural Research and Extension Center,  
Winchester, VA**

The [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#) (CALs) at [Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University](#) (Virginia Tech) is seeking Directors for two Agricultural Research and Extension Centers (AREC). Both positions are tenure-track positions at the Associate or Professor rank. The tenure home for these positions will be within CALs' [Department of Entomology](#). The Director is expected to maintain a highly productive research and Extension program in the area of entomology and insect ecology as related to the integrated management of agronomic insect pests with relevance to the vision and mission of the targeted AREC.

Position A: Located at [Alson H. Smith Jr. Agricultural Research and Extension Center](#) (AHSAREC) in Winchester, Virginia, the Director will develop a research and Extension program that addresses Virginia's commercial fruit and value-added horticultural food crop industries.

Position B: Located at [Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Extension Center](#) (SPAREC) in Blackstone, Virginia, the Director will develop a research and Extension program that addresses crop production systems of relevance to the region, such as tobacco, small fruits, specialty crops, forages.

The Director serves as the administrative head of the AREC, providing unit leadership and support for regional, national and international excellence in current and future integrated research and Extension programs appropriate for the AREC's vision and mission. The Director has the unique opportunity to envision new directions and initiatives of relevance to the national and global funding priorities and in support of regional stakeholders and Virginia's agricultural economy. The Director will be instrumental in identifying new research opportunities, expanding faculty involvement and leadership, and garnering stakeholder support and engagement in pursuit of the vision. Leadership activities include, but are not limited to, recruiting and facilitating the professional development of faculty, staff, and graduate students; developing and implementing short- and long-term strategic plans for the Center; managing the Center's human, physical, and financial resources; and facilitating intra- and inter-departmental/ AREC teamwork among faculty and staff and collaboration with other units. The Director will expand the AREC's capacity in digital and precision agriculture in support of the [VT SmartFarm Innovation Network](#)<sup>®</sup>.

The Director will maintain a liaison with agricultural leaders and producers in accordance with the AREC's mission and goals and in support and alignment with CALs strategic plan and the mission and vision for both [Virginia Cooperative Extension](#) (VCE) and [Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station](#). The Director facilitates the AREC's involvement in interdisciplinary and multi-institutional research such as the CALs [Center for Advanced Innovation in Agriculture](#) (CAIA), [Commonwealth CyberInitiative](#) (CCI), [Growth Opportunities in Virginia](#) (GO Virginia) and [Vibrant Virginia](#), consistent with the AREC vision and mission. The Director reports administratively to the Director of VAES. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Individuals wishing to apply should go online to [jobs.vt.edu](http://jobs.vt.edu). Review of applications will begin in late January or early February. For more information, contact Dr. Susan Duncan, Associate Director, Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Virginia Tech at [duncans@vt.edu](mailto:duncans@vt.edu).