

AQUACULTURE OUTREACH AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY

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AUBURN UNIVERSITY

General Body Meetings



Syrup Sopping Festival



Ag Round - Up



U.S. Aquaculture Society at Auburn University



The student subunit of the U.S. Aquaculture Society (USAS) at Auburn University hosts and attends several events throughout the school year for student and community outreach. On Auburn University's campus, our club hosts a general body meeting every month to help our members learn more about the aquaculture industry. These meetings are also in collaboration with the student subunit of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) and feature invited guest speakers, professionals, special topics, extension, and career guidance.

We attend university-sponsored events such as Ag Roundup, the Welcome Back Picnic, and the Involvement Fair. All of these events are outreach initiatives for the community, as well as new and recurring students. The club assisted Geosciences in teaching children and young adults to fish. We also showcased the live aquaponics system and had the opportunities to share more about the club to the community. This was a part of the Auburn University Science Outdoor initiative. During these events, we display an aquaponics system to showcase one of the many forms of aquaculture. Another form of outreach that our subunit conducts is a research symposium. Graduate students at the School of Fisheries, Aquaculture & Aquatic Science present their research in front of their peers and advisors. This symposium helps students develop their presentation skills, practice for conferences, and learn about the research their peers are conducting. We also partner with AFS in two service activities every year. We host a roadside cleanup in the fall and a stream cleanup in the spring.

This year, we received the USAS Student Subunit Project Grant. With this grant, we will work with students at Auburn High School and help them build their own mini aquaponics system, formulate feed, and carry out a small growth trial in a highly interactive format. This partnership aims to provide valuable STEM learning opportunities and raise awareness about sustainable aquaculture as a solution for future food security. Ultimately, the goal is to inspire students to consider aquaculture as a potential career path. We also partner with Auburn High School at events such as the Syrup Sopping Festival, featuring a live aquaponics display to offer learning opportunities for the community.

Another outlet of our outreach is the annual shrimp sale in the fall. The shrimp are grown and harvested by USAS members, AFS members, and other student volunteers. This fundraiser helps sustain both USAS and AFS at Auburn and helps students gain hands-on experience with aquaculture. Students have the opportunity to raise Pacific White Shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) from the post-larval stage to harvest size. Students also assist with the packing and distribution of the harvested shrimp.

Geosciences at Youth Fishing Derby



Annual Shrimp Sale



Road-Side Clean Up

