



EMORY

OXFORD
COLLEGE

Oxford Organic Farm



2024

ANNUAL REPORT

As exciting as it has been to look back on the success of the past ten years, it's just as exciting to look forward and think about what the next ten will bring!

Let's embrace the dynamic nature of life and together see what the future holds.



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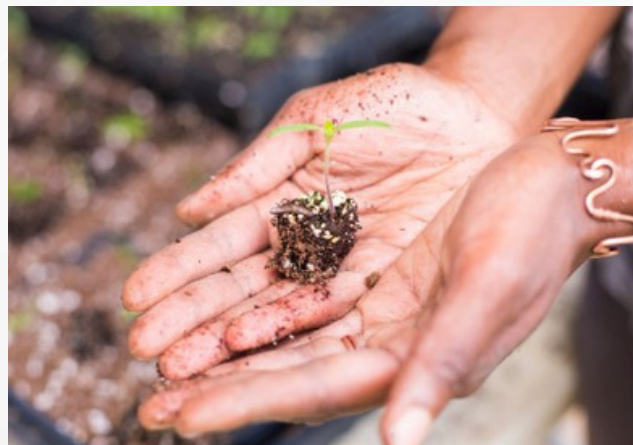
FARM HIGHLIGHTS

THE OXFORD ORGANIC FARM CELEBRATED ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY ON OCTOBER 26, 2024, BRINGING TOGETHER FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, ALUMNI, AND VISITORS IN TOWN FOR FAMILY WEEKEND.

“As we look back at the ten years, we think about the positive impact of the hundreds of thousands of pounds of food grown, the thousands of students who have engaged with us on the farm, and all the activities that make up ten years of farming on a college campus. It is and always has been about our people – the students and classes coming to learn and help, the faculty teaching here, our many farmer apprentices and student farmers, our volunteers, CSA members, market supporters – so much goodness in ten years and we feel immense gratitude to those who contributed to the journey.

This is what we are most excited about for our 10-year celebration – seeing all the people that have grown Oxford College Farm. As we look back in awe, we also look very forward to all that is ahead in the next ten years with you.”

~Farmer Educator Daniel Parson



2024 FARM PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

87

**DELIVERIES MADE TO
DINING HALLS &
EMORY HOSPITAL**



37,000

**APPROX 37,000 LBS
OF PRODUCE GROWN**

RESEARCH & PARTNERSHIPS



During the summer of 2024, Carly Sharp, a PhD Candidate at the University of Georgia, completed an on-farm experiment in collaboration with four farms across north Georgia, including Oxford College Farm. Her research objective was to investigate how surplus phosphorus in the soil affects microbe-plant-insect interactions across organically managed farms.

Throughout the summer, her research team took a wide-range of samples to measure top-down predation of insect-pests by beneficial insects, and to characterize the impact of soil quality and microbial diversity on bottom-up suppression of insect-pests via plant chemical defenses.

Since balancing soil nutrients, especially phosphorus, can be tricky on organic farms due to the variability in nutrient release rates from organic fertilizers, she hopes that the results from this research can be used to help farmers develop sustainable and economical fertility management plans.

RESEARCH & PARTNERSHIPS



Cover Crop Workshop

Oxford College Farm partnered with Georgia Organics and hosted a cover crop farm field day on October 7, 2024.



SOUTHEAST

**TRANSITION TO ORGANIC
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

In September, Daniel attended the SE TOPP Annual meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi. Over two days, partners shared impacts, successes and challenges over the past year, and participated in dynamic workshops on measuring impact and exploring the “why’s and why not’s” of organic certification.

Our team collaboratively wrote the first chapter in our farm manual. This chapter discusses cover crops and their benefits. The manual is a partnership with SE TOPP and will include both manuals and videos to provide practical guidance on organic farming methods for beginning and transitioning farmers.

ACADEMIC COLLABORATIONS

Academic collaborations to foster community-engaged learning in 2024 included continued partnerships with Introduction to Environmental Science. Each semester, students spend time at the farm participating in soil labs and discussing how scientific methods are used for proper soil fertility.

Economics 101 also partnered with the farm to learn about real-world economic concepts by observing and participating in agricultural practices, essentially applying economic theory to a practical farming setting; allowing them to see firsthand how concepts like supply and demand, cost analysis, and market dynamics play out in a tangible environment.

Spanish language courses continue to enhance the farm with their annual celebration for the Day of the Dead. They bring passion and enthusiasm as they tend to the farm's butterfly habitat with new native habitat plantings. These habitats provide refuge for the monarchs on their annual migration.

The visual arts program brought it's students to the farm for sessions to draw and paint. The farm provides many unique opportunities for Oxford artists to interpret the imagery surrounding them.



2024 COMMUNITY OUTREACH



The Mt. Zion Baptist Church Food Bank in Oxford, GA, is dedicated to collecting and distributing food donations to those in need. Non-profit hunger relief organizations like this rely on the generosity of volunteers and donors with big hearts to reduce hunger in our community.

**We made
14 deliveries
to
Mt. Zion
Food Bank**

**We donated
approximately
2,500 lbs of
produce**

**ALMOST DOUBLE OUR
PREVIOUS YEAR!**

2024 COMMUNITY OUTREACH



**We sold at 43 farmers markets
(including Emory, Oxford &
Covington markets)**



2024 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Oxford College Events:
Oxford College clubs
hosted events, bonfires
and pizza parties
throughout 2024 at the
farm.



Local Community Events:
Our farm team
participated in community
events like "Change the
World Day", trail clean-ups,
& privet pulls.

2024 COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Oxford College Farm Plant Sales:

We hosted plant sales in April and October & sold our summer crops, flowers, native plants, and herbs at our local Ace Hardware.

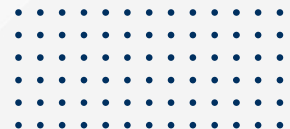


FARM INITIATIVES



2025 Farm Initiatives:

- Increase CSA Membership
- Complete the farm manual to share as a resource guide
- Host one SETOPP Workshop in 2025
- Start SETOPP video production to supplement farm manual
- Share at least 3 videos to social media
- Restructure our crop rotation to allow a longer cover crop cycle in one field
- Purchase a new electric lawn mower to increase efficiency





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