



Division of Research—Hemp Pilot Project

Presented by Charles A. Weatherford

Board of Trustees Meeting, March 4, 2020

FAMU INDUSTRIAL HEMP PILOT PROJECT: STATUS REPORT



Charles A. Weatherford, PhD
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Industry Partners

- Green Earth Cannaceuticals (GEC)
- Sunshine Hemp (SH)



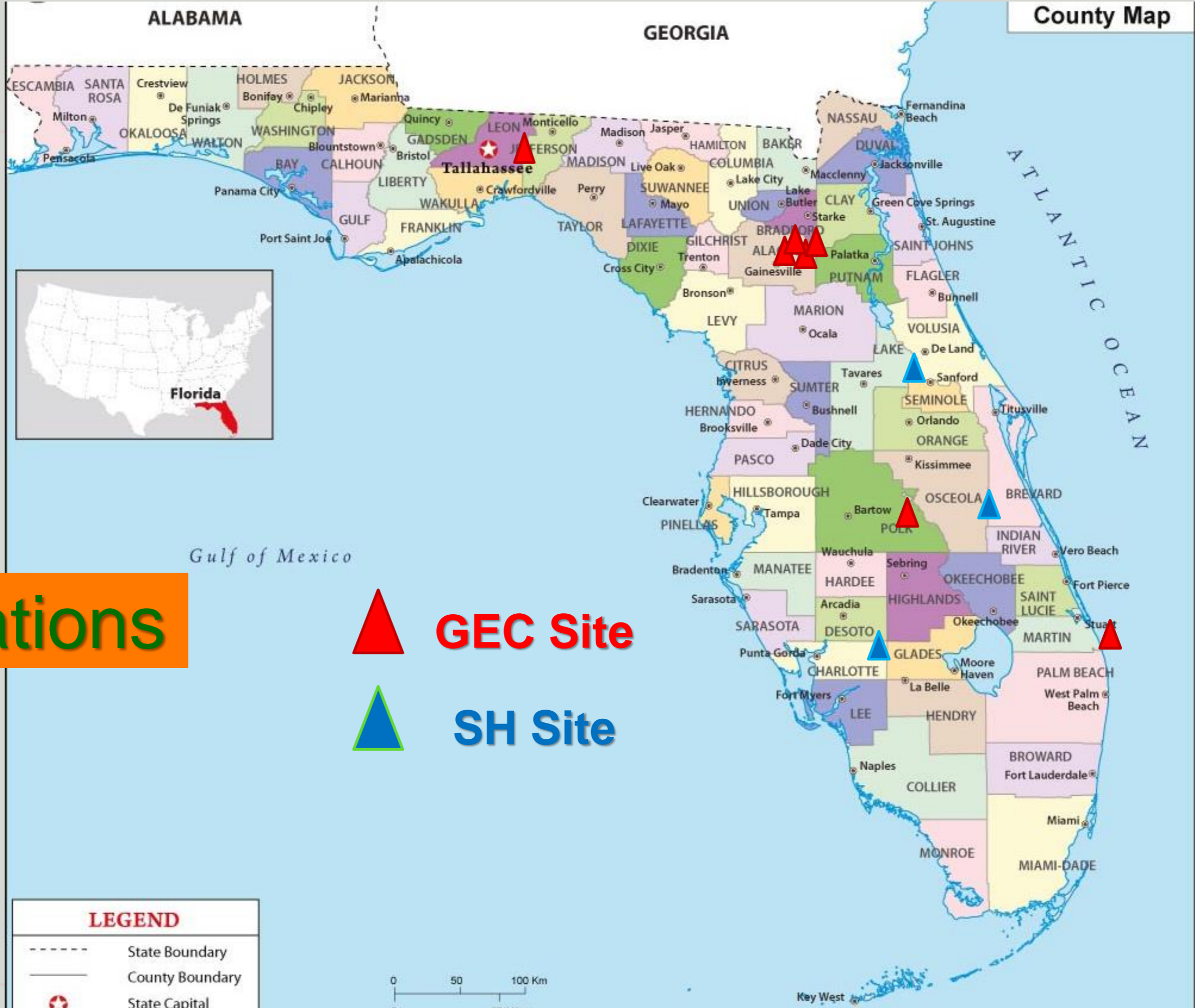
Expected Results

- **Identify hemp species that will thrive safely under Florida conditions.**
- **Identify good production and management practices for growers.**



Location of Research Sites

Industry Partner	Site Location	Permit
Green Earth Cannaceuticals (GEC)	Bartow – Murphy Road	014
	Tallahassee – Sams Lane	015
	Newberry – W. Newberry Road	016
	Newberry – NW 62 nd Ave	017
	High Springs – Five Oaks	018
	Gainesville – NW 37 th Drive	030
	Palm City – SW 72 nd Avenue	032
Sunshine Hemp (SH)	Kenansville – Hwy 523	013
	Punta Gorda – Neal Road	019
	Eustis – Bill Collins Road	028



Locations

-  **GEC Site**
-  **SH Site**

LEGEND	
	State Boundary
	County Boundary
	State Capital
	County Seat



Program Status

Green Earth Cannaceuticals

**Bartow Location –
Hook R Farm (30 acres)**

- **40,000 plants harvested**
- **Will replant 9,000 plants**
- **Varieties: Baox, Cherry Citrus & Cherry Wine**
- **Total harvest: 13,210 lb**
- **Processed in Miami**



Program Status

Newberry Location

GEC Headquarters (7 acres)

- 20,000 plants in containers and in greenhouses
- Varieties: CBD Therapy, Cherry Wine, Cherry Citrus, & Sweetened



Cherry Citrus



Sweetened



Cherry Wine

Program Status

Newberry Location, Cont'd

Indoor



Indoor



Indoor Growing

Program Status

Cherry Wine

Tallahassee Location

- **Henry Farm (3 acres)**
- **Planted 5,000 plants**
- **Harvested in November**
- **Varieties: CBD Therapy, Cherry Wine, Cherry Citrus, Cherry Cherry, Sweetened & Stout**



Cherry Citrus



Cherry Wine About ready for harvest

Program Status

Sunshine Hemp

Punta Gorda

- 20 acres + 100,000 sq ft bldg
- 10,000 feminized clones to be planted



Plans for 2020

Florida A&M University

- **Continue research & data collection**
- **Recruit faculty for research program**
- **Establish research infrastructure**
- **Expand program to include small growers**

Plans for 2020

Green Earth Cannaceuticals

- Continue research and data collection.
- Establish processing center/unit for CBD oil.
- Establish processing center/unit for fiber.
- Produce catalog for hemp cultivars.
- Start small growers program.

Newberry Location

- Evaluate new hemp genetics.
- Build greenhouse for stock plants and propagation.
- Maintain mother plants + clones in greenhouse
- Build foundation seed + breeding stock. Seeds available in 2021.
- Produce 1.3 million clones for 2020 season.

Plans for 2020

Green Earth Cannaceuticals

High Springs Location (New)

- Establish farm for seed production. Seeds available in 2021.

Bartow (Hook Farm) Location

- Increase acreage from 30 to 50 acres.
- Continue evaluation of hemp genetics

Tallahassee (Henry Farm) Location

- Increase acreage from 3 to 5 acres.
- Continue evaluation of hemp genetics

Plans for 2020

Green Earth Cannaceuticals

Gainesville Location (New)

- Establish farm for clones.
- Evaluate hemp genetics

Palm City Location (New)

- Establish farm for clones.

Plans for 2020

Sunshine Hemp

Punta Gorda Location (New)

- Establish 100,000 sq. ft. propagation unit.
- Establish 20 acre farm + 10,000 feminized clones.

Kenansville Location (New)

- Establish new planting - 5 acres
- Evaluate new genetics

Eustis Location (New)

- Establish new planting - 2 acres
- Evaluate new genetics

Some Observations

- Latest date to plant in North Florida – mid July.
- Plants highly photosensitive.
- No adverse impact on environment.
- Plants susceptible to pest infestations:
 - White flies
 - Aphids
 - Caterpillars
 - Fungal diseases

Challenges for Industry 2020

- **Lack of technical information on varietal performance**
- **Lack of technical information on management practices**
- **Lack of experienced growers**
- **Lack of proven hemp genetics – seeds and clones**
- **Lack of market infrastructures – storage, drying, processing**

Seed/Planting Materials Certification:

State Proposed Legislation and FDACS Rules as of 2/24/20

- **Original statute requires that all growers must use “certified seeds or planting materials (clones)”.**
- **The latest House Bill (HB) has removed that requirement. Any grower can now use any hemp seed or clone from any source that is registered with FDACS. The growers will have to use their own discretion in purchasing and using the planting materials and will have high risks.**
- **The latest Senate bill (SB) requires growers to use “certified planting materials” or planting materials produced from an Industrial Hemp Pilot Project.**

Seed/Planting Materials Certification: State Proposed Legislation and FDACS Rules as of 2/24/20

- **At the last meeting with FDACS, it was not completely resolved as to how the rules will be finalized, but it was agreed that FAMU will be allowed to produce its own “approved” seeds or clones that could be made available to growers. Another suggestion is to use the term “Produced from Industrial Hemp Research Pilot Project” that will give growers some assurance of quality that the seeds/clones have been grown in Florida by a university. There will be no guarantee of THC level.**
- **Growers and vendors who want to produce seeds or planting materials for sale will have to register with FDACS and comply with certain requirements. These seeds or planting materials will not be considered as “certified” as only AOSCA (Auburn) can certify the seeds.**



“At FAMU, Great Things are Happening Every Day!”