

# Farmed Deer Working Group

## Purpose:

The purpose of this working group is to provide leadership in extension services that CHeRI provides to Florida deer farmers.

Currently our areas of extension expertise are:

1. Clinical diagnostics for clinically ill or dead animals and interpretation of reports for deer farmers.
2. Vaccine efficacy testing of commercially available products.

We would like to expand this expertise to include:

1. Forage and food plot prescriptions that maximize growth and are environmentally friendly.
2. Targeted and correct application of pesticides for vector control. There are no products available for Culicoides. All pesticides are used off-label and often ineffectively.
3. Best management practices for increasing animal health and reducing disease.

We are always eager to hear what deer farmers would like to see in our programming. Contact us with your ideas!

## Members:

### [Samantha Wisely](#)

*Director CHeRI, Associate Professor, Dept of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, UF IFAS Main Campus.* Sam studies wildlife diseases at the wildlife, livestock, public health interface. She received her PhD in Zoology and Physiology from University of Wyoming and M.S. in Wildlife Biology from Humboldt State University.

### [Juan Campos](#)

*Wildlife Extension Veterinarian, Assistant Professor, Large Animal Clinical Sciences, UF CVM Main Campus.* Juan has extensive experience with veterinary care and breeding of ungulates.

### [Jim Davis](#)

*County Extension Director, Sumter County, UF IFAS.* Jim is a native of Central Florida and has been serving as an UF/IFAS extension agent in Sumter County since May of 2006. Jim Graduated with a B.S. in Environmental Horticulture and a M.S. in Entomology and Nematology from the University of Florida. Jim specializes in Urban Pest Management and Palm Management.

### [Paulette Tomlinson](#)

*County Extension Agent, Columbia County, UF IFAS.* Paulette is a livestock and natural resource extension agent. Paulette holds a B.S. in Animal & Dairy Science from Auburn University and an M.S. in Dairy Science from the University of Florida. Paulette's areas of expertise include livestock and forage production, invasive exotic plant control and natural resource management.

### [Jane Griffin](#)

*County Extension Agent, Suwannee County, UF IFAS.* Jane Griffin is the Livestock and Forages Agent serving Suwannee County. She grew up in the ranching and horse racing industries, was active in 4-H and high school rodeo, and has worked on several ranches in South Florida as well as teaching secondary science and agriculture at the local high school. She graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Animal Science (Beef Production) in 2012 and a Master's of Science in Agronomy (Agroecology) in 2016, both from the University of Florida. Jane's main focus for

the area is to serve livestock and forage producers in Suwannee County to increase profitability and sustainability.

**Mark Mauldin**

*County Extension Agent, Washington County, UF IFAS.* He is the Agriculture and Natural Resources agent in Washington County. His program areas include livestock and forage, row crops, and pond management.

**Laurie Cook**

Veterinarian and Deer Producer, Okeechobee, FL. Dr. Laurie Cook has a lifelong passion for hunting, wildlife, and white-tailed deer. This passion for wildlife and animal husbandry materialized into a career for Dr. Laurie Cook in her late teens when she began her college education in veterinary medicine. Dr. Cook now practices both large and small animal veterinary medicine and has become one of Florida's foremost white-tailed deer veterinarians. She co-owns a deer farm in south central Florida.