

# Virginia R. Sykes

Associate Professor

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University of Tennessee

Department of Plant Sciences

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## Summary

Dr. Sykes has Extension and research responsibility for the University of Tennessee variety testing program and field crop agroecology. Her current work focuses on improving methodology and data delivery in variety evaluation and determining best management practices to optimize economic and environmental benefits in agronomic systems through practices such as cover crops, double and intermediate crops, crop rotations, and perennial ground covers (appointment: 75% Extension, 25% research).

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## Education

### **Ph.D. in Plants, Soils, and Insects (Plant Breeding), 2014**

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

Dissertation: Evaluation of Traits Associated with Breeding for Improved Biomass and Ethanol Yield in Switchgrass

### **M.S. in Statistics, 2014**

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

### **M.S. in Life Science (Turfgrass Pathology), 2009**

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

Thesis: Use of digital image analysis to identify *Rhizoctonia solani* and *Rhizoctonia zea* resistance in *Schedonorus phoenix* plant introductions

### **B.S. in Business (Marketing Management), 2006**

Virginia Tech, 2006

### **Study Abroad in India, 2004**

Pamplin College of Business, Virginia Tech

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## Work Experience

### **Associate Professor – Variety Testing and Agroecology (July 2023 – Present)**

University of Tennessee – Knoxville, TN

### **Assistant Professor – Variety Testing and Agroecology (Jan. 2017 – June 2023)**

University of Tennessee – Knoxville, TN

### **Research Assistant Professor – Variety Testing (Jan. 2016 – Dec. 2016)**

University of Tennessee – Knoxville, TN

### **Research Associate II – Variety Testing (May 2013 – Dec. 2015)**

University of Tennessee – Knoxville, TN

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## Teaching Experience

### **Virginia Tech**

- IPM Pest Biology – Plant Diseases, collaborated with Dr. Anton Baudoin in developing a six-week multi-media online course (2009)

### **University of Tennessee**

- Advanced Plant Breeding (PLSC 653), Guest lecture – “UT Variety Testing Program” (Spring 2017, Spring 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2024)
  - World Food and Fiber (PLSC 250), Guest lecture – “Sorghum and Millet” (Fall 2014), “Plant Breeding” (Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024)
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- Field Crops (PLSC 593), Guest Lecture – “Cover Crops” (Fall 2024)
- Plant Sciences Seminar (PSC 504), Coordinator (Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2021, Spring 2022)
- Integrated Pest Management (EPP 630), Guest lecture – “UT Variety Testing Program” (Spring 2019)

**Personnel & Graduate Committees (\*supervisor or chair)**

- 10 M.S. (Alyssa Thelin\*, Yannick Roberts\*, Lexie Worley\*, Kumar Bolakhe, Vanessa Martinez, Brooke Keadle\*, Amani Khalil, Matthew Longmire, Weston Bracey\*, Alison Willette)
- 6 Ph.D. (Bailey Burns\*, Andrew Lawson\*, Jessica Prigge, Marcia Quinby, Keagan Swilling, Sangeeta Bansal, Santosh Nayak)
- 1 Postdoctoral Scholar (Isaac Mirahki\*)

**Service**

***Institutional Organizations/Committees***

2018 – present	Work Group - Row Crops
2017 – present	Plant Variety Release Committee
2016 – present	Work Group - Home Fruit and Vegetable
2016 – present	Variety Testing Budget Committee
2016 – present	Work Group - Variety Testing Database
2023 - present	Plant Sciences Bylaws Committee
	Plant Sciences Seminar Committee
2017 – 2023	- Chair (Spring 2019, Spring 2022) - Co-Chair (Fall 2018, Fall 2021)
2009 – 2023	Gamma Sigma Delta – University of Tennessee Chapter - Secretary (2020 – 2023)
2023	4H Academic Conference, Plant Sciences lead
2022	Search Committee - Corn and Soybean Specialist
2022	Search Committee - ETREC Center Director
2022	AgREC Budget Taskforce
2021 - 2022	Search Committee – Plant Sciences, Department Head
2021	Extension ANR Annual Report Advisory/Planning Committee
2020	Search Committee – Plant Sciences, Admin Specialist I
2013 – 2014	Search Committee – Plant Sciences, Tobacco Faculty

***Other Institutional Service Events/Commitments***

2020 – 2024	Founding member and leader of SWAT (Supporting Women in Agriculture in Tennessee)
2019 – 2020	WiSTAR3 (Women in STEM Advancing Research, Readiness, and Retention), Mentor
1 Mar. 2018	Judge for UT Women in STEM conference

***Disciplinary Organizations/Committees***

Southern Cover Crops Council

2025	Chair-Elect
2020 - present	Board member
2020 - present	Research committee
2023 - present	Extension committee

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American Society of Agronomy (ASA), Crop Science Society of America (CSSA)

2018 - present Women in Science Committee  
- Chair (2023-2024)  
2023 - present Associate Editor for Agronomy Journal  
2017 - present Reviewer for Agrosystems, Geosciences & Environment, Agronomy  
Journal, Crop Science Journal  
2006 – present Member

National Association of Plant Breeders

2013 – present Member  
2021 – 2022 NAPB Borlaug Scholar Mentor  
2017 - 2021 Early Career Working Group, National Association of Plant Breeders  
2015 – 2020 Communications Committee, National Association of Plant Breeders  
- Chair (2018 - 2019)  
- Vice-Chair (2017 - 2018)  
- Secretary (2016 - 2017)  
2018 Poster judge for National Association of Plant Breeders annual conference  
2017 Poster judge for National Association of Plant Breeders annual conference  
2013 - 2015 Graduate Student Committee, National Association of Plant Breeders  
2014 Graduate Student Committee, American Society of Agronomy

American Phytopathological Society

2006 – present Member

NIFA S9 “Plant Genetic Resources Conservation and Utilization”

2018 - present State representative  
2020 - 2021 Chair

NIFA SCC-33 “National Variety Testing Group”

2017 - present State representative

NIFA S1085 “Cover Crops for Sustainable Southern Agroecosystems”

2025 - present State representative

NIFA SCC-80 “Strengthening the Public Plant Breeding Community”

2025 - present State representative

***Service to Governmental Agencies***

2022 – present NRCS Plant Advisory Committee  
2017 Internal Reviewer, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

***Service to Industry***

2013 – present Collaborate with industry representatives to coordinate the corn, soybean,  
and silage variety trials which provides companies data to determine line  
advancement and market placement. Participating companies have  
included: AgriGold, Armor Seed, Augusta Seed, BASF, Bayer, Caverndale  
Farms, Dyna-Grow, Hefty Seed Company, LG Seeds, Local Seed  
Company, Masters Choice, Merschman Seeds, Mission Seed Solutions,  
Pfister Seeds, Progeny Ag, Spectrum Premium Non-GMO, Syngenta,

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- 2019 – present Taylor Seed Farms, Terral Seed, UniSouth Genetics, Warren Seed, Land O'Lakes, and Wyffels
- Tennessee Agricultural Production Association (member)
- (2021-2022) Past-President, responsible for attending board meetings. Chair of Education Committee, responsible for organizing student oral presentation competition.
  - (2020-2021) President, responsible for preparing agenda and presiding over the Board of Directors meetings, enforcing bylaws, appointing members and chairpeople of committees, serving as ex-officio on all committees, working with president-elect to plan annual meeting, presiding over annual meeting, and keeping other officers and board members advised on significant activities of the Association.
  - (2019-2020) President-elect, responsible for organizing logistics and lining up speakers for the winter and summer meetings.

***Participation in community affairs***

- recurring Brickey McCloud Elementary School Corny Day, Knoxville, TN (2023, 2024)
- 10/23/18 Panel member in Powell High School Career Panel, Knoxville, TN
- 7/13/17 Summer Celebration disease diagnosis clinic, Jackson, TN
- 4/6/17 Presenter for monthly meeting of Alcoa Kiwanis, Knoxville, TN

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**Funding**

**(Total Awarded: \$24,269,943; Sykes Lab Portion: \$2,476,212)**

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Fee Based Programming: \$1,227,994

**Sykes, V.R. & Yu, T.** Double Cropping Soybeans with Winter Oilseeds for Sustainable Aviation Fuel - Agronomic and Economic Impacts. TN Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2025 - 31 Dec. 2025. Awarded \$36,040.

**Sykes, V.R.**, University of Tennessee Soybean Variety Testing Program. TN Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2025 - 31 Dec. 2025. Submitted 2 Dec. 2024. Awarded \$60,560.

Shekoofa, A., **Sykes, V. R.**, Steckel, L., Walters, K. Allelopathic effects of Cover Crop Species on Weed and Soybean Germination. TN Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2025 - 31 Dec. 2025. Awarded \$22,975.

**Sykes, V.R.**, University of Tennessee Corn Hybrid Testing Program. TN Corn Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2025 - 31 Dec. 2025. Awarded \$15,000 (Requested \$30,000).

Rials, T., Yu, T., Chen, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Florence, R., Walker, F., Hellwinckel, C., Wilson, B. Methodology for assessing changes in soil organic carbon. Federal Aviation Administration: Center of Excellence for Alternative Jet Fuels and Environment. 1 May 2024 - 30 April 2025. Awarded \$290,000.

Gill, T., et al. "RAFFI – Rwanda Animal Feed and Fertilizer Innovation", U.S.D.A. Foreign Agricultural Service, Fellowship Program 2023 Scientific Exchange Program - African Animal Feed and Fertilizer Innovation. 1 Oct. 2023 - 30 Sept. 2025. Awarded \$259,600.

**Sykes, V. R.** UT variety testing program for corn grain and corn silage. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2024 - 31 Dec. 2024. Awarded \$20,400.

**Sykes, V. R.** Growing Nitrogen: A Multi-Location Comparison of Nitrogen Content Among Cover Crop Varieties/Species. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2024 - 31 Dec. 2024. Awarded \$14,240.

**Yin, X.**, Sykes, V. R., McNeal, J., Adotey, N. Effects of Cover Crop Planting Methods and Species on Corn Yield and Quality and Soil Health. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2024 - 31 Dec. 2024. Awarded \$29,980.

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- McNeal, J., Shekoofa, A., **Sykes, V. R.**, Adotey, N. Impact of row spacing & planting population on corn grain yield. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2024 - 31 Dec. 2024. Awarded \$24,260.
- Majarjan, P, **Sykes, V. R.**, Taheri, A. Comparing nutrient digestibility values in broiler chicken gut for major soybean varieties grown in Tennessee. Tennessee Corn Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2023. Awarded \$30,000.
- Sykes, V. R.** Technical support for UT variety testing program. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2023. Awarded \$40,000.
- Sykes, V. R.** & Shumacher, L. Long-term impacts of crop rotations and cover crops on soybean yield and disease. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2024. Awarded \$25,000 (Requested \$27,000).
- Shekoofa, A., **Sykes, V. R.**, Steckel, L., & Walters, K. Allelopathic effects of cover crop species on weed and soybean germination. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2023. Awarded \$20,000 (Requested \$24,289).
- Sykes, V. R.** UT variety testing program for corn grain and corn silage. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2023. Awarded \$30,000.
- Sykes, V. R.** & Yin, X. Growing Nitrogen: A Multi-Location Comparison of Nitrogen Content Among Cover Crop Varieties/Species. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2023. Awarded \$20,000 (Requested \$30,000).
- Yin, X & **Sykes, V. R.** Effects of Cover Crop Planting Methods and Species on Corn Yield and Quality and Soil Health. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2023. Awarded \$20,000 (Requested \$30,000).
- Sykes, V.R.** Beyond state boundaries: Unleashing the potential of soybean variety trial data to enhance sustainability through a multi-state database. United Soybean Board. 1 Oct. 2022 – 30 Sept. 2023. \$127,105
- Nave Oakes, R., **Sykes, V.R.**, Kelly, H., Yin, X., Boyer C., & Eckelkamp, L. Optimizing organic corn production under different living mulch systems. USDA NIFA Organic Transitions. 1 Oct. 2022 – 30 Sept. 2025. \$682,359
- Richmond, M., **Sykes, V.R.**, & Hansen, Z. Effect of tillage and cover crop systems on yield, quality, leaf chemistry, sucker control, and ALS for sustainable tobacco production. Altria Client Services. 16 May 2022 - 15 May 2024. \$116,306
- Sykes, V.R.** Technical support for UT variety testing program. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2022 - 31 Dec. 2022. \$45,000
- Sykes, V.R.** & Shumacher, L. Long-term impacts of crop rotations and cover crops on soybean yield and disease. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2022 - 31 Dec. 2022. \$25,000
- Shekoofa, A. & **Sykes, V.R.** Allelopathic effects of cover crop species on weed and soybean germination. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2022 - 31 Dec. 2022. \$19,000
- Sykes, V.R.** UT variety testing program for corn grain and corn silage. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2022 - 31 Dec. 2022. \$26,000
- Picasso, V., Ates, S., Barker, D., Berti, M., Brummer, C., Casler, M., Cassida, K., Chiavegato, M., Franco, J., Guretzky, J., Grabber, J., Hannaway, D., Islam, A., Jungers, J., Liebman, M., MacAdam, J., McCulley, R., Moore, V., Nave Oakes, R., Rocateli, A., Sollenberger, L., **Sykes, V.**, Tucker, J., Volenec, J., Wang, G., West, C., Ashworth, A., Baethgen, W., Bassett, S., Campbell, S., Daly, C., Chakal, M., Foster, J., Gamble, J., Lamp, W., Mouat, D., Tallaksen, J., Tautges, N., Wu, Y., Collier, S., Fang, D., Finan, A., Iutzi, F., Krome, M., Ma, Z., Marlow, S., Mitchell, J., Stevens, A., Christel, D., Dockter, J., Eagle, A., Filbert, M., Meier, E., Michelson, D., Reser, A., Rodgers, C., Salvador, R., Wagner, S., & Hubbard, M. Fostering resilience and ecosystem services in landscapes by integrating diverse perennial circular systems. USDA AFRI Sustainable Agricultural Systems. 1 Jan. 2022 - 31 Dec. 2026. \$10,000,000
- Wszelaki, A., Flowers, S., & **Sykes V. R.** Chickpeas as an alternative specialty crop and storage crop for Tennessee. USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant. 1 Nov. 2021 to 1 Aug. 2024. \$37,000
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- Sykes, V. R.** & Oakes, R. N. Living mulch in organic corn systems. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2021 - 31 Dec. 2021 (extended 31 Dec. 2022). \$30,000
- Bumgarner, N., Hansen, Z., Lockwood, D., **Sykes, V.**, & Velandia, M. Evaluating cultivar selection and trellis types to support blackberry growers in the Mid-South. Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium. 1 Mar. 2021 - 28 Feb. 2022. \$5,000
- Sykes, V. R.**, Bond, R., Venard, C., Heiniger, R., & Holshouser, D. Mid-South regional soybean variety testing database. 1 Oct. 2020 - 30 Sept. 2021 (extended 31 Mar. 2021). \$42,500
- Sykes, V. R.** Technical support for UT variety testing program. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2021 - 31 Dec. 2021. \$40,000
- Shekoofa, A. & **Sykes, V. R.** Allelopathic effects of cover crop species on weed and soybean germination. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2021 - 31 Dec. 2021. \$18,250
- Sykes, V. R.** UT variety testing program for corn grain and corn silage. Tennessee Corn Promotion Council. 1 Jan. 2021 - 31 Dec. 2021. \$20,249
- Hawkins, S, Savoy, H., Jagadamma, S., Walker, F., McClure, M., Duncan, L., Buschermohle, M., & **Sykes, V. R.** Corn silage nitrogen yield response and phosphorus and potassium crop removal rates - Year 4. Tennessee Department of Agriculture. 1 Apr. 2020 - 31 Mar. 2021. \$77,147
- Sykes, V. R.** & Duncan, L. Cover crop production guide for upper mid-South. Cotton Inc. 1 Jan. 2020 - 31 Dec. 2020. \$2,000
- Sykes, V. R.** Technical support for UT variety testing program. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2020 - 31 Dec. 2020. \$37,800
- Sykes, V. R.**, Shekoofa, A., Steckel, L., Stewart, S., & Russo, L. Economic and environmental impact of dual-use cover crop species in Tennessee no-till soybean/corn rotations. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2020 - 31 Dec. 2020. \$22,500
- Hansen, Z, Bumgarner, N., Butler, D., Lockwood, D., Rose, M., **Sykes, V.**, & Velandia, M. Demonstrating the impact of brassica cover crops on soil management and plant health and quality in small fruit plantings in the mid-south. Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium. 1 April 2020 - 28 Feb 2021. \$5,000
- Olukolu, B. & **Sykes, V. R.** Mitigating "maize ear and stalk rot" disease complex with precision for enhanced corn production and quality. Tennessee Corn Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2020 - 31 Dec. 2020. \$25,000
- Hawkins, S, Savoy, H., Jagadamma, S., Walker, F., McClure, M., Duncan, L., Buschermohle, M., & **Sykes, V. R.** Corn silage nitrogen yield response and phosphorus and potassium crop removal rates - Year 3. Tennessee Department of Agriculture. 1 Apr. 2019 - 31 Mar. 2020. \$50,000
- Bumgarner, N., Hansen, Z., Lockwood, D., Rose, M., **Sykes, V.**, & Velandia, M. Evaluating cultivar selection and integrated pest management practices economically to support blueberry growers in the mid-South. Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium. 24 Oct. 2018. \$5,000
- Sykes, V. R.** Technical support for UT variety testing program. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2019 - 31 Dec. 2019. \$46,900
- Sykes, V. R.**, Yin, X., Shekoofa, A., Steckel, L., Stewart, S., & Bates, G. Economic and environmental impact of dual-use cover crop species in Tennessee no-till soybean/corn rotations. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2019 - 31 Dec. 2019. \$45,000
- Schomberg, H., M. Cavigelli, T. Bowles, R. Dietzel, F. Viens. 2018. Networking long-term cropping systems projects to reduce producer risks in a time of uncertain climate. USDA-AFRI- Networks for Synthesis, Data Sharing, and Management. Awarded: \$500,000. 1 Jan. 2019 - 31 Dec. 2021. **(Collaborator)**. \$500,000
- Hawkins, S, Savoy, H., Jagadamma, S., Walker, F., McClure, M., Duncan, L., Buschermohle, M., & **Sykes, V. R.** Year 2: Corn silage nitrogen yield response and phosphorus and potassium crop removal rates. Tennessee Department of Agriculture. 1 Apr. 2018 - 31 Mar. 2019. \$41,991
- Sykes, V. R.** Technical support for UT variety testing program. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2018 - 31 Dec. 2018. \$44,080
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- Soil Health Institute. North American Soil Health Measurement Evaluation Project. Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research. 1 Jan. 2018 - 31 Dec. 2020. **(Collaborator)**. \$9,400,000
- Yin, X., & **Sykes, V. R.** Long-term effects of cover crops and crop rotations on soil health and water availability. United Soybean Board. 1 Oct. 2017 - 30 Sept. 2018. \$35,540
- Sykes, V. R.**, Yin, X., Nave, R., Bates, G., & Butler, D. Economic and environmental impact of multi-use cover crop species in Tennessee no-till soybean/corn rotations. United Soybean Board. 1 Oct. 2017 - 30 Sept. 2018. \$116,604
- Hawkins, S, Savoy, H., Jagadamma, S., Walker, F., McClure, M., Duncan, L., Buschermohle, M., & **Sykes, V. R.** Corn silage nitrogen yield response and phosphorus and potassium crop removal rates. Tennessee Department of Agriculture. 1 Apr. 2017 - 31 Mar. 2018. \$41,267
- Sykes, V. R.** Technical support for UT variety testing program. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2017 - 31 Dec. 2017. \$50,044
- Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.** Technical support for UT variety testing program. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board. 1 Jan. 2016 - 31 Dec. 2016. \$51,544
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### Awards and Honors

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(superscript key: ma=major advisor, cm=committee member, s=supervisor)

- 2024 **3<sup>rd</sup> place state level winner for “Publication” category**, 2024, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - **Sykes, V. R.**, Palacio<sup>s</sup>, F., Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A. C., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., McIntosh, D., Gamble, A., McWhirt, A., Chase, C. A., Maltais-Landry, G., Sharma, L., Boakye, D. A., Basinger, N., Haramoto, E., Reberg-Horton, C., Woodard, A., Henriquez Inoa, E., Narayanan, S., St. Aime, R., Rajan, N., Wheeler, W., & Reiter, M. (2023). Southern Cover Crop Variety Trial 2023. UT Ext. W 1205.
- 2024 **National Finalist (1<sup>st</sup> place state and 1<sup>st</sup> place Southern region) for “Publication” category**, 2024, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, B., Duncan, A., Gunter, J., Ludwig, A., Mote, M., Reeder, T., Rose, M., Rumble, L, Scott, C., Stefanski, J., **Sykes, V. R.**, Treadway, H., Upchurch, G., Whitehouse, S. (2023). Welcome Home: Gardening in Tennessee. UT Ext. PB 1919.
- 2024 **UTIA Cavender Award**, 2024, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, B., Duncan, A., Gunter, J., Ludwig, A., Mote, M., Reeder, T., Rose, M., Rumble, L, Scott, C., Stefanski, J., **Sykes, V. R.**, Treadway, H., Upchurch, G., Whitehouse, S. (2023). Welcome Home: Gardening in Tennessee. UT Ext. PB 1919.
- 2023 **1<sup>st</sup> place state level winner for “Factsheet” category**, 2023, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Chapter 3: Soybean variety development and selection. UT Ext. PB 1912-C.
- 2023 **1<sup>st</sup> place state level winner for “Publication” category**, 2023, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - McKim, K, Russo, L., Khalil<sup>cm</sup>, A., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Planting for pollinators in East Tennessee. UT Ext. W 1095.
- 2023 **UTIA Cavender Award**, 2023, Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, B., Upchurch, G., Lockwood, D. W., Gunter, J., Whitehouse, S., **Sykes, V. R.**, Rose, M., Sammons, L. Tennessee home fruit and vegetable garden calendar - 2023. UT Ext. W436.
- 2023 **TAAA&S Hicks Award**
- 2023 **2<sup>nd</sup> place**, 2023, American Society of Agronomy Bioenergy Poster Competition - Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L. **Sykes, V. R.**, Sams, C., Yin, X., & Yu, T. The comparison of potential winter oilseed varieties for the Mid-South and Southeastern United States. 2023 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO. 29 Oct. - 2 Nov 2023.
- 2023 **2<sup>nd</sup> place**, TN Agricultural Production Association Summer Meeting Oral Presentation Competition - Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Saha, D., Hansen, Z., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Richmond, M. The effect

of tillage practice and cover cropping systems on yield, quality, and angular leaf spot occurrence in dark tobacco in Tennessee. July 2023.

- 2023 **3<sup>rd</sup> place, 2023**, UTK Plant Sciences Departmental Graduate Student Poster Competition - Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Saha, D., Hansen, Z., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Richmond, M. The effect of tillage practice and cover cropping systems on yield, quality, and angular leaf spot occurrence in dark tobacco in Tennessee. April 2023
- 2022 **Team Award**, 2022, University of Tennessee Gamma Sigma Delta - Virginia Sykes and Natalie Bumgarner
- 2022 **3<sup>rd</sup> place**, 2022, UT Steak and Potatoes Field Day Graduate Poster Competition - Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., **Sykes, V. R.**, Wilson, A., Palacios, F., Bates, G., McIntosh, D. (2022). Forage qualities of cover crops in the Mid-South. Crossville, TN. 26 Aug. 2022. - 2nd place award in poster competition
- 2022 **MS Student Award**, 2022, University of Tennessee Gamma Sigma Delta MS Student Award - Brooke Keadle, MS student advised by **V. R. Sykes**
- 2022 **3<sup>rd</sup> place**, 2022, UTK Plant Sciences Departmental Graduate Student Poster Competition - Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., **Sykes, V. R.**, Yin, X., Sams, C., Larson, J., & Grant, J. Comparison of potential winter oilseed species and varieties for Tennessee. April 2022.
- 2022 **3<sup>rd</sup> place**, 2022, UTK Herbert College of Agriculture 3-minute Thesis Competition - Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., **Sykes, V. R.**, Yin, X., Sams, C., Larson, J., & Grant, J. Comparison of potential winter oilseed species and varieties for Tennessee. Jan. 2022.
- 2021 **2<sup>nd</sup> place state level winner for “Factsheet” category**, 2021, Tennessee Association of Agricultural Agents & Specialist - **Sykes, V. R.**, Steckel, L. McClure, A., Raper, T. & Stewart, S. (2021). Tennessee row crop trait cheat sheet. *UT Extension D 137*.
- 2021 **3<sup>rd</sup> place state level winner for “Publication” category**, 2021, Tennessee Association of Agricultural Agents & Specialist - **Sykes, V. R.**, Wilson, A., Bates, G., McIntosh, D., McClure, A. T., Raper, T., Blair, R., & Walker, F. (2020). Cover Crop Variety Tests in Tennessee 2020. *UT Extension W 953*.
- 2021 **1<sup>st</sup> place**, 2021, UTK Plant Sciences Departmental Graduate Student Oral Competition - Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., **Sykes, V. R.**, Yin, X., Sams, C., Larson, J., & Grant, J. Comparison of potential winter oilseed species and varieties for Tennessee. Oct. 2021.
- 2020 **Inspiring Young Scientist Award**, 2020, American Society of Agronomy – Environmental Quality Section
- 2018 **Southern region winner for “Program Promotional Piece” category**, 2018, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - **Sykes, V. R.** & Bumgarner, N. R. (2018). “2018 Home Garden Variety Trials Catalog”.
- 2018 **Extension Division Education Material Award**, 2018, American Society of Horticultural Science - Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, R. G., Payne, D., Reese, J. C., Rose, M., Sammons, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, and Upchurch, W. (2018). Tennessee home vegetable garden calendar-2018. *UT Extension W-436*.
- 2018 **Southern region winner for “Publication” category**, 2018, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, R. G., Payne, D., Reese, J. C., Rose, M., Sammons, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, and Upchurch, W. (2018). Tennessee home vegetable garden calendar-2018. *UT Extension W-436*.
- 2018 **1<sup>st</sup> place state level winner for “Program Promotional Piece” category**, 2018, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - **Sykes, V. R.** & Bumgarner, N. R. (2018). “2018 Home Garden Variety Trials Catalog”.
- 2018 **1<sup>st</sup> place state level winner for “Publication” category**, 2018, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, R. G., Payne, D., Reese, J. C., Rose, M., Sammons, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Upchurch, W. (2018). Tennessee home vegetable garden calendar-2018. *UT Extension W-436*.

- 2018 **1<sup>st</sup> place state level winner for “Learning Module” category**, 2018, National Association of County Agricultural Agents - Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, R. G., Payne, D., Reese, J. C., Rose, M., Sammons, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, and Upchurch, W. (2018). “Home Vegetable Garden Modules”.

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### Publications (Total: 109)

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(superscript key: ma=major advisor, cm=committee member, s=supervisor)

#### Refereed Journal Publications (41)

- 41 Tilhou, N., Kucek, L. K., Moore, V., Hanson, S., Reberg-Horton, C., Ryan, M. R., Ehlke, N. J., Bartow, A., Carr, B., Douglas, J. . . **Sykes, V. R.**, . . . et. al. Hairy vetch (*Vicia villosa* Roth) germplasm contains a cryptic second species (*Vicia varia* Host). *Crop Science* 65 (1) e21455. <https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21455>
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- 39 Prigge, J., E. Bisangwa, P. D. Keyser, J. Richwine, **V. R. Sykes**, and J. L. Ivey. 2024. Native Forbs Provide Pollinator Resources and Improve Forage Nutrient Composition, Animal Performance, and Pasture Productivity. *Agronomy*, Special Issue "Enhancement of Grassland Function and Productivity with Legumes and Other Forbs". 2024, 14(10), 2184. <https://doi.org/10.3390/agronomy14102184>
- 38 K. Ann Bybee-Finley; Katherine Muller; Kathryn E. White; Michel A. Cavigelli; Eunjin Han; Harry H. Schomberg; Sieglinde Snapp; Frederi Viens; Leonardo Deiss; Simon Fonteyne; Axel Garcia y Garcia; Amélie CM Gaudin; David C. Hooker; Ken Janovicek; Virginia Jin; Gregg Johnson; Heather Karsten; Matt Liebman; Marshall D. McDaniel; Gregg Sanford; Marty R. Schmer; Jeffrey Strock; **Virginia R. Sykes**; Nele Verhulst; Brook Wilke; Tim Bowles. (2024). Rotational complexity increases cropping system yields under poorer growing conditions. *One Earth* 7 (9): 1638-1654. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2024.07.008>
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- 36 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., **Sykes, V. R.**, Yin, X., Sams, C. E., Larson, J. A., & Grant, J. F. (2024). Budget and Breakeven Prices of Winter Canola and Pennycress Production in Tennessee. *Crop, Forage, and Turfgrass Management*. 10(1): e20283. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cft2.20283>
- 35 Mengistu, A., Read Q., **Sykes, V. R.**, Kelly, H., Kharel, T., & Bellaloui, N. (2023). Cover crop and crop rotation effects on tissue and soil population dynamics of *Macrophomina phaseolina* and yield under no-till system. *Plant Disease*. <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-03-23-0443-RE>
- 34 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., **Sykes, V. R.**, Yin, X., Sams, C. E., Larson, J. A., & Grant, J. F. (2023). Potential allelopathic interactions from canola and pennycress post-harvest roots and stubble. *Agrosystems, Geosciences & Environment* 6 (4): e20447. <https://doi.org/10.1002/agg2.20447>
- 33 Quinby<sup>cm</sup>, M., Nave, R., **Sykes, V. R.**, Bates, G. E., & Sams, C. (2023). Corn (*Zea mays* L.) production in living mulch systems using white clover (*Trifolium repens* L.) under different nitrogen fertilization rates. *Agronomy* 13 (9), 2377. <https://doi.org/10.3390/agronomy13092377>
- 32 Khalil, A., Sykes, V. R., & Russo, L. (2023). Floral identity and availability along with surrounding landscapes affect pollinator communities in eastern Tennessee. *Landscape Ecology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10980-023-01728-5>

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- 28 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Sykes, V. R., Yin, X., Sams, C. E., Larson, J. A., Grant, J. F. (2023). Winter Oilseeds in the US: Canola, Camelina, and Pennycress. *Agronomy Journal*. In Press.
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#### **Peer-Reviewed Extension Publications (68)**

- 68 Sykes, V. R., Blair, R.H., Kelly, H., Lawson<sup>s</sup>, A., Mirahki<sup>s</sup>, I., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Lugo<sup>ma</sup>, B., Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A. C., Roberts<sup>ma</sup>, Y., & McNeal, J. (2024). Soybean variety tests in Tennessee 2024. *UT Ext. W 1308*.
  - 67 Sykes, V. R., Blair, R. H., Lawson<sup>s</sup>, A., Mirahki<sup>s</sup>, I., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Lugo<sup>ma</sup>, B., Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A. C., Roberts<sup>ma</sup>, Y., West, D., Kincer, D. McNeal, J. (2024). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2024. *UT Ext. W 1306*.
  - 65 Sykes, V. R., Lawson<sup>ma</sup>, A., Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A. C., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Mirahki<sup>s</sup>, I., McIntosh, D., Gamble, A., McWhirt, A., Chase, C. A., Maltais-Landry, G., Sharma, L., Basinger, N., Bocz, C., Lindell, H., Smith, T., Gruener, M. Z., Haramoto, E., Reberg-Horton, C., Woodard, A., Henriquez Inoa, E., Narayanan, S., Rajan, N., Wheeler, W., Reiter, M., & Mason, J. (2024). Southern Cover Crop Variety Trial 2024. *UT Ext. W 1309*.
  - 64 Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, B., Dunlap, A., Gunter, J., Lockwood, D., O'Ferrall, M., Rose, M., Sykes, V. R., Upchurch, G., Whitehouse, S. (2024). Tennessee home fruit and vegetable garden calendar - 2025. *UT Ext. W436*.
  - 63 Sykes, V. R., Bumgarner, N. R., & Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B (2024). Tennessee home garden variety trials 2023 Results. *UT Ext. W 1231*.
  - 62 Sykes, V. R., Blair, R.H., Kelly, H., Schumacher, L., Lawson<sup>s</sup>, A., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A. C., Roberts<sup>ma</sup>, Y., Pantalone, V., & McNeal, J. (2023). Soybean variety tests in Tennessee 2023. *UT Ext. W 1210*.
  - 61 Sykes, V. R., Blair, R. H., Lawson<sup>s</sup>, A. Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Roberts<sup>ma</sup>, Y., West, D., Kincer, D. McNeal, J. (2023). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2023. *UT Ext. W 1207*.
  - 60 Sykes, V. R., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A. C., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., McIntosh, D., Gamble, A., McWhirt, A., Chase, C. A., Maltais-Landry, G., Sharma, L., Boakye, D. A., Basinger, N., Haramoto, E., Reberg-Horton, C., Woodard, A., Henriquez Inoa, E.,
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- 59 Bumgarner, N. R., Anderson, M., Ary, B., Dunlap, A., Gunter, J., Lockwood, D., Rose, M., Sammons, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Upchurch, G., Whitehouse, S. (2023). Tennessee home fruit and vegetable garden calendar - 2024. *UT Ext. W436*.
- 58 **Sykes, V. R.**, Bumgarner, N. R., & Keadlema, S. B, Schoonheim, J. (2023). Tennessee home garden variety trials 2022 Results. *UT Ext. W 1162*.
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- 55 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Chapter 3: Soybean variety development and selection. *UT Ext. PB 1912-C*.
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- 51 **Sykes, V. R.**, Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Bates, G., & McIntosh, D. (2022). Cover crop variety tests in Tennessee 2022. *UT Ext. W 1022*.
- 50 McKim, K, Russo, L., Khalil<sup>cm</sup>, A., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Planting for pollinators in East Tennessee. *UT Ext. W 1095*.
- 49 **Sykes, V. R.**, Bumgarner, N. R., & Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B. (2022). Tennessee home garden variety trials 2021 Results. *UT Extension W 657*.
- 48 **Sykes, V. R.**, Blair, R.H., Young-Kelly, H., Schumacher, L., Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Pantalone, V., & McClure, A.T. (2021). Soybean variety tests in Tennessee 2021. *UT Ext. PB 1889*.
- 47 **Sykes, V. R.**, Blair, R. H., Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., West, D., Kincer, D., & McClure, A.T. (2021). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2021. *UT Ext. PB 1887*.
- 46 **Sykes, V. R.**, Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Bates, G., & McIntosh, D. (2021). Corn silage tests in Tennessee 2021. *UT Ext. PB 1886*.
- 45 **Sykes, V. R.**, Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Bates, G., & McIntosh, D. (2021). Cover crop variety tests in Tennessee 2021. *UT Ext. W 1022*.
- 44 Hansen, Z., Akinrinlola, R., Kelly, H., **Sykes, V. R.**, Guyer, R., Cartwright, M., Grant, J., & Cosner, J. (2021). Hemp variety trials in Tennessee 2020. *UT Extension W 1016*.  
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- 42 Bumgarner, N. R., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B. (2021). Tennessee home garden variety trials 2020 results. *UT Extension W 657*.
- 41 **Sykes, V. R.**, Blair, R. H., Young-Kelly, H., Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., Pantalone, V., & McClure, A. T. (2020). Soybean variety tests in Tennessee 2020. *UT Ext. PB 1889*.
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- 39 **Sykes, V. R.**, Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., Bates, G., & McIntosh, D. (2020). Corn silage tests in Tennessee 2020. *UT Ext. PB 1886*.
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- 37 **Sykes, V. R.**, Allen, F. L., & McClure, A. (2020). Sesame production in Tennessee. *UT Ext. W 943*.
- 36 **Sykes, V. R.**, Walker, E., Robertson, T., Hansen, Z., Kelly, H., Cartwright, M., Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., & Schneider, L. (2020). Hemp variety trials in Tennessee 2019. *UT Ext. W 900*.
- 35 **Sykes, V. R.**, Bumgarner, N. R., & Keadle, S. B. (2020). Tennessee home garden variety trials: 2019 results. *UT Ext. W 657*.
- 34 **Sykes, V. R.**, Blair, R. H., Young-Kelly, H., Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., Pantalone, V., & McClure, A. T. (2019). Soybean variety tests in Tennessee 2019. *UT Ext. PB 1879*.
- 33 **Sykes, V. R.**, Blair, R. H., Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., West, D., Kincer, D., & McClure, A. T. (2019). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2019. *UT Ext. PB 1878*.
- 32 Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, R. G., Bruhin, A., Payne, D., Reese, J. C., Rose, M., Sammons, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Upchurch, W., & Whitehouse, S. (2019). 2020 Tennessee home vegetable garden calendar. *UT Extension W 436*.
- 31 **Sykes, V. R.**, Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., Bates, G., & McIntosh, D. (2019). Corn silage tests in Tennessee 2019. *UT Ext. PB 1877*.
- 30 Bumgarner, N. R., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Keadle, S. B. (2019). Tennessee home garden variety trials 2018 results. *UT Extension W 657*.
- 29 **Sykes, V. R.**, Willette<sup>s</sup>, A., Blair, R. H., Young-Kelly, H., Pantalone, V., & McClure, A. T. (2018). Soybean variety tests in Tennessee 2018. *UT Ext. PB 1865*.
- 28 Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, R. G., Payne, D., Reese, J. C., Rose, M., Sammons, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Upchurch, W. (2018). Tennessee home vegetable garden calendar-2019. *UT Extension W 436*.
- 27 **Sykes, V. R.**, Willette<sup>s</sup>, A., Blair, R.H., West, D., Kincer, D., & McClure, A. T. (2018). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2018. *UT Ext. PB 1864*.
- 26 **Sykes, V. R.**, Willette<sup>s</sup>, A., Bates, G., & McIntosh, D. (2018). Corn silage tests in Tennessee 2018. *UT Ext. PB 1859*.
- 25 **Sykes, V. R.**, & Bumgarner, N.R. (2018). Tennessee home garden variety trials: 2017 results. *UT Extension W 657*.
- 24 Bumgarner, N. R., Ary, R. G., Payne, D., Reese, J. C., Rose, M., Sammons, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Upchurch, W. (2017). Tennessee home vegetable garden calendar-2018. *UT Extension W 436*.
- 23 **Sykes, V. R.**, Willette<sup>s</sup>, A., Blair, R. H., Young-Kelly, H., Pantalone, V., Smallwood, C., & McClure, A. T. (2017). Soybean variety tests in Tennessee 2017. *UT Ext. PB 1865*.
- 22 **Sykes, V. R.**, Willette<sup>s</sup>, A., Blair, R. H., West, D., Kincer, D., & McClure, A. T. (2017). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2017. *UT Ext. PB 1864*.
- 21 **Sykes, V. R.**, Willette<sup>s</sup>, A., Bates, G., & McIntosh, D. (2017). Corn silage tests in Tennessee 2017. *UT Ext. PB 1859*.
- 20 Bates, G. E., Harper, C., McIntosh D., McClure, A., Raper, T., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2017). Forage and field crop seeding guide for Tennessee. *UT Ext. PB 378*.
- 19 McClure, A., Steckel, L., Raper, T., **Sykes, V. R.**, Montgomery, G., Kelly, H. M., Stewart, S., & Lee, J. (2017). Cover crops quick facts. *UT Ext. W 417*.
- 18 **Sykes, V. R.**, Blair, R. H., Young-Kelly, H., & McClure, A. T. (2016). Soybean variety tests in Tennessee 2016. *UT Ext. PB 1849*.
- 17 **Sykes, V. R.**, Blair, R. H., & McClure, A. T. (2016). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2016. *UT Ext. PB 1850*.
- 16 **Sykes, V. R.** (2016). Corn silage tests in Tennessee 2016. *UT Ext. PB 1851*.
- 15 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Benelli, V. G., & Ashworth A. J. (2015). Corn and wheat silage tests in Tennessee 2015. *UT Ext. Pub. SP 618*.
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- 14 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Benelli, V. G., Ashworth, A. J., Blair, R. H., McClure, A. T., Young-Kelly, H., & Donald, P. (2015). Soybean variety performance tests in Tennessee 2015. *UT AgResearch Rep. 16-03*.
- 13 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Ashworth, A. J., Benelli, V. G., Blair, R. H., & McClure, A.T. (2015). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2015. *UT AgResearch Rep. 16-02*.
- 12 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Ashworth, A. J., Benelli, V., Blair, R., & Raper, T. (2015). Wheat variety performance tests in Tennessee 2015. *UT AgResearch Rep. 16-01*.
- 11 Allen, F. L., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2014). Corn and wheat silage tests in Tennessee 2014. *UT Ext. Pub. SP 618*.
- 10 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Williams, Jr., R. C., McClure, A. T., Young-Kelly, H., & Donald, P. (2014). Soybean variety performance tests in Tennessee 2014. *UT AgResearch Rep. 15-03*.
- 9 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Williams, Jr., R. C., & McClure, A. T. (2014). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2014. *UT AgResearch Rep. 15-02*.
- 8 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Williams, Jr., R. C. (2014). Wheat variety performance tests in Tennessee 2014. *UT AgResearch Rep. 15-01*.
- 7 Allen, F.L., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2013). Corn silage tests in Tennessee 2013. *UT Ext. Pub. SP 618*.
- 6 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Williams, Jr., R. C., McClure, A. T., Young-Kelly, H., & Donald, P. (2013). Soybean variety performance tests in Tennessee 2013. *UT AgResearch Rep. 14-03*.
- 5 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Williams, Jr., R. C., & McClure, A. T. (2013). Corn grain hybrid tests in Tennessee 2013. *UT AgResearch Rep. 14-02*.
- 4 Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Johnson, R. D., & Williams, Jr., R. C. (2013). Wheat variety performance tests in Tennessee 2013. *UT AgResearch Rep. 14-01*.
- 3 Allen, F. L., Johnson, R. D., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2011). Corn and small grain silage tests in Tennessee. *UT Ext. Pub. SP618*.
- 2 Allen, F. L., Johnson, R. D., Williams Jr., R. C., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Main, C. (2011). Wheat and oat variety performance tests in Tennessee. *UT AgResearch Rep. 12-01*.
- 1 Allen, F. L., Johnson, R. D., Warwick, K., Lane, J., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2010). Corn, sweet sorghum and small grain silage tests in Tennessee 2010. *UT Ext. Pub. SP618*.

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### **Presentations (Total: 222)**

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(superscript key: ma=major advisor, cm=committee member, s=supervisor)

#### **Research Presentations (101)**

- 101 Burns, B.<sup>ma</sup>, **Sykes<sup>ma</sup>, V. R.** (2025, 1-5 August). Initial Detection and Characterization of Downy Mildew Affecting Camelina in Tennessee. Plant Health Annual Meeting. Honolulu, HI.
- 100 Mirahki, I.<sup>s</sup>, Sykes, V. R. (2025, 19-23 May). Variety Selection Using Agglomerative Hierarchical Clustering. National Association of Plant Breeders Annual Meeting. Kona, HI.
- 99 Burns, B.<sup>ma</sup>, **Sykes, V. R.** (2025, 19-23 May). Pennycress Germplasm Screening for Key Agronomic Traits in Tennessee. National Association of Plant Breeders Annual Meeting. Kona, HI.
- 98 **Sykes, V. R.**, Gamble, A., Chase, C., Maltais-Landry, G., Sharma, L., Treadwell, D., Basinger, N. Hitchcock, R., Haramto, E., Reberg-Horton, C., Woodard, A., Henriquez Inoa, E., Narayanan, S., Rajan, S., Reiter, M. (2025, 19-23 May). The Southern Cover Crop Variety Trial. National Association of Plant Breeders Annual Meeting. Kona, HI.
- 97 Mirahki, I.<sup>s</sup>, Sykes, V. R. (2025, 2-4 Feb.). Analysis of the Mid-Southeast Soybean Official Variety Test. Cooperative Variety Testing Programs Annual Meeting. Melbourne, FL.
- 96 **Sykes, V. R.**, Gamble, A., Chase, C., Maltais-Landry, G., Sharma, L., Treadwell, D., Basinger, N. Hitchcock, R., Haramto, E., Reberg-Horton, C., Woodard, A., Henriquez Inoa,

- E., Narayanan, S., Rajan, S., Reiter, M. (2025, 12-15 Jan.). The Southern Cover Crop Variety Trial. American Forage & Grassland Meeting, Kissimmee, FL.
- 95 **Sykes, V.R.**, Manavalan, L., Chapman, S. (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). Special Session Workshop - Developing Programs to Support Women in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.
- 94 Mirahki, I.<sup>s</sup>, Dillard, S. L., Sykes, V. R., Ardakani, M. R., Golzardi, F. (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). Effect of herbicide application on quantity and quality of yield and mycorrhizal symbiosis in grain corn. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.
- 93 Mirahki, I.<sup>s</sup>, Golzardi, F., Ardakani, M. R., Mahrokh, A., Paknejad, F., Dillard, S. L., Sykes, V. R. (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). Principal component analysis of forage sorghum under different planting dates. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.
- 92 Mirahki, I.<sup>s</sup>, Golzardi, F., Ardakani, M. R., Mahrokh, A., Paknejad, F., Dillard, S. L., **Sykes, V. R.** (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). Evaluation of the yield and physiological aspects of sorghum under different planting dates. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.
- 91 Mirahki, I.<sup>s</sup>, **Sykes, V. R.** (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). Soybean variety performance in different environmental regimes across the Mid-South. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.
- 90 Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Saha, D., Hansen, Z., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Richmond, M. (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). The effect of tillage practice and cover cropping systems on yield, quality, and angular leaf spot occurrence in dark tobacco in Tennessee. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX. **Awarded 2nd place in the Cover Crop Section MS Oral Presentation Competition.**
- 89 Martinez<sup>cm</sup>, V., Nave, R., Goulart de Almeida, O, **Sykes, V. R.**, Pedreira, B. C., Boyer, C. (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). Optimizing organic corn production under different living mulch systems. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.
- 88 Roberts, Y<sup>ma</sup>, Nave, R., **Sykes, V. R.**, Walters, K. J. Giffith, A., Goulart de Almeida, O., Nassar, F. F., Martinez, V., Malheiros, M. A. S. (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). Management and productivity of corn and alfalfa intercropping systems in the Southern US. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.
- 87 Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Sams, C., Yin, X., & Yu, T. (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). The comparison of potential winter oilseed varieties for the Mid-South and Southeastern United States. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.
- 86 Ward<sup>cm</sup>, T., Yin, X., **Sykes, V. R.**, Adotey, N., Steckel, L. E., McNeal, J. (2024, 10 - 14 Nov). Impact of Cover Crop and Residue Management on Soybean Production Systems. 2024 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.
- 85 **Sykes, V. R.**, Gamble, A., Chase, C., Maltais-Landry, G., Sharma, L., Treadwell, D., Basinger, N. Hitchcock, R., Haramto, E., Reberg-Horton, C., Woodard, A., Henriquez Inoa, E., Narayanan, S., Rajan, S., Reiter, M. (22 - 27 Sept. 2024). The Southern Cover Crop Variety Trial Program: Assessing regional adaptation of cover crop varieties across the Southern US. American Society of Horticultural Science Annual Meeting. Honolulu, HI.
- 84 Parish, E., Hellwinckel, C., Langholtz, M., De La Torre Ugarte, D., Clark, R., Ullah, K. M., Field, J., Meyer, A., Lagergren, J., Surendrannair, S., Davis, M., Zhao, X., Webb, E., **Sykes, V.**, Yu, E. Status and prospects for using winter oilseeds to produce sustainable aviation fuel. National Sustainability Society Conference. 9 - 12 Sept. 2025. Seattle, WA.
- 83 Bolakhe, K., **Sykes, V. R.**, Boyer, C., Smith, A., Yu, T. (2024, 28 - 30 July). Evaluating a stochastic optimized sustainable aviation fuel supply chain from winter canola and its carbon intensity. Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA.

- 82 Bybee-Finley, A., Sykes, V.R. et al. (2024, 20 - 23 Mar.). DRIVES: Diverse rotations improve valuable ecosystem services. Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists. Chattanooga, TN.
- 81 Bybee-Finley, A., Sykes, V.R. et al. (2024, 20 - 23 Mar). Cropping system diversity mediates climate resilience. Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists. Chattanooga, TN.
- 80 Sykes, V. R. (2024, Mar. 18 - 20). Winter oilseed crops exhibit potential as a source for sustainable aviation fuel in the Southern US. Annual International Symposium Food-Energy-Water Bioeconomies for Net-Zero Transition. U.S. Nation Science Foundation FEWSUS Project. Knoxville, TN.
- 79 McDade, A., Sykes, V., Taheri, A., Maharjan, P. (2024, 28 Jan - 1 Feb). Understanding amino acid digestibility of locally (Tennessee) grown soybean varieties for broiler chickens, an *in vitro* study. International Productin and Processing Expo (IPPE). Atlanta, GA.
- 78 Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Sykes, V. R., Sams, C., Yin, X., & Yu, T. (2023, 29 Oct - 2 Nov). The comparison of potential winter oilseed varieties for the Mid-South and Southeastern United States. UTK Plant Sciences Departmental Graduate Student Poster Competition. 27 Nov. 2023
- 77 Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Sykes, V. R., Sams, C., Yin, X., & Yu, T. (2023, 29 Oct - 2 Nov). The comparison of potential winter oilseed varieties for the Mid-South and Southeastern United States. 2023 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO.  
**Awarded 2nd place in the Bioenergy Section Poster Competition.**
- 76 Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Saha, D., Hansen, Z., Sykes, V. R., & Richmond, M. (2023, 29 Oct - 2 Nov). The effect of tillage practice and cover cropping systems on yield, quality, and angular leaf spot occurrence in dark tobacco in Tennessee. 2023 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO.
- 75 Sykes, V. R., Gamble, A., Rajan, N., Narayanan, S., Haramoto, E., Basinger, N., Devkota, P., Chase, C. A., Maltais-Landry, G., Sharma, L., McWhirt, A., Reiter, M. S., Reberg-Horton, C., Henriquez Inoa, E. L., & Woodard, A. (2023, 29 Oct - 2 Nov). Southern cover crops council multi-state trials: Winter annual legume cover crop species selection and seeding rates for the South. 2023 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO.
- 74 Kumari, A., Gamble, A. V., Seehaver, S., Pettit, A., Shadow, A., McWhirt, A., Carr, B., Chase, C. A., Reberg-Horton, C., Kidwellslak, D., Haramoto, E., Fultz, L. M., Basinger, N., Barrett, R., Mirsky, S. B., & Sykes, V. R. (2023, 29 Oct - 2 Nov). Southern cover crops council multi-state trials: Winter annual legume cover crop species selection and seeding rates for the South. 2023 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO.
- 73 Sykes, V. R. (2023). Tennessee genetic resource utilization update. S-9 Plant Genetic Resources Multi-State research group. 26 July 2023. Virtual.
- 72 Sykes, V. R. (2023, 6 - 7 June). Will winter oilseeds work in the Mid-South? U.S. DOE BETO Deploying Purpose-Grown Energy Crops for Sustainable Aviation Fuel Workshop. Kansas City, MO.
- 71 Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Saha, D., Hansen, Z., Sykes, V. R., & Richmond, M. (2023). The effect of tillage practice and cover cropping systems on yield, quality, and angular leaf spot occurrence in dark tobacco in Tennessee. UTK Plant Sciences Departmental Graduate Student Poster Competition. 24 Apr. 2023. **Awarded 3rd place.**
- 70 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. K., Sykes, V. R., Yin, X., Sams, C., Larson, J., & Grant, J. (2022, 6-9 Nov.). Potential for dual cropped winter oilseed species to exhibit allelopathic interactions with crop and weed species. 2022 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

- 69 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. K., **Sykes, V. R.**, Yin, X., Sams, C., Larson, J, & Grant, J. (2022, 6-9 Nov.). Comparison of potential winter oilseed species and varieties for Tennessee. 2022 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- 68 **Sykes, V. R.** (2023). Tennessee genetic resource utilization update. S-9 Plant Genetic Resources Multi-State research group. 16 - 17 Aug. 2022. Virtual.
- 67 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Sykes, V. R., Yin, X., Sams, C., Larson, J, & Grant, J. (2022.). Comparison of potential winter oilseed species and varieties for Tennessee. UTK Plant Sciences Departmental Graduate Student Oral Presentation Competition. April 2022. **Awarded 1st place.**
- 66 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Sykes, V. R., Yin, X., Sams, C., Larson, J, & Grant, J. (2022.). Comparison of potential winter oilseed species and varieties for Tennessee. UTK Plant Sciences Departmental Graduate Student Poster Competition. April 2022. **Awarded 3rd place.**
- 65 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Tennessee variety testing program state update. SCC-33 National Variety Testing Meeting. Multi-state research coordinating committee and information exchange group. 14 Feb. 2022. Fort Lauderdale, FL.
- 64 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Mid-south soybean variety trial database project update. SCC-33 National Variety Testing Meeting. Multi-state research coordinating committee and information exchange group. 14 Feb. 2022. Fort Lauderdale, FL.
- 63 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., Sykes, V. R., Yin, X., Sams, C., Larson, J, & Grant, J. (2022). Comparison of potential winter oilseed species and varieties for Tennessee. UTK Herbert College of Agriculture 3-minute Thesis Competition. Jan. 2022. **Awarded 3rd place.**
- 62 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. K., **Sykes, V. R.**, Yin, X., Sams, C., & Larson, J. (2021, 7-10 Nov.). Comparison of potential winter oilseed species and varieties for Tennessee: Year 1. 2021 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT.
- 61 **Sykes, V. R.** (2021). Tennessee genetic resource utilization update. S-9 Plant Genetic Resources Multi-State research group. 10 Aug. 2021. Virtual.
- 60 Timling, A., Adams, A. Richman, T. Kristy, B. Kuster, R. Wilson, A., Kelly, H., **Sykes, V.R.**, & Olukolu, B. (2021). Impact of fusarium ear rot disease on the maize kernel microbiome. REU AICT Summer Undergraduate Research Poster Presentation. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 30 July 2021.
- 59 Longmire<sup>cm</sup>, M., Grant, J., Stewart, S., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2021, 22-24 Mar.). Effects of cover cropping, dual-purpose cropping, and successively planted soybean on arthropod communities. 2021 Entomological Society of America Eastern, Southeastern, and Pacific Branch Meetings, Virtual.
- 58 **Sykes, V. R.** (2021). Tennessee variety testing program state update. SCC-33 National Variety Testing Meeting. Multi-state research coordinating committee and information exchange group. 2 Mar. 2021. Virtual.
- 57 **Sykes, V. R.** (2021). Mid-south soybean variety trial database project. SCC-33 National Variety Testing Meeting. Multi-state research coordinating committee and information exchange group. 2 Mar. 2021. Virtual.
- 56 Weisberger, D., Basigner, N., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2021, 15 Feb.). Are cover crops effective for weed management in the Southeast, USA: A meta-analysis. 2021 Weed Science Society of America Annual Conference, Virtual.
- 55 Weisberger, D., Basinger, N., & **Sykes, V.R.** (2021, 25 Jan.). Are cover crops effective for weed management in the Southeast, USA: A meta-analysis. 2021 Southern Weed Science Society Annual Conference, Virtual.
- 54 Bansal<sup>cm</sup>, S., Xiao, J., Yin, X., & **Sykes, V.R.** (2020, 8-11 Nov.). Differential heavy metal accumulation in soil and crop after 15-year continuous application of poultry litter. 2020 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Virtual.

- 53 Sheldon, K., Shekoofa, A., Steckel, L., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2020, 8-11 Nov.). Effects of allelopathic potential of cover crop species on soybean and goosegrass germination. 2020 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Virtual.
- 52 **Sykes, V.R.**, Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A., McClure, A., Raper, T., Blair, R., & Walker, F. R. (2020, 8-11 Nov.). Mid-South regional adaptation and variation among sixty cover crop varieties. 2020 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Virtual.
- 51 **Sykes, V. R.** (2020). Tennessee genetic resource utilization update. S-9 Plant Genetic Resources Multi-State research group. 26 Aug. 2020. Virtual.
- 50 Shekoofa, A., Steckel, L., Perkins, C., & **Sykes, V.R.** (2020, 2-5 Mar.). Inhibitions of goosegrass [*Eleusine indica* (L.) Gaertn.] and soybean [*Glycine max* (L.) Merr.] germination, growth, and development by cover crop residues. 2020 Weed Science Society of America (WSSA), Maui, HI.
- 49 Zhou, X., Larson, J., **Sykes, V. R.**, Ashworth, A., & Allen, F. (2020, 1-4 Feb.). Long-term crop rotation and bio-cover impacts on no-tillage soybean profitability. Southern Agricultural Economics Association 52nd Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY.
- 48 Bansal<sup>cm</sup>, S., Yin, X., Singh, S., Jagadamma, S., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Lee, J. (2019, 17 Dec.). Crop sequence diversity and bio-covers under no-tillage affect greenhouse gas emissions. UT Beef and Forage Center Annual Research and Recommendation Meeting, Knoxville, TN.
- 47 Bracey<sup>ma</sup>, W., **Sykes, V.R.**, Bates, G., Yin, X., Steckel, L., Butler, D., & Nave, R. (2019, 17 Dec.). Comparison of dual-use and single-use cover crops in no-till Tennessee production systems. UT Beef and Forage Center Annual Research and Recommendation, Knoxville, TN.
- 46 Longmire<sup>cm</sup>, M., Grant, J., Stewart, S., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2019, 17-20 Nov.). Slugs and bugs: The thugs of soybean communities. Entomology 2019, St. Louis, MO.
- 45 Longmire<sup>cm</sup>, M., Grant, J., Stewart, S., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2019, 17-20 Nov.). Dual-cropping soybean systems: Impacts on pest and beneficial arthropods in Tennessee. Entomology 2019, St. Louis, MO.
- 44 Bansal<sup>cm</sup>, S., Yin, X., Savoy Jr., H.J., Lee, J., & **Sykes, V.R.** (2019, 10-13 Nov.). Long-term influence of phosphorus fertilization and soil aggregation on soil organic carbon and nitrogen under no-tillage production systems. 2019 ASA and CSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 43 Yin, X., Bansal<sup>cm</sup>, S., **Sykes, V. R.**, Jagadamma, S., Lee, J., & Boyer, C. (2019, 10-13 Nov.). Carbon footprint and sustainability index of major cropping sequence and bio-cover systems under no-tillage. 2019 ASA and CSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 42 Bansal<sup>cm</sup>, S., Yin, X., **Sykes, V. R.**, Jagadamma, S., & Lee, J. (2019, 10-13 Nov.). Long-term influence of crop sequences, bio-covers, and aggregate sizes on organic carbon and nitrogen in soil profile under no-tillage. 2019 ASA and CSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 41 Bansal<sup>cm</sup>, S., Yin, X., Singh, S., Jagadamma, S., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Lee, J. (2019, 10-13 Nov.). Crop sequence diversity and bio-covers under no-tillage affect greenhouse gas emissions. 2019 ASA and CSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 40 Morgan, C. L. S., Tracy, P. W., Bean, G. M., Cope, M., Cappallazzi, S., Hoegenauer, K. L., Liptzin, D., Norris, C., Rieke, E., **NAPSHM Collaborators**, & Honeycutt, C. W. (2019, 10-13 Nov.). Measurements to assess soil health indicators and link them to soil ecosystem services. 2019 ASA and CSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 39 Flynn, K., Tracy, P. W., Liptzin, D., Bean, G. M., Cappallazzi, S., Cope, M., Hoegenauer, K. L., Rieke, E., Norris, C., Honeycutt, C. W., Morgan, C. L. S., & **NAPSHM Collaborators**. (2019, 10-13 Nov.). Slakes smartphone application to quantify aggregate stability: Performance across a range of soil types and managements. 2019 ASA and CSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 38 Hoegenauer, K. L., Bean, G. M., Cappellazzi, S., Cope, M., Liptzin, D., Norris, C., Rieke, E., Tracy, P. W., Flynn, K., Honeycutt, C. W., Howe, J. A., Morgan, C. L. S., & **NAPSHM**

- Collaborators.** (2019, 10-13 Nov.). Comparing Aggregate Stability Analyses to Evaluate Soil Health across North America. 2019 ASA and CSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 37 Zhou, X., Larson, J., **Sykes, V. R.**, Ashworth, A., & Allen, F. (2019, 10-13 Nov.). Crop rotation and bio-covers impacts on no-tillage corn, soybean, and cotton profitability in Tennessee. 2019 ASA and CSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 36 Bracey<sup>ma</sup>, W., **Sykes, V. R.**, Bates, G., Yin, X., Steckel, L., Butler, D., & Nave, R. (2019, 10-13 Nov.). Comparison of dual-use and single-use cover crops in no-till Tennessee production systems. 2019 ASA and CSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 35 Bracey<sup>ma</sup>, W., **Sykes, V. R.**, Bates, G., Yin, X., Steckel, L., Butler, D., & Nave, R. (2019, 16-17 July). Comparison of dual-use and single-use cover crops in no-till Tennessee production systems. Southern Cover Crops Council Conference, Auburn, AL.
- 34 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). Tennessee genetic resource utilization update. S-9 Plant Genetic Resources Multi-State research group. 11 – 13 July 2019. Auburn, AL.
- 33 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). Tennessee variety testing program state update. SCC-33 National Variety Testing Meeting. Multi-state research coordinating committee and information exchange group. 3 – 6 Feb. 2019. Key Largo, FL.
- 32 Bansal<sup>cm</sup>, S., Yin, X., Savoy, H.J., Jagadamma, S., Lee, J., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2019, 6-8 Jan.). Long-term effects of phosphorus fertilization and aggregate size distribution on soil organic carbon, nitrogen, and carbon:nitrogen ratio at different soil depths. 2019 Soil Science Society of America Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- 31 Bansal<sup>cm</sup>, S., Yin, X., Savoy, H.J., Jagadamma, S., Lee, J., **Sykes, V. R.** (2018, 18 Dec.). Long-term effects of phosphorus fertilization and aggregate size distribution on soil organic carbon, nitrogen, and carbon:nitrogen ratio at different soil depths. 3rd Annual Graduate Research Poster Symposium and Competition, UT Beef and Forage Center Annual Research and Recommendation Meeting, Knoxville, TN.
- 30 Bracey<sup>ma</sup>, W., **Sykes, V.R.**, Butler, D., Bhandari, H., & Bates, G. (2018, 4-7 Nov.). Breeding common vetch for improved utility as a cover crop in the southeast. 2018 ASA, CSSA and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- 29 Willette<sup>s</sup>, A. R., **Sykes, V. R.**, Bates, G. E., Nave, R., & Butler, D. M. (2018, 4-7 Nov.). Economic and environmental impact of multi-use cover crop species in Tennessee no-till soybean/corn rotations. 2018 ASA, CSSA and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- 28 Willette, A.R., Smallwood, C.J., Pantalone, V.R., Sams, C., **Sykes, V. R.**, Bhandari, H., & Chen, F. (2018, 4-7 Nov.). Soybean breeding for improved oil quality by selecting high oleic low linolenic, high yielding lines using single nucleotide polymorphisms to identify mutant FAD2-1A, FAD2-1B, FAD3A and FAD3C alleles. 2018 ASA, CSSA and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- 27 **Sykes, V. R.**, & Bumgarner, N. R. (2018, 7-10 Aug.). Taking the trial to the people: A new approach for vegetable variety evaluation in Tennessee. NAPB Annual Meeting, Guelph, Ontario, Canada.
- 26 Bumgarner, N. R., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2018, 30 July – 3 Aug.). Taking the trial to the people: Citizen science variety trials for Tennessee vegetable gardeners. ASHS Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. HortScience 53 (9): S302
- 25 Willette, A., Bhandari, H., Chen, F., Smallwood, C., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Pantalone, V. R. (2017). Breeding for improved oil quality in high yielding soybean lines using molecular markers for selecting fAD3A and FAD3C mutant alleles. World Soybean Research Conference 10, Poster completed and displayed in Plant Biotechnology Bldg. Conference cancelled due to Hurricane Irma.
- 24 **Sykes, V. R.** (2017). Tennessee genetic resource utilization update. S-9 Plant Genetic Resources Multi-State research group. 20-21 June 2017. Griffin, GA.

- 23 **Sykes, V. R.** (2017). Tennessee variety testing program state update. SCC-33 National Variety Testing Meeting. Multi-state research coordinating committee and information exchange group. 5 – 8 Feb. 2017. San Diego, CA.
- 22 **Sykes, V. R.**, Allen, F. L., Mielenz, J. R., Stewart Jr., C. N., Windham, M. T., Hamilton, C. Y., Rodriguez Jr., M., & Yee, K. L. (2015). Reduction of ethanol yield from switchgrass infected with rust caused by *Puccinia emaculata*. Switchgrass III: Prairie and Native Grass International Conference. 30 Sept. – 2 Oct. 2015. Knoxville, TN.
- 21 **Sykes, V. R.**, & Allen, F.L. (2015). Diallel analysis of traits associated with biomass yield in switchgrass. 2015. Switchgrass III: Prairie and Native Grass International Conference. 30 Sept. – 2 Oct. 2015. Knoxville, TN.
- 20 **Sykes, V. R.**, Allen, F. L. , & DeSantis, A. C. (2014). Comparison of space and sward planted switchgrass for estimates of genetic parameters and ranking of biomass and ethanol yield. NAPB Annual Meeting. 5 – 8 Aug. 2014. Minneapolis, MN.
- 19 **Sykes, V. R.**, Allen, F. L., & DeSantis, A. C. (2015). Efficacy of juvenile, first year, and second year selection on improving biomass yield and ethanol yield in switchgrass. NAPB Annual Meeting. 27 – 30 July 2015. Pullman, WA.
- 18 **Sykes, V. R.**, Allen, F. L., & DeSantis, A. C. (2014). Efficacy of juvenile, first year, and second year selection on improving biomass yield and ethanol yield in switchgrass. ASA/CSSA/SSSA Annual Meeting. 2 – 5 Nov. 2014. Long Beach, CA.
- 17 DeSantis, A. C., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Allen, F. L. (2014). Diallel analysis of predicted ethanol yield of leaves versus stems of lowland switchgrass. ASA/CSSA/SSSA Annual Meeting. 2 – 5 Nov. 2014. Long Beach, CA.
- 16 DeSantis, A.C., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Allen, F.L. (2014). Diallel analysis of biomass yield in leaves versus stems of lowland switchgrass. NAPB Annual Meeting. 5 – 8 Aug. 2014. Minneapolis, MN.
- 15 Hughes, E., Allen, F. L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Bobbitt, M., & Bhandari, H. (2013). Genetic variability for biomass yield, yield components, and ethanol yield among half-sibs of switchgrass. ASA/CSSA/SSSA Annual Meeting. 3 – 6 Nov. 2013. Tampa, FL.
- 14 Bobbit, M., Allen, F.L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Hughes, E., & Bhandari, H. (2013). Genetic variation and trait associations for forage yield and quality among half-sib families of switchgrass. ASA/CSSA/SSSA Annual Meeting. 3 – 6 Nov. 2013. Tampa, FL.
- 13 **Sykes, V. R.**, Allen, F. L., & Bhandari, H. S. (2013). Comparison of space and sward planted switchgrass for traits associated with biomass and ethanol yield. ASA/CSSA/SSSA Annual Meeting. 3 – 6 Nov. 2013. Tampa, FL.
- 12 **Sykes, V. R.**, & Allen, F. L. (2013). Diallel analysis of traits associated with biomass yield in switchgrass. NAPB Annual Meeting. 2 – 5 June 2013. Tampa, FL.
- 11 **Sykes, V. R.** (2012). Effect of rust infection on ethanol production potential of switchgrass. 8th Eastern Native Grass Symposium. Charlottesville, VA. 1 – 4 Oct. 2012.
- 10 **Sykes, V. R.**, Allen, F. L., Mielenz, J. R., Stewart, Jr., C. N., & Windham, M. T. (2011). Effect of *Puccinia emaculata* infection on ethanol production potential of *Panicum virgatum*. APS Annual Meeting. 6 – 10 Aug. 2011. Honolulu, HI. Phytopathology 101:S174.
- 9 McCall, D. S., Horvath, B. J., Cutulle, M. A., Nichols, A. E., & **Sykes, V. R.** (2010). Nozzle selection for maximizing brown patch control with fungicides. APS Annual Meeting. 7 – 11 Aug 2010. Charlotte, NC. Phytopathology 100(6):S80.
- 8 Horvath, B. J., McCall, D. S., Amaradasa B. S., Cutulle, M. A., **Sykes V.R.** (2010). *Rhizoctonia* species causing turfgrass disease in the transition zone: Identification, host resistance and management. APS Annual Meeting. 7 – 11 Aug 2010. Charlotte, NC. Phytopathology 100 (6): S152.
- 7 Stewart Jr., C.N., Mazarei, M., Wusheng, L., Rao, M., Rudis, M., Abercrombie, L., and **Sykes, V. R.** (2010). Phytosensors: Plants to report pathogens and environmental

- contaminants. 2010 In Vitro Biology Meeting and IAPB 12th World Congress. 6 – 11 June 2010. St. Louis, MO. In Vitro Cell Dev Biol 46 (1): S76.
- 6 Liu, W., Rudis, M. R., **Sykes, V. R.**, Mazarei, M., & Stewart, Jr., C. N. (2010). In vivo analysis of synthetic promoters by agroinfiltration of tobacco leaves for pathogen phytosensing. Southern Section American Society of Plant Biology Annual Meeting 10 – 12 April 2010. p. 22.
- 5 **Sykes, V. R.**, B.J. Horvath, & S.E. Warnke. Identification of resistance in *Festuca arundinacea* Schreb lines to both *Rhizoctonia solani* Kuhn and *Rhizoctonia zea* Voorhees using digital image analysis. Abstract 648-6. ASA/CSSA/SSSA Annual Meeting. 5 – 9 Oct. 2008. Houston, TX.
- 4 **Sykes, V. R.**, Horvath, B. J., & Warnke, S. E. (2008). Resistance screening of *Festuca arundinacea* to both *Rhizoctonia solani* and *Rhizoctonia zea* using digital image analysis. APS Annual Meeting. 26 – 30 July 2008. Minneapolis, MN. Phytopathology 98:S154.
- 3 **Sykes, V. R.**, Horvath, B. J., & Warnke, S. E. (2007). Resistance screening of *Festuca arundinacea* germplasm to *Rhizoctonia* species using digital image analysis. Abstract 265-2. ASA/CSSA/SSSA Annual Meeting. 4 – 8 Nov. 2007. New Orleans, LA.
- 2 **Sykes, V. R.**, Horvath, B. J., & McCall, D. S. (2007). Development of a digital analysis method to assess brown patch resistance on *Festuca arundinacea* germplasm. APS Annual Meeting. 28 July – 1 Aug. 1 2007. San Diego, CA. Phytopathology 97:S113.
- 1 **Sykes, V. R.**, Horvath, B. J., & McCall, D. S. (2007). Assessment of brown patch severity on tall fescue using digital image analysis. APS Potomac Division Meeting. 21 – 23 Mar. 2007. Blacksburg, VA.

#### **Extension and Outreach Presentations (121)**

- 121 Lawson, A.<sup>ma</sup>, **Sykes, V. R.** (2025). Legume Mulches in Organic Corn: Managing Nutrients While Supporting Pollinators. 2025 TAPA Annual Meeting & Agronomic Workshop. Pickwick Landing State Park, Hardin County, TN. 21-23 July 2025.
- 120 Burns, B., **Sykes, V. R.** (2025). From Tennessee Fields to Fuel Tanks: Exploring Pennycress as a Profitable Winter Rotation. Tennessee Agricultural Production Association Summer Meeting. Pickwick, TN. 21-23 July 2025.
- 119 **Sykes, V. R.**, Haub, Z., Jobkar, S., Burns, B., Lawson, A., Mirahki, I., Pedreira, B., Fancher, M., Pouncy, C., Vogel, A. Hayter, J., Flowers, S., Keadle, S. B. (2025). Plant Sciences, 4-H Academic Conference, University of Tennessee. Knoxville, TN. 11 -12 June 2025.
- 118 **Sykes, V. S.**, Kelly, H., Brown, S., Steckel, L., Raper, T., McNeal, J. Row Crops Hot Topic: Weeds, Pests, and Fertility. Virtual. 3 June 2025.
- 117 **Sykes, V.R.** (2025). UC Davis Career Panel. Davis, CA. 13 Mar. 2025.
- 116 Burns, B.<sup>ma</sup>, **Sykes, V. R.** (2025). Potential Winter Oilseeds for Tennessee. Winter Crops Inservice. Springfield, TN. 6 Mar. 2025.
- 115 **Sykes, V. R.**, Lawson, A.<sup>ma</sup> (2025). Estimating Nitrogen Credits from Cover Crops. Winter Crops Inservice. Springfield, TN. 6 Mar. 2025.
- 114 **Sykes, V. R.** (2025). The Long and Short of Maximizing Cover Crop Benefits in Agronomic Systems. Kent Conservation District Soil Health Workshop. Dover, DE. 27 Feb. 2025.
- 113 Bumgarner, N. R. & **Sykes, V. R.** (2024). Home garden variety trial 2024 wrap-up. Virtual. 6 Dec. 2024.
- 112 **Sykes, V.R.** Variety Trial Update and Economic Outlook. Statewide Row Crops Inservice Hot Topic. Virtual. 3 Dec. 2024.
- 111 **Sykes, V. R.**, Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Roberts<sup>ma</sup>, Y., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Reed, S., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., & Lawson<sup>ma</sup>, A. (2024). Corn. Bricky McCloud Corny Day. Knoxville, TN. 26 Nov. 2024.
- 110 **Sykes, V. R.** (2024). Cover Crops. PLSC 593 - Field Crops. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 25 Nov. 2024.
- 109 **Sykes, V. R.** (2024). The long and short of maximizing cover crop benefits. Mid-Atlantic Crop Management School. Ocean City, MD. 19 - 21 Nov. 2024.

- 108 **Sykes, V. R.** (2024). UT variety testing program overview. PLSC 453/553 - Plant Breeding. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 19 Sept. 2024.
- 107 **Sykes, V.R.** Cover Crop Resources for TN. Statewide Row Crops Inservice. Jackson, TN. 12 Aug. 2024.
- 106 **Sykes, V. R.** (2024). Southern cover crop variety trial. Milan No-Till Field Day. Milan, TN. 25 July 2024.
- 105 Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L. & **Sykes, V. R.** (2024). Winter oilseed crops for SAF in the Southern US. Milan No-Till Field Day. Milan, TN. 25 July 2024.
- 104 **Sykes, V. R.** (2024). Winter oilseed crops for SAF in the Southern US. Virtual. UT Update to TDA. 26 June 2024.
- 103 **Sykes, V.**, Bowling, B., Richmond, Hewezi, T., M., S.Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Roberts<sup>ma</sup>, Y., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Palacios<sup>a</sup>, F., Lawson<sup>ma</sup>, A. (2024). Plant Sciences, 4-H Academic Conference, University of Tennessee. 12 -13 June 2024. Knoxville, TN.
- 102 Bumgarner, N. R. & **Sykes, V. R.** (2024). Home garden variety trial 2024 kickoff. Virtual. 17 May 2024.
- 101 **Sykes, V. R.** (2024). Plant breeding. PLSC 250 World Food and Fiber Crops. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 2 Feb. 2024.
- 100 Sykes, V. R. (2023). Tennessee variety testing - 2023 summary. Tennessee Crop Improvement Annual Board Meeting. Dickson, TN. 15 Dec. 2023.
- 99 Bumgarner, N. R. & Sykes, V. R. (2023). Home garden variety trial 2023 wrap-up. Virtual. 13 Dec. 2023.
- 98 **Sykes, V. R.** (2023). Cover crops and nitrogen credits based on the new Southern Cover Crop Variety Trial. UT Fertilizer Recommendation Meeting. 12 Dec. 2023.
- 97 Sykes, V.R. Variety Trial and Agroecology Update. Central and Eastern Region Row Crops Inservice. Smithville, TN. 1 Dec. 2023.
- 96 Sykes, V.R. Variety Trial and Agroecology Update. Western Region Row Crops Inservice. Jackson, TN. 27 Nov. 2023.
- 95 **Sykes, V. R.**, Thelin<sup>MA</sup>, A., Roberts<sup>MA</sup>, Y., Worley<sup>MA</sup>, L., Reed, S., Palacios<sup>S</sup>, F., & Lawson<sup>MA</sup>, A. (2023). Corn. Brickly McCloud Corny Day. Knoxville, TN. 21 Nov. 2023.
- 94 Sykes, V. R. (2023). Cover Crops. Missouri Certified Crop Adviser Meeting. Portageville, MO. 20 Nov. 2023.
- 93 Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Saha, D., Hansen, Z., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Richmond, M. (2023, 18 - 20 July). The effect of tillage practice and cover cropping systems on yield, quality, and angular leaf spot occurrence in dark tobacco in Tennessee. Tennessee Agricultural Production Association Annual Summer Meeting. Buchanan, TN.
- 92 Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., **Sykes, V. R.**, Sams, C., Yin, X., & Yu, T. (2023, 18 - 20 July). The comparison of potential winter oilseed varieties for the Mid-South and Southeastern United States. Tennessee Agricultural Production Association Annual Summer Meeting. Buchanan, TN.
- 91 Wszelaki, A. & **Sykes, V. R.** (2023). Chickpeas in Tennessee. University of Tennessee Horticulture Hot Topics. Virtual. 29 June 2023.
- 90 Payne, J., Vercler, N., Adams, S., **Sykes, V.**, & Jean-Philippe, S.Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Roberts<sup>ma</sup>, Y., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F., Lawson<sup>ma</sup>, A. (2023). Plant Sciences, 4-H Academic Conference, University of Tennessee. 15 June 2023. Knoxville, TN.
- 89 **Sykes, V. R.**, Bowling, B., Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Roberts<sup>ma</sup>, Y., Worley<sup>ma</sup>, L., Palacios<sup>s</sup>, & F., Lawson<sup>ma</sup>, A. (2023). Plant Sciences, 4-H Academic Conference, University of Tennessee. 14 June 2023. Knoxville, TN.
- 88 **Sykes, V. R.** (2023). UT variety testing program overview. PLSC 653 - Advanced Plant Breeding. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 28 Mar. 2023.
- 87 Thelin<sup>ma</sup>, A., Saha, D., Hansen, Z., **Sykes, V. R.**, & Richmond, M. (2023, 14 - 15 Feb). The effect of tillage practice and cover cropping systems on yield, quality, and angular leaf spot

- occurrence in dark tobacco in Tennessee. Southern Cover Crops Council Conference. Baton Rouge, LA.
- 86 **Sykes, V. R.** (2023). Southern cover crop variety trials. Southern Cover Crops Council Conference. Baton Rouge, LA.
- 85 **Sykes, V. R.** (2023). Plant breeding. PLSC 250 World Food and Fiber Crops. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 10 Feb. 2023.
- 84 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Cover Crops as Forage. UT Beef and Forage Center Research and Recommendation Meeting. Knoxville, TN. 20 Dec. 2022.
- 83 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Cover Crops and Crop Rotations. Eastern/Central Region Row Crops In-service. Smithville, TN. 1 Dec. 2022.
- 82 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Cover Crops and Crop Rotations. Western Region Row Crops In-service. Jackson, TN. 30 Nov. 2022.
- 81 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). UT variety testing program overview. PLSC 653 - Advanced Plant Breeding. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 27 Sept. 2022.
- 80 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Harvesting cover crops as forage. Steak and Potatoes Field Day. Crossville, TN. 26 Aug. 2022.
- 79 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B., **Sykes, V. R.**, Wilson, A., Palacios, F., Bates, G., McIntosh, D. (2022). Forage qualities of cover crops in the Mid-South. Crossville, TN. 26 Aug. 2022. - **Awarded 2nd place award in poster competition**
- 78 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B. & **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Winter oilseeds: Potential dual-use Crops for Tennessee. Milan, TN and Virtual. 28 July 2022.
- 77 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). 20 years of crop rotation and cover cropping: Assessing long-term impacts on crop yield and soil health, Milan No-Till Field Day. Milan, TN and Virtual. 28 July 2022.
- 76 Keadle<sup>ma</sup>, S. B. & **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Winter oilseeds: Potential dual-use Crops for Tennessee. Tennessee Agricultural Production Association (TAPA) Annual Meeting and Workshop. Gatlinburg, TN. 19 July 2022.
- 75 **Sykes, V.R.** (2022). 20 yrs of crop rotation and cover cropping: Assessing long-term impacts on crop yield and soil health. Tennessee Agricultural Production Association (TAPA) Annual Meeting and Workshop. Gatlinburg, TN. 19 July 2022.
- 74 **Sykes, V. R.** & Palacios<sup>s</sup>, F. (2022). Living mulch in organic corn systems. Organic Farming and Gardening Field Day. Knoxville, TN. 28 Apr. 2022.
- 73 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Cover crops and nitrogen credits. Cultivate: Women in Agriculture Conference. Ethridge, TN. 26 Mar. 2022.
- 72 Bumgarner, N.R. & **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). An introduction to small-scale vegetable production. TEAM (Teaming to Educate for Agricultural Mastery) - Opportunities and Choices for Agricultural Success. Knoxville, TN. 19 Apr. 2022.
- 71 **Sykes, V. R.** (2022). Plant breeding. PLSC 250 World Food and Fiber Crops. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN - Virtual. 28 Feb. 2022.
- 70 **Sykes, V.R.** (2022). UT variety testing program update. Soybean Promotion Board Meeting. Franklin, TN. 27 Jan. 2022.
- 69 **Sykes, V.R.** (2022). 20 years of crop rotations and cover crops: Assessing long-term impacts on soybean yield, soil health, and nematode populations. Soybean Promotion Board Meeting. Franklin, TN. 27 Jan. 2022.
- 68 **Sykes, V. R.** (2021). Mid-south variety trial database. Eastern/Central Region Row Crops In-service. Smithville, TN. 16 Dec. 2021.
- 67 **Sykes, V. R.** (2021). Mid-south variety trial database. Western Region Row Crops In-service. Jackson, TN. 15 Dec. 2021.
- 66 **Sykes, V.R.** (2021). Tennessee variety testing - 2021 summary. Tennessee Crop Improvement Annual Board Meeting. Dickson, TN. 10 Dec. 2021.

- 65 Bumgarner, N. R. & Sykes, V. R. (2021). Home garden variety trial 2021 wrap-up. Virtual. 8 Dec. 2021.
- 64 **Sykes, V.R.** (2021). Cover crop nutrient management. Tennessee Agricultural Production Association Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop. Gatlinburg, TN. 28 July 2021.
- 63 **Sykes, V. R.** (2021). Can cover crops aid pH management in blueberry production. Home Fruit Summer In-Service - Eastern Region. Greeneville, TN. 17 June 2021.
- 62 **Sykes, V. R.** (2021). Advances in modern agriculture. Knox Volunteer Rotary Club. Knoxville, TN. 9 April 2021.
- 61 **Sykes, V. R.** (2021). UT variety testing program overview. PLSC 653 - Advanced Plant Breeding, Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 23 Mar 2021.
- 60 **Sykes, V. R.** Plant breeding. PLSC 250 World Food and Fiber Crops. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN - Virtual. 8 Feb. 2021.
- 59 **Sykes, V.R.** (2021). UT variety testing program update. Soybean Promotion Board Meeting. Franklin, TN. 20 Jan. 2021. Virtual.
- 58 **Sykes, V.R.** (2021). Economic and environmental impact of dual-use cover crop species in Tennessee no-till soybean/corn rotation. Soybean Promotion Board Meeting. Franklin, TN. 20 Jan. 2021. Virtual.
- 57 **Sykes, V. R.** (2020). Variety testing and agroecology program update. Western Region Row Crops In-Service. Jackson, TN. 3 Dec. 2020.
- 56 **Sykes, V. R.** (2020). Variety testing and agroecology program update. Central Region Row Crops In-Service. Smithville, TN. 1 Dec. 2020.
- 55 **Sykes, V. R.** (2020). UT variety testing and agroecology program overview. PLSC 504 - Seminar, Guest Lecture - Mid-cycle Review. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 16 Nov. 2020.
- 54 **Sykes, V. R.** (2020). Cover crop variety trial 2019-2020, Part 2: Nitrogen. Organic Crops Field Tour. 1 Oct. 2020. Virtual. <https://youtu.be/k4revtzfRTI>
- 53 **Sykes, V. R.** (2020). UT variety testing program overview. PLSC 653 - Advanced Plant Breeding. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 15 Sept. 2020.
- 52 **Sykes, V. R. & Wilson<sup>s</sup>, A.** (2020). University of Tennessee cover crop variety trial 2019-2020. Milan No-Till Field Day. 23 July 2020. Virtual. <https://youtu.be/q8R4vTxaT9I>
- 51 Yin, X. & **Sykes, V. R.** (2020). Grain health related to heavy metals after long-term poultry litter application. Milan No-Till Field Day. 23 July 2020. Virtual.
- 50 Hansen, Z. & **Sykes, V. R.** (2020). 2019 Hemp variety trial update. Milan No-Till Field Day. 23 July 2020. Virtual. <https://youtu.be/lHB0f5IdNTk>
- 49 **Sykes, V.R.** (2020). UT variety testing program update. Soybean Promotion Board Meeting. Franklin, TN. 22 Jan. 2020.
- 48 **Sykes, V.R.** (2020). Economic and environmental impact of dual-use cover crop species in Tennessee no-till soybean/corn rotation. Soybean Promotion Board Meeting. Franklin, TN. 22 Jan. 2020.
- 47 **Sykes, V.R.** (2019). Tennessee variety testing - 2019 summary. Tennessee Crop Improvement Annual Board Meeting. Dickson, TN. 20 Dec. 2019.
- 46 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). Grazing cover crops. UT Beef and Forage Center Annual Research and Recommendation Meeting. Knoxville, TN. 17 Dec. 2019.
- 45 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). Variety testing and agroecology program update. Statewide Row Crops In-Service. Jackson, TN. 12-13 Dec. 2019.
- 44 Bumgarner, N. R. & Sykes, V. R. (2019). Home garden variety trial 2019 wrap-up. Virtual. 9 Dec. 2019.
- 43 **Sykes, V.R.** (2019). Grazing cover crops. Tennessee Forage and Grassland Council. Murfreesboro, TN. 8 Nov. 2019.
- 42 **Sykes, V.R.** The 2019/20 cover crop season. Call of the Week Podcast by UTIAg. 25 Sept. 2019.

- 41 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). Cover crop species selection: Right time, right place. Middle Tennessee Row Crops Field Day. Spring Hill, TN. 6 Sept. 2019.
- 40 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). Cover crop species selection. Row Crops Hot Topic. 6 Sept. 2019.
- 39 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). New soybean variety test database overview. Row Crops Hot Topic. 2 Aug. 2019.
- 38 **Sykes, V.R.** (2019). Nutrient cycling: the long and short of cover cropping systems. Southern Cover Crops Council Conference. Auburn, AL. 15-17 July 2019.
- 37 **Sykes, V. R., & Bracey\*, W.** (2019). Cover crop species selection: Right time, right place. Climate Change Adaptation In-service. Spring Hill, TN. 29 Mar. 2019.
- 36 **Sykes, V. R., & Bracey\*, W.** (2019). Cover crop species selection: Right time, right place. Climate Change Adaptation In-service. Milan, TN. 27 Mar. 2019.
- 35 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). UT variety testing program overview. EPP 630 - Integrated Pest Management. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 25 Mar 2019.
- 34 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). UT variety testing program overview. PLSC 653 - Advanced Plant Breeding. Guest Lecture. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. 12 Mar 2019.
- 33 **Sykes, V. R.** (2019). UT variety testing program overview and 2018 results. Montgomery County Production Meeting. Clarksville, TN. 28 Jan. 2019.
- 32 **Sykes, V. R.** (2020). Cover crops and nitrogen credits. East Tennessee Grain Conference. Lenoir City, TN. 23 Jan. 2020.
- 31 **Sykes, V.R.** (2019). UT variety testing and agroecology. Soybean Promotion Board Meeting. Gatlinburg, TN. 16 Jan. 2019.
- 30 **Sykes, V.R.** (2018). Tennessee variety testing - 2018 summary. Tennessee Crop Improvement Annual Board Meeting. Dickson, TN. 14 Dec. 2018.
- 29 **Bumgarner, N. R. & Sykes, V. R.** (2018). Home garden variety trial 2018 wrap-up. Virtual. 12 Dec. 2018.
- 28 **Sykes, V. R.** (2018). Cover crops for Tennessee row crop systems. Western and Central Region Row Crops In-Service. Murfreesboro, TN. 26-27 Nov. 2018.
- 27 **Sykes, V. R.** (2018). University of Tennessee variety testing and agroecology program. Powell High School Career Panel. Knoxville, TN. 23 Oct. 2018.
- 26 **Sykes, V.R. & Bracey<sup>ma</sup>, W.M.** Tennessee variety testing and agroecology program. Ohio Beef Producer Tour. Knoxville, TN. 28 Sept. 2018.
- 25 **Sykes, V.R.** (2018). Statistically speaking: randomization, replication and reality in agricultural research. Tennessee Agriculture Production Association bi-annual meeting. Gatlinburg, TN. 1 August 2018.
- 24 **Willette<sup>s</sup>, A. R. & Sykes, V. R.** (2018). Dual use cover crops in no-till soybean/corn rotations. Milan No-Till Field Day. Milan, TN. 26 July 2018.
- 23 **Sykes, V. R.** (2018). Long-term crop rotations and cover crops. Milan No-Till Field Day. Milan, TN. 26 July 2018.
- 22 **Sykes, V.R.** (2018). Update on research in the Tennessee variety testing and agroecology program. Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board Discussion Meeting. Jackson, TN. 24 July 2018.
- 21 **Sykes, V. R.** (2018). Update on Tennessee home garden variety trials program. Central Region Home Vegetable In-Service. Knoxville, TN. 17 July 2018.
- 20 **Sykes, V. R.** (2018). Update on Tennessee home garden variety trials program. Eastern Region Home Vegetable In-Service. Knoxville, TN. 16 July 2018.
- 19 **Sykes, V. R.** (2018). Economic and environmental impact of multi-use cover crop species in Tennessee no-till soybean/corn rotations. Climate Change Adaptation/Cover Crop Field Day/In-service. Milan, TN. 27 Mar. 2018.
- 18 **Sykes, V.R.** (2018). UT variety testing. Soybean Promotion Board Meeting. Gatlinburg, TN. 17 Jan. 2018.

- 17 Bumgarner, N. R. & Sykes, V. R. (2017). Home garden variety trial 2017 wrap-up. Virtual. 6 Oct. 2017.
- 16 **Sykes, V. R.** (2017). Introduction of Tennessee home garden variety trials program. Eastern Region Home Vegetable In-Service. Eastern Region Office. Knoxville, TN. 12 Sept. 2017.
- 15 **Sykes, V. R.** (2017). Introduction of Tennessee home garden variety trials program. Central Region Home Vegetable In-Service. Rutherford County Extension Office. Murfreesboro, TN. 5 Sept. 2017.
- 14 **Sykes, V. R.** (2017). Introduction of Tennessee home garden variety trials program. Western Region Home Vegetable In-Service. Madison County Extension Office. Jackson, TN. 29 Aug. 2017.
- 13 **Sykes, V. R.** (2017). Long term systems study. Agroecology Field School. Milan, TN. 27 July 2017.
- 12 **Sykes, V. R.** (2017). Impact of crop rotations and soil amendments on long-term no-till corn, soybean, and cotton yields. Climate Change Adaptation/Cover Crop Field Day/In-service. Milan, TN. 21 Mar. 2017.
- 11 **Sykes, V. R.** (2017). Risks and rewards of genetically modified crops in modern agriculture. Alcoa Kiwanis. Knoxville, TN. 6 Apr. 2017.
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