Precision farming is a necessity. Today all the ramifications of a high-tech society beckon us to apply new technologies with speed and accuracy. Agriculture is feeding an ever-growing world population with better quality food. The means to produce, ship and protect this food supply demands technology and people who can employ these technologies successfully.

The AET program is geared to make individuals think ahead using technology responsibly with an eye on the global needs. The program uniquely prepares students in the application of science, technology and business principles to effectively manage agricultural and environmental systems. Students can focus their studies to attain depth in science, the environment, or business areas related to agricultural systems. The AET program is about hands-on technologies applied to developing, integrating, implementing, and problem-solving agricultural and environmental situations.

Career Opportunities
Employment opportunities for graduates are highly diverse. Jobs in biological engineering and the technology program fields frequently involve a combination of indoor and outdoor work. Engineering jobs may involve product design and development, plant engineering and management, engineering consulting, design of systems dealing with biological and natural resources and the environment, graduate study, research and teaching.

Agricultural and environmental technology graduates are typically employed in jobs that involve the application and management of engineering designs in the conservation and utilization of natural resources, agricultural production systems, water and animal waste management, structures and environmental controls, and agribusiness.

Graduate Study
The Department offers graduate study leading to the Master of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, the master of science, and the doctor of philosophy degrees. Candidates normally prepare for such study by completing an ABET-accredited biological and agricultural engineering curriculum; however, nonengineering graduates may be accepted in these graduate programs after completing specified additional undergraduate engineering requirements.

Co-Curricular Activities
Both biological and agricultural and environmental technology students have departmental clubs that are affiliated with the state and national organizations of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers. In addition, students are involved with both the Agri-Life and Engineer’s councils. Both programs have departmental honor societies. Alpha Epsilon for the engineering students and Alpha Mu for the technology students.

Research
The Department has strong research programs in a number of areas. These include environmental engineering, bioprocessing, machine systems, and controlled environment agriculture.

Course Work/Curriculum
The AET degree places emphasis on basic science and technology with courses such as mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, machinery, conservation, safety, and business. The AET degree provides a solid technological and management foundation of the application of basic agricultural engineering technology including new emerging technologies. Students participate in hands-on skills training, developing their own potential to solve challenging agricultural problems. The flexibility of the program allows the students to focus their interest in Machinery Systems, Environmental Systems, and Agribusiness.

For more information:

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