CENTER OF INNOVATION

Strategic industries:

- Aerospace (Atlanta and Macon)
- Agricultural Technology (Tifton)
- Energy Technology (Atlanta)
- Information Technology (Atlanta & Augusta)
- Logistics (Atlanta & Savannah)
- Manufacturing (Atlanta)
COI Leadership Team

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Why Ag Technology? Thomas Malthus?

• “The power of population is so superior to the power of the Earth to produce subsistence for man, that premature death must in some shape or other visit the human race.” –Thomas Malthus, 1798

• Malthus didn’t understand or account for the introduction of technology.
Agricultural Technology

Focus Areas – Growth Areas

Integrated Precision Agriculture
- Drones
- Crop sensors – cell phone apps
- Variable rate irrigation
- Autonomous tractors

Controlled Environment Agriculture
- Greenhouse vegetables
- Year-round leafy greens
- Introduction of “exotic” crops

Food Product Innovation
- Taking traditional commodities and making them into a product

Food System Technology Integration
- Food processing
- Waste stream to revenue
AgTech Ecosystem

- University partners
- Technical colleges
- State agencies
- Industry
Integrated Precision Ag: Trellis

- Soil moisture sensor that can be monitored with cell phone app
- Created by a team of GA Tech aerospace engineers in 2015
- Manufactured in Peachtree Corners, GA

Source: mytrellis.com
Zero facilities in 2017
• 6 large, 2 smaller facilities by 2022
Family dairy farm in Thomasville area

Has been making cheese on-farm for many years

Approached the Center of Innovation with the idea of increasing their product shelf life.

Partnered with Center of Innovation and UGA's Food PIC in Griffin to research product.

Now able to ship nationwide and just recently export internationally.

Source: SweetGrassDairy.com
Food System Tech Integration: Max Manufacturing

- Ag equipment manufacturer in Pelham, GA
- Designed a poultry composter to replace incinerators on poultry farms. Completely automated.
- Partnership with Max Manufacturing, Center of Innovation, and University of Georgia to research composter in farm setting.
- Result: now has the data to increase sales across the Southeast.

Photo by Chris Chammoun
How far? How fast? Can we sustain this pace? 2069?

First mechanical commercial cotton harvester - 1949 International Harvester Single Row

Current 6 row cotton harvester – 2009 John Deere introduce on-board module builder

Source: Tulare County Library
Source: Chris Chammoun
THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

www.georgia.org