



# Cultural Humility & African American Communities in Agriculture

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- Assistant Professor – Agriscience Education
- National MANRRS Historian
- 4th Generation Farmer
- Research focus on minority experiences in agriculture; problem-solving and leadership development



# Overview

- History of African American Populations in Agriculture
- Challenging Views of Agriculture
- Recognizing Cultural Knowledge
- Increasing Accessibility



## African American Communities in Agriculture

- African American Communities have historically been one of the largest labor contributors to agriculture within the United States
- Currently African Americans make up less than 1.3% of all U.S. Farmers

An aerial photograph of a vast agricultural landscape. The foreground shows a patchwork of green fields, with a few distinct rectangular plots in shades of yellow and brown. A dirt road or path winds through the fields. In the distance, there are rolling hills and a small cluster of buildings. The sky is a deep blue with scattered white clouds. The image is partially obscured by a white graphic element on the right side of the slide.

## Challenging Views of Agriculture

- Agriculture has been associated with slavery and manual labor
- Few realize the impacts of technology and scientific advancement on the future of agriculture



## Recognizing Cultural Knowledge

- Communities of Color often share knowledge via storytelling or narratives
  - This knowledge is often discounted by broader society until proven by scientific research



## Increasing Accessibility

- Outreach to African American farmers has decreased since desegregation
- Many African American farmers are unaware of available resources to support farming or about non-farm related agricultural employment