

Pursell Technologies, Inc. puts “The Pedal to the Metal” in Research and Development

Our vendor spotlight for this issue features Garry Hargrove and Fred Carney, researchers working behind the scenes at Pursell Technologies to bring you better grass.



Garry Hargrove joined Pursell Technologies Inc. (PTI) in 1995 as Director of R & D (research and development). He came to PTI with 20 years of experience in the development of controlled release systems for both plant nutrients and plant protection chemicals. These areas of R & D have continued to be his focus at PTI.

Dr. Hargrove received his Ph. D. in Chemistry from the University of California, Riverside in 1967. He holds four patents in the area of controlled release bioactive agents (plant nutrients, insecticides, herbicides, etc.), and has authored many scientific articles.

While the move from California involved some adjustments, Garry now thinks of Alabama as his home. He enjoys Alabama's lakes (he is a fisher-

man) and the state's dragstrips—yep its dragstrips! He has been known to take his hotrod Camaro Z28 to the dragstrip in Steele, Ala. for occasional outings, where his car (also his daily driver) has turned in a best elapsed time in the quarter mile at 12.38 seconds, going through the trap at the end of the quarter at 114 mph.

Garry and his wife of 28 years, Donna, live in Birmingham. Their daughter, Roseanna, lives with her husband, Larry, and their two children in Alabaster. Garry's son, Colin, a firefighter-paramedic, lives in Lake Tahoe, California.

Fred Carney came to PTI in 1985 when the company decided to enter the slow release fertilizer business. Prior to his arrival in Sylacauga, Fred conducted fertilizer research in the area of process development for the Tennessee Valley Authority, National Fertilizer Development Center in Muscle Shoals, Ala. Fred has six patents in the area of urea granulation and polymer coating manufacturing methods. He currently supervises the quality control and assurance program, lab operation and provides engineering assistance for PTI's R&D facilities.

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Profile of Fred Carney)*

Fred is a lifelong resident of Alabama except for the time he studied chemical engineering at the University of Mississippi. He is married to Fara and has four children, one who has graduated from Auburn University and is now married and living in Las Vegas, two currently at Auburn and another in the last year of high school (also planning to attend Auburn).

Fred enjoys most any kind of outdoor activity, especially hiking, bird watching and mountain biking. His favorite place to hike is in Colorado climbing 14er's. Fred carries his binoculars on all trips in hopes of adding to his life list of 450 species of birds.

You'll meet Garry and Fred during the Experience at FarmLinks tour of Pursell Technologies' R & D facilities.

*At Right
Fred Carney
Chemical Engineer and Supervisor of
Quality Control and Assurance at PTI*