

Today, teams of interdisciplinary scientists at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem are spearheading innovative and life-saving advances. Their work in sustainable agriculture and environmental conservation ensures Israel's food supplies and agricultural leadership while also helping to feed the world.

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Through your support of American Friends of The Hebrew University, you stand side by side with the best and brightest minds at The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment in Rehovot, Israel. These leading plant and animal scientists are strengthening Israel, greening the nation, and providing sustenance to people throughout the world...



Professor Gad Baneth of the Koret School of Veterinary Medicine focuses on leishmaniasis, an often fatal disease affecting animals and humans. Professor Baneth, who studies this parasitic infection in dogs, is improving diagnosis of the condition, finding new medications, and is exploring the possibility of a preventive vaccine.



Professor Uri Shani developed state-of-the-art drip irrigation techniques. These cost-effective methods have led to water conservation, transforming Israel's semi-arid terrain into fertile farmland and helping farmers globally. Water conservation is one of our planet's greatest challenges.



Professor Benny Chefetz investigates the behavior of pharmaceutical compounds in wastewater used for irrigation. His work is contributing to new methods for protecting water and food supplies from dangerous pollutants in wastewater. This important research safeguards human health!



Professor Yitzhak Hadar, head of HU's new Institute of Environmental Sciences, developed an environmentally-creative way to recycle residual straw from cotton harvesting; a mushroom is applied to the 'woody straw.' Once degraded, the 'low-wood straw' can be safely fed to cows for nourishment. The mushrooms are edible so that no element of this natural biological process is wasted.



Professor Berta Levavi-Sivan's work with Makerere University in Uganda is expanding the country's aquaculture capabilities. Farmers are learning how to breed edible fish in closed seawater ponds, transforming hungry villages into thriving communities. The closed seawater ponds are also nonpolluting, which is vital to environmental conservation.



Dr. Naomi Ori uses complex genetic techniques to help plant leaves remain green for longer. Her work is designed to increase the shelf-life of crops and deepen scientific understanding of how leaves, branches and fruit develop. A knowledge of how plants create new organs will help us to see how they adapt to climate change.



Dr. Sharoni Shafir investigates honeybee decision-making and nutrition so as to improve pollination—an endangered activity that is vital to natural and agricultural ecosystems. Dr. Shafir is working to assure that bees effectively pollinate crops, in order to guarantee sufficient supplies of food for Israel and the world.



Professor Oded Shoseyov develops plants with faster growth rates and greater leaf surfaces to withstand drought. His discoveries are accelerating the rate of forest re-growth, and his innovative methods have been adopted in South America and Asia.



Professor Jaap van Rijn has developed a unique water treatment method that uses bacteria, adhering to plastic beads, as an organic way to cleanse water in closed fish-breeding ponds. The bacteria digest pollutants and convert them into harmless gases, enabling fish farmers to conserve water and increase their fish yields.

Your support as an **American Friend of The Hebrew University** helps us to nurture the work of internationally renowned experts. Their cutting-edge research benefits Israel and is improving the quality of life and health for people everywhere. Please join AFHU in our campaign to help Feed the World through Sustainable Agriculture.

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