

# Maguette Sembene

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## EDUCATION

<b>Virginia Tech, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics</b> <i>Ph.D. in Applied Economics</i>	Expected 2027
<b>Virginia Tech, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics</b> <i>Master of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics</i>	2023
<b>École Nationale Supérieure d'Agriculture de Thiès, Senegal</b> <i>Agricultural Engineering Degree</i>	2020

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development Economics, Climate Change Economics, Gender and Labor Economics, Remote Sensing Applications in Agriculture

## PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH PAPERS

### Published

- Sembene, M., Mills, B., & Gupta, A. (2025). Economic costs of extreme heat on groundnut production in the Senegal Groundnut Basin. *Food Policy*, 136, 102970.

### Working Papers

- “Short-Term Changes in Land Access in the Senegal Groundnut Basin” (2025). With B. Mills and A. Gupta.
- “Land Access, Climate Variability, and Youth Exit from Farming in the Senegal Groundnut Basin” (2025). With B. Mills and A. Gupta.

### Other Research and Policy Briefs

- “Groundnut Exports from Senegal to China: Domestic Effects.” Sembène, M. (2025). Research paper.
- “Senegal Groundnut Seed Sector Review” with B. Mills (2024). Report.
- “Gestion de la matière organique du sol dans le bassin arachidier du Sénégal.” Mbaye, T., Mills, B., Touré, K., Sembène, M., Diatta, P., & Diédhiou, I. (2022). Policy brief.
- “Utilisation des médias par les jeunes et perceptions du climat et des pratiques agricoles.” Sembène, M., Mbaye, T., Touré, K., & Mills, B. (2023). Policy brief.

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

<b>“Short-Term Changes in Land Access in the Senegal Groundnut Basin”</b> • Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO	2025
<b>“Economic Costs of Extreme Heat on Groundnut Production in the Senegal Groundnut Basin”</b> • Department Seminar, Virginia Tech Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics	2023

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

<b>Virginia Tech   Graduate Research Assistant</b> • Conducted primary data collection through in-person interviews with seed producers, traders, and regulators; analyzed satellite data using remote sensing techniques for agricultural productivity assessments • Applied econometric methods to analyze weather variability impacts on groundnut production in Senegal; utilized GPS technology and QGIS for spatial analysis and parcel mapping • Authored comprehensive groundnut seed-sector review; contributed to research briefs on youth and gender roles in agriculture examining field access and climate resilience • Participated in drafting Institutional Review Board protocols and informed-consent documents for large-scale household surveys	2021 – Present
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- Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Peanut** | *Undergraduate Research Assistant*2020 – 2021
- Analyzed survey data using R statistical software to identify gender and age disparities in groundnut production revenues
  - Produced 50-page undergraduate thesis analyzing patterns in agricultural gender disparities with policy implications

TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Programming & Statistical Software:** R, Python, Stata, MATLAB, Excel

**Research Tools:** LaTeX, Tableau

**Languages:** French, English, Wolof

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

<b>Paul J. Driscoll Fellowship</b>	2023, 2024
<b>Graduate Assistantship at Virginia Tech</b>	2021-Present
<b>Senegalese Government Excellence Scholarship</b>	2016

HONORS AND AWARDS

<b>Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award, VT Graduate School</b>	2023
<b>Award for Innovation at the University of Thiès, Senegal</b>	2020
<b>Winner of the Student Scientific Article Writing Competition</b>	2018

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<b>Ferme Wa Keur Khadim</b>   <i>Research Intern</i>	2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conducted land prospection and socio-economic analysis; performed parcel mapping using GPS technology for spatial analysis</li></ul>	
<b>Regional Inspection of Water and Forests of Dakar</b>   <i>Research Intern</i>	2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identified coordination mechanisms and stakeholders within regional environmental services</li></ul>	
<b>École Nationale Supérieure d’Agriculture de Thiès</b>   <i>Research Intern</i>	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Analyzed community sociology and economics; participated in agricultural fieldwork and reported findings</li></ul>	

REFERENCES

<b>Dr. Bradford Mills</b> Advisor, Professor Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics Virginia Tech 205A Hutcheson Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061, USA Phone: +1-540-231-6461 Email: bfmills@vt.edu	<b>Dr. Anubhab Gupta</b> Assistant Professor Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics Virginia Tech 205B Hutcheson Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061, USA Phone: +1-540-231-0912 Email: anubhab@vt.edu
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