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Brazil's EMBRAPA Director to Speak at URIC



March 25, 2009---Dr. Kepler Euclides Filho, executive director of EMBRAPA in Brazil, will deliver the keynote address at Extension's Urban-Rural Interface Conference (URIC) on Thursday, April 23, 2009, in the James I. Dawson Auditorium, Alabama A&M University. Kepler, a University of Florida graduate, will talk to the audience about the challenges Brazil has experienced in developing its agroenergy industry.

The URIC is an annual event coordinated by Extension's Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs unit at Alabama A&M University. The 2009 URIC is designed to educate Alabama citizens living in both urban and rural environs about new developments in alternative energy such as wind, solar, and biofuel sources that are available to use by national and global consumers.

"I want conference participants and especially Alabama residents to learn about energy technology and products available in the United States," said Dr. Maria Leite-Browning. Dr. Browning is chairing the URIC along with Research Assistant Professor Dr. Ernst Cebert at Alabama A&M University.

Other guest speakers will include Dr. Katherine Taconi, University of Alabama-Huntsville; Dr. Ronald Putt, Auburn University; Dr. Thomas Simpson, University of Maryland; director of renewable energy outreach Ruchi Singhal, BizTech, Huntsville; and assistant commissioner Glen Zorn, Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, Montgomery.

The URIC will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The cost of admission and lunch prior to April 10 is \$40; late registration is \$50. On-site registration begins in the Dawson Building at 8:00 a.m. on April 23. To register, please contact Ms. Susan Glover at (256) 372-4946. For general information, please contact Dr. Browning at (256) 372-4954, Dr. Cebert at (256) 372-4243, or visit <http://www.aces.edu/urban/> online.

The Urban-Rural Interface Conference is held each year in conjunction with the School of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences "Ag Week."

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