## agInnovation South

## **Hongwei Xin**

Dean
UT AgResearch

**University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture** 



Dr. Hongwei Xin, as AgResearch Dean at The University of Tennessee, has made significant strides in fulfilling the land-grant mission and elevating the university's national and global standing. His involvement with agInnovation South began early, and he has since held various administrative roles. He serves as an engaged Administrative Advisor of SAC-2: Department Heads of Animal and Poultry Sciences and represented agInnovation on the NC FAR Board of Directors. He recently concluded his tenure as agInnovation South's Chair (2023-2024).

Dr. Xin has actively supported agInnovation South's initiatives to enhance coordination and collaboration among southern land-grant universities. He provided resources to ensure the success of the annual conference on artificial intelligence in agriculture, which is now in its fourth year, and is currently working to establish convergent partnerships for the Circular Bioeconomy Systems (CBS) initiative. Furthermore, he has championed agInnovation South's goal of strengthening the linkage with 1890 institutions in the region by organizing research summits with Tennessee State University (TSU). The fourth meeting of these summits is scheduled for February 2025. Dr. Xin has consistently emphasized the value and significance of the partnership with TSU to UT leadership, which has resulted in substantial investment for joint seed projects between faculty members. His unwavering commitment to advancing the agInnovation South vision is further evidenced by his consistent communication of its benefits to both UT leadership and research faculty.

In summary, Dr. Hongwei Xin exemplifies excellence and dedication in support of our nation's land-grant university system and agInnovation. He has had profound impact as a leader in science, education, and industry to accelerate agricultural innovation and natural resource sustainability.