

ANALYSIS OF THE CHANGES IN TOBACCO FARMING IN SOUTH GEORGIA

**Rance L. Harrod, Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences, and
Engineering Studies**

**Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Paul C. Vincent, Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences,
and Engineering Studies**

This study was conducted to investigate if the transition from producing tobacco to corn was due to the demand for ethanol. Interviews were conducted with a sample of farmers in South Georgia determine if this crop harvesting transition has been a definitive effect of the increase of ethanol demand. Findings from this study disclosed that the choice to transition from tobacco crops to another crop was due to several factors. The leading factors were increased awareness of the health hazards of tobacco, settlements on medical lawsuits, and increases in production cost. Results of this study showed that the transitional crop choice for South Georgia farmers was cotton. This preferred choice was due to the higher cost of producing corn in comparison with producing cotton, therefore resulting in more profit.