

Organic Agriculture in Africa

Mike Graham, GPSA M.S. student in the Department of Horticulture and in the Organic Ag Lab, is working on his research project this summer in Uganda. His research involves the use of manure and compost as natural fertilizers for organic amaranth, a new crop that provides excellent protein to improve the health and nutrition of local farm families. He is working with partner groups of the ISU Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods, including the non-governmental group, VEDCO (Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns) in surveying farmer-cooperators for the availability of organic fertilizer options and their effects on amaranth growth and productivity.



Mike with amaranth farmer-cooperators in the Kamuli district in Uganda



A farmer-cooperator on Mike's amaranth project