Week 7: Eastern Agricultural Complex

Eastern North America is one of the very few places in the world where farming was independently invented, and our understanding of that process has progressed greatly over the last 30 years. These readings explore the evidence that underlies this understanding, as well as some recent interpretations of how the process took place.

General readings:


Supplemental readings:

Smith, Bruce D. (1985). The Role of Chenopodium as a Domesticate in Premaize Garden Systems of the Eastern United States. Southeastern Archaeology 4: 51-72. [Reprinted in Rivers of Change, chapter 5; focus on the indicators of domestication, pp. 103-115.]


Optional readings:


