



**MISSISSIPPI STATE**  
UNIVERSITY™

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COASTAL RESEARCH  
& EXTENSION CENTER

COMMODITY  
SESSION  
NOTES

FEBRUARY 24, 2022

PRODUCER  
ADVISORY  
COUNCIL

thank you

to our Partners



Alex Riser

VP/ Branch Manager

Beth Sones, Sr. Loan Administrator

Nathan Taylor, Loan Officer

Laura Michini, Loan Administrator

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Dear Community Partner,

In our constantly changing world, it is more important than ever for us to continue to reach out and work with our clients and community partners, finding creative and innovative ways to share our knowledge and ideas, while promoting the health and safety of our staff and communities.

The following pages contain the report from the 2022 Annual Producer Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting of the Mississippi State University (MSU) Coastal Research and Extension Center (CREC). This meeting allows producers and community leaders like yourself to communicate concerns, identify needs, and express opinions and feedback to allow Mississippi State University to better meet your needs.

With 122 individuals in attendance, we had producers from 13 of the 21 counties in our region and 15 of our counties were represented by our Extension agents. There were also 12 other MSU staff members and administrators, representing MSU Extension and MS Agriculture & Forestry Experiment Station (MAFES), which are part of the Division of Agriculture, Forestry & Veterinary Medicine (DAFVM), as well as guests from Southern AgCredit, MS Farm Bureau Federation, and USDA. Overall, this was a very well represented and attended meeting.

If you were able to attend this year's meeting, I want to thank you for your time and participation and look forward to continuing to work with you throughout the year. Moving forward, we challenge you to spread the word about MSU Extension and MAFES and what we do with our colleagues and fellow producers, and we ask you to encourage them to attend future meetings as well.

If you were unable to participate, we invite you to learn more about what we do at [www.coastal.msstate.edu](http://www.coastal.msstate.edu) and hope that you will join us next year at our Annual Meeting held the last week of February. The Coastal Research and Extension Center was established in 1988 and is based in Biloxi, MS. CREC oversees Extension programs in the 21 southeastern counties of Mississippi, on the reservation of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and at the Crosby Arboretum in Picayune. CREC also administers experiment stations in Harrison, Jackson, Perry, and Pearl River Counties under the Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Experiment Station system.

Your continued support and participation makes our impact on the communities we serve even stronger.

Sincerely,

James E. Henderson, Ph.D.  
Professor and Head

Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Station • Mississippi State University Extension Service  
1815 Popp's Ferry Rd • Biloxi, MS 39532 • Phone (228) 388-4710 • Fax (228) 388-1375

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**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™**  
COASTAL RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER

# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY COASTAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER

- Serves 21 of 82 Mississippi counties.
- Offers professional services from the MSU Extension Service and Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station in agriculture, natural resources, family and consumer sciences, community resource development, and 4-H.
- Includes approximately 120 employees, including Extension agents and specialists, program associates and assistants, and faculty and staff.

THE MSU COASTAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER IS FUNDED BY THE MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE.



**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™**  
EXTENSION



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MS AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY EXPERIMENT STATION

*Extension funding is supplemented by the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium.*



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Biloxi, MS 39532  
coastal.msstate.edu



- ★ Coastal Research & Extension Center
- ◆ Extension Unit: Crosby Arboretum
- MAFES Unit: South MS Branch Experiment Station
- MAFES Unit: Experimental Seafood Processing Lab
- MAFES Subunit: Beaumont Horticultural Unit
- MAFES Subunit: White Sand Beef Unit
- MAFES Subunit: McNeill Unit
- County Extension Office
- MS Band of Choctaw Indians Extension Office

# Annual Meeting

of the



**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™**  
COASTAL RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER

## Producer Advisory Council

February 24, 2022

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# APICULTURE

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Dr. Jeff Harris, MSU Chair  
10 Attendees

A welcome was given to all in attendance by the moderator, Lamar County Extension Agent Ross Overstreet. During the welcome, a quick review of the goals and expectations of the group was given. Upon completion of signing attendees in and welcoming them, MSU Apiculture Chair/Specialist Dr. Jeff Harris was introduced via Zoom interactive video. Dialogue was initiated between group members and Dr. Harris on issues viewed as of high importance. Topics of interest to members of the group included information on varroa mite treatment/management and the prevalence of the pest in the hives of today's beekeeping community.

After discussion on research dealing with this pest, conversation shifted to making new publications and information sheets available to Extension clients, and possibly setting up a central hub to view all of these in one, central beekeeping website or blog. Attendees showed interest in having shorter, less detailed information sheets on singular topics, with possibly bulleted points for ease of use. These less detailed publications could be used as quick references by individual beekeepers for very specific tasks, such as requeening a hive or implementing a new varroa management chemical or technique.



Another issue seen by some of the attendees was creating and managing a list of individuals or businesses that do hive removal or cut outs from buildings, homes, water meters, or other structures that may experience swarms or colonies. Creating a centralized list, that individuals can sign up to be on and

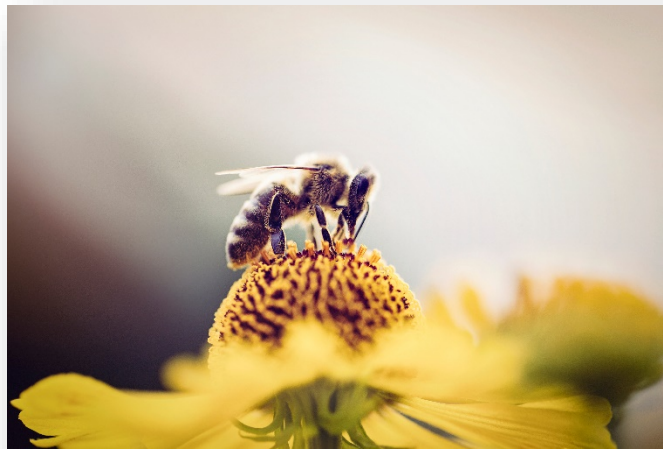
## APICULTURE– Continued

individuals during peak swarm times or when colonies have invaded a structure unwittingly. It was mentioned that a website where individuals could go to register to be automatically populated on a list yearly could help alleviate the burden of someone trying to physically manage such an everchanging list.

Members switched gears and talked about more/better collaboration between the Extension Service and MS Bureau of Plant Industry as far as beehive inspections and inspectors. Members felt there was somewhat of a disconnect between the two agencies when it comes to inspections, pesticide applications, etc. The members however did feel that this was somewhat getting better over the past few years, but like always there was greater room for improvement.

The final discussion amongst attendees was regarding compilation of a list of hobby/retail, and wholesale honey producers. This would give individuals and businesses the ability to source various quantities of needed honey supplies depending on their needs. Right now, many businesses (restaurants, etc.) aren't familiar with where to buy local honey in any amount of bulk and this could benefit both the beekeeper and the local business.

Upon completion of the topics listed above, a short presentation by Dr. Jeff Harris talked about the new positions within Apiculture at the MSU Extension Service, including a new apiculturist in Stoneville Dr. Esmail Amiri, and the ongoing research topics being done on campus.



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# COMMERCIAL FISHERIES & SEAFOOD PROCESSING

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Dr. Ben Posadas, Dr. Sam Chang, and Dr. Wenbo Liu, MSU Chairs  
*16 Attendees*

**Dr. Ben Posadas presented his research and extension projects in marine fisheries and aquaculture and disaster economics at MSU-CREC in 2021.**

- Collaborate with 12 U.S. aquaculture economists to assess the economic status and contribution of U.S. Aquaculture 2020-23.
- Optimize surimi production systems subject to supply and technological constraints and global pandemic.
- Promote local food business through the Mississippi MarketMaker marketing program.
- Investigate economic impacts of marine debris and coastal hazards.
- The MSU-CREC economics outreach program provides various clientele groups with basic and advanced tools and information.

**Dr. Wenbo Liu outlined his food mechanical engineering plan to benefit catfish and other aquatic food industries**

- Develop novel fish chilling, filleting, deheading, deboning, trimming, portioning processes by using waterjet cutting technology.
- Develop other novel devices for seafood processing.
- Develop novel 3D printed seafood.

**Dr. Chang introduced the mission and projects of ESPL**

- Collaborate with research institutions, government agencies, and industries to get funding and advance aquaculture, agriculture, food processing and consumer health.
- Develop rapid method for detection of Vibrio in oysters and assist DMR in ensuring that well water for seafood processing is safe.
- Develop new technologies to improve the quality and shelf-life of catfish fillet products.



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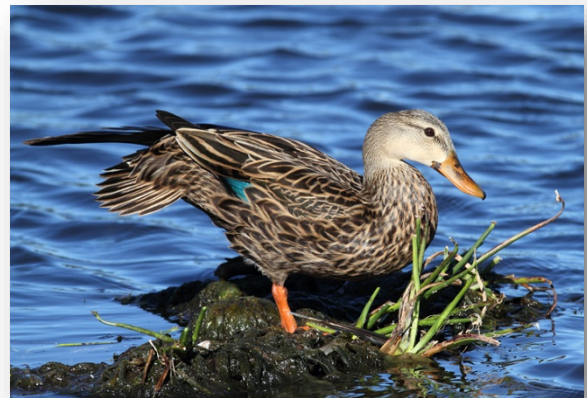
# COASTAL & MARINE ECOLOGY

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Dr. Marcus Drymon and Dr. Mark Woodrey, MSU Chairs  
30 Attendees

## Avian Ecology (Mark Woodrey)

- Winter grassland and Marsh birds distribution and abundance. These studies will focus on new species and expand the scale of deep-water oil spill studies.
- Microplastic impact and concentrations on various species of birds.
- Project NOAA Firebird. This project looked at fire tactics and co-management of mottled ducks, black rails, and yellow rails.
- In depth study of the birding economics of Dauphin Island, which generates over \$1.8 million on the island.



## Coastal and Marine Ecology (Marcus Drymon)

- Discussed the Great Red Snapper Count that looked at the number of fish and their associated habitat types.
- Discussed new publications that included the textbook FISHES and the Sharks and Rays Guide for the MS Aquarium.
- Discussed the studies of red snapper depredation. These included survey of depredation, genetic profile of predator species, and cameras to record depredation and id species.



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# COASTAL RESILIENCY & RESTORATION

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Dr. Eric Sparks and Renee Collini, MSU Chairs  
*30 Attendees*

## PLACE: SLR – Extension Program

- Geography: Coastal Mississippi through the panhandle
- Sea level rise makes existing hazards worse
- Focus areas and goals
  - Healthy coastal ecosystems – protected, enhanced, or restored
  - Resilient communities and economics
  - Environmental literacy and workforce development
- Approach
  - Identify gaps and needs – what are you missing?
  - Identify priorities
  - Identify objectives and action to address in the coming two years
  - Meet regularly
- Activities
  - All activities can fall into one of these categories Understand Risk – communicate risk – facilitate action
  - Improve data and information accessibility
    - Putting the data in one place
    - Making sure the data is understandable – real life examples
  - Support appropriate use and application of data and information
    - Gulf TREE – filtered search – narrows 104 tools to exactly what you need to address the problem you are researching
    - Lunch and learns – develop practical skill sets around sea level rise
  - Foster multi directional conversations
    - Researchers to researchers especially in different fields of study
    - Tool developers to end-users
    - Funders to decision makers
    - Residents and stakeholders
  - Access to the science in a meaningful way – 4 to 6 touchpoints to get people to use a new tool/ understand the research
- Impacts of Extension programs
  - Inventories = more funding, guided installation
  - Directly informed millions of dollars of restoration
  - Set planning standards for multiple states
  - Informed residential decision making
  - Increased salience around SLR risk and actions
    - Behavior and knowledge changes
  - Transition U.S. SLR Task Force to a science delivery model



## COASTAL RESILIENCY & RESTORATION– Continued

- Leveraged over \$7 million for SLR resilience in the northern gulf

### Coastal Conservation and Restoration Program

How we work: what are the problems? – has that problem been addressed? – if so, we need to get the information out to people – if not we go to the applied research route to develop products/solutions.

### Current programs

- Environmental education – Mississippi Master Naturalist, Mississippi Student Naturalist and Plan-it Marsh – coming soon: Plan-it Dunes
- Marine Debris and Litter – Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Program, Mississippi Inland Cleanup Program, Derelict Trap Disposal Program (removal and looking at the economic impacts – 7% damage to the industry), Project Litter Gitter, Micro plastic sampling
- Conservation/ Targeted Grazing – using livestock to manage natural areas
- Coastal Restoration and Ecology – living shorelines program – alternative shoreline management techniques
  - This project focuses on private landowners specifically
  - Draft designs and help them through the permitting process – connect them to train contractors
  - Requests are growing rapidly
  - Produces technical assistance and resources
  - Cost-share/assistance programs – Example: Little Lagoon in Alabama
- Marsh Plant nurseries – need for more local producers and focus on native species – partnering with MS DMR
  - Working with Master Gardener groups to grow marsh grasses for small scale projects

### Coastal Resiliency and Restoration Session

- Sea Level Rise Key Steps: Understand Risk – Communicate risk – Facilitate action
- Focus on creating access to data and information in a meaningful way
- Support appropriate use and application of data and information
- Foster multi directional conversations – greater project success
- Work force development in the conservation field
- Shift to living shorelines from private property owners
- Need for more local Marsh Plan Nurseries – keep restoration money in the state



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# CONSUMER & COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURE

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Dr. Patricia Knight, MSU Chair  
*33 Attendees*

Dirk Dedeaux – Farm Service Agency, County Executive Director

- FSA administers programs that assist farmers
- Submit crop acreage reports for federal crop insurance/USDA programs
- Farm registration, annual crop acreage
  - Important to record in case of disaster
  - Necessary to qualify for disaster insurance/assistance
- Committee of farmers is elected to represent growers at FSA
- Programs for nursery operations
  - Disaster assistance – recently producers received assistance from Zeta damage
  - Emergency Conservation Program
- Loans for farming operations or to grow business
  - Farm ownership loans for expansion, equipment
  - Microloans for small farmers (<\$50 K)
- Non-insured crop disaster assistance program
  - For crops such as blueberries that aren't eligible for crop insurance
- Offices in Poplarville and Lucedale serve South MS

Chris Shivers - MS Farm Bureau, Regional Manager

- Horticulture commodity representative
- Don't have to have insurance to be a member
- “Voice” of horticulture – producers should communicate horticulture commodity needs to  
Farm  
Bureau





# CONSUMER & COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURE– Continued

## Ornamental Horticulture Research – South MS Branch Experiment Station

- Plant evaluations
- Plant production problems – plant propagation
- Plant breeding
  - 6 crape myrtles on the market – including ‘Delta Jazz’
- Upcoming dates
  - 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Ornamental Horticulture Field Day– October 6, 2022
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Poinsettia Open House – December 1, 2022

## Producer/Consumer Feedback for Needs

- Continue native plant trials
- Research on untapped production/market opportunities in ornamental horticulture in MS
- More vegetable trials in salad tables with unconventional crops such as peanuts
- Work to be sure nursery growers new to industry are aware of Extension resources
- Continue research on improved horticulture production practices to increase return on investment
- Insect Pest Management educational programs



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# FORESTRY

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Dr. Shaun Tanger & Butch Bailey, MSU Chairs  
*21 Attendees*

Butch Bailey began with a summary of the Land Grant University system (i.e., MSU) and how we take applied research and extend the knowledge to our state population through programs and publications. That is why we need input from area producers to help drive what we do.

JB Brown opened the discussion noting the interest in turkey and quail repopulation. Using burning, removing oak trees (to prevent owls), and returning to more natural management systems he felt needed research. His feeling is that Argentine Bahia grass and Bermudagrass used in cattle production is a major stumbling block for game bird populations. A return to biodiversity and a return to longleaf pines with bunch grasses as opposed to the pasture grass that prevents the turkeys and quail from traversing. He stated that more research in ecosystem balance in using Longleafs, more education on Longleaf ecosystems is needed. Not so much on timber production but on the whole myriad of issues. With the Restore Act, may be time to give incentives to landowners to plant and restore. The timber itself is a natural filter for water systems flowing through the southeast into the gulf.

Butch Bailey stated that fire is the key to cleaning up the forest and burning with controlled burns is a natural and beneficial method. Appropriate grazing and increasing native and natural grasses can be greatly beneficial to restoring a natural balance to forest management. Large ruminants used to play a large role in the balance, and discussion ensued of the piney woods breed of cattle and using large ruminants to control and manage weeds and invasives. Shaun Tanger pointed out that we are working on a training



## FORESTRY– Continued

center at the Circle Bar Ranch in moving away from Loblolly pine and into Longleaf. Silvo pastures (with trees intermixed) in the grazing systems and open savanna was identified as a major area of educational interest and all agreed.

Enviva – pellet systems were brought up and lots of questions regarding these new companies taking wood chips, turning them into pellets that are exported to Europe for fueling heating systems. Shipping the pellets to Europe to burn for energy has been subsidized by the government to encourage and help make these companies profitable and able to compete with fossil fuels. The model works with government subsidies to be competitive with fossil fuels but there are concerns that once subsidies expire if it will maintain.



Shaun brought up the Growth to Drain ratio – currently well over 2 to 1. It's a tricky number according to Shaun. It's a snapshot in time of growth to removals. The growth to drain is a wave pattern typically. Mills like to see in a resource area at least a 1.2. Volume of wood grown – as what is harvested. Anything above one is considered high availability, lower demand. CRP program is a big part of the issue.

J.B. Brown noted that changes in the Farm Bill will increase money to improve CSP and EQIP programs to help improve the economics of Longleaf restoration. With these programs there is a tremendous amount of incentive to increase Longleaf pines. This will be very helpful to landowners.

Benefit of Longleaf is that you can get straw income of up to \$150 acre which is added income to help Longleaf compete with Loblolly.



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# FRUITS & VEGETABLES

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Dr. Eric Stafne and Dr. Christine Coker, MSU Chair  
*36 Attendees*

Topics Included:

*White Drupelet Disorder    Small Fruits    Field Day Updates    Supply Chain Issues*

Dr. Stafne and Dr. Coker discussed the following:

- Thornless blackberries and white drupelet disorder (WDD)
  - Variety, additional nitrogen, and shade can aid in alleviating WDD
- Growers having troubles getting supplies with the supply chain issues (moss, plastic, most supplies in general)
- Plant disease and nutrient issues
  - Rust on mayhaws
  - Puffy fruit on satsuma
- USDA updates
  - Wage rate increasing (\$13.48/hr.)
  - COVID locked up working transportation causing change in typical nursery workflow
  - Pesticide issues
  - Navigable water way issues
- Discussion about different species that can be difficult to grow in our area
  - Olive trees
  - Avocados
  - Rhubarb
  - Pawpaws





## FRUITS & VEGETABLES– Continued

- Graduate Student Haley Williams project update
  - Wine in our climate has high acid/low sugar
  - Trying to manipulate Midsouth variety's acid or grow a variety with better acid
- Seedless muscadines are starting to reach the market (5-10 years)
- Dr. Stafne's chill hour app has changed weather providers, but is still up and running
- Dr. Coker made the announcement if volunteers were interested, they could help revive the pollinator garden at the Beaumont station.
- Dr. Coker states that 4mil plastic on high tunnels usually get around 2-3 years of use; however, NRCS Cost-Share programs require 6mil
- Beaumont Field Day-June 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Muscadine Field Day-tentatively set for the last Thursday in August

Commenters expressed interest in growing small fruits, controlling WDD, field days, and learning about new groups and programs they could join or support.



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# HORSES & SMALL RUMINANTS

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Brad Jones, MSU Chair  
*38 Attendees*

Dr. Eric Sparks spoke with the group on conservation grazing to maintain natural habitats. There are some research opportunities he will be working on to help producers be able to use small herds for grazing opportunities.

These opportunities could include forest landowners and grazing on solar farms.

Dr. Leyla Del Rios updated the producers on new research programs at the University for small ruminants.

Other topics discussed include:

- Predator control small ruminants
- Weed control in pasture and grazing
- Wool production - marketing and supporting production
- Research on contract grazing for small ruminants for government and public industries
- Research for contract grazing on timelines, fencing, and grazing rotations



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# LIVESTOCK

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Brad Jones, MSU Chair  
*20 Attendees*

Brad Jones welcomed the group for the Cattle meeting.

Updated the group on upcoming Extension programs.

Southern Producers Heifer Sale 20<sup>th</sup> annual sale was held in August. The Homeplace Producers Board sale is continuing to be successful with putting producers together to sell market weight cattle.

Laken Guelker, MSU agricultural technician, is caring for management of the White Sand Unit until Dr. Daniel Rivera's vacancy is filled. She discussed the recently concluded Elanco study and an implant study to determine the effects of delayed implanting on rye grass calves. She also announced the Field Day on June 2 at White Sand.

Dr. Rocky Lemus updated the group on trails using Bracaria Grasses. He reminded everyone of the MSU provided forage testing that is available to producers.

Topics discussed included:

- Conservation Grazing for Habitat Management - Piney Woods Cattle
- Research to understand the need and opportunities for conservation grazing
- Forage Testing available on Campus, most tests can be completed for \$30
- Beef Quality Assurance  
Trainings in the county are available including calving season workshop
- Great need for large animal veterinarians to support our cattle producers
- Need for beef cattle faculty at the White Sand Unit



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# POULTRY

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Reed Wade, MS Poultry Association, Chair  
*3 Attendees*

Mr. Wade started the meeting by introducing himself along with participants that were in the session.

Discussion was held on the aspects of setting dimmers in poultry houses using a Trailing edge dimming which uses a current that is turned off as the AC waveform ends, just before it crosses zero. This type of dimming is designed for lamps with electronic drivers (CFLs and LEDs) and does not result in a rush of voltage (and, in turn, an inrush of current) to the light source; versus a Leading edge dimming which uses a current that is turned off as the AC waveform begins, right after it crosses zero. It is commonly used with incandescent lamps and produces a rush of voltage every half cycle, resulting in a high inrush of current to the light source.

Other discussion was held about maintaining adequate pH for drinking water in poultry houses, having the water quality tested for bacteria, and treating the water if needed. Tests for both bacteria and minerals are the only way to know what is in the water you are providing or plan to provide to your chickens. Chickens seem to prefer a pH in the range of 6.2 to 6.8. Water treatments are available to correct a pH that is extremely high or extremely low. Testing can be done through the POSC Water Quality Lab, University of Arkansas, Center of Excellence for Poultry Science to check pH and minerals.

Discussion was made on the causes and or prevention of kinky back which is a skeletal disorder resulting in lameness of broiler chickens. This deformity commonly causes dislocation of the freely movable thoracic vertebrae in broilers, which causes compression of the spinal cord, which can lead to paralysis of the hind limbs. Poor ligament strength or a weak ligament attachment, due to heavy breast weight, are some of the likely causes. Management practices that delay the rapid early growth of broilers, have been shown to decrease the incidence of kinky back.







# The Crosby Arboretum

With increasing value being placed on our natural heritage, The Crosby Arboretum is the premier native plant conservatory in the Southeast. The Arboretum was established as a living memorial to L.O. Crosby, Jr. (1907-1978) and has expanded to become a resource for education in the region and the world. Today, it provides for the protection of the region's biological diversity as well as a place for the public's enjoyment of plant species native to the Pearl River Drainage Basin of south-central Mississippi and Louisiana. It allows us to study and learn about plants and plant products so that we may use them to their best advantage and ensure their continuous propagation in the future. Aesthetic, agricultural, scientific, and industrial contributions of native plant species and ecosystems can be examined in a real-life setting at the Arboretum.

The 104-acre Native Plant Center of The Crosby Arboretum serves as the focus of Arboretum activities and development. It includes the Pinecote Pavilion and the Piney Woods Lake for display of native water plants in their natural setting. The Pinecote Pavilion and the many wooden bridges that complement the lake were designed by award-winning architect Fay Jones, of Fayetteville, Arkansas to enhance the artistic and functional aspects of the Arboretum.

The Crosby Arboretum also manages 700 acres in seven associated natural areas. The assemblages of carefully selected and protected lands nurtures over 300 species of indigenous trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and grasses. Rare, threatened, or endangered species of plants and wildlife are present at throughout the Arboretum's preserves. Unusual plants have their place as well. The Arboretum protects and manages several lovely pitcher plant bogs both on site and within the natural areas. Edible, poisonous, and aromatic plants, too, are found at the Arboretum. As the seasons unfold their splendor, the Arboretum provides a clear, unobstructed view of the variety and beauty of our natural resources.

More than attractive features of our landscape, plants are an integral part of the environment we inhabit. Our own survival will be threatened if they do not flourish. Therefore, humankind's best interests can be served by the study of our plant neighbors with which we share this planet.



**The Crosby Arboretum**  
370 Ridge Road \* P.O. Box 1639  
Picayune, MS 39466  
Phone: 601-799-2311  
Fax: 601-799-2372  
[crosbyarboretum.msstate.edu](http://crosbyarboretum.msstate.edu)

Open  
Wednesday – Sunday  
9:00 am – 4:30 pm





**Mission:** The Coastal Research and Extension Center is Mississippi State University’s “southern exposure,” linking residents of the coastal region to the university. The center’s mission is to conduct research and education programs aimed at developing a better understanding and use of renewable and nonrenewable resources in south Mississippi. Its applied research and educational programs with biological, physical, and social systems focus on enhancing the quality of life of residents of Mississippi and other Gulf states. Our priorities address the specific needs of diverse communities including the health and well-being of the people and responsible stewardship of unique natural resources.

**Vision:** Coastal Research and Extension Center is the leader in providing responsive solutions addressing social, environmental, and economic integration of Research and Extension.

**What we do and where we do it:**

<p><b>Coastal Research and Extension Center</b> 1815 Popp's Ferry Rd Biloxi, MS 39532 Phone: 228-388-4710 Fax: 228-388-1375</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal avian ecology</li> <li>• Coastal restoration ecology</li> <li>• Forest management</li> <li>• Marine fisheries ecology</li> <li>• Natural Resources and agricultural economics</li> <li>• Ornamental horticulture</li> <li>• Sea-level rise in coastal Mississippi</li> <li>• Vegetable horticulture</li> </ul>
<p><b>South MS Branch Experiment Station Includes Poplarville, White Sands, and McNeill Units</b> 810 Highway 26 West * PO Box 193 Poplarville, MS 39470 Poplarville Phone: 601-795-4525 White Sands Phone: 601-795-4805</p> <p><b>Beaumont Horticultural Unit</b> 475 Hwy 15 Beaumont, MS 39423 Phone: 601-788-6616 Fax: 601-788-5522</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beef nutrition</li> <li>• Host to USDA ARS Thad Cochran Southern Horticultural Library</li> <li>• Ornamental horticulture</li> <li>• Small Fruits horticulture</li> <li>• Vegetable horticulture</li> </ul>
<p><b>Experimental Seafood Processing Laboratory</b> 3411 Frederic Street Pascagoula, MS 39567 Phone: 228-762-7783</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquatic processing technology</li> <li>• Food-borne pathogen elimination</li> <li>• Extension of the shelf life of aquatic products</li> <li>• Post-harvest technology</li> <li>• Chemical residue analysis</li> </ul>



The Mississippi State University Extension Service provides research-based information, educational programs, and technology transfer focused on issues and needs of the people of Mississippi, enabling them to make informed decisions about their economic, social, and cultural well-being.

The **Coastal Extension Region Office** serves these 21 southeastern Mississippi counties, as well as the Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI).

**1815 Popp's Ferry Rd \* Biloxi, MS 39532 \* Phone 228-388-4710 \* Fax 228-388-1375**

**Ms. Tawnya Holliman, Regional Extension Coordinator**

County	County Coordinator	Physical Street/Mailing Address	Phone	Fax
<b>Clarke</b>	Christy King	101 Westwood Ave., PO Box 109 Quitman, MS 39355	601-776-3951	601-776-1023
<b>Covington</b>	Ellen Russell	68 Industrial Park Drive Collins, MS 39428	601-765-8252	601-765-5009
<b>Forrest</b>	Matthew Thornton	952 Sullivan Dr. Hattiesburg, MS 39401	601-545-6083	601-545-6173
<b>George</b>	Heath Steede	7128 Highway 198 East, PO Box 738 Lucedale, MS 39452	601-947-4223	601-947-4224
<b>Greene</b>	Angie Byrd	#2 Oak Street, PO Box 730 Leakesville, MS 39451	601-394-2702	601-394-2741
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<b>Jasper</b>	Kelby King	37B West 8th Ave., PO Box 506 Bay Springs, MS 39422	601-764-2314	601-764-2035
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<b>Lamar</b>	Ross Overstreet	216 Shelby Street Ste B, PO Box 419 Purvis, MS 39475	601-794-3910	601-794-5515
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<b>Marion</b>	Amanda Woods	1060 Hwy 13 South Columbia, MS 39429	601-736-8251	601-731-3791
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