

ENTERPRISE & COMMUNITY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

COMPRISED OF: COMMUNITY & RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, FOOD & FIBER CENTER
AND CENTER FOR GOVERNMENTAL TRAINING & TECHNOLOGY

Contents

2003 Catfish Processors Conference

Introducing Dr. Alan Barefield

Economic Development Strategy for Rural Communities

2003 Governor's First Responders Conference

Mississippi Micro-Enterprise Association Network

Southwest E&CRD Area Agent

Economic Impact of the Catfish Industry



Bost Extension Center Mississippi State University

For more information contact:

Center for Governmental Training & Technology

Phone: 625-325-3141
<http://ext.msstate.edu/departments/cgt>

Community Resource Development

Phone: 662-325-3144
<http://msucare.com/community/index.html>

Food & Fiber Center

Phone: 662-325-2160
<http://ext.msstate.edu/departments/foodandfiber>

Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status.

2003 Catfish Processors Conference

This year marked the 29th Mississippi State University Catfish Processors Conference. Pre-conference activity on Tuesday, February 25th, consisted of a catfish fry at the new Hunter Henry Alumni Center held for attendees, guests and speakers, including members of the Magnolia IFT chapter. Approximately 115 people attended the catfish fry and enjoyed the opportunity to network with others in the industry in an informal environment. Also, a Catfish Disease Research Update and Dedication of the SPF Catfish Hatchery was held by the College of Veterinary Medicine at the Wise Center prior to the dinner.

The conference on Wednesday, February 26th provided sessions that addressed a number of issues important to the industry. Representatives from the Food and Drug Administration, the catfish industry, consultants, MSU and UGA presented information on the following issues: State of the Farm-Raised Catfish Industry, Food Security, Development of Poultry Value-Added Prod-



Left to right: Dr. Romeo T. Toledo, University of Georgia; Jerry Dyer, Automation Planners, Inc.; Dr. Patti Coggins, MSU Food Science & Technology; Randy Rhodes, Southern Pride Catfish; Larry Joiner, Simmons Farm-Raised Catfish; Dr. T.C. Chen, MSU Poultry Science Department; Dr. Anna Hood, FFC Food Technologist; Dr. Juan Silva, MSU Food Science & Technology; Stuart Dean, FFC Industrial Engineer. Not pictured: Dr. Douglas Marshall, MSU Food Science & Technology; and Carl Draper, Food & Drug Administration.

ucts: A Success Story, Seafood Marination: Ingredients and Technology, Positioning Catfish Products in the Market through Product Development, Fitting Plants to Changing Markets, Controlling Listeria during Catfish Processing, and Challenges in the Marketing of Farm-Raised Catfish.

The conference continued to have a major exhibit of industry suppliers (30 exhibitors), along with (11) research poster sessions. Exhibitor products and services ranged from Equipment, Laboratory Services, Packaging, Chemicals/Sanitation and Employee Training to Health/Medical, Construction/Flooring, Ingredients, Other Food Products and Safety. Of these exhibitors, (18) were returning from the 2001 conference and (12) were new additions. The beginnings of a sponsorship program was initiated, with (4) companies participating. One comment by a participant was that they were impressed with the industry support for the conference, as evidenced by the processor turnout and the exhibitor, sponsor and speaker support.

Exhibitor Booths at Catfish Conference

Stuart Dean and Anna Hood with the Food and Fiber Center and Juan Silva from the Food Science and Technology Department, co-chaired the conference. More than 100 people participated in the conference .



The Durham Company displays processing supplies, personal safety items and protective clothing.



Shiloh Foods, Inc. provides products for attendees to taste during exhibit hours.

Introducing Dr. Alan Barefield...



Enterprise and Community Resource Development welcomes Dr. Alan Barefield. Dr. Barefield assumed the position as Leader of Community Resource Development/Associate Extension Professor and Associate Director of the Southern Rural Development Center in mid-January. He began his college career at Murray State University where he earned his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Economics and his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics with an emphasis in Finance and Policy from Texas A&M University. He began his career as a Resource Development Specialist at the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service with a focus in business development and management, feasibility analysis, economic development, and community strategic planning. He has organized several regional educational workshops such as: Financial Recordkeeping and Management, Value-Added Agricultural Entrepreneurship, E-Commerce, and taught at the Community Development Institute. His current focus will center around three areas; 1) coordinating the Rural Community College Initiative Effort in Mississippi, North Carolina, and Texas, 2) re-staffing the Community Resource Development Department of MSU-ES, and 3) working with E&CRD specialists and agents to develop and implement programs to better serve the residents of Mississippi. Alan and his wife, Amy have a son and daughter, Will, 3 years old and Ally, 10 months. You may reach Alan at 662-325-3144 or email: alanb@srdc.msstate.edu.

Enterprise and Community Resource Development welcomes Dr. Alan Barefield. Dr. Barefield assumed the position as Leader of Community Resource Development/Associate Extension Professor and Associate Director of the Southern Rural Development Center in mid-January. He began his college career at Murray State University where he earned his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Economics and his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics with an emphasis in Finance and Policy from Texas A&M University. He began his career as a Resource Development Specialist at the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service with a focus in business development and management, feasibility analysis, economic development, and community strategic planning. He has organized several regional educational workshops such as: Financial Recordkeeping and Management, Value-Added Agricultural Entrepreneurship, E-Commerce, and taught at the Community Development Institute. His current focus will center around three areas; 1) coordinating the Rural Community College Initiative Effort in Mississippi, North Carolina, and Texas, 2) re-staffing the Community Resource Development Department of MSU-ES, and 3) working with E&CRD specialists and agents to develop and implement programs to better serve the residents of Mississippi. Alan and his wife, Amy have a son and daughter, Will, 3 years old and Ally, 10 months. You may reach Alan at 662-325-3144 or email: alanb@srdc.msstate.edu.

Economic Development Strategy for Rural Communities

Beth Duncan and Carolyn Lott met with community leaders in Holly Springs to facilitate a roundtable discussion that focused attention on the role that community-led entrepreneurial and enterprise development play as a viable economic development strategy for rural communities. The group identified resources currently available in the community to assist with entrepreneurship and enterprise development, current obstacles to economic development in the community, and ways the community might work together to strengthen and support entrepreneurial and enterprise development initiatives. Participants included: Sister Joel Curcio with Economic Alternatives/Sacred Heart Southern Missions; Susan Jordan, Director, Chamber of Commerce, Bruce McMillian, Pastor, Christ Episcopal Church; Rueben Pegues Mayor's Office; and Darlene Seals, Small Business Owner.



2003 Governor's First Responders Conference

More than 500 emergency managers, local governmental officials, law enforcement officers, public works managers, and health care providers learned practical techniques for dealing with catastrophic incidents that might occur in their communities at the Governor's First Responder Conference March 17-20, 2003, at Pearl River Resort near Philadelphia.

The conference was conducted by the Mississippi State University Extension Service Center for Governmental Training and Technology and sponsored by the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, Mississippi State Department of Health, Mississippi Hospital Association, Mississippi Association of Supervisors, and Mississippi Municipal League.

P.C. McLaurin Jr., Extension Professor of local government and CGT leader, facilitated general assembly sessions dealing with topics ranging from Mississippi State Health Officer Brian Amy's overview on bioterrorism, to State Veterinarian Jim Watson's description of how weapons of mass destruction would impact the food supply. There were also two-hour sessions on the Hospital Emergency Incident Command System and how to establish an incident command structure, which is the management system mandated for dealing with catastrophic events under state law. He also moderated the session featuring Gov. Ronnie Musgrove's keynote address to the conference.

A day-long tabletop exercise dealing with a weapons of mass destruction incident in the state was also a part of the conference, which featured speakers from North Carolina, Califor-

nia, Tennessee, Louisiana, Georgia, and Washington, D.C.

"The purpose of this conference was to help first responders in all aspects of public service learn the essentials of dealing with an act of terrorism in a way that safeguards all involved and allows pertinent information to be made available to all levels of the decision-making process in a timely and appropriate manner. Today's disaster preparedness requires that the public and private sectors work together in an efficient and effective manner to protect all of our citizens to the highest degree possible," McLaurin said.

The Governor's First Responder Conference was one of a dozen exercises and educational training sessions the CGT has coordinated in the past 15 months with the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and the Mississippi State Department of Health.



Mississippi Micro-Enterprise Association Network

Beth Duncan along with fifty lenders and other supporters of micro-enterprises recently met for the founding conference of the Mississippi Micro-Enterprise Association Network, (MMEAN) designed to help the smallest businesses establish themselves in the state.

MMEAN, whose slogan is "We MMEAN business," intends to provide leadership, advocacy, resources, training and technical assistance to organizations promoting micro-enterprise development in Mississippi. Microbusinesses typically employ five or fewer people. These part-time and full-time businesses may be home-based, farm-based or located in a small facility. Often, they are female or minority owned businesses.

Beth Duncan, Small Business Development Specialist with Mississippi State University's Extension Service, said some of these microbusinesses provide additional resources for low-income households, and some are started by dislocated workers. "Microbusinesses are at the leading edge of the enterprise formation process and can be found in rural, urban and suburban settings," Duncan said. "Most microbusinesses need access to technical information, small amounts of credit and networking opportunities."

Mississippi makes the 29th state to form a micro-enterprise association to promote networking among small businesses and supporters. During MMEAN's founding conference, participants learned about recruitment, screening and assessment strategies, business development, and lending issues.



Enterprise & Community
Resource Development
Box 9642
Mississippi State, MS 39762

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
STARKVILLE, MS
PERMIT #73

We are on the web!
msucares.com/departments

*Providing educational,
technical and
developmental services*



A look at the Catfish Industry at the year 2003.

Southwest Area E&CRD Agent



This issue features Mr. Doug Carter, E&CRD Area Agent housed in Scott County. Doug's outreach area is the 20 counties in Southwest Mississippi. He earned his Bachelors Degree in Agriculture Extension Education and his Masters Degree in Agriculture Extension Education from Mississippi State University. He began his Extension career in Adams County as a 4-H Youth Agent and then moved to Simpson County and served as 4-H Agent. In the summer of 2002 Doug assumed duties as an E&CRD Area Agent. Doug has served in numerous community leadership capacities. He established and served as the coordinator of the Simpson County Farm Safety Day Camps for the past four years with over 400 school kids attending the event annually. He also played a leading role in the Simpson County Learn and Serve Project which teaches youth about conservation and allows them to plant trees on school grounds for the purpose of beautifying the campus. Recently he received his Business Retention and Expansion certification from BREI, and graduated from the Community Development Institute in Talladega, Alabama. Doug is married and has a 16-month-old daughter. He will be serving the counties of Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Copiah, Franklin, Hinds, Jefferson, Lawrence, Leake, Lincoln, Madison, Pike, Rankin, Scott, Simpson, Smith, Walthall, Warren, Wilkinson, and Yazoo. Doug may be reached at 601-469-4241 or via email: doug@ext.msstate.edu.

Economic Impact of the Catfish Industry

Stuart Dean, Industrial Engineer and Steve Murray, retired Business Analyst with the Food & Fiber Center and Terrill Hanson, Agricultural Economist with the Department of Agricultural Economics have prepared a report titled "*Economic Impact of the Mississippi Farm-Raised Catfish Industry at the year 2003*", Publication 2317. This reports examines the impact of the industry on the state's economy and looks at the structure of the industry, farms, processors, employment and jobs, feed mills and support services. To obtain a copy, contact the Food & Fiber Center at 662-325-2160, or go online at www.msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2317.pdf.