

OTHER SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

MAFES Partnership with Commodity Groups Provides Research Benefits

Every year, several commodity groups set aside a portion of their sales income to fund MAFES research.

Producer checkoff funds from the Mississippi Soybean Promotion Board, the Mississippi Rice Promotion Board and the Mississippi Cotton Incorporated State Support Committee provided support for more than 20 MAFES projects in 2001. Research funds were also provided through checkoff money from the sweetpotato and pork commodity groups.

Under the present checkoff program, producers representing the various commodity groups are part of a scientific peer-review process that decides which projects receive funding. The program gives producers direct input into the types of research that are needed and strengthens the partnership between growers and MAFES researchers.



Sample projects supported by the **Mississippi Soybean Promotion Board:**

Optimization of planting dates, row spacing and herbicide systems in conventional and transgenic early-maturing soybeans.

Development of seed treatment techniques for inoculating seed with biological control agents in control of charcoal rot in soybeans.

Enhancement of Mississippi Soybean Variety Trials entry standardization.

Evaluation of private and public soybean varieties and breeding lines for resistance to stem canker *Phytophthora* root rot, frogeye, leaf spot, soybean mosaic virus and other disease investigations.

Dynamic approaches to improve soybean yield in the Mississippi Delta.

Application of information technology systems for soybean production in Mississippi.

Development of value-added soybeans and development/identification of charcoal rot resistance in soybean.



Sample projects supported by the **Mississippi Rice Promotion Board:**

Rice breeding and variety development in Mississippi.

Winter rice breeding nursery in Puerto Rico.

On-farm fertility management in Mississippi rice production.

Red rice control in rice.

Rice weed control.

Studies on false smut and kernel smut of rice.

Evaluation of rice breeding lines for resistance to blast and efficacy of new fungicides for blast control.

Management and control of rice sheath blight.

Nitrogen management for optimum rice production in the Mississippi Delta on Sharkey clay soil, and nitrogen management considerations for advanced breeding lines.

Interaction of cultivars, N rates, seeding rates, and Icon® seed treatment for long-grain rice production.

Control of rice stink bug and cattail billbug.

Supplement for rice promotion seed stocks program.



Sample projects supported by the **Mississippi Cotton Incorporated State Support Committee:**

Nitrogen and potassium management in cotton/corn rotations – rotation benefits and economic impact.

Effects of herbicides and/or fungicides on early cotton growth and yields.

Validation of COTMAN expert system rules for early-season insect control, irrigation scheduling and defoliation.

Development of insect-resistant cottons for Mississippi.

Corn crop residue and reduced tillage influence on ground residue cover and cotton profitability.

Cotton breeding and genetics: continued development of cotton varieties and breeding lines for Mississippi with root-knot nematode race 3 resistance and excellent yield; and continued search for useful nematode resistance.

Investigations on novel methods to control the cotton reniform nematode and their effects on early-season insect control.

Transgenic and nontransgenic cotton tolerance to selected pesticides and interactions.

Mississippi cotton varieties and germplasm.

A whole farm systems approach to increasing cotton farming profitability.