



Marco Nitovich

## Livestock Production Sale Marks 20th Anniversary

The 2002 MAFES Livestock Production Sale was a milestone for the annual event.

The Nov. 21 sale at the Mississippi Horse Park and Agricenter was the 20th time students in Mike Boyd's Managing Livestock Class have put together the sale of surplus livestock from MAFES herds.

"When we began in 1982, I never thought we would make it through that first sale, much less 20 years," Boyd said. "Over the years, the sale has generated more than \$2 million, which has gone back into MAFES livestock research programs."

Students are responsible for most aspects of the production sale except the auctioning, which for the 2002 sale was handled by auctioneer Jackie Courson.

The 2002 sale included 20 horses and 121 lots of cattle. It generated bids totaling more than \$116,000 from 170 buyers.



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## Greenhouse holidays

More than 80 varieties of poinsettias used in research were on display during the December open house at the MSU greenhouses on Stone Boulevard. The public event also includes a seasonal plant and wreath sale, as well as classes on holiday design and plant care. MAFES, the University Florist, the plant and soil sciences department, and the MSU Extension Service sponsor the annual open house.



Bob Ratliff



## Coastal R&E Center construction under way

Coastal Research and Extension Center head David Veal, left, and Dwight Speirs with Fletcher Construction check the progress of the center's new \$3.7 million home in Biloxi.

The almost 24,000-square-foot facility, slated for completion in September, will house offices, laboratories and two distance learning centers.

"One of the distance learning centers will be available for extensive use by public school systems, allowing students to interact with faculty and other resource personnel at MSU," Veal said.

The architect for the project is Slaughter/Allred/McNabb of Pascagoula.



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 3-5, 2003	<b>MID-SOUTH GREENHOUSE GROWERS CONFERENCE</b> Eagle Ridge Conference Center, <i>Raymond</i>
June 6	<b>GRASSLAND SCHOOL</b> Brown Loam Branch, <i>Raymond</i>
June 7	<b>HAY DAY</b> Brown Loam Branch, <i>Raymond</i>
Aug. 13	<b>COTTON FIELD DAY</b> Delta Research and Extension Center, <i>Stoneville</i>
Aug. 14	<b>RICE/SOYBEAN FIELD DAY</b> Delta Research and Extension Center, <i>Stoneville</i>
Sept. 20	<b>NORTH MISSISSIPPI GARDEN EXPO</b> North Mississippi Research and Extension Center, <i>Verona</i>