ArcGIS Agricultural Land Use Maps from the Mississippi Cropland Data Layer

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The Cropland Data Layer in Mississippi

Cropland Data Layer Program Development

• Based on USDA-NASS programs started in the 1970s
• LARSYS software from Purdue University
• Produced state and county acreage estimates for major crops grown in a state
• Migrated system to a personal computer

Mississippi Cropland Data Layer Project

• A cooperative project of USDA-NASS, Mississippi State University, and the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce
• Started in 1999 using the Peditor and RSP software programs of USDA-NASS
• Began creating the public domain Cropland Data Layer product

ESRI ArcGIS Applications

• Maps for use by the team generating the Cropland Data Layer product
• Maps to present information to clients
June Agricultural Survey Segment Selection
Mississippi Data Collection
Segment Locator Map

2004 Sample County Segments 6001 and 6010

Legend:
- National Forest
- National Park
- National WR
- State Park
- Wildlife MA
- City

Segments for the June Agricultural Survey

USDA/NASS/MDAC/MSU
Map by Dr. Fred Shore
Segment Locator Map and Field Locations

2004 Test County Segment 6057
Field/Segment Boundaries on a High Resolution Photo

The segment boundary is shown in blue and the field boundaries in red with acres shown for each field.
Field Boundary Digitizing

With the help of a Landsat image, training field boundaries are digitized.
MS Landsat Scenes 2005

Each scene, bounded in yellow, is easy to select using the USGS Viewer.
Indian Remote Sensing (IRS)

RESOURCESAT-1 Advanced Wide Field Sensor (AWiFS) scene 280-48-A, 9/04/05. Each scene covers 350 km$^2$ at an average resolution of 56 m (vs. Landsat TM scenes at 185 km$^2$ and 30 m resolution).

Shown as false color IR: Band 5 (SWIR) / Band 3 (red) / and Band 2 (green) as red/green/blue. An additional IR band is also obtained (vs. 7 bands for Landsat TM scenes).
Image Processing Using Multi-temporal Scenes for MS CDL, 2004
Image Processing for MS CDL, 2005

MS05 Analysis Districts, 11/01/05

Map by Dr. Fred Shore, 11/01/05
Mean = 98.2 Percent, Standard Deviation = 7.0
Cropland Data Layer Indications vs. NASS Official Estimates in Percentages of Official Estimates by Crop, Planted Acres

Cotton, Mean = 101.1 %, St. Dev. = 4.8

Rice, Mean = 93.5 %, St. Dev. = 8.4

Soybeans, Mean = 99.9 %, St. Dev. = 8.0

Scene Date vs. Optimum Date (Delta Area)

Early Scene Dates, Mean = 3.2 Weeks, St. Dev. = 4.4

Late Scene Dates, Mean = 2.0 Weeks, St. Dev. = 2.0
The Mississippi Cropland Data Layer, 2005

The Cropland Data Layer classifications from satellite images, the June Agricultural Survey, and image processing.
The Mississippi Delta, 2005
Bolivar County Cropland Data Layer, 2005
Locating a Processing Plant

2004 Sweet Potatoes Vardaman - Houston Area

Cropland Data Layer Crops
- Corn
- Cotton
- Soybeans
- Sweet Potatoes
- Trees/Pasture/Non-Ag

USDA-NASS Official Estimates
15,300 Harvested Acres in Mississippi
Average Yield of 170 Cwt./acre

USDA-Farm Service Agency
Planted Acre Estimates
Calhoun County 6,770 acres
Chickasaw County 5,290 acres

MDAC/USDA-NASS/MSU
Map by Dr. Fred Shore

Vardaman - Houston Area Map

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles
The variation of land use for cotton in the Delta over a 6 year period is shown in this map. The darker the shade of blue the more years of cotton land use with some land used for cotton every year.

In the crescent moon-shaped part of northwestern Mississippi known as The Delta, cotton is usually planted in sandy soil along existing or ancient rivers and creeks. Cotton crop rotations are used but high cotton prices can lead to the same land being used for cotton every year.

Map shows satellite cotton classification range from the Cropland Data Layer by Dr. Fred Shore.
Multiyear Overlays
Rice

With the three year rotation schedule, comparing two 3-year periods gives similar land use areas. Note that the shade of red color is even indicating a single year of rice land use per location.
Similar land use patterns are observed for these crops. Corn in the Delta is primarily grown in rotation with cotton.
The rotation of land from rice to soybeans is evident. Soybeans are grown in most areas of the Delta.
Crop Overlays by Priority

Overlaying soybeans with cotton and then overlaying both with rice reveals that potential rice acreage is nearly equivalent to the cotton acreage.

Land Use for Major Crops in the Mississippi Delta, 1999-2004

Legend
Overlay Priority
Rice>Cotton>Soybeans

In the crescent moon-shaped part of northwestern Mississippi known as The Delta, cotton is the most profitable crop with rice second.

On an annual basis there are more acres planted to soybeans than any other crop. This overlay display shows good land for cotton and rice and land used for soybeans that could be used in rotation with rice.

Map shows satellite classification ranges from the Cropland Data Layer by Dr. Fred Shore.
ArcGIS Agricultural Land-Use Maps from the Cropland Data Layer

Conclusions

ArcGIS maps are:

- Help for the Field Enumerators in finding the USDA-NASS study segments.
- Quality control maps for Supervisors to check the field data vs. Farm Service Agency images and field outlines.
- Presentation of the Geotiff Cropland Data Layer to determine land use for the year.
- Displays of overlays of multiple year Cropland Data Layer maps for individual crops allow land suitability and crop rotation determinations.
- Good public relation tools for Mississippi agriculture.

Annual Cropland Data Layers are available on disk from USDA-NASS (800) 727-9540 and on-line at [www.mdac.state.ms.us](http://www.mdac.state.ms.us) and [http://www.nass.usda.gov/research/Cropland/SARS1a.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/research/Cropland/SARS1a.htm).