

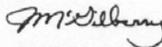
July 22, 2003

The Mississippi State University Extension Service is proud to be a partner in the publication of this year's edition of *Mississippi Agricultural Statistics*. The information in this document, compiled through the extensive collection and analysis efforts of state statistician Tommy Gregory and his staff, is a very valuable resource to all who have a stake in Mississippi's agricultural industry. Accurate information about our state's agricultural enterprises is the cornerstone of good decision making for agricultural producers, agribusinesses, agricultural lenders, economists, and many others engaged in this basic industry.

The Mississippi State University Extension Service, with offices and personnel in all 82 Mississippi counties, has long been a source of educational programs and assistance, helping people use research-based knowledge in making informed decisions. Application of the knowledge base represented by this publication is no exception. The Extension specialists in the MSU Department of Agricultural Economics and our field staff of area agents stand ready to help interpret and apply this information to solve problems, improve revenues, and plan for the future.

This publication is accessible through the MSUcares.com Web site. Just click on the words "Farm Management and Policy" at the left side of our home page or go to <http://msucares.com/management>. While you are visiting MSUcares.com, be sure to explore the vast array of other information available for agriculture, homes, families, communities, and businesses.

It is a privilege to be a partner in publishing this volume of important data on agriculture in Mississippi. Whenever you need assistance in interpreting or applying the data in this publication, please contact the Extension office in your county.



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