



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FY 2023

Mississippi Annual Report

Kurt Readus, State Conservationist



Helping People Help the Land

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender



STATE OFFICE ADDRESS

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
McCoy Federal Building
100 West Capitol Street, Suite 1321
Jackson, MS 39269
(601) 863 – 3947

AGENCY AND STAFF

NRCS works with farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners nationwide to help them boost agricultural productivity and protect our natural resources through conservation.

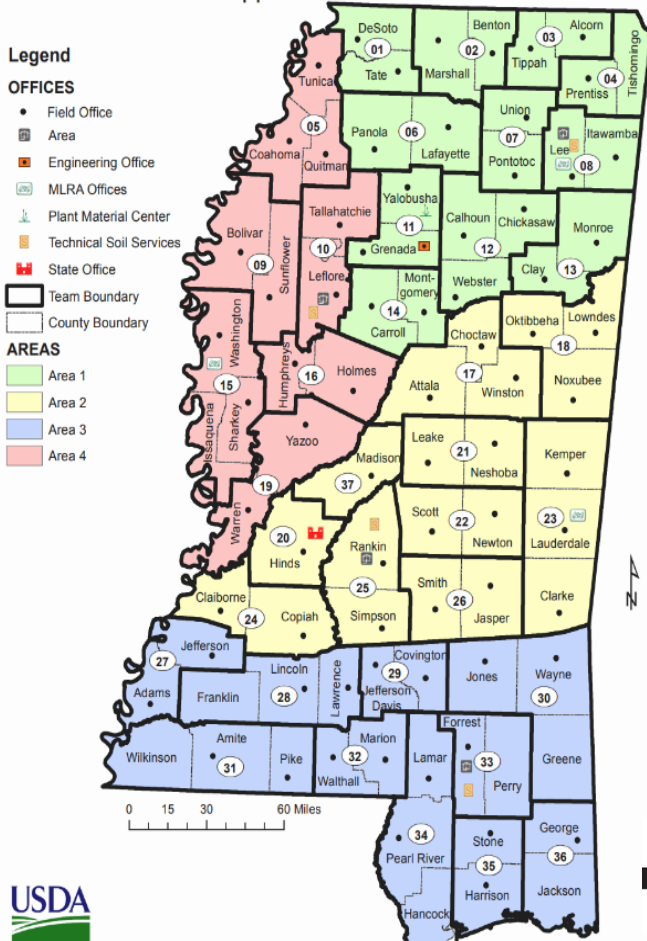
To fulfill the specific resource needs of our farmers and landowners, NRCS in Mississippi employs over 300 employees spread out across the state.

Every county in Mississippi is serviced by a USDA Service Center, which is dispersed around the state in numerous counties. Onsite customer assistance is offered by our offices.

Helping People Help the Land

Earth Team Volunteer

Mississippi NRCS Offices 2023



NRCS is proud of the dedicated Earth Team volunteers and staff who have committed their time and talents to conserve and protect our natural resources. During FY23, Mississippi NRCS accomplished the following:

- **44 volunteers as an individual or in groups**
- **1,178.5 hours**

Time dedicated by these volunteers to educational efforts, conservation planning, and clerical services saved Mississippi NRCS in USDA Service Centers across Mississippi.



@NRCS_MS



MISSISSIPPI USDA NRCS



A Message from the State Conservationist



For over 85 years, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Mississippi has been at the forefront of protecting our precious natural resources. Through our collaboration with America's farmers, forest landowners, private landowners, and Tribal Nations, we have made significant strides in putting conservation practices into action.

The 2018 Farm Bill has provided remarkable opportunities to expand our support and make a lasting impact. With its provisions, we have strengthened our programs and provided even more assistance to producers addressing critical natural resource concerns. We are proud to have worked alongside you to promote soil health, enhance water and air quality, and realize the many benefits of preserving our natural resources.

Throughout Fiscal Year 2023, we have witnessed firsthand the power of partnership and the positive change it brings. Together, we have invested in local communities, ensuring that our working lands continue to thrive. By working hand in hand with landowners like you, we have created a sustainable future for generations to come.

As we reflect on our accomplishments, we recognize that none of it would have been possible without your unwavering commitment to conservation. Your dedication to stewardship and your willingness to adopt conservation practices have made a significant difference in preserving our environment.

We want to thank our local workgroups and partners who are working diligently with us to keep conservation on the ground.

In this annual report, we celebrate our progress together and look forward to the future with optimism. We are excited to continue our work alongside you, providing cost-effective financial and technical assistance to further improve soil health, protect water and air quality, and safeguard our natural resources.

Once again, we extend our warmest greetings and deepest gratitude for your partnership in our mission to keep our working lands working. Together, we are making a lasting impact, ensuring a sustainable and prosperous future for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kurt Readus', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kurt Readus
Mississippi State Conservationist



Conservation Results



61,066

Acres of cropland with conservation applied to improve soil quality. (CTA-GEN)



119,276

Acres of cropland with conservation applied to improve soil quality. (EQIP)



60,729

Acres of cropland with conservation applied to soil health management system.



1,259,952

Acres of conservation applied to improve environmental quality.

8,064,738

Acres were covered under conservation plans.

43,674

Acres with conservation applied to improve agriculture irrigation water management.



STATE RESOURCES PRIORITIES

- 1 Water Quality
- 2 Water Quantity
- 3 Sustainable Forestry
- 4 Declining Wildlife Habitats
- 5 Energy

Funding Impact

\$ 2.2 MILLION

REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

\$ 5.2 MILLION

IRA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

\$ 14.4 MILLION

AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM

\$ 10.2 MILLION

IRA CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

\$ 29.3 MILLION

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

69.6 MILLION

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM



\$130.9 MILLION

PROVIDED THROUGH CONSERVATION PROGRAMS TO PRIVATE LANDS.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program promoting agricultural production, forest management, and environmental quality that helps install or implement structural, agronomic, or management conservation practices to protect soil and water quality.

Conservation Results

- 1.9 MIL.** Dollars provided in 104 EQIP contracts on 13,672.7 acres through Longleaf Pine Initiative.
- 18.6 MIL.** Dollars provided in 663 EQIP contracts covering 44,219.9 acres for New and Beginning Farmers.
- 4.3 MIL.** Dollars provided in 64 EQIP contracts covering 1,313.6 acres for On-Farm Energy.
- 4.0 MIL.** Dollars provided in 50 EQIP covering 4,409.1 acres for the National Water Quality Initiative.
- 16.5 MIL.** Dollars provided in 142 EQIP contracts covering 34,156.9 acres for Mississippi River Basin Initiative.
- 280,482** Dollars provided in 68 EQIP contracts covering 9,866.8 acres for Conservation Planning Activities, Design and Implementation Activities, and Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities.
- 5.8 MIL.** Dollars provided in 146 EQIP contracts covering 21,221.8 acres for Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry.
- 2.9 MIL.** Dollars provided in EQIP contracts covering 3,750.1 acres for Surface Water Conservation Program.
- 100,962** Dollars provided in 36 EQIP contracts for High Tunnel Systems.
- 9.4 MIL.** Dollars provided for Socially Disadvantage Groups.

TOP 10 EQIP PRACTICES by FINANCIAL INVESTMENT

1

COVER CROP

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 275
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$5,077,213

6

FENCE

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 129
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$613,419

2

STREAMBANK and SHORELINE PROTECTION

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 15
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$888,685

7

PASTURE and HAY PLANTING

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 7
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$561,317

3

IRRIGATION PIPELINE

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 22
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$792,297

8

GRADE STABILIZATION STRUCTURE

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 53
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$523,646

4

ENERGY EFFICIENT AGRICULTURAL OPERATION

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 6
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$706,442

9

DIKE and LEVEE

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 19
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$456,821

5

TREE/SHRUB SITE PROTECTION

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 120
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$687,212

10

PRESCRIBED BURNING

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 71
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$332,225



TOP 10 EQIP PRACTICES by PRACTICE COUNT

1

COVER CROP

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 275
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$5,077,213

2

HERBACEOUS WEED TREATMENT

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 136
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$134,544

3

FENCE

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 129
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$613,419

4

TREE/SHRUB SITE PROTECTION

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 120
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$687,212

5

PASTURE and HAY PLANTING

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 101
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$561,317

6

HEAVY USE AREA PROTECTION

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 94
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$271,103

7

FIREBREAK

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 85
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$152,716

8

PRESCRIBED BURNING

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 71
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$332,255

9

CRITICAL AREA PLANTING

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 70
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$38,499

10

GRADE STABILIZATION STRUCTURE

- ⇒ Practice count implemented: 53
- ⇒ Funds obligated: \$523,646

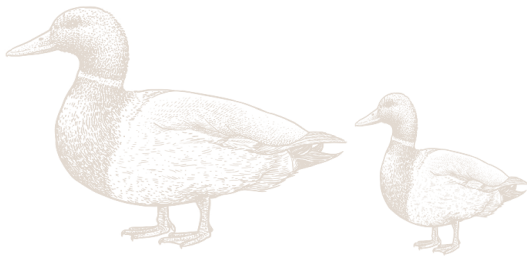
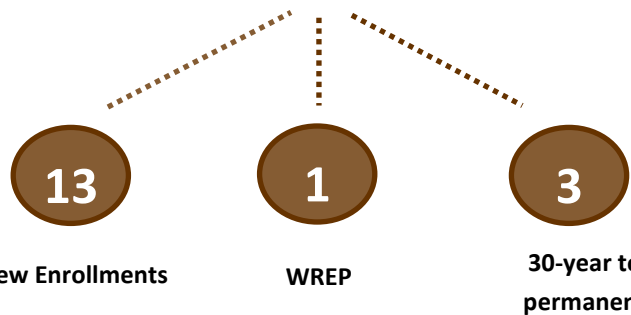


AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM

The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) provides financial and technical assistance to help conserve agricultural lands, wetlands and their related benefits. Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE) provide technical and financial assistance directly to private landowners and Tribal Nations to restore, protect and enhance wetlands. Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) provide financial assistance to eligible partners for purchasing easements that protect the agricultural and conservation values of eligible land. In the case of working farms, the program helps farmers and landowners keep their land in agricultural use. Highlights for fiscal year 2023 include:

6.5 MILLION DOLLARS WERE PROVIDED IN WRE REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, RESTORATION, OUTREACH, AND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS.

7.9 MIL. Dollars were provided for 17 ACEP-WRE agreements covering 1,843 which equal to:



5300+ Acres were impacted through land stewardship activities on WRE land.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resource concerns. The CSP provides assistance to landowners who practice good stewardship on their land and are willing to take additional steps over the next five years.

\$29.3 MILLION WAS PROVIDED IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH CSP.

- 18** GRASSLAND CONSERVATION INITIATIVE CONTRACTS
- 84** RENEWAL CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS CONTRACT
- 204** CLASSIC (NEW) CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS CONTRACTS

155,592 ACRES were enrolled in NEW CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS CONTRACTS

REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) uses partnerships to multiply conservation investments and reach goals on a regional or watershed scale, promoting coordination between partners to deliver assistance to producers and landowners. NRCS provides assistance through partnership agreements and program contracts or easement agreements.

5,249 ACRES
WERE ENROLLED
THROUGH RCPP

24 Contracts were established through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

2.2 MIL. Dollars were provided in financial assistance through RCPP-EQIP, Land Management, and Rental (LMR), and Entity Held Easement (EHE).

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT– IRA

“The Inflation Reduction Act represents the single largest investment in climate and clean energy solutions in American history, and NRCS’ programs are an important part of our efforts,” said Robert Bonnie, USDA’s Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC). “To help agricultural producers invest in conservation on their farms, ranches and working forests, we need to grow our team that delivers our conservation programs. This next generation of conservation talent will help us build upon our long history of working one-on-one with producers to get conservation on the ground.”

\$15,545,707
IRA ALLOCATION

\$10,264,849 Dollars provided in 79 IRA-CSP contracts on 52,299.1 acres.

\$5,280,858 Dollars provided in 146 IRA-EQIP contracts on 16,198.9 acres.



Urban Conservationist Assists NRCS Customer with Organic Transition Planning

Area 1

Written by Ryan Witt and Christy Robinson



Pictured: John Branscome, District Conservationist, Delorise, and Tony Jones, Landowners

NRCS played a pivotal role in supporting the Jones family as they embarked on their organic farming journey, seeking assistance in the Organic Transition Initiative (OTI) in the summer of 2023. Despite a temporary pause in the initiative at the national level, applications were accepted and ranked in competitive funding pools, resulting in eventual approvals.

The Jones family operates a farm in rural Marshall County, where they cultivate a diverse array of produce, including tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, onions, okra, herbs, mushrooms, and more. Their aim is not only to enhance crop yields but also to actively contribute to the preservation and restoration of their local ecosystem while providing healthy food options in their community.

Their conservation plans encompass various practices such as the establishment of field borders, conservation cover, residue and tillage management, nutrient management, integration of cover crops, responsible water well maintenance, efficient operation of their pumping plant, careful management of their irrigation pipeline system, and the implementation of micro-irrigation.

Ryan Witt, as Urban Conservationist, assisted the Jones family in formulating a comprehensive plan that spans the next three years. This interim organic management conservation plan addresses resource concerns in

accordance with National Organic Program Standards. It also considers criteria related to livestock operations, soil health, plant pest management, pesticide usage, wildlife conservation, pollinators, and other beneficial invertebrates. The plan includes the engagement of a certified Technical Service Provider to design and implement practices aligned with organic production standards, providing a holistic overview of the conservation system.

Shortly after Ryan's visit to the Jones' property, the NRCS received a heartfelt letter of affirmation dated September 15, 2023, from the Jones family, expressing their deep gratitude for the outstanding support received from the USDA NRCS Mississippi. The letter highlights the dedication of NRCS team members, including Mr. Michael Carr, Mr. Edward McMillian, Mrs. Christy Robinson, and Mr. Thomas Burthel (former NRCS employee), in addressing their concerns and offering valuable assistance.

“What truly touched our hearts and reinforced our belief in the USDA NRCS team's dedication to farmers like us was the field visit arranged by Mr. McMillian. Ryan Witt, a member of your team, came to our farm to meet with us. Ryan not only took the time to listen to our concerns but also assessed our farm's unique situation. He was not only attentive but also offered valuable suggestions” said Tony Jones.

Jonathon Elrod, NRCS Soil Conservationist in Marshall County, and Supervisory District Conservationist John Branscome, conducted a meeting with Delorise and Tony Jones at the NRCS Holly Springs Field office to explain EQIP OTI contract documents. Following the meeting, Mrs. Jones signed her EQIP OTI contract documents.

NRCS remains eager to continue assisting the Jones family as they work toward transitioning to organic farming for their vegetable crop operation, with the unwavering commitment of our staff in Holly Springs and the Tupelo Area Office, along with the active participation of Delorise and Tony Jones, owners and operators of Chulahoma's Garden in Marshall County.

Newton County Soil and Water Conservation District

Area 2



Pictured L to R: Emilie Smith, SWCD Program Administrator, Rose Mabry, Farmer, and Robin McDonald, SWCD District Technician

Meet Rose Mabry: Mrs. Mabry's farm consists of over 300 acres with 84 acres in pastureland. She has 62 head of cattle consisting of bulls, calves, and heifers that make up her farm. Her husband, Mr. Raymond Mabry, was raised on their farm and before his passing in November 2019, they both worked the farm together. She compliments all his farm life teachings to her, and she receives great joy working the farm. Their careers took them to Houston, MS for nearly 30 years, but moved back to their farm in 2009 where they got serious about the quality of the herd. Mrs. Mabry stated, "they had a Rainbow herd at first but settled on raising angus registered animals".

"I would like to thank the Newton County Soil and Water Conservation District and NRCS for the help they extend to us. Their assistance with Prescribed Grazing, Cross Fencing, Watering Facilities, Livestock Pipelines, Herbaceous Weed Treatments, and Heavy Use Areas, have been a tremendous asset to our farm."



The Art of Farming

Area 3

By: Tommi D. Matthews, Public Affairs Specialist



Pictured: Joel Hoxie of Double OX Farm, LLC

Meet Joel Hoxie and his wife, Susan, of Double OX Farm LLC in Prentiss, Mississippi. Joel, a former science teacher, developed a love for gardening in 1988 when he established a school garden for his students. He understood the significance of experiential learning and used gardening as a practical teaching tool. His students could actively interact with the natural world, watch the growth process, and learn about numerous scientific ideas connected to plants and the environment by planting flowers and vegetables.

Joel is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, and relocated to Prentiss in 2002, just before Hurricane Katrina devastated the region in 2005. "I moved to Mississippi wanting to give my daughter the rural life experience before they were old enough to move out." Double OX is a non-profit specializing in greens, flowers, trees, and shiitake mushrooms. Most of the produce grown is utilized for community outreach, whether through 4H programs or local churches providing donations to the congregation.

When moving to Prentiss, he made friends with other farmers and learned about USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). After reading a newspaper article about NRCS, help Joel visited his local Field Office, where he met District Conservationist Elvert Cole. Elvert discussed technical and financial assistance through NRCS, specifically the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and informed him of a new strategy for helping pollinators.

Joel's CSP application was approved to install conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects. He received points for creating snag and den trees on the 12.2 acres, where he conducted the prescribed burning

practice to reduce the heavy debris on the forest floor to encourage new plant growth for browsing turkey and turkey pulp and other small game birds and animals to move freely. The snag and den tree create homes for wood ducks, burrowing owls, and woodpeckers, creating plant communities consistent with ecologic sites. Double OX pollinators consist of Black-Eyed Susan, Aster, Glacier, Mexican Sunflowers, and Sunflowers that have been transformed into a fantastic pollinator field.

Pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds rely on these blooms for food and refuge. Joel has also planted blueberries to help with his pollinator's garden. Pollinators help plants reproduce by transporting pollen from one bloom to another, allowing them to generate seeds and fruits by giving nectar-rich blossoms throughout the growing season. Joel doesn't refer to himself as a farmer but as a professional gardener.

In addition to focusing on pollinator conservation, each section of the farm is named after a member of Joel's beloved family. This personal touch adds sentimental value to his farm, creating a sense of connection and honoring the importance of family. The farm's incorporation of handcrafted memorabilia adds a unique touch to the overall ambiance.

"The Natural Resources Conservation Service is a resource to be used," Joel said. "They're very helpful and provide a lot of information that has helped me do less work. I would tell a beginner farmer growing gardens not to give up. The hardest part is the beginning."

More Information

Visit local farms, ranches, forests, and resource areas through our [Fridays on the Farm stories](#). Meet farmers, producers and landowners who are working to improve their operations with USDA programs.

USDA offers a variety of risk management, disaster assistance, loan, and conservation programs to producers weather ups and downs in the market and recover from natural disasters as well as invest in improvements to their operations. [Learn about additional programs.](#)

For more information about USDA programs and services, contact your [local USDA service center](#).

New Farmers: Nourishing Mississippi One Harvest at a Time

Area 4

By: Deidre Lindsey, Public Affairs Specialist



Pictured: Shawanda Givens, Alice Givens Randle, Angela Givens Williams, Sherry Givens, and Roosevelt Givens

The Givens family, consisting of Angela Givens Williams, Alice Givens Randle, Brenda Givens Jones, Julia Givens, Kemeshia Swanson, Kimberly Givens, Shawanda Givens, Sherry Givens, Shiquita Givens, and Roosevelt Givens, are new farmers in Lexington, MS, specializing in growing vegetables such as squash, cucumbers, bell peppers, purple hull peas, and zucchini.

A Legacy that Continues

Annie B. Givens, the matriarch of the Givens family, was a dedicated and devoted landowner who grew a variety of fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Despite our financial hardships growing up, our grandmother's garden provided us with fresh produce, which she used to sustain our family.

"Growing up, our grandmother was adamant about keeping her land in the family. Because of her unwavering dedication, she was able to successfully divide her land among her family members. She gave 5 acres to one of her sons, who then gave it to our brother Roosevelt. She also gave our parents 8 acres of land, which we now farm on. Our grandmother still owns more than 80 acres of land." – The Givens family

During the pandemic, we decided to use our land to create a future in farming. After conducting research and establishing connections with local farmers, Annie B's Family Farm, LLC was established in late 2020 to honor Annie B.'s legacy.

"In the spring of 2021, we were able to harvest our first crop, which was far greater than we had anticipated. After that, we came to the conclusion that we should increase the amount of planting that we were doing with the assistance of the Natural

Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) center located in Holmes County from Mississippi." - The Givens Family

Assistance from NRCS

Annie B's Family Farm sought assistance from the [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) Center to address resource concerns on their farm. They were approved for the [Environmental Quality Incentive Program \(EQIP\)](#), a conservation program that helps farmers integrate conservation into working lands.

The approval allowed the family farm to install a [high tunnel](#), which effectively protected their crops from severe weather and extended their growing seasons.

Another conservation practice approved was the [cover crop](#) and [micro-irrigation system](#). Cover crops help with soil erosion, improve soil health, control pests and diseases, increase biodiversity, and provide other benefits to the farm or garden. Micro-irrigation systems apply irrigation water and/or chemicals directly to the plant root zone, maintaining soil moisture for optimal plant growth.

Following their implementation of the conservation practices, they began the planting of purple hull peas.

What's Next

Annie B's Family Farm is dedicated to enhancing their operations by increasing land cultivation and delivering high-quality organic fruits and vegetables to local communities, with their motto being "Nourishing Mississippi One Harvest at a Time."

Get to know your local field office

"Our farm has greatly benefited from NRCS, thanks to the Holmes County field office staff, Harrison Wilkes (Supervisory District Conservationist) and Zachery "Brock" Kennedy (Soil Conservationist). The Area 4 Conservationist, Taharga Hart, is also another person we'd like to thank."- The Givens Family

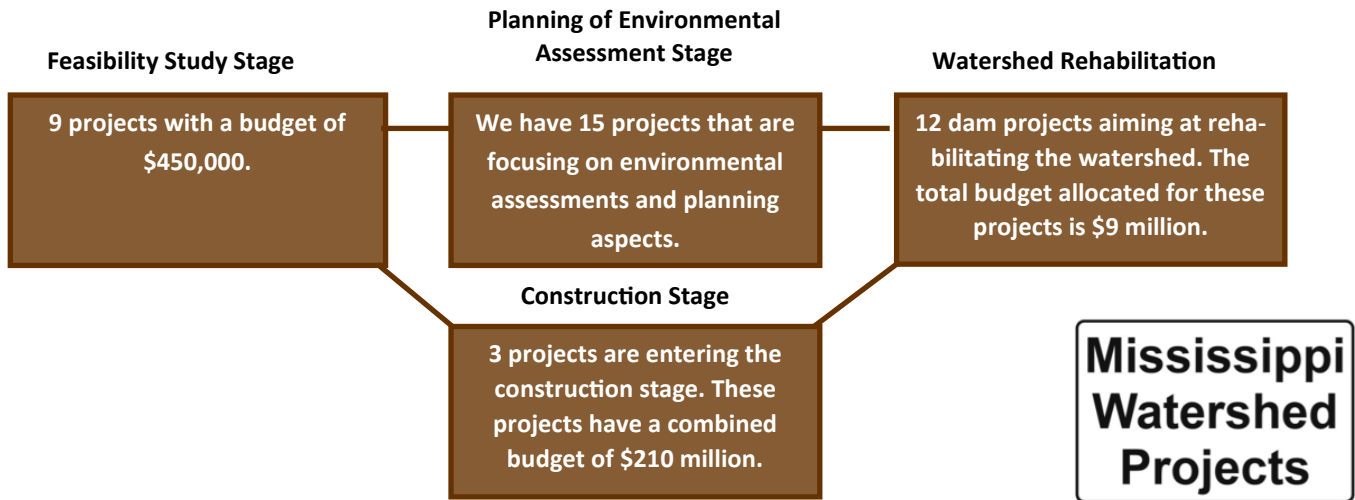
We want anyone looking for help to know that USDA-NRCS can help them, just as they helped us.

Additional Information

If you would like to learn more about the Natural Resources Conservation Service's conservation practices, programs, and assistance, please visit our website at www.nrcs.usda.gov/ms.

ENGINEERING

The Engineer team in Mississippi has consistently provided technical assistance to various stakeholders, including employees, producers, and local conservation groups. This assistance has played a crucial role in enabling the successful implementation of conservation practices. By offering guidance and support, we have been able to contribute to the conservation efforts in our community.



90
Field Surveys

were conducted to gather essential data. These surveys were instrumental in informing the design and implementation of practices under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). By collecting accurate and comprehensive field data, we were able to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of our conservation initiatives.

76
EQIP Designs

were successfully completed. These designs were developed based on the data collected from the field surveys. By utilizing this information, we were able to tailor the conservation practices to the specific needs and conditions of the land. These designs serve as a blueprint for implementing conservation practices under the EQIP program.

Conservation Technical Assistance- CTA Field Visits and Designs

125
Field Visits

Provided on-site support and guidance to landowners and producers. By working closely with them, we were able to address their concerns, answer questions, and offer solutions to ensure the successful implementation of conservation practices.

38
CTA Designs

These designs were developed to assist landowners and producers in implementing conservation practices on their land. By creating customized designs, we were able to consider the unique characteristics of each property and provide tailored recommendations that would maximize conservation outcomes.



Mississippi Agriculture Snapshot

Agriculture is Mississippi's number one industry, employing approximately 17.4% of the state's workforce either directly or indirectly. Agriculture in Mississippi is a 9.72 billion-dollar industry. There are approximately 34,700 farms in the state covering 10.4 million acres. The average size farm is composed of 300 acres. Agriculture makes a significant contribution to all 82 counties. In celebration of the efforts of those who work so hard to feed and clothe us, we present this overview of Mississippi's top 15 agricultural crops.

<p>1. Poultry / Eggs – \$3.84 Billion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 715 million broilers were produced in 2022. • 1,237 broiler farms. • 1,459 million eggs produced in 2022. • 234 farms with 100+ layers. 	<p>2. Soybeans – \$1.78 Billion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,280,000 acres harvested in 2022. • 127,680,000 bushels produced in 2022. • 3,087 farms. 	<p>3. Forestry – \$1.3 Billion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19,235,186 acres in 2022. • 125,000 forest landowners.
<p>4. Corn – \$631.3 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 550,000 acres harvested in 2022. • 91,850,000 bushels produced in 2022. • 1,427 farms. 	<p>5. Cotton – \$624.5 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 525,000 acres harvested in 2022. • 1,130,000 bales produced in 2022. • 780 farms. 	<p>6. Cattle/Calves – \$318 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 910,000 head in 2022. • 15,980 farms.
<p>7. Catfish – \$258 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 34,100 acres of production in 2022. • 205 operations. 	<p>8. Hay – \$164 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.4 million tons produced in 2022. • 610,000 acres harvested. • 11,565 farms 	<p>9. Sweet Potatoes – \$112 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.4 million hundredweight produced in 2022. • 29,500 acres harvested. • 172 farms.
<p>10. Hogs – \$112 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 170,000 hogs and pigs. • 437 farms. 	<p>11. HORTICULTURAL CROPS - \$111 Million</p> <p>Horticulture crops include vegetables, melons, potatoes, fruits, tree nuts, berries, nursery, greenhouses, floriculture, sod and Christmas trees.</p>	<p>12. Rice – \$97 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6,216,000 hundredweight rice produced in 2022. • 221 farms.
<p>13. Wheat – \$35.5 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,975,000 bushels produced in 2022. • 53,000 acres harvested. • 162 farms. 	<p>14. Milk – \$25 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7,000 milk cows in 2022. • 55 Grade A dairy herds. 	<p>15. Peanuts – \$12.6 Million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 53.3 million pounds produced in 2022. • 13,000 acres harvested. • 113 farms.

Mississippi Value of Production Estimates, December 2022.

Source: Mississippi State University, Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine; Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation



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