

Invited Symposia

SAEA 2016 Annual Meetings

TITLE: Local Food Systems in the South (Moderator: H.L. Goodwin, University of Arkansas)

Organizer: H.L. Goodwin, University of Arkansas

Participants: Alba Collart, Mississippi State University; Rodney Holcomb, Oklahoma State University; H.L. Goodwin, University of Arkansas; Dawn Thilmany, Colorado State University; and Margarita Valendia, University of Tennessee

This session reports on findings of the Southern Risk Management Education Center Local Food Systems Workgroup and on results of other top research efforts on local food systems outside the South. The session provides insights and guidance for further progress in the general area of local food systems in the South. The session focuses on defining local food systems, price discovery at farmers markets for local foods, consumer preferences for local foods, and policy perspectives and grant opportunities for local food systems.

TITLE: Farm-Level Greenhouse Gas Decision Support Software Tools and Analyses (Moderator: Michael Popp, University of Arkansas)

Organizer: Michael Popp, University of Arkansas

Participants: John Anderson, American Farm Bureau Federation; Lanier Nalley, University of Arkansas; Jennie Popp, University of Arkansas; Michael Popp, University of Arkansas; Aaron Smith, University of Tennessee

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are often discussed in the context of climate change and hence mitigation of agricultural GHG emissions has become a policy goal for a number of years. To translate policy goals to action, decision makers are in need of tools that will help them make cost-effective decisions regarding production practice alternatives. Substantial research has been conducted at the University of Arkansas to develop decision support software that can be used by producers, researchers, and policy analysts to assess tradeoffs between economic and net GHG emissions outcomes. This symposium provides a forum for discussion of these decision support software tools and analyses. The topics and tools span an array of crops and livestock production that are responsible for a significant proportion of agricultural GHG emissions.

TITLE: Crop Insurance after the 2014 Farm Bill Dust Has Settled (Moderator: Barry Barnett, Mississippi State University)

Organizer: Keith Coble, Mississippi State University

Participants: Barry Barnett, Mississippi State University; Jody Campiche, National Cotton Council; Keith Coble, Mississippi State University; Darren Hudson, Texas Tech University; Tom Knight, Texas Tech University; Kishor Luitel, Texas Tech University; Celestine Siameh, Mississippi State University; Jesse Tack, Mississippi State University

The 2014 Farm Bill increased funding for crop insurance by \$5.7 billion over ten years. The first year's sign-up and outcomes are now known. This panel examines various issues related to crop insurance in 2015 and beyond. Specific topics examined include a synthesis of past research and challenges for future research in crop insurance, the impacts of crop insurance policy changes on producer choices, an overview of insurance options for producers, and the effect of warming on variety-specific crop insurance rates.