



Minutes Franklin Parish ANR Advisory Leadership Council

The Franklin Parish ANR Row Crop Advisory Leadership Council met in the Extension Auditorium April 18, 2012 at 10 a. m. Present were Jack Dailey, Adam Faulk, Hank Jones, James Moore, J.R. Reeves, and Dustin Wright. Absent were Clark McCain and Matt Raley. Carol Pinnell-Alison, County Agent, Dr. Josh Lofton, Agronomist Macon Ridge Station and Sebe Brown Extension Entomologist participated in the meeting.

The committee members and guests were introduced. The role of the council was reviewed.

Carol Pinnell-Alison updated the committee on the LSU AgCenter's business plan and personnel changes in the NE Region. Jack Dailey asked about the status of local funding for the office. There was a short discussion on the topic.

The members were asked to give input on educational program areas that needed to be addressed by the LSU AgCenter in the parish or statewide. The committee issues were:

-Continue to conduct variety demonstrations on producer farms. From a state wide perspective have variety core block tests at various locations with different soil types, with irrigation and with different environmental conditions. Post information on parish and LSU AgCenter web site. There was a discussion on how fast new varieties enter the market. Hank Jones expressed concern regarding the "real" world validity of the Official Variety Trials (OVT's). He would like to see more and larger on-farm variety testing.

-Develop publication(s) for various crops for weed management based on soil type.

-Continue to develop information on managing weed herbicide resistance in the growing season and during the fall/winter months. Need information on weed management options for hard to control winter weeds on highly erodible land that needs winter vegetation to maintain row integrity. Ryegrass control is a concern.

-Expand the verification program to include all major row crops was mentioned again this year.

-Corn is the main crop for producers in Franklin Parish. There is a need for research in corn production on ridge soils. Need more corn research conducted on the Macon Ridge Research Station.

-There is interest in having a field day at the Macon Ridge Research Station.

-Would like the Louisiana Crops Newsletter to be the in-depth educational resource and use text messages sent to a list serve for getting real time information out about situations that arise in the field. Follow-up information could be sent by email or posted on the Louisiana Crops.com blog.

There was no further discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a. m.

Visit the Franklin Parish website at www.lsuagcenter.com/franklin

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