

# g 27 Years of Programs!



effectiveness and quality is the recognition the program regularly receives from other professional communicators. Awards have come from the Association for Communication Excellence in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Life and Human Sciences (ACE), the College Public Relations Association of Mississippi, the Mississippi Association of Broadcasters, and other organizations. You can find Farmweek on the World Wide Web at [www.farmweek.msucare.com](http://www.farmweek.msucare.com)

Farmweek's home – Mississippi - is one of the South's most geographically diverse states, encompassing the rich soils and flat landscape of the Delta, the rolling, pine-covered hills of the northern counties, and the sandy beaches of the Gulf Coast. The state's most important resource is its 2.8 million people, about one-fourth of whom have jobs with ties to agriculture.

Mississippi is the nation's number one catfish-producing state, with sales totaling almost 400 million pounds in 2002. However, Mississippi's top crops in terms of value are poultry and forestry. The state ranks number four in the nation in broiler production, and is the 16th largest egg-producing state. As for forestry, Mississippi is home to more than 5,000 professionally managed Tree Farms, making it the nation's number one Tree Farm state.

Forests cover almost 19 million acres in Mississippi.

Mississippi's four major row crops are cotton, soybeans, corn and rice. The state is number three in the nation in cotton production, with almost 2 million bales produced in 2002. And Mississippi is number four among rice producing states, with annual production of about 16 million hundredweight. The state is home to almost 90 commercial sweetpotato operations, and their product is nationally known for its quality. As for livestock, Mississippi farms are home to more than 1 million beef and dairy cattle and almost 300,000 hogs, as well as several thousand sheep, goats, horses and other livestock.

#### *Contact Information:*

Farmweek  
 Phone : (662) 325-2262  
 Fax : (662) 325-1710  
 Mail : Farmweek, Box 9625  
 Mississippi State, MS 39762  
[www.farmweek.msucare.com](http://www.farmweek.msucare.com)

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