

SAAESD Report to ESCOP

July 25, 2007

SAAESD Website

The SAAESD web site (<http://www.cals.ncsu.edu:8050/saaesd/>) is in the process of being completely redesigned to make it more user-friendly and contemporary in its function and appearance. Also, our new web site will be developed and reside on the servers owned by the Southern Region IPM Center and the NCSU IPM Center. These servers are housed in the office suite where SAAESD is located and are maintained by IT personnel on site. This will make maintenance and upgrading much more efficient than with current college server and support system.

Grantsmanship Workshops

SAAESD will now manage the NRI grant that funds travel grants for minor-serving institutions' faculty to attend the CSREES Competitive Programs and Writing Successful Grants workshops held each fall in Washington, D.C. and the western US. SAAESD is also co-sponsoring, along with the Northeast Regional Association, the workshops to be held in Washington, D.C. October 9-10.

Bioenergy Committee

In conjunction with the Association of Southern Region Extension Directors (ASRED), a Bioenergy Committee was established this spring to facilitate coordination of 1862 LGU's regional research and extension activities related to bioenergy. This committee has compiled an inventory of the southern region's current capacity in a broad range of bioenergy areas, which includes information by state on faculty expertise, web sites, extension programming, and research facilities. The committee also is facilitating the establishment of a Southern Research-Extension Activity (SERA) on bioenergy that will initially be focused on multistate extension programming and integration of regional research and extension activities.

Experiment Station Database

ASRED has maintained a financial and personnel on-line database hosted by TAMU extension since 2005, to which directors submit data annually in numerous areas. This database allows extension directors, business officers, and others with access to easily obtain state-by-state data and regional averages that can be used as comparison for university, state, and federal reports and many other purposes. SAAESD will enter similar data for the experiment stations into the database beginning this fall. The experiment station data will include some elements unique to research and some identical to those collected by extension, which will allow comparison across functions.

SAAESD Leadership Award

Drs. Vance Watson (Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Director, and Director, Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Experiment Station) and Nancy Cox (Associate Dean for Research, Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station) were presented the SAAESD Leadership Award. This award is given annually to recognize those who have served the Southern Experiment Stations, SAAESD, and the national Land-Grant System with exemplary distinction. Through this person's leadership he/she shall have personified the highest level of excellence by enhancing the cause and performance of the SAAESD in achieving its mission, the vision for the Southern Agricultural Experiment Stations, and the Land-Grant ideal.

SAAESD Officers

Chair – Susan Barefoot (Clemson)

Chair-Elect – Tom Klindt (Univ. of Tennessee)

Past-Chair – David Boethel (Louisiana State Univ.)

Treasurer – Steve Leath (North Carolina State Univ.)

Member-at-Large – Mary Duryea (Univ. of Florida)

Multistate Research Committee Chair – David Morrison (Louisiana State Univ.)

SAAESD Future Meetings

Fall meeting, September 17, 2007, Philadelphia, PA

Spring meeting, March 31 – April 2, 2008, Knoxville, TN