

GREENSBORO ECHO

Sponsored by Taylor Funeral Home 662-773-7085

Field Day Activities by Frank Taylor



Morehouse Parish Black Farmers/Landowners Association, Inc and Southern University Ag Department sponsored field day activities in Meg Rouge, LA on July 21. With temperature nearing 100 degrees, farmers, friends, supporters, USDA personnel, 1890 & 1862 University's research units and seed company representatives gathered at Harper Armstrong's Farm for field day activities. According to Harper Armstrong, the Landowners Association's founding member, stated we formed this organization in 2002 to help small and limited resource farmers increase production and lessen input. We are committed to help save rural America and our organization has connected with technical service providers to benefit each member. Our membership consist of 30 farmers planting cotton, milo, soybeans, corn, rice and cattle with the average farm size of 800 acres. We are working with Southern University & LSU Ag-Centers to obtain recent technology on emerging crop and methodology of implementation. Several seed companies are providing technical assistance through test plots on member farms in Morehouse Parish. A test plot allows our farmers an opportunity to observe seed performance under adverse conditions, therefore, farmers are better able to make informed decision on next year's seed selection. The group visited several farms and observed growing conditions of various seed varieties. This year weather conditions and fuel

prices have ignited concerns over profit margin due to inflated input cost, however, a sense of optimism prevailed throughout the tour. Field day activities concluded with a fantastic meal served at Bastrop's Convention Center. The Morehouse Parish Black Farmers/Landowners Association, Inc are thankful to Southern University's Ag-Center personnel for providing leadership during times of uncertainty in agriculture. Kudos to Louisiana State University, the seed company representatives and others for helping to create a successful field day.



Beef Management Workshop



Southern University in Baton Rouge's Ag-Center presented a beef cattle management workshop on July 20, at the Delhi Civic Center with SU's Regional Coordinator, Elvadás Fields and USDA-Liaison Officer, Orlando Phelps, facilitated. The workshop focused on creating niche crop and organizing marketing co-ops in Northeast Louisiana. Southern's Ag-Center has sponsored a series of beef cattle management workshops in various locations to disseminate pertinent information

for small and limited resource farmers to achieve maximum production from their natural resources. This series of workshops will conclude on August 19, in Farmerville, LA with a beef cattle tour. For further information contact Dr. Dawn Patin 225-771- 2242.

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Health Exam by Terri Snead



On July 28, 2006, representatives from **Mississippi State University's** College of Veterinary Medicine Population Medicine Department traveled to Winston County Self-Help Cooperative's farm just outside of Louisville to evaluate some heifers for the Winston County Self Help Cooperative. Veterinarian Dr. Richard Hopper was accompanied by veterinary technician Terri Snead and 3rd year veterinary students, Mary Frances Logan and Lisa Boals.



The heifers were of good temperament and in excellent body condition. Dr. Hopper and a student palpated each heifer for pregnancy determination. All heifers examined were pregnant and it was determined that the length of their pregnancies ranged between 45 days and 150 days. The heifers farthest along should deliver calves in December 2006; the others should deliver calves by late March 2007.

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The heifers and the bull were given vaccinations and a topical application of dewormer/external parasiticide.

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