FY2015 Agriculture & Natural Resources Impact

Floods to Drought in Sixty Days

Little River County

Total ANR Program Overview		
Educational Contacts	2,248	
Volunteers	15	
Value of Volunteer Hours (\$)	\$1,730	
# of Site Visits	553	
# of Demonstrations	8	

Highlights		
# Pesticide Applicators Trained	127	
# Newsletter Readers	388	
# Gardeners Educated	42	
# Using Crop Budgets	1406	
# Acres Soil Tested	16557	
# Acres 300 Day Grazing	2540	

"Without the assistance of the Extension Service helping us find additional hay and pasture, we would have had to sell over half of our herd."

Billy Neher, Manager Pruet Ranch



Thousands of acres of row crops and pasture destroyed by floods in Little River County.

Relevance

Extreme weather conditions in Little River County caused many producers to change their plans in the middle of the stream. Major flooding in May and June and drought in August and September destroyed over 80% of row crops, covered thousands of acres of pasture and then no rain for crops and pastures to recover.

Response

With producers scrambling to make decisions, the Extension Service held flood recovery meeting in Little River and Miller counties. Row crop, forage and livestock specialists discussed crop and forage options, soil fertility, heard health and recovery strategies. Little River Extension Service assisted beef producers in finding hay and pastures.

Results

Row crop producers selected late season soybean varieties and it appears the irrigated acres will cut decent yields allowing producers some income. By finding hay and pasture, beef producers were able to maintain their inventories and sale calves under their conditions instead of forced sales.



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