

REACH

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION TO ADVANCE CONSERVATION AND HABITAT

The REACH program will be a state-wide, producer driven, “hands on” delivery vehicle, that will provide coordination and support for documenting the benefits of conservation efforts to natural resources and agriculture on specific farms.

REACH will provide scientifically defensible information to support efforts that meet the resource needs of landowners and producers while increasing awareness of sustainable conservation in production agriculture.

The REACH program goal is to create a network of cooperative farms in Mississippi with variable agricultural practices to illustrate the success of conservation practice implementation on landscape stewardship while encouraging profitable and sustainable production systems.



REACH is an innovative, grass-roots collaborative program between Mississippi State University Extension Service, Mississippi Agricultural Forestry Experiment Station, Forest and Wildlife Research Center and Delta F.A.R.M. (Farmers Advocating Resource Management).

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The **REACH** program is producer driven, producer led.

The **REACH** program provides a forum to address producer's agricultural and natural resource concerns at the farm scale that translate to improvements in the production system.

The **REACH** program has a central focus on water resource conservation, however the scope is not limiting and opportunities exist to incorporate other resource concerns such as wildlife habitat and air quality.

The **REACH** program, through its partnerships and collaborations will provide purposeful and intentional practice implementation, evaluation, and education.

How will REACH benefit producers?

REACH will encourage profitable and sustainable agriculture by coordinating interdisciplinary collaborations on specific farms, to address specific interests, from which outcomes can be shared with other producers.

REACH will illustrate the willingness and resolve of Mississippi producers to proactively address natural resource concerns and provide scientifically defensible data to document resource improvements being made.

How will REACH benefit the State of Mississippi?

REACH will quantify and document resource benefits through science, to provide sound justification for federal investments in conservation.

REACH will further efforts that support the health of Mississippi's water resources, both inland and downstream to the Gulf of Mexico.

Contact Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cfr.msstate.edu) or Dan Prevost (dan@deltawildlife.org) for more information.