

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

Program # 6

1. Name of the Planned Program

Forestry

Reporting on this Program

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
121	Management of Range Resources	0%		31%	
122	Management and Control of Forest and Range Fires	20%		0%	
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources	40%		68%	
124	Urban Forestry	10%		0%	
125	Agroforestry	15%		1%	
132	Weather and Climate	5%		0%	
133	Pollution Prevention and Mitigation	5%		0%	
403	Waste Disposal, Recycling, and Reuse	5%		0%	
	Total	100%		100%	

V(C). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Actual amount of FTE/SYs expended this Program

Year: 2013	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	9.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Actual Paid Professional	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Actual Volunteer	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

2. Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
359857	0	8406	0
1862 Matching	1890 Matching	1862 Matching	1890 Matching
359857	0	1195	0
1862 All Other	1890 All Other	1862 All Other	1890 All Other
0	0	133363	0

V(D). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Brief description of the Activity

Research will be conducted in forest production and management, timber harvesting, forest recovery, and environmental impacts of forest practices. Extension programming will be conducted to share this information with forest landowners and industry personnel.

2. Brief description of the target audience

The audience for these programs includes forest landowners, loggers, professional foresters, industry personnel, and the general public.

3. How was eXtension used?

The resources provided through eXtension were used to supplement and enhance our public learning experiences provided by MSU Extension agents and specialists. eXtension was also used as a resource in state-based planning processes. Overall, 233 MSU employees are eXtension users, with 12 new registrations during this reporting period. Further, MSU Extension has 77 employees that serve on one or more of the 78 Communities of Practice (COPs); MSU Extension employees are members of 45 COPs. 13 MSU Extension employees serve as a leader for a COP, leading 9 COPs. 1 MSU Extension employee is a member of the Climate, Forests, and Woodlands COP. 1 MSU Extension employee is a member of the Prescribed Fire COP. 2 MSU Extension personnel are members of the Wood Products COP.

V(E). Planned Program (Outputs)

1. Standard output measures

2013	Direct Contacts Adults	Indirect Contacts Adults	Direct Contacts Youth	Indirect Contacts Youth
Actual	54171	52312	0	0

2. Number of Patent Applications Submitted (Standard Research Output)

Patent Applications Submitted

Year: 2013

Actual: 0

Patents listed

3. Publications (Standard General Output Measure)

Number of Peer Reviewed Publications

2013	Extension	Research	Total
Actual	2	0	0

V(F). State Defined Outputs

Output Target

Output #1

Output Measure

- Number of producers and industry attending seminars, workshops, short courses, and demonstrations.

Year	Actual
2013	17747

V(G). State Defined Outcomes

V. State Defined Outcomes Table of Content

O. No.	OUTCOME NAME
1	Number of timber producers adopting new technologies and practices.
2	Number of timber producers increasing profitability of their forest operations.
3	Number of producers improving their environmental stewardship.
4	Number of producers adopting new practices based on research/extension recommendations
5	Number of producers reporting increased income/decreased expenses based on practice changes.

Outcome #1

1. Outcome Measures

Number of timber producers adopting new technologies and practices.

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Action Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Actual
2013	1775

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

Wood-based bioenergy has received attention in the U.S. due to an increase in awareness from negative environmental consequences of fossil fuels, a need for energy security, and the potential for economic revenue and job creation for rural communities. Forest lands provide ample opportunity for production of wood-based bioenergy. Given their dominance in southern forest lands, nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) landowner willingness to harvest woody biomass for wood-based bioenergy is important to realize sustainable feedstock supplies.

What has been done

To better understand NIPF landowner willingness to supply woody biomass for wood-based bioenergy, a survey of 2,500 NIPF forest landowners having more than 100 ac of forest land was conducted to examine landowner knowledge of wood-based bioenergy and, based on their knowledge, factors affecting NIPF landowner willingness to supply woody biomass for wood-based bioenergy generation.

Results

Almost half the NIPF landowners were unaware of wood-based bioenergy. Those having larger forested acres and pine plantations, being male, and being residents were more likely to know bioenergy could be produced from unused logging residues. Willingness to harvest trees to supply woody biomass (given awareness) was positively related to landowner residence, pine plantation in forest land, age, and opinion regarding monetary benefits of wood-based bioenergy. Results have implications for Extension education. Low income landowners need education related to the emerging wood-based bioenergy market and relevant Extension education services. Economic sustainability of this industry will depend on adequate biomass supplies affected by knowledge and willingness of landowners to supply feed stocks.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
122	Management and Control of Forest and Range Fires
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
124	Urban Forestry
125	Agroforestry
133	Pollution Prevention and Mitigation

Outcome #2

1. Outcome Measures

Number of timber producers increasing profitability of their forest operations.

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Actual
2013	1420

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

During 2013, 125,000 Mississippi forest landowners managed 19,700,000 acres of forest land that produced timber with a harvested value of \$1.17 billion. In 2010, forestry and forest products-related employment accounted for 123,659 or 4.2% of all jobs in MS. Forestry is an essential economic engine to many rural MS counties. County government policies concerning forestry and timber harvesting influence economic activity in this important sector.

What has been done

Documenting the economic contribution of forestry and forest products to a county economy provides valuable information to forestry advocates and benefits landowners. Economic impact analyses were conducted for 72 forested counties in MS. Total impacts, measured by income, employment, total output, and value-added, were reported in an outreach publication series. The 72 individual publications describe the economic impact of the forestry and forest products industry on an entire county economy.

Results

As the housing market improves, demand for dimensional lumber and other forest products is increasing. In 2013, the production value of timber was \$149 million over that of 2012. County government adoption of policies restrictive or overly burdensome to timber harvesting can have negative multiplier effects on local economies and slow recovery. The ability to quantify the economic contribution of forestry and forest products at the county level can benefit forestry and forest products advocates when facing restrictive policies or other objections to timber harvesting. The model of economic contribution described helps government officials and the public understand the economic importance of forestry and forest products and craft policies that demonstrate fiscal prudence and support natural resource-based industries.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
125	Agroforestry

Outcome #3

1. Outcome Measures

Number of producers improving their environmental stewardship.

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Actual
2013	1420

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

Although there are many nurseries in Adams County, MS, it is difficult to find young trees for planting whether it be for forest areas, home lawns, or fruit production. Therefore Adams County Extension personnel partnered with the Soil & Water Conservation Service to start having an annual tree sale in Adams County where bare root seedling trees for all occasions could be offered. Trees sold included fruit & nut trees, trees for home landscaping, and trees for wildlife enhancement.

What has been done

The tree sale was planned to be the same week as Arbor Day in an effort to use it as an educational tool. Over 3,000 trees were purchased and hundreds of pine seedlings were donated for give-away. Local school groups participated in helping mark all of the trees for identification. Every local media source was used for advertisement.

Results

The tree sale was a huge success for the county. Over 2,500 trees were sold with much of the funds going to educational and 4-H programs. There was also an opportunity to go into every school and give an Arbor Day educational program to all 5th graders in the county. Each student was given three pine seedlings to take home with them. Future tree sales are being planned to continue this event that benefits many segments of the community.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
122	Management and Control of Forest and Range Fires
133	Pollution Prevention and Mitigation
403	Waste Disposal, Recycling, and Reuse

Outcome #4

1. Outcome Measures

Number of producers adopting new practices based on research/extension recommendations

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Action Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Actual
2013	1774

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

Approximately 70% of the state of MS is forested, and the majority of that is in private ownership of 100 acres or less. It is essential to the sustainability of the resource and the industry that landowners are knowledgeable in forest management, harvesting, and marketing practices and techniques. The Extension Program of the Department of Forestry at MSU has held a major role for almost 90 years in expanding that knowledge base through educational opportunities for landowners, foresters, loggers, 4-H and youth, and the general public.

What has been done

County forest landowner short courses have been a major part of the Forestry Extension program for several years. These short courses provide intensive training in specific subject areas. Each course typically meets on a one-day basis. Each participant receives a three-ring binder containing reference material on each topic covered during the course to extend the learning experience of each participant.

Results

Twelve landowner short courses were conducted in FY13 with 391 attendees owning 303,118 acres of forestland. These attendees placed a collective value of \$770,700 on the training they received. Planning, coordination, and implementation of short courses are joint efforts of Extension Forestry faculty and staff, county directors, and cooperating organizations. Personnel from other agencies, forest industries, and consulting firms serve as instructors for some course topics. While the courses are primarily designed for landowners, many professional foresters attend and benefit from the intensive training. The knowledge gained through these short courses and the networking opportunities provided contribute to the continued success and sustainability for the forestry industry in MS.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
122	Management and Control of Forest and Range Fires
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
124	Urban Forestry
403	Waste Disposal, Recycling, and Reuse

Outcome #5

1. Outcome Measures

Number of producers reporting increased income/decreased expenses based on practice changes.

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Actual
2013	1420

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

The first-line supervisor is typically the backbone of manufacturing and responsible for many elements of production and personnel. While formal education and training exist for other professionals, the first-line supervisor is usually thrust into a position of accountability and responsibility with little preparation or continued education. This is true for many supervisors in furniture manufacturing. Most have advanced to their position from within the plant and are tasked with providing leadership and technical assistance without training in soft skills.

What has been done

In response to the need for a training program specifically geared towards supervisory-level personnel, FFI developed the Training Program. This course provides training on-site at manufacturing plants to supervisors and key employees hoping to become supervisors. Skills taught include communication, leadership, and management, as well as modern manufacturing techniques. The course is delivered in four modules each consisting of 12 in-class hours of instruction, and participants must pass tests at the end of each module.

Results

The supervisory management training program remains the most requested service available through FFI. During FY13, 4 companies with a total of 47 participants enrolled in the management training program and 94% completed all sessions. Implementation of each course has been shown to provide substantial savings for participating companies, as well as improving skills, efficiencies, and technical knowledge of graduates of the program. Although designed for supervisory level, many middle managers, as well as those at the upper management level such as CEOs and plant managers, have participated in the course. Requests for the program extend beyond the furniture manufacturing cluster, and it is now available to any manufacturing sector.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
125	Agroforestry

V(H). Planned Program (External Factors)

External factors which affected outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Appropriations changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges

Brief Explanation

{No Data Entered}

V(I). Planned Program (Evaluation Studies)

Evaluation Results

MSU Extension agents and specialists, as well as MAFES faculty, used a variety of recommended methods to gather needed information. Specific strategies were initiated and utilized for collecting evaluation information to determine program outputs and outcomes (see impact statements for examples). In FY 2013, MSU Extension agents and specialists were required to submit four quarterly reports (January, April, July, and September). This quarterly report collects information about the number of contacts, types of contacts, and number of programs conducted in each Priority Planning Area. In addition, two narrative Accomplishment Reports are required from each MSU Extension employee each year. Finally, a specific request for impact statements is also made. The evaluation results are a combination of this quantitative and qualitative data.

Our Planned Program Areas (PPAs) changed in 2013 - a reduction from over 20 PPAs in 2012 to 10 for this current reporting cycle. Previous PPAs of Forest Products, Forestry, Climate, and Sustainable Energy were combined into Forestry. Given the time it takes to adapt an electronic reporting system and ensure all end-users are trained and understand how to report in new ways and new PPAs, our outcome data matching process required modification for 2013. As a result, some of our numbers may appear skewed from previous ones. This reduction of PPAs and thus combination of outcomes led to some outcomes within each PPA being very similar for 2013. Our reporting system would not allow us to make detailed distinctions at this point in time, so numbers were evenly distributed across those similar outcomes when appropriate. As our data collection system evolves over the next year or two, we will be able to more clearly align the various data elements within the system to resolve this issue.

Key Items of Evaluation