



# ROW CROP SHORT COURSE SUPPORTS PRODUCERS AND INDUSTRY

## Challenges

- The annual Row Crop Short Course connects Mississippians in agriculture with industry professionals, Extension experts, and university researchers, providing insights on current agricultural challenges and solutions.
- The short course offers opportunities for license renewals, recertifications, and earning CEU credits.
- Extension faculty/researchers from across the southern region provide practical solutions that help producers optimize their inputs, reduce costs, and improve overall crop management efficiency.

## Extension Response

The annual 2.5-day event at The Mill at MSU draws about 700 attendees. The economic impact analysis is based on a survey that represents **964,030 acres**.

- MSU faculty and industry experts provided information on row crop pest management, fertility, irrigation, cover crops, agronomy, agricultural policy, and farm management.
- Survey results showed that **92% of respondents** agreed or strongly agreed that they increased their knowledge from the short course, and 94% planned to share what they learned during the event with others. 82% of respondents expected to use resource materials provided during the short course.
- Participants reported expected earnings per acre from knowledge gained during the short course, with corn, cotton, and soybeans being the most represented commodities.
- These earnings estimates were used in IMPLAN, an economic modeling software, to assess the short course's financial impact on the state.
- Estimated increases in proprietor income were calculated by multiplying the dollar-per-acre average by participant total acreage, reflecting the direct financial gains to participants.
- The total value added to production for corn, cotton, hay, peanuts, pine timber, rice, soybeans, and wheat is **\$17,106,398**.

## Economic Impacts

- Total impact: The Row Crop Short Course contributed **\$214 million** in total output to Mississippi businesses.
- Direct impacts: 468 jobs added within row crop sectors, **\$124.4 million** in output (sales) generated in row crop agriculture, and **\$24.9 million** in labor income added to row crop sectors.
- Indirect impacts: Industries supporting row crop agriculture (e.g., seed, fertilizer, and equipment companies) saw an additional 465 jobs added, **\$60.2 million** in output, and **\$20.6 million** in labor income.
- Induced impacts: Household spending from employees in row crop and supporting industries resulted in 181 jobs added, **\$29.4 million** in output, and **\$7.9 million** in labor income.



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