

NEWS NOTES

New Extension Dairy Specialist



Lamar Adams

A Mississippi State University Extension Service employee with 22 years of experience in county-level programming for agricultural and natural resources, 4-H, consumer education and community development is the new statewide dairy specialist.

Lamar Adams, who was Extension director in Walthall County, began his new job May 1. Adams will develop educational programs for dairy producers throughout the state as a faculty member in MSU's Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences.

"Having been a part of Mississippi's dairy industry essentially all of my life, I understand the opportunities and challenges facing our producers," Adams said. "I plan to provide leadership and support by developing, implementing and evaluating programs to meet the needs of the industry."

Adams worked as 4-H youth agent in Smith County before moving to Walthall County to serve as agricultural agent. He later became county director and began work on a doctorate in agricultural and extension education at MSU.

"Lamar has extensive experience working with the dairy industry and is highly regarded by producers," said Terry Kiser, animal and dairy sciences department head. "His appointment as our Extension dairy specialist comes at a crucial time because of the serious economic situation in the dairy industry."

Adams said he will be involved with regional and national Extension programming for milk marketing and herd management strategies. He also said he plans to network with Louisiana State University personnel as part of a long-standing agreement between the two universities to share research and educational resources.

Gale R. Ammerman Remembered

Professor emeritus of food service and technology Gale R. Ammerman passed away on April 21, 2009. Ammerman had a long career with MSU as a professor of food service and technology and as the first head of the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department.

"Dr. Ammerman could be called the 'Father of Food Science' at MSU," said Benjy Mikel, head of Food Science, Nutrition and Health Promotion. "It was his unrelenting attitude in the late '60s and early '70s that helped MSU be recognized by the state Legislature as the flagship program for food science in the state."

Mikel said that in addition to Ammerman's leadership abilities, he was also a world-class teacher and researcher. He could bring the "real world" into the classroom for students because of his extensive background in the food industry. Ammerman led many efforts in the research arena to add value to farm-raised catfish products.

After 23 years, he retired and became professor emeritus. The Ammerman-Hearnberger Pilot Food Processing Lab is named in his honor.



Bob Ratliff

Recipients of the 2009 Rosalind and Rodney Foil Teamwork Award presented by Interim Vice President Melissa Mixon (center) are assistant professor David Christiansen (left), professor Richard Hopper, professor Peter Ryan and clinical instructor Kevin Walters. Christiansen, Hopper and Walters are with the College of Veterinary Medicine's Pathobiology/Population Medicine Department, and Ryan is a member of the Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences



Patti Drapala

Recipients of the William M. White Awards are Wayne Porter (left), area specialist with the MSU Extension Service; Charles Mischke, MSU Delta Research and Extension Center; Sam Riddell, MSU Forest and Wildlife Research Center; Din-Pow Ma, MSU Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; and Filip To, MSU Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering. Not pictured are Menghe Li and Danny Oberle of the MSU Delta Research and Extension Center.

Recipients of the Louis and Doris Wise Support Staff Awards are Lowell Wilson (left), MAFES Research Support unit, professional/nonprofessional category; Sean Horton, MSU Delta Research and Extension Center, service/maintenance category; and Joy Odom, MSU Department of Agricultural Economics, secretarial/clerical category. With the honorees is Doris Wise.



Patti Drapala



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Recipients of the Rosalind and Rodney Foil Teamwork Award are Kevin Walters (left) and David Christiansen of MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine. With the honorees are Rodney and Rosalind Foil.