

Notes from Vision 2030: Agronomic Task Force meeting

June 30, 2025

Members:

Jeff Gore
Jason Bond
Don Cook
Whitney Crow
Brian Pieralisi
Vaughn Reed
Jagman Dhillon
Will Maples
Steve Martin

The Agronomic Crops Task Force met in the Savely Conference at Stoneville MS

Task force suggested adding three external members. One from each of the areas listed below:

Representative from Delta Council
Representative from Farm Bureau
Representative from the Ag Lending industry

Additional Challenges and Opportunities were discussed and are listed below

- Opportunity / Challenge - Greater partnership with Community Colleges to offer either degree programs locally or online that match labor needs
- Opportunity / Challenge - More defined and extensive internships so that students have a marketable skill once completed
- Opportunity / Challenge – incentives to develop infrastructure in Mississippi to further process ag output
- Opportunity - provide certificate programs or micro credentials for specific agricultural needs such as Farm Management training; Farm pesticide record keeping; other

- Opportunity - Specialty crops that are grown similar to current crops- long staple cotton, brown cotton or others with brand possible recognition attached
- Opportunity – take advantage of river proximity to either reduce costs of traditional agricultural production or segregate ag output for market enhancement
- Challenge- transition of farmland to solar or wind energy

Challenges were left open to add additional challenges once external members were added.

Next meeting to be determined once external task force members are identified.