



Minutes Franklin Parish ANR Advisory Leadership Council

The Franklin Parish ANR Row Crop Advisory Leadership Council met in the Extension Auditorium on April 20, 2009 at 12:00 noon. Present were Keith Bringol, Hank Jones, Clark McCain, Matt Raley, Paul Till and Rusty Wiggers. Ricky Campbell, Jr., Kevin Graham and John Earl Carroll were absent. Carol Pinnell-Alison, County Agent, Dr. Roger Leonard, LSU AgCenter Cotton Entomologist and Dr. Bill Williams, LSU AgCenter Weed Scientist participated in the meeting.

The new committee members and guests were introduced. The role of the council was reviewed. The minutes from the last council meeting were read.

The members were asked to give input on educational program areas that needed to be addressed by the LSU AgCenter in the parish. The five top committee issues were:

- Need information on the basics of crop fertilization including nutrient function in the plant.
- Facilitate discussions on how to use information gathered from utilizing precision agriculture.
- Continue to distribute information on potential weed resistance.
- Offer educational programs or fact sheet on the different ways to market crops.
- Provide information on stink bug identification and control in row crops.

Other discussions included improving the consistency of graders of grain quality. There has been too much difference in the grades given to grain. Council members have a concern that the general public is receiving a negatively skewed picture of the agriculture industry. They see a need to provide a more balanced message to the public on the role of agriculture in our society. Possibly putting more emphasis on the *Ag in the Classroom* program or 4-H/FFA in the schools may increase the public knowledge and awareness of agriculture.

There was no further discussion and the meeting was adjourned.

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