

*Title:*

Evaluation of Automatic Section Control Technology for Agricultural Sprayers

*Principal Investigators:*

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*Justification and Procedures:*

Automatic section control technology has been readily adopted by farmers over the past few years on sprayers. However, recent research at Auburn University conducted by the investigators has illustrated that off-rate application can occur more frequently than expected when utilizing this technology in conjunction with spray controllers. Therefore, additional research is needed to minimize off-rate application when using this technology.

We propose to conduct both lab and field experiments to better quantify off-rate application that could occur with this technology. We would also like to determine possible solutions through this study that can benefit farmers utilizing this technology to ensure quality spray application. Through this project we will also document benefits of automatic section as related to Alabama crop production. Beyond the normal reporting for this project, we plan to develop extension material on the topic of automatic section control that will be delivered through the Alabama Precision Agriculture website.

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