

Precision Agriculture For Alabama Livestock Producers

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In this Presentation

- What We did
- Why We did it
- Successes that occurred because of this project

Step 1 – Acquire money for travel and equipment



Step 2 – Purchase Equipment and learn to use it



Purchased 2 Trimble EZ Guide 250 Guidance Systems

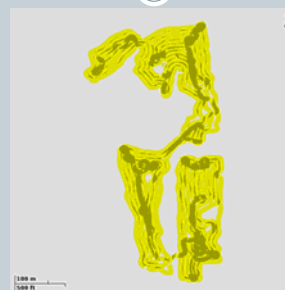
Agent Training took place at research stations in Clanton and Brewton Alabama

Step 3 – Get the equipment on producers farms



Robbie Nichols – Poultry, Cattle, Certified Animal Waste Vendor
Chuck Madaris – Purebred and Commercial Cattle
Bill Huneycutt – Commercial Cattle

Step 4 – Assist producers and Collect data



Step 5 – Use available outlets to tell others



600 views
Video used in numerous presentations



Step 6 – Take the message to the people



Regional Field Day Held at the Mid-State Stockyard in Letohatchee
3 Production meetings held in south and west Alabama
Livestock and Forage track included in the Alabama Precision Ag Conference

Benefits of Precision Ag for Forage Producers

- Guidance systems allow more accurate applications of inputs to crops
- Reduction in application overlap with the use of GPS guidance systems has been estimated as much as 8.5% in row crops
 - Financial and environmental advantages for producers

Benefits of Precision Ag for Forage Producers



Benefits of Precision Ag for Forage Producers

- In 2008:
- Average per head cost for:

○ Soil Fertility	97.05
○ Pesticides	25.35
○ Seed	41.39
○ Machine hire/lease	36.21
○ Fuel and oil	109.96
× Total	309.96

 - × 10 % savings using precision agriculture - \$31 per head

Benefits of Precision Ag for Extension

- Offers source of validity with producers
- Offers a chance for people within extension to work together
- Offers a chance to network between academia, production agriculture, and industry
 - Producers
 - Mid- State Stockyards
 - Mid-South Tractors
 - Trimble
 - Ag-Spray

Prospects for the future

- We have grant monies to do 2 more large regional meetings this fall
- Hopefully this leads to even more adoption of technology
- The 2008 Alabama State Agriculture Overview shows forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop to be 883,196 acres. Potential state savings using 10% average savings per acre (238.29 per acre – Alabama cow/calf budget for summer pasture and winter annuals) could be as much as \$21,000,000. Assuming 15% adoption rates this could realistically mean as much as \$3,000,000 savings for producers.

Thank you

Questions ?

Ken Kelley