

## Cooperators

While performing our plant and technology development work, cooperation is needed at all levels to make progress in our program. The following is a partial list of cooperators who have participated in the plant materials programs:

- ◆ Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Stations
- ◆ Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission
- ◆ USDA, Agriculture Research Service
- ◆ Mississippi Seed Improvement Association
- ◆ Mississippi Department of Transportation
- ◆ Alcorn State, Mississippi State University
- ◆ Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- ◆ USDA, NRCS, Wildlife Habitat Institute
- ◆ USDA, NRCS, Wetlands Institute
- ◆ Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service

## PMC Plant Releases

- ‘Quail Haven’ reseeding soybean
- ‘Halifax’ maidencane
- ‘Meechee’ arrowleaf clover
- ‘Chiwapa’ Japanese millet
- ‘Wilmington’ bahiagrass
- Lark Selection partridge pea
- Leflore Source creeping burhead
- Indian Bayou Source powdery thalia
- Leaf River Source woolgrass

## Visitors are Welcome

Visitors are welcome at the Jamie L. Whitten PMC. The center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Please call in advance for group tours.

Jamie L. Whitten Plant Materials Center  
2533 Co. Rd. 65  
Coffeeville, MS 38922  
Phone: (662) 675-2588  
Fax: (662) 675-2369

The PMC is located half-way between Jackson, MS and Memphis, TN just off I-55. To visit the center, take the Tillatoba Exit (220) and travel 4.5 miles east on Hwy 330.

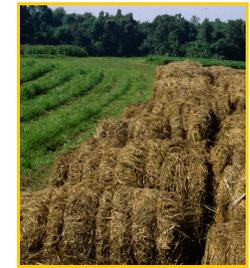
## Additional Information

Visit the Plant Materials Program website to find more information on solving conservation problems using plants.

<http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>

To obtain information on conservation uses of various plant materials, contact your local NRCS field office. To obtain seed or plants, contact your local NRCS field office or the PMC for a list of local vendors.

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# Jamie L. Whitten Plant Materials Center



## What We Do...

The Jamie L. Whitten Plant Materials Center (PMC), located near Coffeeville, Mississippi, is operated by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). This PMC is one of a national network of plant centers dedicated to providing vegetative solutions to conservation problems.

Our mission is to develop, test, and transfer effective state-of-the-art plant science technology to meet customer and resource needs. Our program has an excellent internal system for identifying future plant materials needs, coupled with a seamless system of product development and program delivery. Product highlights include:

- Plant Guides, Fact Sheets, Technical Notes, and Newsletters
- Cultural specifications for plant materials used in USDA Farm Bill Programs
- Provide plant information for NRCS Conservation Practice Standards
- Production protocols for seed and plant industry
- Seed and Plant Vendors Guides
- Plant Technology Update

In working with a broad range of plant species, including grasses, forbs, trees, and shrubs, the PMC seeks to address priority needs of NRCS field offices and land managers in both public and private sectors.

## Program Objectives

The Jamie L. Whitten PMC works closely with NRCS field offices and land managers on a broad range of conservation concerns and issues. Our service area includes Mississippi, the delta areas of Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Missouri, Kentucky and the Blackland prairie of Alabama.



## Conservation Objectives

The Jamie L. Whitten PMC concentrates on selecting plants and developing technology to address the following natural resource concerns:

- Reducing soil erosion on cropland
- Improving and protecting the quality of surface and groundwater
- Improving productivity of pasture and grazing lands
- Protecting, creating and restoring wetlands, riparian areas, buffers and streambanks
- Providing protective cover and restoring disturbed areas
- Improving wildlife and wetland habitats
- Promoting use of native plants
- Production and distribution of native wildflowers

## Selection Process

When conservation problems are identified, the PMC searches for the best plant or plants to solve the problem. The process of developing and testing promising plant materials involves the following consecutive stages:

### Assembly of Plants

Individual plants are collected from native stands of the desired species within the region. An accession number is assigned to identify the plant during evaluation, increase and storage.



### Initial Evaluation

Individual plant performance is observed in a nursery setting. Plant performance is evaluated recording positive and negative characteristics of the plant.

### Seed Increase

The most promising plants are selected and production of seed or plants is initiated on the center. The goal is to develop a production protocol to generate materials for advanced evaluation.

### Advanced Evaluation and Field Plantings

Cultural and management techniques are tested to determine establishment and production characteristics and guidelines. Final evaluations of selected plants are conducted in the field under diverse environmental conditions.

### Release of Plant

Along with cooperating agencies, NRCS will name the new release, describe its conservation benefits and make it available to growers.

