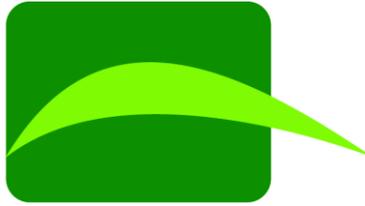


**ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 9/7/2015

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Arkansas State Plant Board Names Otis Howe as Chairman to Board of Directors

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. – The Arkansas State Plant Board (ASPB) has named Otis Howe of Little Rock as the new Chairman to the ASPB Board of Directors. Howe replaces George Tidwell of Lonoke, who has been Chairman of the Board for the last 15 years. Howe is a field representative for DuPont Pioneer, a world leader in seed supply and advanced plant genetics. He has served on the ASPB Board for 20 years.

“Otis is a thoughtful leader. His calm, collected nature will serve the Arkansas State Plant Board, Arkansas citizens, and the agricultural community well. When he speaks, people listen. We look forward to working under his leadership,” said ASPB Director, Darryl Little. “We also appreciate the years of loyal, dedicated service from outgoing Chairman George Tidwell,” he added.

The ASPB Board of Directors is comprised of 18 members appointed by the Governor, and represents various agricultural industries and associations across Arkansas, as well as the University of Arkansas. The ASPB Board of Directors promulgates regulations and administers enforcement for over 30 laws that impact agriculture and the general public in the State, and has done so in Arkansas since 1917.

The mission of the Arkansas State Plant Board is to protect and serve the citizens of Arkansas and the agricultural and business communities by providing information and unbiased enforcement of laws and regulations thus ensuring quality products and services. Visit www.plantboard.arkansas.gov and aad.arkansas.gov for more information.

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