

ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

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PRESS NOTICE

Arkansas Agriculture Board to Meet August 3, 2011

The Arkansas Agriculture Board will meet at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 3, 2011 in the board room of the University of Arkansas System Administration Office at 2404 North University Avenue in Little Rock.

The meeting will review weather prospects for the 2011 harvest season; production and market prospects for Arkansas crops, livestock, timber and aquaculture and discuss several federal regulations with potential impact on Arkansas agriculture.

The Arkansas Agriculture Board was established when the Arkansas Agriculture Department was formed in August 2005. The board is to advise the secretary on matters related to Arkansas agriculture. It includes twenty-one members from across the state representing varying agricultural, forestry and related interests and eight ex-officio members from state institutions of higher education and conservation districts.

Chairperson of the board is Sam E. Angel, II of Lake Village who serves on the Arkansas Rural Development Commission. Vice chairperson is Charles Rodgers, Jr. of Rison, past president of the Arkansas Cattlemen's Association.

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Tentative Agenda
Arkansas Agriculture Board
August 3, 2011

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Introductions.
4. Consider minutes of May 4, 2011 meeting.
5. Weather prospects for 2011 harvest season.
 John Lewis, senior weather forecaster
 National Weather Service, North Little Rock
6. Review production and marketing prospects for Arkansas crops, livestock, forest products and aquaculture.
7. Review departmental and agencies activities.
8. Review department's financial report for fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.
9. Review department's response to Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's request for comments on regulations applicable to farm vehicles.
10. Discuss issues related to introducing miscanthus giganteus as a crop to be grown in eastern Arkansas.
11. Discuss issues related to a proposal by USDA/APHIS to deregulate movement of rough rice which might introduce the panicle rice mite into U.S. rice growing areas.
12. Discuss need to defer, due to spring floods, EPA's regulations regarding spill containment on farms.
13. Other Business.
14. Adjournment.