

Resolution

Soil and Water Resources

Adoption of Water-Conserving Practices and Interagency Cooperation

Delta Council encourages its Directors and membership to adopt the latest technologies and conservation practices such as technologies aimed at reducing water use, while not compromising yield potential. Science, field trials, and education outreach programs have clearly demonstrated that retrofitting of pivot irrigation systems installed for cotton production *agriculture*, computerized hole selection, moisture sensors which enables irrigation scheduling, surge valves, alternate wetting and drying (AWD), and side inlet on flood irrigation, ~~practices~~, all have a role in maximizing water use efficiency and cost-savings in most cropping situations. Delta Council urges its membership to access information from the Stoneville Crop Research and Extension team of USDA and the Delta Research and Extension Center-MSU in order to take timely action in adopting practices which conserve water, save dollars, and sustain yields.

Delta Council remains committed to working with the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Joint Water Management District as the central voice of Delta water resource planning and the resulting recommendations which are periodically forwarded to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality as the lead State agency for the State of Mississippi. Such efforts to establish water balance should be coordinated in cooperation with Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Delta F.A.R.M., Soil and Water Conservation Commission and Districts, the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Geological Survey, ARS-USDA, and other local public officials in the region.

Delta Council supports Congressional action to include agricultural water supply in the mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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