



Fifth Annual Risk Management & Community Outreach Conference

'Healthy Land, Profitable Family Farms and Sustainable Future'
November 15–16, 2007, Holiday Inn, Downtown Huntsville, Alabama

TARGET AUDIENCE: Extension Personnel, Farmers, Landowners, Farm and Agribusiness Management Specialists, Education Personnel, Community Leaders, Government Officials, and the General Public

The Small Farms Research Center at Alabama A&M University will host its 5th Annual Risk Management and Community Outreach Conference, November 15-16, 2007, at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Downtown Huntsville, Alabama. This two-day conference is open to the public particularly extension agents, agricultural professionals, farmers, ranchers and land owners.

Opening Keynote Speaker, November 15, 2007: U.S. Congressman Artur

Davis (Representative for Alabama's 7th Congressional District). U.S. Representative Artur Davis is beginning his third term in Congress. He represents Alabama's 7th Congressional District, a twelve county area that spans from Birmingham and Tuscaloosa to the Black Belt. After only two terms in U.S. Congress, Representative Davis has earned recognition as a productive and effective legislator who has set a new standard of service for his constituents. Congressman Davis' strong legislative track record in Washington is matched with an active presence in his West Alabama district. He has chaired the Health Care Subcommittee of Governor Bob Riley's Black Belt Action Commission, an effort that has led to expanded delivery of vital services throughout the Black Belt. Congressman Davis cares about the plight of small and limited resource farmers and underserved communities.



Luncheon Keynote Speaker, November 15, 2007: Dr. William Gaines Smith.

Dr. Gaines Smith is the Director of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES). Under his leadership, the myriad services that ACES provides have flourished and continue to grow. A 1981 graduate of Auburn University, Dr. Smith is a great supporter of the risk management and community outreach efforts at AAMU.



Dr. Robert W. Jennings, Alabama A&M University President, will be in attendance to greet and welcome conference attendees. And our very own, **Dr. Robert W. Taylor**, Dean of the School of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (SAES) will preside over the opening session.



Banquet Keynote Speaker, November 15, 2007: Ms. Sibyl Wright.

Ms. Wright is with USDA/Food Safety and Inspection Service's Policy Chief Operating Office in Washington, D.C. She is responsible for implementing food safety outreach projects to help small animal producers and processors. She also serves as the *Agency's Outreach and Small Farm Coordinator*. Ms. Wright resides in Maryland with her husband and pets.



Closing and Luncheon Keynote Speaker on November 16, 2007: Mr. William "Bill" Buchanan.

Mr. Buchanan is the Director of USDA/Risk Management Agency's Civil Rights and Community Outreach Division. The mission of this Division is to ensure that small and limited resource farmers, ranchers and other underserved individuals have opportunities to fully participate in ALL RMA's programs and benefit from the services. The Agency's outreach programs are implemented through several partnership agreements with community based-organizations, colleges and universities, state departments of agriculture and other partners that share USDA/RMA's mission to provide outreach and technical assistance to small and limited resource farmers and ranchers.



TOPICS TO BE COVERED: The conference will cover a wide range of issues including, but not limited to: estate planning, the 2007 Farm Bill, alternative enterprises, land loss prevention, sustainable agriculture, business planning, farm financial management, record keeping, marketing opportunities, value-added agriculture, organic production, food safety and biosecurity, cooperative development, rural entrepreneurship, crop insurance, and women-in-agriculture.

PLEASE NOTE **Everyone Must Pre-register**

There is NO registration fee for Alabama producers, agricultural professionals and extension personnel, but everyone must pre-register. The number of scholarships (room and board only) is limited, so call to register and reserve your spot. There is a nominal registration charge of \$100 for out-of-state individuals who wish to attend the conference. This charge covers two-night's hotel accommodation, food and conference materials. The last day to pre-register is October 26, 2007.

To register and for more information, please contact E'lacia L. Chaverest at 1-866-858-4970.

Sponsored by AAMU's Small Farms Research Center, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, USDA/Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES), and USDA/RMA/Community Outreach and Assistance Partnership Program

