



# Field Notes

By: Ernie Flint, Ph.D., CCA, Regional Specialist - Agronomy  
Mississippi State University Extension Service

## How early is too early to plant?

During an informal meeting with growers in one of the southern counties last week one of the producers asked one of the basic questions that cross our minds almost every year, and especially in years like this one when there are a lot of early days that are suitable for field work. The question was “How early is too early for planting soybeans?”

When he asked this question I quickly recalled the summary of the years of work done by Dr. Larry Heatherly at Stoneville, MS which described the results of his work with the Early Soybean Planting System (ESPS). Since I know that Dr. Heatherly sometimes reads these articles I will not take a guess at how many years of data went into this summary, but I know that it was enough years to allow for much of the normal variation in our weather pattern.

When we look at the results of this work we can quickly see the impact it had on our planting practices today in that we normally suggest that soybeans be planted in that mid-April window where the highest yield averages were achieved. However, this result does not mean that soybeans can’t be planted a lot earlier than that, or later for that matter.

When we think about early planting of crops the first thing that crosses our minds is the possibility of winter kill, but that is actually less of a problem for corn or even soybean than we might tend to believe. Cotton, on the other hand, is very sensitive to winter kill since it can be destroyed by just a light frost during the early growth stages.

Corn has an advantage over

the broadleaf crops in that the meristem or growing point of the plant is below the surface of the soil, especially when the seed are placed at the proper depth of at least two inches. Corn plants can be frost-burned to the point of almost total loss of the above ground portion and then reemerge from the undamaged growing point to produce healthy plants and good yields.

Soybean plants also can tolerate quite a bit of cold weather if they have emerged. During the time that growers were experimenting with ESPS quite a few growers planted soybeans in mid to late March. These fields would often survive frost to recover and produce good yields as can be seen from the result of the planting date research done by Dr. Heatherly and his associates.

The other factor for soybean plants is that when planted earlier than the optimal dates in April many varieties will begin flowering soon after emergence because of the day-length trigger that causes these plants to initiate their reproductive phase. These plants will often be shorter in height that they would have been if planted at the “correct” time. The internodes will be much shorter, but in most cases the yield will be good. A problem that is sometimes seen with planting on these very early dates is that pods will be set so low on the plant that they are difficult to harvest. I have seen situations in which significant loss was caused by this problem.

So the real question is not so much how early is too early but how early is too early for soybean plants to grow and produce their seeds normally and be harvested efficiently? That date is in what we sometimes refer to as the “sweet spot” in mid April. And from what I have seen through the years this applies to both MG4 and MG5 varieties.

As with any crop, varieties do vary in their reaction to planting date as well as other factors when they are planted in the “real world”. This is the reason I suggest that producers not only study the variety trials but also try varieties on their own farms to prove their adaptation to the soils, weather, and production practices there. Let the plants tell you themselves what they prefer.

Thanks for your time.

## Obituary

### ELSIE U. MARKS

Elsie Upchurch Marks, 91, passed away on Thursday, March 2, 2017. Funeral services were held on Sunday, March 5, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at Southern Funeral Home in Lexington. Burial was in Pinecrest Cemetery in Tchula.

## Classified Ads



# Classified Advertisements

## Town of Cruger

The Town of Cruger is seeking a candidate to send to the Police Academy to become a certified officer to work for the town. The candidates will go through an interview process and will have to sign a contract. We are also seeking a part-time police officer to work for the Cruger Community. Apply by resume. Resumes may be sent to Town of Cruger, P. O. Box 214, Cruger, MS 38924 or dropped off at 225 Railroad Street, Cruger, MS 38924.

# Classifieds

**Holmes County School District**  
Post Office Box 630  
Lexington, MS 39095

**Dr. Angel Meeks, Superintendent of Education**  
2016-2017 School Term

The mission of the Holmes County School District is to Prepare Students to Graduate from **HOLMES** College and Career Ready.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCIES**  
Fixed Assets Clerk  
Assistant Maintenance Director

For the complete job descriptions and qualifications, visit our website at:

**www.holmescountyschools.com**  
(go to: employment opportunities link)

Mr. George Jones, Human Resources Director  
gjones@holmes.k12.ms.us

Applications will be accepted through March 23, 2017.

The Holmes County School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the bases of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, or disability.

## Classified Ads

**SECONDARY SCHOOL** teacher: to work in Holmes County School Dist. MS. **Req:** Bachelor's degree or Foreign equiv. in Math or Science or Education and 60 Months teaching experience. Should possess State of Mississippi teaching license. Responsibilities: to provide a rigorous high-quality education in challenging range of classroom conditions for high school 9-12th grade students from diverse ethnic, financial and academic back grounds. Teach courses pertaining to Secondary School Mathematics, Calculus, mathematical concepts and general science. Enforce all high school administration policies and rules governing students More details @ <http://www.holmescountyschools.com/Employment.aspx> Salary: 47190.00 / Year. Resume to: Holmes County School Dist 313 Olive St Lexington MS 39095.

3-9f

**TRAILER & EQUIPMENT** World. Mid-South's largest selection. 662-563-9428. Southland Co., Batesville, MS. 3-2---4-27p

# LIST WITH US!

# FREE

## HOLMES COUNTY HERALD CLASSIFIED LISTINGS

- **25 words max. for three weeks. Any longer in word count or run time and listing must be paid for.**
- **Must be submitted by U.S. Mail, faxed or in person. No phone calls. No emails. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS FRIDAY BY NOON FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK'S EDITION.**
- **Classifieds are a personal, single sale item listing. (i.e. House for sale/rent, car, boat, free dog/cat)**
- **Items must be located in Holmes County only.**
- **No job listings, Avon, Mary Kay, YARD SALES, produce, etc.**
- **The Herald reserves the right to edit or withhold content.**



**FAX TO:**  
662-834-1074

**MAIL TO:**  
P.O. Box 60  
Lexington, MS 39095

### Adoption

**PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION?** Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 877-824-0639

### Auto Auctions

**ABSOLUTE AUTO AUCTION - MARCH 11.** Fulton Auto Auction. 405 E. Main St., Fulton, MS 38843. Open to the Public. Sells where is, as is. Pre-register at 662-862-7374. For complete list and more info visit our web site at [www.fultonautoauction.com](http://www.fultonautoauction.com).

### Business Opp.

**OPPORTUNITY TO GET PAID DAILY.** Great Home Business. Please call 832-225-5055 first. Ask about \$100 cash referral! Fred, 601-202-4477, fredcornell@legalshieldassociate.com. LegalShield, Independent **Associate.**

### Employment-General

**LOCAL DRIVERS WANTED!** Be your own boss. Flexible hours. Unlimited earning potential. Must be 21 with valid U.S. drivers license, insurance and reliable vehicle. Call 888-406-8989

### Employment-Medical

*Statewide Needs*  
**RN's, LPN's & CNA's**

8 & 12-hr shifts  
PRN & Part-time  
Sign-on Bonus with great pay.

*Jackson-Metro Needs*  
**CMA's, MT's & Receptionists**

Call staffing @  
**601-933-0037.**  
[southernhealthcare.com](http://southernhealthcare.com)

### Employment-Trucking

**DRIVER TRAINEES NOW** Being Trained and Hired for McElroy Truck Lines. **NO OTR! GUARANTEED HOME EVERY WEEKEND!** •Local CDL Training• Earn \$55k - \$60k. Call today. **1-888-540-7364.**

### Health & Wellness

**ATTENTION SMOKERS:** Stop smoking with TBX-FREE! Clinically proven & FDA Approved! More effective than patch or gum! Fast acting - No Side Effects. 88% success rate! Just \$1.67 per day! Call 844-359-8767

### Insurance

**FUNERALS CAN BE VERY EXPENSIVE.** Can your loved ones afford it? Protect them with Final Expense Insurance. Call today to learn more: 800-614-1908

### Miscellaneous

**DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY.** Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-400-8263

**GOT AN OLDER CAR, BOAT OR RV?** Do the humane thing. Donate it to the Humane Society. Call 1-800-705-6787.

### Services-General

**DISH TV - BEST DEAL EVER!** Only \$39.99/mo. Plus \$14.99/month Internet (where available). FREE Streaming. FREE Install (up to 6 rooms.) FREE HD-DVR. CALL 1-800-319-2526

**SWITCH TO DIRECTV.** From \$50/Month, includes FREE Genie HD/DVR & 3 months HBO, SHOWTIME, CINEMAX, STARZ. Get a \$50 Gift Card. Call 855-743-4753

**SWITCH TO DIRECTV.** Lock in 2-Year Price Guarantee (\$50/month) w/AT&T Wireless. Over 145 Channels PLUS Popular Movie Networks for Three Months, No Cost! Call 1- 800-215-6713

**STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING** at discounted rates. To place your ad call Sue at 601-981-3060.

### Services-Legal

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS:** You may qualify for Disability if you have a health condition that prevents you from working for a year or more. Call now! 844-488-4549

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS.** Unable to work? Denied benefits? We can help! WIN or pay nothing! Start your application today! Call Bill Gordon & Associates. 1-800-706-3616.

### Services-Medical

**A PLACE FOR MOM.** The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE - no obligation. Call 1-800-514-5471.

**Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS!** A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - \$99 + FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 844-821-3242

**DIGITAL HEARING AIDS** - Now offering a 45-Day Risk Free Offer! FREE BATTERIES for Life! Call to start your free trial! 855-701-0210

**GOT KNEE PAIN? BACK PAIN? SHOULDER PAIN?** Get a pain-relieving brace at little or NO cost to you. Medicare Patients call Health Hotline Now! 1-800-971-0493

### Services-Medical

**LIVING WITH KNEE OR BACK PAIN?** Medicare recipients may qualify to receive a pain relieving brace at little or no cost. Call now! 877-863-6359

**OXYGEN - ANYTIME. ANYWHERE.** No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 888-964-0893

**STOP OVERPAYING FOR YOUR PRESCRIPTIONS! SAVE!** Call our licensed Canadian and International pharmacy, compare prices and get \$25 off your first prescription! Call 1-800-823-2564. Promo Code CDC201625.

**STOP OVERPAYING FOR YOUR PRESCRIPTIONS! SAVE!** Call our licensed Canadian and International pharmacy, compare prices and get \$25 off your first prescription! Call 866-508-2084

**VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS!** Cut your drug costs! SAVE \$5! 50 pills for \$99. FREE shipping! 100% guaranteed and discreet. Call 1-800-721-9639.

**PURRRRR-fect...**

Advertising Solution!

Statewide Classifieds!

97 newspapers for one low rate!

**STATEWIDE RATES:**  
Up to 25 words.....\$210  
1 col. x 2 inch.....\$525  
1 col. x 3 inch.....\$785  
1 col. x 4 inch.....\$1050

Nationwide Placement Available

To order your advertising call:

**Mississippi Press Services**

Sue Hicks, 601-981-3060