



Panhandle District
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#119
2004
(continued)

February 28, 2005

Mr. Otis Lee Johnson
Chairman,
Texas Peanut Producers Board
4205 North Interstate 27
Lubbock, TX 79403

REF: Final report for 2004 NPB grant administered by TPPB "On-Farm Peanut Demonstrations of Irrigation Technology, Water Management, and Pest Monitoring

Dear Mr. Johnson, TPPB Board Members, and the National Peanut Board:

Thanks to the Texas Peanut Producers Board and to the National Peanut Board for providing support to the Panhandle AgriPartners 2004 applied research and demonstration activities. This final report includes an individual report and water use graph for each of the six peanut demonstrations conducted in 2004. It also includes an overall summary report, a summary table for 2004 demonstrations, the yearly summary table showing water use and production data for all 34 peanut demonstrations that were conducted by Panhandle AgriPartners during the 1998-2004 time frame, and a printout of the PowerPoint presentation "2004 Texas Panhandle Peanut Demonstrations of Irrigation Technology, Water Management, and IPM."

Ten printed copies of the final report have been provided to the TPPB and electronic files are on the CD that accompanies the printed reports. Most of the information contained in this report has also been posted to the web, including the PowerPoint presentation.

The AgriPartners website is <http://amarillo.tamu.edu/programs/agripartners/Irrigation/irrigation.htm>

The support provided to Panhandle AgriPartners by the National Peanut Board and the Texas Peanut Producers Board is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Bob Robinson.

Bob Robinson
Regional Program Director
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Handwritten signature of Ordie R. Jones.

Ordie R. Jones
Panhandle AgriPartners
Coordinator

Enclosures – as specified

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.
The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

A member of the Texas A&M University System and its statewide Agriculture Program.

PANHANDLE AGRIPARTNERS PROGRAM

Bob Robinson, TCE Regional Program Director, Ag and Natural Resources

Ordie R. Jones, Panhandle AgriPartners Coordinator

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The Panhandle AgriPartners Program was initiated as a means of providing technical support to university Research, Extension, and Industry applied research and demonstration activities. Farm Demonstration Assistants based in five Extension offices operate under the supervision of county Extension Agents-Agriculture and are available to take samples, gather data, conduct surveys and perform routine activities associated with demonstrations, surveys, and applied research projects. The projects and demonstrations are managed by Texas A&M Research Scientists and Engineers or Extension specialists in cooperation with agricultural producers, commodity groups, industry technical and sales representatives, crop consultants, and water districts.

The objectives of the AgriPartner Program are to assist in (1) providing NOW current and up-to-date information on water use, crop development and growth, and pest status to farmers and consultants to assist in making decisions regarding agricultural operations. (2) conduct irrigation and cropping demonstrations on cooperators farms to demonstrate and test improved farming and irrigation practices, genetics, new technologies, and (3) providing accurate and current databases for developing and calibrating crop, water use, and economic models used in the NPET and other Production Agriculture modeling and prediction efforts. These on-site farm-based projects also serve as building blocks to advance the TAMU System initiatives in water conservation, improved production agriculture, and other University programs.

One of the most important facets of the AgriPartner program is that it uses the local county Extension Agent network to conduct on-site demonstrations and applied research in producer fields. This cannot be accomplished without the cooperation of numerous producers in the Texas Panhandle.

We thank all 32 of our producer-partners for their participation and valued advice, counsel and input into these projects.

Farm Demonstration Assistants are located in Moore, Ochiltree, Randall, Carson, and Collingsworth counties. The assistants also help with demonstrations and surveys in surrounding counties; thus the entire Panhandle is covered. In 2004 AgriPartners assisted in conducting 12 small grain and 32 summer cropping and irrigation demonstrations with peanut, sorghum, wheat, corn, cotton, and soybean, involving more than 5,000 acres. Most demonstrations were irrigated with center pivot irrigation systems. Dryland demonstrations with sorghum and wheat were also conducted. All demonstrations are tied in to the North Plains Evapotranspiration (NPET) research program, aimed at providing real-time current information to the producer so that problems can be addressed as they occur, not next year. Irrigation and water use data are also used to update the Senate Bills 1 and 2 mandated Regional Water Plan for the Panhandle.

Pest trapping/survey results are published weekly to provide up-to-date regional information on pest outbreaks and buildups as they occur. Information is also used in verifying pest development models. Insect and disease surveys are carried out for most major pests.

AgriPartners is up and running, working to build partnerships that strongly support and benefit Panhandle Agriculture. For more information about AgriPartners, contact Dr. Bob Robinson, TCE Regional Agriculture Program Director or Ordie R. (Reggie) Jones, Panhandle AgriPartners Coordinator at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center, Amarillo (806-677-5600) or your local County Extension Agent.

The AgriPartners website is <http://amarillo.tamu.edu/programs/agripartners/Irrigation/irrigation.htm>