



## USDA-CSREES 2005 National Water Quality Conference

### Arkansas Master Farmer Program

*Abstract: Situation:*

*Farm groups in Arkansas and others such as the Arkansas Association Conservation Districts (AACD) have asked for educational assistance from the land grant university system to help producers address water quality concerns. The University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service is developing a Master Farmer program to achieve this goal.*

*Objectives:*

*To enlighten Arkansas' farmers and ranchers to the best management practices that will sustain agricultural practices while protecting and enhancing Arkansas' natural environment, with special emphasis placed upon water quality issues while complying with new local, state, and federal legislation. In doing so, we strive to become a highly recognized water quality training program.*

*Methods:*

*Classroom instruction and model farm demonstrations.*

*Partnerships:*

*Multiple partnerships are currently being forged.*

*Resources:*

*Multiple grants are being pursued.*

*Integration of Research, Teaching, and Extension:*

*Extensive integration of all three components will take place for this program to be successful.*

*Results:*

*Results are not currently available because Arkansas is still in the developmental phase of this program.*

Author: Heather Richardson