

**Luis Monterde  
Of  
Mississippi**

**Luis Monterde**, a farming industry (specialty crops) appointee from Purvis, Mississippi is a specialty crop producer of blueberries. He moved to the United States from Cuba where he grew up on a farm that produced sugar cane, cattle and trees. He has been instrumental in building the blueberry industry over the more than 20 years he has grown them. He is involved with the United States Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service, Small Fruits Research Station where they are working to develop new varieties of blueberries and Mississippi State University, Department of Food and Sciences where they are developing new methods to control microbial levels on process blueberries.

Mr. Monterde is a past president of the Miss-Lou Blueberry Growers Association and of the board of directors of the Miss-Lou Blueberry Growers Cooperative. His farm is a Miss-Lou Blueberry Cooperative packing shed. He is currently a member of the United States High Bush Council serving on the Industry Relations Committee and a member of the Lamar County Farm Bureau Board.