

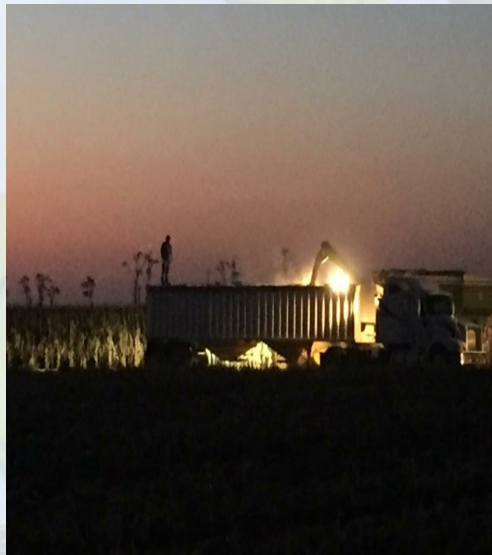


# WHAT'S GROWING ON THE FARM?

## Harvest 2017

### What's inside?

- Harvest
- 2017 Scholarship Winner
- Continuing Education
- MSU Football Game
- Christmas Party
- Service Recognition



Hurricane Harvey left us a little concerned that we would not get the crops out on time. The Lord smiled upon us and gave us several dry weeks after the heavy rains finally passed. The Garry Makamson Farms team worked hard to finish with harvest towards the end of October, right on schedule. Corn, beans, and cotton were the trio of crops grown this year. For many farmers, 2017 was a record year for production yields. The plentiful rain at the perfect times and sufficient sunshine set up for great grain yields. After the last bean was cut and the last cotton boll was picked, the work for Garry Makamson Farms continued this winter by getting prepared for the 2018 season.

# Continuing Education

In the ever changing world of farming, education is paramount. We are very fortunate to have an excellent agronomy school here in Mississippi State University. Garry Makamson Farms attended a three day short course held on campus in Starkville, MS. The topics covered included the outbreak of the red-banded stink bug, resistant bollworms, water conservation and the responsible use of the Dicamba herbicide. Agronomists from different areas of the Southeast shared the patterns and trends they observed in different regions. Our production team took home detailed notes in order to implement improvements for our upcoming season.



We also educated ourselves on the business side of farming at the Family Farms Group Winter Conference held in Tampa, Florida. The theme of the conference was The Shark Tank: Implementation Is Everything. We heard from Johnny Georges, the founder of the Tree T-Pee, who shared his overnight success story and his passion for helping farmers. While on the real Shark Tank TV show, Johnny became teary eyed after explaining why he would not raise his retail prices for the Tree T-Pee. When asked to raise his prices to make more money, Johnny quickly responded with the answer "but you are selling to farmers". Karen got a chance to speak with Johnny where he was able to expound on his response. Johnny explained, "Farmers are constantly being forced to pay too much for their products. Farmers are the backbone of this country. Without farmers, where would we be?" After appearing on Shark Tank, Johnny signed a distribution deal with John Paul Dejoria, co-founder of Paul Mitchell hair products. Johnny and John Paul have installed Tree T-Pees in many different areas around the world. The fruits of their partnership have facilitated the growth of plants in drought stricken areas all while charging a reasonable and affordable price for their product. It's good to know there are still people like Johnny and John Paul looking out for famers.



# Scholarship Winner

Will Anderson received the 2017 Garry Makamson Farms scholarship. A native of Inverness, Mississippi, Will is a graduate of Pillow Academy and is majoring in Agribusiness Production at Mississippi State University. As Will grew up working on his family farm, he slowly earned more trust from his father and, accordingly, more responsibility. One of his responsibilities was running the Phaucet Program, a water conservation computer program used to determine the ideal location and size for the holes in irrigation polypipe. In addition to running the Phaucet Program, Will operated the planter, spray rigs, layby rigs, and eighteen-wheelers. After graduation, Will plans to return to his family farm and become a third generation farmer in Anderson Planting.



Garry Makamson Farms offers two \$1,000.00 scholarships each year. One scholarship is awarded to a student majoring in Agriculture at Mississippi State University. The other scholarship will be awarded to a student majoring in Business at Mississippi College. We believe education is extremely important in a highly competitive work environment, but we also know how expensive it can be to earn a degree. We provide these scholarships to assist and encourage local students in obtaining their degree.

**\*We are taking applicants for the 2018 Garry Makamson Farms scholarship.\*** The applications can be found on our website *Makamsonfarms.com*. From the home page, follow the “about us” link to the “what we offer” section and scroll to the bottom where you will see the link to the “scholarship application”.

# Fun After Harvest!

After a long and busy harvest, we like to have some fun! This year we gathered together in Starkville to watch the Mississippi State Bulldogs play! The weather was great and the tailgate after the game was even better. We enjoyed delicious Bulldog bbq, sweets, and a few rounds of corn hole.



# Christmas Party!

Each year we host a Christmas party at Garry Makamson Farms. Every year we try to come up with a unique and fun way to celebrate Christmas. This year we had a ball of gifts wrapped in saran wrap and packing tape. A dice roll determined the number of seconds you were allowed to unwrap the ball of gifts. Any gift you unwrapped in that time was yours to keep, and the grand prize was a gift card in the middle. It was entertaining watching how aggressive some of the men were while unwrapping the ball. Curt took home the grand prize.



# Service Recognition

Garry was recognized for his three years of service on the Family Farms Group Board of Managers and Advisors. Garry was elected by other board members of the organization. After serving his three year term, he is looking forward to some time off. Harold Birch, co-founder of the Family Farms Group, is pictured recognizing Garry for his service.

Although his service is complete as the FFG board member, his service is just beginning as the Leflore County FSA (Farm Service Agency) Committee chair member. He was elected by other farmers in the area and will serve a three year term. It is a privilege and honor to be able to serve his fellow community farmers. Over 40 years of farm experience and service on other boards through the years will help guide him as he serves his community.



## Connie's Corner

### Sweet and Spicy Pork Chops

Ingredients:

4-6 pork chops

1 package of taco seasoning

1 jar of salsa

1 jar of orange marmalade

2-3 tbsp. of olive oil for browning

pork chops

Coat each side of the pork chops in taco seasoning.

Sauté over medium-high heat in oiled skillet until meat is done.

Mix 1 jar of salsa with half a jar of orange marmalade.

Heat sauce mixture and pour over pork chops.



## A Quote from Cotton

*Be content, but never satisfied.*

*If you become satisfied, you are more likely to quit.*