

For More Information:
Please contact

Frank Taylor

601-291-2704 or email:
ftaylor@bellsouth

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GREENSBORO ECHO Small Farmers Conference special Feature: Dotson Story



WCSHC Member Omerio Dotson Receives “Woman in Business” Award

By Frank Taylor



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Mrs. Dotson received the “Woman in Business Award” for working to help save rural America. Mrs. Omerio stated that she is thankful to Alcorn State University, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives, Winston County Self Help Cooperative, Heifer International and most of all Dee Dotson, her husband. Dee and Omerio Dotson are committed to “help save rural America” by managing “God’s natural resources” with the assistance from various NGOs, Extension agencies, USDA agency, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives and other community-based organizations. The Dotson’s combined have more than 140 years of farming experiences which has

helped create a successful family farm. The Dotson’s farm is nestled in Omerio’s beloved Greensboro Community in Louisville, Mississippi. “My present home is only one mile from my childhood home. My parents, Maben and Fannie Austin, both deceased, supported a family of eleven by raising vegetables, cattle, and managing timber production for building homes to generate supplemental income. My parents believed a stern work ethic would help overcome obstacles in the path of life. My father refused to raise his family in a plantation environment; therefore, he worked for two bits a day for more than two years to accumulate enough money to purchase 40 acres of land. He stated working conditions during the late 1900s were inhumane; however, he was committed to provide a better life for his family. We are thankful for his courage & insight of creating a successful path for us to follow.”

Alcorn State University’s Small Farmers and Women in Business Conference occurred on March 26-28 at the convention center in Vicksburg, Ms. This year’s conference theme “New day, New way, Change”, created the momentum for a successful event. However, Wednesday proved to be exciting day for several farmers, including Mrs. Omerio Dotson of the Winston County Self Help Coop-



Winston County Self Help Cooperative
P. O. Box 23813
Jackson, MS 39225

***WCSHC** congratulates Mrs. Omerio Dotson!!*