MODELING THE GROWTH AND YIELD OF INTENSIVELY-MANAGED LOBLOLLY PLANTATIONS IN THE WESTERN GULF COASTAL PLAIN

A McIntire-Stennis supported project

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Established in 1982, the East Texas Pine Plantation Research Project is a public-private partnership explicitly focused on developing growth and yield models for intensively-managed loblolly pine plantations in the Western Gulf Coastal Plain region.

While various growth and yield models exist for loblolly pine plantations, they were developed using data from the Southeastern U.S., and as such, may not be applicable to the Western Gulf region. For more than 30 years, the ETPPRP has worked with private industry within the region to create these region-specific growth and yield models while also incorporating environmental factors, such as climatic change into the management of pine plantations in the Western Gulf Coastal Plain.

Since the program's launch, more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and technical reports have contributed to the body of knowledge of factors affecting the region's timberlands.

About McIntire-Stennis

The McIntire-Stennis program, a unique federal-state partnership, cultivates and delivers forestry and natural resource innovations for a better future. By advancing research and education that increases the understanding of emerging challenges and fosters the development of relevant solutions, the McIntire-Stennis program has ensured healthy resilient forests and communities and an exceptional natural resources workforce since 1962.

USDA

COLLABORATION

Industry partners include Rayonier, Resource Management Service, and Forest Resource Consultants.

25
graduate researchers supported through this project.

IMPACT

This research fills the gap that exists in growth and yield models specific to intensively-managed pine plantations of the Western Gulf Coastal Plains region.

>37 million
Acres of pine plantations in the Southern U.S.

$23.7 billion
Annual economic impact of forestry in Texas.

112%
Increase in total annual timberland growth between 1953 and 2015.