



SOUTHEAST

TRANSITION TO ORGANIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

CHOCTAW FRESH PRODUCE FIELD DAY & TOUR

A Day of Learning and Connection at Choctaw Fresh Produce



(Left to Right) Rachel DeBose-Alabama Sustainable Agriculture Network; Dr. Elizabeth Myles-KTM Services Unlimited, Inc.; Audrey Kolde-National Center for Appropriate Technology; and Patricia Knight-Mississippi State University

During the November 2025 Field Day & Tour, participants gained an immersive look into the daily operations at Choctaw Fresh Produce Farm. Through guided tours and hands on educational discussions, attendees observed production systems in real-world conditions and explored how organic principles are put into practice on a working farm. A complimentary lunch encouraged meaningful discussions, giving attendees, presenters, partner organizations, and community members time to connect, share experiences and build their networks.

Designed to educate and support farmers, growers and community members interested in organic and sustainable farming practices, the event emphasized practical pathways for transitioning to organic production. Participants engaged in valuable peer-to-peer knowledge sharing and were connected to technical assistance and resources offered through USDA programs and collaborating partner organizations - making the day both educational and actionable.

Community in Attendance

Choctaw Fresh Produce Field Day & Tour welcomed farmers exploring organic production, producers transitioning to organic systems, individuals interested in sustainable agriculture, and agricultural professionals or technical service providers seeking to expand their knowledge in organic and environmentally responsible practices.



This event would not have been possible without the support of our partner organizations!



Alabama
Sustainable
Agriculture
Network



United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
National Organic Program
Transition to Organic Partnership Program





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Field Day Insights

Educational sessions and on-farm demonstrations addressed several core components of organic and sustainable agriculture, including:

High Tunnel Utilization

Demonstrations showcased how high tunnels can extend the growing season, improve crop quality, and help growers manage environmental conditions.

Crop Planning Tips

Attendees received guidance on crop selection, rotation, and seasonal planning to support organic systems and market demand.

Importance of Healthy Soil

Presenters highlighted soil health as the foundation of organic farming, emphasizing fertility management soil structure, and biological activity.

Making a Difference

The Field Day & Tour increased awareness of organic farming practices and the pathways available for transitioning to organic certification. Participants left with a stronger understanding of soil health, sustainable production methods, and practical strategies they could apply on their own operations. The event also strengthened collaboration among regional SE TOPP partners and expanded visibility through national radio coverage on WPRL 91.7 FM radio station www.wprl.org.

Sustainable Farming Practices

The event showcased environmentally responsible practices that support long-term farm productivity and ecosystem health.

Fruit Tree Selection

Experts shared region-specific insights on choosing appropriate fruit tree varieties considering climate adaptability and organic management systems.



(Left to Right)
Patricia Knight-
Mississippi State
University and
Jerome Myles, Sr.-
Alcorn State
University WPRL
91.7 FM



Choctaw Fresh
Produce members
conducting a
mulch and garden
soxx
demonstration.



Jessica Allen-
Farmer and Dr.
Elizabeth Myles-
KTM Services
Unlimited, Inc.

“Expert speakers, useful information I can take home and apply, chances to network, and the opportunity to learn new things.”

- Jessica Allen, Mississippi Farmer

Learn More:



www.organictransition.org/region/southeast



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