

Season Extension

Help With High Tunnels

Grants give growers access to season-extending technology.

TWENTY-THREE Mississippi fruit and vegetable growers have been awarded cost-share grants from the Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association for the use of high tunnels in their operations.

As part of this program, participating growers also received travel grants to take part in the Growing Farmers for Growers Markets Farm Tour, which took place around Chapel Hill, NC, March 4-7.



Photo credit: Mississippi Fruit And Vegetable Growers Association

Producing strawberries in a high tunnel may help some growers get a jump on the growing season and come in ahead of the competition.

During the four-day tour, growers visited a research facility, farmers market, and several farms learning innovative techniques for producing fruits and vegetables in high tunnels. This tour showcased ways to extend the growing season and maximize production in small- and medium-sized operations by using high tunnels.

This is the second high tunnel cost-share program supported by the Association. In 2008, the Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association supported the efforts of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the National Center for Appropriate Technology in awarding high tunnel cost-share construction grants to 30 Mississippi fruit and vegetable growers. **AVG**

Direct comments or questions about this article to avg.edit@meistermedia.com.