

Climate Variability Forecasts for the Agricultural Community in the SE United States

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We have implemented the end-to end system of delivering climate forecasts and advisories to the broad agriculture community in the SE US. The structure is quite simple. The physical scientists decide to sort out actual data or model data to illustrate potential predictability for the stakeholders. A forecast product is built. Volunteer stakeholders vet the product. If useful, a routine timely product is delivered to the community. Anthropologists, social scientists and economists investigate the acceptance and worth of the product. Extension specialists are enlisted to continue to issue advisories. A mature but living decision support tool is born.

Unfortunately the physical scientists cannot get motivation for new ideas by staying in their offices. Frequent interaction with potential stakeholders is critical. In my talk, I will relate some successes and failures doe the SE USA.

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