



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AG ENTERPRISE OFFICIALS ANTICIPATE MID-FALL COMPLETION DATE FOR FEED MILL AT THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PENITENTIARY

Parchman...Development of a feed mill facility, which was begun in the first week of July at the Mississippi State Penitentiary, is now approximately 50% complete according to Ag Enterprise officials at Parchman. Three bins each with a 40,000-bushel capacity to store grain have been erected and preparation work is progressing on schedule to install flooring for the structures. Steel framework for the mill has been installed and the base flooring for the structure is now complete.

Farm officials say the new feed mill complex will include a 700-bu/hr continuous flow dryer and 120,000 bushels of dry grain storage with an accompanying feed mill. The mill will expedite the Ag program's ability to process grain, allowing it to manufacture 25 tons of finished feed daily. The mill process will include six hopper tanks capable of storing over 5,000 cubic feet of ingredients and a two-ton batching system to speed up the feed mill preparation. It will also feature a state-of-the-art micro-ingredient system which will meter vitamins, trace minerals, and medications in the manufacture of feed mill, which according to officials will greatly facilitate the Ag program's ability to rapidly supply feed to its swine and layers program.

"We are most anxious to bring this new facility on line," said Rodger Sturgis, Agriculture Enterprises Director. "With our expanding agricultural program, it is most essential that we have an in house capability to store and process our feed. We estimate that we will be able to save approximately \$100,000 annually by having the ability to store and manufacture our finished feed."

Ag officials estimate that the prison's farm program will yield approximately 120,000 bushels of corn this fall. However, they state that the farm program will have to lease space for this year's crop. They state that they will have adequate storage space for next year's crop once development of the new bins is completed.