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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Expanded Opportunities for 450 Anionic Polyacrylamide Application Use in Agriculture**

**Jackson, Miss.** – The United States Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is offering financial and technical assistance for Anionic Polyacrylamide Application (PAM) through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). EQIP is expanding the agricultural use of PAM due to increasing concerns of water quality, water quantity and soil erosion.

Utilization of PAM in irrigation increases infiltration on fine to medium textured soils, reducing runoff tailings, while simultaneously reducing nutrient loads in tail water, keeping applied fertility products on the soils. Farmers are able to use PAM in dry or liquid emulsion formulations for use in sprinkler, furrow or flood irrigation scenarios.

"As our state has become more committed to addressing the declining level of our groundwater aquifer and nutrient reduction in the Gulf of Mexico, we have continually developed innovative methods to voluntarily implement solutions to our water quality and quantity concerns," stated Kurt Readus, NRCS state conservationist for Mississippi. "PAM shows potential to be a valuable tool in addressing these concerns in a cost effective manner."

All programs are voluntary and offer scientific-based solutions that are beneficial to the landowner and the environment.

Landowners and producers interested in participating in PAM may apply at their local USDA Service Center / NRCS office. NRCS financial-assistance programs offer a continuous sign-up; however, applications received by January 15, 2016, will be considered for funding in the first ranking period.

For more information about EQIP, visit the Mississippi NRCS website:

[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ms/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcs142p\\_017159](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ms/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcs142p_017159)

or go by your local NRCS office. Please visit <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app> to locate the NRCS office nearest you.

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