

An aerial photograph of a field station. The landscape is dominated by a dense forest of green trees. Overlaid on this forest is a complex network of earthen paths and a series of interconnected ponds. The ponds are arranged in a somewhat regular grid pattern, with some larger rectangular ponds in the center and smaller, more irregular ones towards the edges. The paths are light brown, suggesting they are made of dirt or sand. The water in the ponds is a deep blue, reflecting the sky. The overall scene is a blend of natural forest and human-made infrastructure for research.

# The University of Mississippi Field Station



# The University of Mississippi Field Station

More than 740 acres (304 hectares) of pine and mixed hardwood forest, bottomland forest, open fields, wetlands (including eight constructed wetlands), ponds, and springs make up the outdoor laboratory that is The University of Mississippi Field Station.

Acquired by the University in 1985, the Field Station comprises more than 200 stream-fed ponds and mesocosms that offer unique opportunities for experimental research on aquatic ecosystems. Facilities have been expanded recently to include a Visitor Center/Education Building, state-of-the-art communication capabilities, general research and toxicology laboratories, and an animal and plant culture building.

Field Station activities address some of the most important issues facing the South—increasing agricultural production, strengthening environmen-

tal protection, and enhancing environmental education. A cadre of distinguished environmental scientists have those goals in mind as they work in collaborative relationships with federal and state research units and private-sector interests.



*Sweetbay Magnolia*



## Mission

For years, the Field Station has been a research site for the study of toxicology and human impact on aquatic organisms and ecosystems. The Field Station's mission has recently been broadened to provide enhanced opportunities for both research and education in aquatic and environmental sciences.

Expanded programs emphasize understanding the principles of biology and ecology; assessing environmental change; maintaining biodiversity; and sustaining, managing, restoring, and rehabilitating ecological systems.



Bramlett Pond



## Education

The Field Station provides a unique combination of classroom, laboratory, and field experience for both undergraduate and graduate students at The University of Mississippi. But the Field Station's influence doesn't stop there.

It also has served as the primary field site for the Young Scholars Program in Freshwater Ecology, several environmental workshops for teachers, and an ecology day camp for young people. Currently under development is a broad educational program that will benefit adults and children across the region.

The program will emphasize hands-on training and field experiences in biological and environmental science, problem-solving skills and research, and a greater understanding of environmental problems. Included will be training for teachers, nature and science activities for students in kindergarten through 12th grade, undergraduate and graduate courses, research and training for visiting scientists, and workshops and programs for the general public.





## Center for Water and Wetland Resources

The University of Mississippi has established a Center for Water and Wetland Resources at the Field Station with funding from the state of Mississippi and the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

Programs at the Center include the use of innovative biologically based technology to clean water and reduce the economic and health impact of contamination, as well as the education and demonstration of practical solutions to reuse of water resources.

### For more information, please contact:

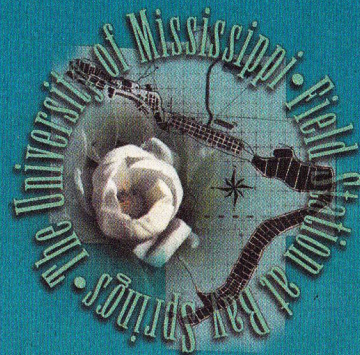
The Center for Water and Wetland Resources  
at The University of Mississippi Field Station  
15 Road 2078, Abbeville, MS 38601

Office: (662) 915-5479

Fax: (662) 915-6554

E-mail: [umfs@olemiss.edu](mailto:umfs@olemiss.edu)

Visit The University of Mississippi on the  
World Wide Web at [www.olemiss.edu](http://www.olemiss.edu)  
and The UM Field Station at  
[www.baysprings.olemiss.edu](http://www.baysprings.olemiss.edu)



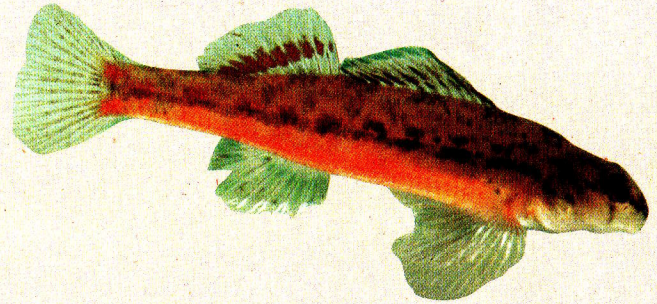


## Research

Greater understanding and conservation of natural systems is the primary focus of research at the Field Station. Additional work is diverse and has contributed to advances in agriculture, new technologies, and solutions to environmental problems.

Topics explored at the Field Station include:

- runoff and sedimentation
- sport fisheries development
- stream and wetland ecology
- terrestrial ecology
- aquatic vertebrate and invertebrate ecology
- the toxicological effects of chemicals on the environment



**Yazoo Darter**

The Field Station serves as a resource for state, federal, and private organizations, which have used the facility to increase their research and training capabilities. In addition, scientists from several University of Mississippi academic departments and centers are involved in individual and collaborative research projects at the Field Station.



## UM Field Station Goals

- To provide the infrastructure to support nationally and internationally recognized basic and applied research related to northern Mississippi habitats
- To increase knowledge and improve management of these and similar habitats throughout the region
- To provide quality undergraduate and graduate courses in field-oriented ecological disciplines
- To host educational programs such as in-service workshops, school environmental programs, and educational seminars
- To serve the local and regional community through public workshops, conferences, meetings, and special public events exploring natural, historical, and cultural features of northern Mississippi
- To foster collaboration with other similar organizations

*Located in northern Mississippi, approximately 11 miles (18 kilometers) northeast of the Oxford campus in Lafayette County, the Field Station is helping to fulfill The University of Mississippi's commitment to research, education, and service for the state of Mississippi, the Mid-South, and the nation. The University of Mississippi Field Station is a member of the Organization of Biological Field Stations.*

The University complies with all applicable laws regarding affirmative action and equal opportunity in all its activities and programs and does not discriminate against anyone protected by law because of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, or status as a veteran or disabled veteran. Photo credits: B. Huneycutt, C. Johnston, M. Holland, K. Pigott, and L. McCook. 563-A/10-00



Printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper.