

FEED MILL

MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Bobby Jernigan: Plant manager

Keith Waldrop: Plant superintendent

Tommie Moorehead: Maintenance superintendent

Brandon McFarland: Foreman

J. D. Smith: Quality control



CO-OP

Jackson
FEED
MILL

CO-OP

214 Ragland Road, Jackson, TN 38305



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SINCE 1966

HISTORY

The Jackson Feed Mill was established to assist the LaVergne Feed Mill by producing an additional 30,000 tons a year when running one shift, or 50,000 tons with a full shift and a partial second shift.

Approval was given in June 1965 for the Jackson plant. Construction was slated to begin March 1, 1966, and be completed on March 1 the following year. The mill actually began production in December 1966.

On July 20, 1967, an open house was held at the mill and representatives from 60 of Tennessee's 95 counties attended. At the event, nearly 1,000 people were entertained

by Grand Ole Opry stars The Willis Brothers.

The \$1.5 million feed mill was dedicated to the memory of Mr. Thomas D. Phillips, longtime employee and former assistant to the general manager of Tennessee Farmers Cooperative.

As more customers began to use bulk feeds, having a feed mill in Jackson was even more of an advantage because it reduces the transportation cost of bringing bulk feeds from LaVergne. In the first full year of operation, Jackson



manufactured approximately 55,000 tons of feed, most of which were for swine and dairy cattle. As livestock production changed, the mill changed too, and most of the feed produced today is for beef cattle and horses.

Through the years, the Jackson plant has gone through several renovations and upgrades to produce higher quantities of better-quality feed more efficiently. The most major renovation occurred in 1989 and 1990 with a \$3 million expansion that nearly doubled the ingredient-holding capacity and allows the Jackson mill to manufacture a more diverse line of feed.

COMPUTERIZATION

Jackson feed mill is not completely automated, but the batching system uses the Wisconsin Electric (WEM) system with computer graphics for routing and operation of the system. The WEM has multiple alarms built into the software that limits cross contamination of products due to operator error or conveying-system malfunction.



EMPLOYEES AND AUTOMATION

Most of Jackson's long-term employees are cross trained in many areas of the mill's operation. The addition in 2008 of a robotic palletizing system is another step toward the mill's goal of becoming less labor-intensive and more efficient.

Quick FACTS

Bulk tonnage: 56%

Bagged tonnage: 44%

Percentage of total production:

Beef..... 58%

Horse..... 11%

Dairy 6%

Poultry 2%

All others 23%

Number of production shifts:

Bagging: 1 shift

Bag loading: 1 shift

Batching: 2 shifts in summer

3 shifts in winter

Pelleting: 2 shifts in summer

3 shifts in winter

Bulk L.O.: 1 shift

Receiving: 2 shifts

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