What has MPA done for growers?

As a grower member of MPA, you receive several benefits from the Association. The two premier benefits of membership in MPA are Government Relations and Grower Relations. The Association works to support a unified industry and to represent the industry to our government and the public.

- In 2011, MPA secured passage of state legislation doubling the amount of interest-free money growers can receive through MDA’s Emerging Crops loan program.
- The Mississippi Poultry Association is the only organization in Mississippi that exclusively represents the interests of the poultry and egg industry at the local, state and federal level and with the general public through the media.
- The poultry and egg industry will continue to face significant legislative and regulatory challenges in years to come. As regulation by USDA, FDA, EPA, Miss. DEQ, Miss. Dept. of Revenue, and other federal, state and local agencies, it is increasingly important for the poultry industry in our state to have a strong government affairs effort. MPA represents all sectors of the poultry and egg industry in legislative and regulatory issues.
- The Association has a solid track record and list of accomplishments on helping growers in recent years. Just a few examples are:
  - Sales tax reduction for growers on replacement parts for their farms
  - Worked with the NRCS to make Windrowing litter more affordable to growers through cost-sharing payments
  - Negotiated with the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality on the rules for the General Permit. Also, provided growers training on filling out the permit.
- Membership gives you, the grower, access to information about critical issues impacting the poultry industry, and gives growers a strong voice as the Association addresses those issues.
- MPA has made a considerable effort to promote poultry farming in 2011. The Association contributed to the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation’s Farm Families of Mississippi advertising campaign. A poultry farm was featured in one commercial on television, radio and billboards throughout the state of Mississippi.
- The Mississippi Poultry Foundation Board of Directors increased the number of and amount of scholarships from two $1,000 scholarships to four $1,500 scholarships. MPA members’ children and grandchildren are eligible for these.
- Poultry growers occupy three seats on the MPA Board of Directors, giving them a strong voice in the direction of the organization. The Chairman of the Grower Advisory Committee is also a member of the MPA Executive Committee.
- MPA offers grower seminars to continue growers’ education on topics of interest in the industry.

We hope you will make the decision to become a part of the Mississippi Poultry Association and help us to maintain our position as the #1 Agricultural Commodity in the State of Mississippi. Please contact Ben Chandler at (601)932-7560 for more information.