2016 Annual Meeting
February 5-7, 2016
San Antonio, TX

80th Year
Southern Region
American Society for Horticultural Science

96th Year
Horticulture Section
Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists
History of the Southern Region of ASHS and the Horticulture Section of SAAS

In 1899, the State Commissioners of Agriculture in several southern states founded “The Cotton States Association of the Commissioners of Agriculture”, which had horticulture involved in its very beginning. This is the founding organization that evolved into the modern day Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (SAAS). In 1920, SAAS (which at that time was called Association of Southern Agricultural Works, ASA W) formalized the affiliation with horticulture by founding the Horticulture Section. In 1936, the American Society for Horticultural Sciences approved the Southern States Section, which is now termed the Southern Region of ASHS. In 1937, SAAS accepted the affiliation between the Southern States Section of ASHS with the Horticulture Section of SAAS. Thus, the Southern Region jointly has been a part of both ASHS (with a founding date of 1936) and SAAS (with a founding date 1920). This rich history is detailed in publications by Andy Anderson, 1982, and Paul Smeal, 1999 (available at srashs.org). The Southern Region encompasses the 14 southern states of Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee. Membership varies over the years from about 200 to 500 active members. Membership is composed of professors, research scientists, teachers and extension specialists from Universities, State, Federal and private research organizations, and industry. The Southern Region also contains a student section, the Association of Collegiate Branches, which is composed of student clubs from departments of horticulture and plant science across the region. The main focus of the Southern Region is the Annual Meeting, which is held every February in conjunction with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (SAAS). The Annual Meeting consists of presentations of scientific papers, student papers and judging competition, commodity group meetings, and awards presentations.

Goals:
- Encourage and facilitate the mutual exchange of ideas and information concerning horticultural research, extension, education, and industry in the south.
- Promote stronger bonds among horticulturists throughout the southern regions.
- Encourage participation in the national society of the American Society for Horticultural Science.

Join us and become a part of the Tradition.

President
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Web Site srashs.org Visit It
PROGRAM
2016 ANNUAL MEETING
Southern Region
American Society for Horticultural Science
San Antonio, TX
February 5-7, 2016

FRIDAY
7:00 am -  6:00 pm  Registration
Room:  Hotel Lobby
8:00 am -  5:00 pm  Pecan Research and Extension Forum
Room:  Nueces/Frio
8:00 am -  5:00 pm  Southern Blueberry/Small Fruit Workers
Room:  Directors
8:00 am -  5:00 pm  National Sweetpotato Collaborators
Room:  Live Oak
10:00 am -  1:00 pm  ACB Club Share and Networking
Room:  Chula Vista
1:00 pm -  5:00 pm  ACB Group Activities, Tour, and Meal
Room:  Chula Vista
1:00 pm -  6:00 pm  Watermelon Research Group
Room:  Llano/Pecos
1:00 pm -  5:00 pm  Horticulture Administrators
Room:  Mesquite
5:00 pm -  6:00 pm  Executive Committee Meeting
Room:  Mesquite
5:00 pm -  6:00 pm  ACB Mixer
Room:  Chula Vista

SATURDAY
7:00 am -  6:00 pm  Registration
Room:  Regency Ballroom Foyer
8:00 am –  12:00 pm  Set-up Posters
Room:  Regency Center West
8:00 am –  12:00 pm  J. Benton Storey Horticulture Judging Contest Setup
Room:  Regency Ballroom Center East
8:00 am -  5:00 pm  National Sweetpotato Collaborators
Room:  Live Oak
8:00 am -  6:00 pm  Watermelon Research Group
Room:  Llano/Pecos
8:00 am -  11:00 am  Extension Section
Room:  Nueces/Frio
8:00 am –  10:00 am  J. B. Edmond Undergraduate Student Paper Competition.
Room:  Mesquite
9:00 am –  12:00 pm  Vigna Crop Germplasm Committee
Room:  Medina
10:30 am -  12:30 pm  Norman F. Childers M.S. Student
Room:  Mesquite
11:00 am - 12:00 am  Education Section  
    Room: Nueces/Frio
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm  Floriculture, Ornamentals and Turf Section  
    Room: Nueces/Frio
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm  Fruit Crops Section  
    Room: Nueces/Frio
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm  Poster Session Viewing  
    Room: Regency Center West
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm  J. Benton Storey Horticulture Judging Contest  
    Room: Regency Ballroom Center East
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm  National Cowpea Improvement Association  
    Room: Medina
2:00 pm - 4:30 pm  Warren S. Barham Ph.D. Student Paper Competition  
    Room: Mesquite

SUNDAY
7:00 am - 10:45 am  Registration  
    Room: Regency Ballroom Foyer
8:00 am - 10:45 pm  Poster Session Viewing  
    Room: Regency Center West
8:00 am - 10:45 am  Vegetable Crops Section  
    Room: Navarro
8:00 am - 10:45 am  Floriculture, Ornamentals and Turf Section  
    Room: Bowie AB
8:00 am - 10:45 am  Fruit Crops Section  
    Room: Maverick A
8:00 am - 10:00 am  Postharvest & Biotechnology Section  
    Room: Directors
9:00 am - 10:45 am  ACB Business Meeting  
    Room: Rio Grande Ballroom East
11:00 am - 12:30 pm  Annual Business Meeting and Award Program  
    Room: Rio Grande Ballroom East
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm  Poster Session Take Down  
    Room: Regency Center West

SAAS Program
2:30 pm - 3:00 pm  SAAS Board Meeting  
    Room: Rio Grande Ballroom East
4:00 pm - 4:15 pm  SAAS General Business Meeting  
    Room: Rio Grande Ballroom East
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm  SAAS Social  
    Room: Rio Grand Ballroom Foyer

TUESDAY
7:30 am - 9:30 pm  SAAS Board Breakfast Meeting  
    Room: La Vista Terrace
REGISTRATION
Friday  7:00 am-6 pm,  Hotel Lobby
Saturday  7:00 am - 6 pm,  Regency Ballroom Foyer
Sunday  7:00 am – 10:30 am,  Regency Ballroom Foyer

FRIDAY, February 5, 2016

ACB Activities
Room:  Chula Vista
Time:  10:00 - 1:00 Club Share
       1:00-5:00 Tour
       5:00-6:00 Mixer
Presiding:  Kaitlin Ziesmer, ACB-President
            Jay Spiers, ACB Advisor

Working Groups
Listed at end of program

SATURDAY, February 6, 2016

J. BENTON STOREY
UNDERGRADUATE JUDGING
CONTEST
Room:  Regency Ballroom Center East
Time:  8:00 - 12:00 Set-Up
       12:00-5:00 Judging Contest
Presiding:  Andrew Thomas, ACB Vice-President
            Jay Spiers, ACB Advisor

Working Groups
Listed at end of program

SECTION TITLES

J. B. EDMOND
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT
PAPER COMPETITION
Room:  Mesquite
Presiding:  Kaitlin Ziesmer, ACB-President
            Gary Bachman, SRASHS President
            Dario Chavez-Velasquez, Section Chair & Judging Coordinator

Abstracts:  To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: dchavez@uga.edu

8:00 am –10:00 am Order of presentations determined by drawing at beginning of contest.

Characterization of Yemeni Coffee Landraces Using Near-Infrared Reflectance Spectroscopy. Keith A. Read1,2, Amin Al Hakimi2,3, Seth C. Murray3, and Leonardo Lombardini1. 1Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843. 2Faculty of Agriculture, Sana’a University, Yemen. 3Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843 (Keith_Read@tamu.edu)

Effect of Volumetric Water Content on the Growth of Anisacanthus quadrifidu, Caryopteris × clandonensis, and Cuphea hyssopifolia. Hermilo Barrera1, Youping Sun2, Genhua Niu2,3. El Paso Community College, El Paso, TX 79925. 2Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center at El Paso, Texas A&M University System, 1380 A&M Circle, El Paso, TX 79927, USA. (hermilo.barrera@ag.tamu.edu)

Evaluation of Harvest Time/Temperature on Postharvest Incidence of Red Drupelet Reversion Development and Firmness of Blackberry (Rubus L. subgenus Rubus Watson). Jack E. McCoy*, John R. Clark, Alejandra A. Salgado, and Andrew Jecmen, 316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (jem027@uark.edu)

Phenotypic Variation of a Segregating Blackberry (Rubus L. subgenus Rubus Watson) Population for Molecular Marker Development. Loren Anthony1, John R. Clark1, Renee Threlfall2, and Nahla Bassil3. 1316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, 22650 North Young Avenue, Institute of Food Science and Engineering, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72704, 3Nahla Bassil, USDA-ARS National Clonal Germplasm Repository, 33447 Peoria Rd., Corvallis, OR 97333-2521. (lmanthon@email.uark.edu)

Rosa Ploidy Determination for Rose Rosette Disease Resistance Breeding. Jonathan K. Corser, Jeekin Lau, Ellen Roundey, and David Byrne, Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2133. (joncorser@tamu.edu)
Sweet Potato Storage Root Yield as a function of Plant Age. Andrew Barocco*, Don LaBonte, and Robert Mirabello, School of Plant, Environmental, and Soil Sciences, Louisiana State University AgCenter, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 (abaroc3@lsu.edu)

The Effect of Winter Cover Crops on High Tunnel Tomato Physiology and Yield. Bailey Smith1*, Luke R. Freeman2, Curt R. Rom2, and Jason McAfee3, 1203 Engineering Hall, Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, 3316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (bjs010@email.uark.edu)

The Effects of Shade on Greenhouse grown Primocane Fruit Blackberries. Olivia C. Caillouet1*, Curt C. Rom1, 1316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72704. (occaillo@uark.edu)

NORMAN F. CHILDERS M.S. GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Room: Mesquite
Presiding: Ed Bush, Chair
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: ebush@agcenter.lsu.edu

10:30 am – 12:30 pm Order of presentations determined by drawing at beginning of contest.

A Comparison of Blueberry Cultivars in High Tunnel and Field Production. Luke R. Freeman*, Jason McAfee, and Curt R. Rom, 316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (lfreeman@uark.edu)

Aggregate Depth and Irrigation Frequency Affects ‘Rex’ Lettuce Development in a Shallow Aggregate Bed Hydroponic Production System. Joseph C. Chidiac* and Michael R. Evans, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (jchidiac@uark.edu)

Effects of Cover Crops on Squash Bug (Anasa tristis) Populations. Lindsay Davies1*, David Berle1, Paul Guillebeau2, Elizabeth Little3, 1111 Plant Sciences Building, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, 2 413 Biological Sciences Building, Department of Entomology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, 3 2105 Plant Sciences Building, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. (Lndavies@uga.edu)

Phenology, Physiology, and Fruit Characteristics of Pierce’s Disease Resistant Grapevine (Vitis vinifera L.) Selections in Alabama. Andrej Svyantek*, Elina Coneva, J. Raymond Kessler, James D. Spiers, and Edgar Vinson, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849. (aws0006@auburn.edu)

Planting density, harvest stage, and cultivar affect economic return of parthenocarpic pickling cucumber in an once-over mechanical harvest system. Lauren Arteman1*, Jonathan Schultheis1, Todd Wehner1, and Gary Bullen2, 1Department of Horticultural Science and 2Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695. (ljartema@ncsu.edu)

The Crape Myrtle Bark Scale: A New Threat for the No. 1 Flowering Shrub in the United States. Zinan Wang1, Rodrigo Diaz1, Yan Chen2, Mengmeng Gu3, Erfan Vafaie4, and Michael Merchant5. 1Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Department of Entomology, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, 2Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Hammond Research Station, Hammond, LA 70403; 3Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center, Department of Horticultural Science, College Station, TX 77843, 4Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center, Department of Entomology, Overton, TX 75684, 5Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center, Department of Entomology, Dallas, TX 75252. (zwang@agcenter.lsu.edu)

The Effective Pollination Period of 'AU Golden Sunshine' (Actinidia chinensis) and 'AU Fitzgerald' (Actinidia delicosa). Ashley Brantley*, James D. Spiers, Andrew B. Thompson, Elina Coneva, J. Raymond Kessler Jr. and Amy Wright, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36879. (abk0009@auburn.edu)

WARREN S. BARHAM Ph.D. GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Room: Mesquite
Presiding: Ed Bush, Chair
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair:
Assessment of Commercial Fruit Crop Potential of Selected Banana (Musa sp.) Cultivars in the Subtropics of Coastal Alabama. Edgar L. Vinson, III1*, Elina D. Coneva1, Joseph M. Kemble1, Floyd M. Woods1, Penelope M. Perkins-Veazie2, Esendugue G. Fonsah3, and Jeff L. Sibley1, 1 101 Funchess Hall, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849, 2600 Laureate Way, Department of Horticultural Science, PPHI-NCRC, North Carolina State University, Kannapolis, NC 28081, 315 RDC Road, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia – Tifton Campus, Tifton, GA 31793. (vinsoed@auburn.edu)

Collecting Time Affected Embryo Germination of Kalmia latifolia L. ‘Red Bandit’ x ‘Starburst’. He Li*, Donglin Zhang, and Jinying Dong, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. (susuzx98@uga.edu)

Determination of nutrients removed by harvesting, pruning and leaf fall in peach trees. Qi Zhou1* and Juan Carlos Melgar2, Plant and environmental sciences, Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634, Biosystems Research Complex, Lab 204. (qzhou3@clemson.edu, jmelgar@clemson.edu)

Evaluating Bacterial Spot [Xanthomonas arboricola pv. pruni (Xap)] Resistance for Molecular Characterization and Incorporation of Marker Assisted Breeding (MAB) into The University Of Arkansas Peach and Nectarine Breeding Program. Terrence J. Frett1*, John R. Clark1, Burt H. Bluhm1, Brant Smith2, Andrew Jecman3, Alejandra A. Salgado4, Paul J. Sandefur5, Cameron Peace5, and Ksenija Gasic6,1, Univ. of Arkansas, Department of Horticulture, Fayetteville, AR 72701, USA, 2Univ. of Arkansas, Department of Plant Pathology, Fayetteville, AR 72701, USA, 3Washington State University, Pullman, WA, 99163, USA, 4SAFES, Clemson Univ., Clemson, SC 29634, USA (tjfrett@email.uark.edu).

Genotypic and Phenotypic Evaluations of Black Raspberry in North Carolina over Multiple Harvest Seasons. Christine Bradish1*, Jill M. Bushakra2, M. Dossett3, N. Bassil2, C. Finn4, P. Perkins-Veazie5, G. Fernandez1, 1 Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA, 2United States Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) – National Clonal Germplasm Repository, Corvallis, OR, USA, 3B.C. Blueberry Council (in partnership with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada), Agassiz, B.C., Canada, 4USDA-ARS-Horticultural Crops Research Unit, Corvallis, OR, USA, 5NC State University Plants for Human Health Institute, Kannapolis, NC, USA. (cmbradis@ncsu.edu)

Nutrient Remediation using Two Species in a Floating Treatment Wetland System. Lauren M Garcia1*, John C Majsztrik2, Natasha L Bell3, and Sarah A White2, 1Institute of Environmental Toxicology, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634, 2Department of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634, 3Department of Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634. (lgarci3@clemson.edu)

Short Term Effects of Phosphorus Banding on Pecan Production. (Carya illinoensis (Wangenh.) K. Koch) Michael F Polozola II*, Daniel E. Wells, Wheeler G. Foshee, J. Raymond Kessler and Amy N. Wright, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849. (mfp0012@auburn.edu)

The Impact of Growth Habit, Planting Density and Weeding Regime on Watermelon Yield in an Organic System. Suzanne Stone* and George Boyhan, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30605. (sstone2@uga.edu)

Use of Colored Shade Cloth on Vegetable and Cut Flower Production in Mississippi. Tongyin Li*, Guihong Bi, Bill B. Evans, and Judson Lecompte, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762. (tl665@msstate.edu)
8:15 Chasing a New Audience: Social Media Strategies and Challenges at the Mississippi State Trial Gardens. Geoffrey C. Denny* and Kandiace Gray, Plant & Soil Sciences Department, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (gcdenny@pss.msstate.edu)

8:30 Diffusing Water Conservation and Treatment Technologies to Nursery and Greenhouse Operations through Extension Programming. Emmett Martin1, Alexa J. Lamm1, Laura A. Warner1, Sarah White1, Paul Fisher1. (PO Box 112060 University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, 167 Poole Ag Center P.O. Box 340310 Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634-0310, 3PO Box 110670 University of Florida, Gainesville FL 32611-0670. (emmett1986@ufl.edu)

8:45 Discovering the Value of Social Media in Horticulture Research and Extension. Eric Stafne*, Coastal REC, Miss. State Univ., P.O. Box 193, Poplarville, MS 39470 (eric.stafne@msstate.edu)

9:00 Earth-Kind® Landscape Design and Management Schools. Allison Watkins1 and Jeff Floyd2. 1113 West Beauregard Avenue, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M University System, San Angelo, TX 76903. 2Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M University System, Odessa, TX 79761. (awatkins@ag.tamu.edu)

9:15 Break

9:30 Encouraging Millennial and Non-Gardener Participation through Experiential Learning at the Mississippi State Trial Gardens. Kandiace Gray and Geoffrey C. Denny*, Plant & Soil Sciences Department, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (gcdenny@pss.msstate.edu)

9:45 Merging an Industry Trade Show with a University Field Day – A New, Successful LSU AgCenter Effort. Allen Owings*, LSU AgCenter, Hammond Research Station, 21549 Old Covington Highway, Hammond, LA 70403. (aowings@agcenter.lsu.edu)

10:00 Nursery Growers’ Relationships with Water: What Influences Their Opinions of Water? Pei-wen Huang1, Alexa J. Lamm1, Emmett T. Martin3, Laura A. Warner1, Paul R. Fisher2, and Sarah A. White3. 1Department of Agricultural Education and Communication, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611, 2Environmental Horticulture Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611, 3School of Agricultural, Forest, and Environmental Sciences, Clemson University, 167 Poole Ag. Center, Clemson, SC 29634. (agnespei@ufl.edu)

10:15 Strawberry Production in South Texas. Juan Anciso1, Alfredo Rodriguez2, Russ Wallace3. 1Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 2401 E. Hwy. 83, Weslaco, TX 78596, 2Texas A&M AgriLife, Lubbock, TX 79403. (janciso@ag.tamu.edu)

10:30 Using WeChat, a New Social Media Platform, to Reach Underserved Stakeholders. Mengmeng Gu*, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Dept. of Horticultural Sciences, 2134 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843. (mgu@tamu.edu)

EDUCATION SECTION

Room: Nueces/Frio
Presiding: Carolyn Robinson, Chair
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: cwrobinson@auburn.edu

11:00 Development of an Urban Enology Certificate Program. Justin J. Scheiner1, George. R. McEachern2 and B. Greg Cobb2. Department of Horticultural Sciences, 1Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, HSFB, 2134 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843 and 2Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2133. (jscheiner@tamu.edu)

11:15 Installation of a Closed-Circuit Television Camera System at the Durham Horticultural Farm for
Teaching and Research. George E. Boyhan* and Ryan D. McNeill,1,1111
Miller Plant Science Building, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, 1221 Hog Mountain Road, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Watkinsville, GA 30677. (gboyhan@uga.edu)

FLORICULTURE, ORNAMENTALS AND TURF

Room: Nueces/Frio
Presiding: MengMeng Gu, Chair
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: mgu@tamu.edu

1:00 Swiss Chard. Shaun R. Broderick* and William B. Evans. Truck Crops Branch, Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 231, Crystal Springs, Mississippi 39059-0231. (srb559@msstate.edu)

1:15 Tea as an alternative crop for Mississippi. J. LeCompte and G. Bi, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, Mississippi State University, Miss. State, MS 39762. (JSL279@msstate.edu)

1:30 Using biochar and vermicompost as greenhouse substrate. Ruixian Liu1, Xiaoya Cai2, Haijie Dou2, and Mengmeng Gu*2, Jiansu Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China2 Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, College Station, TX 77843. (mgu@tamu.edu)

1:45 What Happens When the Tap Goes Dry: A Garden’s Last Lesson? Michael A. Arnold*, Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 78843-2133. (maarnold@tamu.edu)

2:00 Summer 2015 Bedding Plant Evaluations at the University of Arkansas. Garry V. McDonald*, 316 Plant Sciences, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (gmcdonal@uark.edu)

FRUIT CROPS SECTION

Room: Nueces/Frio
Presiding: Elina Coneva, Chair
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: edc0001@auburn.edu

2:30 RosBREED Peach Mini SNP Arrays v1 Design, Analysis and Results. Terrence J. Frett1*, John R. Clark1, Ksenija Gasic2, Nahla Bassil3, Paul J. Sandefur4, Jonathan Fresno4, Tom Gradziel5, David Byrne6 and Cameron Peace6, 1Univ. of Arkansas, Department of Horticulture, Fayetteville, AR 72701, USA, 2SAFES, Clemson Univ., Clemson, SC 29634, USA, 3USDA-ARS, National Clonal Germplasm Repository, Corvallis, OR 97333, USA, 4Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99163, USA, 5Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 14853, USA, 6University of California Davis, Department of Pomology, Davis, CA 95616, USA, 7Texas A&M University, Department of Horticultural Sciences, College Station, TX 77843, USA. (tjfrett@email.uark.edu)

2:45 The Effects of Shade on Greenhouse grown Primocane Fruit Blackberries. Olivia C. Caillouet*, Curt C. Rom, 316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72704. (occaillo@uark.edu)

3:00 The effects of water management strategies on citrus growth and yield. Ayako Kusakabe*, Catherine Simpson, Shad D. Nelson, and Mamoudou Setamou. Texas A&M University- Kingsville Citrus Center, 312 N. International Blvd., Weslaco, TX 78599. (catherine.simpson@tamuk.edu)

POSTERS

Room: Regency Center West
Presiding: Michael Maurer, Chair
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: maurerma@sfasu.edu
Set-Up: Saturday, 8:00 am – noon
Poster Viewing: Saturday noon to 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00–10:45 am
Authors at their poster: Saturday, 1:00-2:30 pm even numbered posters Saturday, 2:30-4:00 pm odd numbered posters
Take-down: Sunday, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Student Poster Competition
UG = Undergraduate poster titles
G = Graduate poster titles

Cross-Commodity
1) Current Season Trapping Results for SWD in Central Alabama. Elina Coneva*, Trevor Cofer, Charles Ray and James Pitts. Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849. (edc0001@auburn.edu)

2) In Vitro Shoot Regeneration of Black Cohosh. Guochen Yang*, Cindy Lu, and Sanjun Gu, School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC 27411. (yangg@ncat.edu)

3) Kenaf’s Allelopathic Impact on Seedling Growth. Charles L. Webber III*, Paul M. White Jr.*, Dwight L. Myers*, Merritt J. Taylor†, and James W. Shrefler*, 1USDA, Agriculture Research Service, Sugarcane Research Unit, Houma, LA 70360, 2East Central University, Division of Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources, Department of Agricultural Economics, Durant, OK 74702, 3Oklahoma State University, Division of Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources, Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Durant, OK 74702. (Chuck.Webber@ars.usda.gov)

4) Remediation of Phytopathogen Contaminants from Irrigation Runoff Water using Floating Treatment Wetlands to Facilitate Increased Water Recycling. Natasha L. Bell*, Lauren M. Garcia*, John C. Majsztrik2, Daniel R. Hitchcock3, and Sarah A. White*. 1Department of Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634, 2Institute of Environmental Toxicology, Clemson University, Pendleton, SC 29670, 3Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science, Clemson University, Georgetown, SC 29442. (natashb@clemson.edu)

Floriculture, Ornamentals and Turf

5UG) A Survey of Wounding Frequency among Trees found in Urban and Forest Environments. Lee Rumble1*, Melanie Heckman2*, and Drew Sieg1, 1Middle Tennessee State University, 1301 East Main Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, 2Fernbank Science Center, 156 Heaton Park Drive, Atlanta GA 30307. (dr15f@mtmail.mtsu.edu)

6) An Approach for Integrated Pest Management of Chilli Thrips, Scirtothrips dorsalis Hood, on Ornamental Roses. Luis F. Aristizábal1*, Steven P. Arthurs1, Yan Chen2, Ronald H. Cherry3, and Ronald D. Cave4. 1University of Florida IFAS Mid-Florida Research & Education Center, Apopka, FL 32703, 2Louisiana State University Agricultural Center Hammond Research Station, Hammond, LA 70403, 3University of Florida IFAS Everglades Research & Education Center, Belle Glade, FL 33430, 4University of Florida IFAS Indian River Research & Education Center, Fort Pierce, FL 34945. (lariste@ufl.edu)

7) Biosolids: Characteristics and Potential in the Southeastern U.S. William B. Evans* and Shaun R. Broderick. Truck Crops Branch, Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 231, Crystal Springs, Mississippi 39059. (bill.evans@msstate.edu)

8) Chilli Thrips (Scirtothrips dorsalis Hood) Population Growth in Double-red Knockout Rose as Affected by Controlled Release Fertilizer Regimes. Yan Chen1*, Allen Owings1, and Steven Arthurs2. 1Louisiana State University Agricultural Center Hammond Research Station, Hammond LA 70403, 2University of Florida Mid-Florida Research and Education Center, Apopka FL 32703. (YChen@agecenter.lsu.edu)

10) Developing a Professional Approach to Home Horticulture Problem Solving for County Agents. Lelia Scott Kelly1,2*, Clarissa Balbian1, John Giesemann1, Blake Layton1, Rebecca Melanson2, and Shaun Broderick1, 1PO Box 9610, Department of Plant and Soil Science, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762, 2PO Box 9775, Department of Biochemistry, Entomology and Plant Pathology, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762, 3PO Box 9662, Center for Technology Outreach, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762. (lelia.kelly@msstate.edu)

11) Effects of Substrate Gravimetric Water Content from Transplant to Finished Stage on Impatiens ×walleriana ‘Xtreme Red’. Anthony T. Bowden1*, Adam F. Newby, Glenn B. Fain, and Daniel E. Wells, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849-5408. (atb0013@auburn.edu)

12) Establishing an Earth Box Demonstration in South Mississippi. C. Coker1*, G. Bachman, and P. Knight, Mississippi State University, Coastal Research and Extension Center, Biloxi, MS. (christine.coker@msstate.edu)

13) Evaluation of Zinc and Phosphorus Fertilizer on Celosia Grown in Nigeria. Olukunle Kolade1, M.O. Fawole2, Jose Lopez1, and Derald A. Harp1. 1School of Agriculture, Texas A&M University – Commerce, Commerce, TX 75429, 2Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Kwara State P.M.B. 1515 / 234, Nigeria. (Derald.Harp@tamuc.edu)

14) Experiences from Managing Multi-Institutional Public-Private Partnership Research Program. Heather Friedrich1,2*, Curt Rom1, Luke Freeman1, Ron Rainey2 and Jennie Popp3, 1316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, Fayetteville, AR 72701, 2University of Arkansas System Cooperative Extension Service, Little Rock AR 72204. 3Department of Agribusiness and Agriculture Economics University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (heatherf@uark.edu)


16) Plants with Potential: A New LSU AgCenter Ornamental Plant Material Awareness Program. Jason Stagg*, Allen Owings and Gina Hebert, LSU AgCenter, Hammond Research Station, 21549 Old Covington Highway, Hammond, LA 70403. (jstagg@agcenter.lsu.edu)

17) Postemergence control of Pilea microphylla (Artillery weed) in container nursery production. S. Chris Marble* and Annette Chandler, Mid-Florida Research and Education Center, IFAS, University of Florida, 2725 S. Binion Rd., Apopka, FL 32703 (marblesc@ufl.edu)

18) Stem Cutting Propagation of Aromi Series Deciduous Azaleas. Heath Gober, Joe Eakes, Amy Wright*, and Raymond Kessler, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849. (awright@auburn.edu)

19) Tolerance of Three Native Herbaceous Perennials to Repeated Short-Interval Flooding. Jennifer Morash, Amy Wright*, and Raymond Kessler, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849 (awright@auburn.edu)

Fruit

20UG) The effects of shade on primocane fruiting blackberries in the field. Olivia C. Caillouet*, Curt C. Rom, 316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72704. (occaillou@uark.edu)

21) Identification of Sugars and Acids in Arkansas Blackberry Genotypes that Impact Sensory Perception. Daniela M. Segantini1,2, Renee T. Threlfall2, John R. Clark1, Luke R. Howard2, Cindi L. Brownmiller2, 1316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, 2650 North Young Avenue Institute of Food Science and Engineering, University of Arkansas
22UG) Variation of Disease Symptoms Expression among Apple Genotypes to the Bacterial Disease Fireblight, Erwinia amylovora. Khoa Thao¹, Julia Stover², Curt R. Rom³, Luke R. Freeman³, and Jason McAfee³, ¹203 Engineering Hall, Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, ²217A Plant Science, Department of Plant Pathology, ³316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (kb013@email.uark.edu)  

23) Assessing Financial Risks to Blackberry Production with an Interactive Decision Support Tool. Jennie Popp¹,*, Hector G. Rodriguez¹, Curt Rom², Heathier Friedrich³, Carolyn Lewis³ and Leah English⁴, ¹ 217 Agriculture Building, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, ²316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, ³319 Agriculture Building, Department of Entomology, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (jhpopp@uark.edu)  

24UG) Evaluating Salt Exclusion in 'Blanc Du Bois' and 'Black Spanish' Grapes. Sonia Sandoval⁵ and Justin Scheiner, Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2133. (sandypony8@tamu.edu)  

25) Examining Fiber and Seed Content of Southern Highbush and Rabbiteye Blueberry Genotypes Grown in Georgia. Rachel A. Ile* and D. Scott NeSmith, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, 1109 Experiment Street, Griffin, GA 30223. (rtile@uga.edu)  

26) Interactive Sustainable Budget: A Tool for Developing Sound Raspberry Business Plans. Hector G. Rodriguez¹,*, Jennie Popp¹, Curt Rom², Heathier Friedrich³, and Carolyn Lewis³, ¹ 217 Agriculture Building, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, ²316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, ³319 Department of Entomology, Agriculture Building, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (hrodrig@uark.edu)  

27UG) Evaluation of Harvest Time and Storage Temperature on Postharvest Incidence of Red Drupelet Reversion Development and Firmness on Blackberry (Rubus L. subgenus Rubus Watson). Jack E. McCoy*, John R. Clark, Alejandra A. Salgado, and Andrew Jecmen, 316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (jem027@uark.edu)  

28) Jujube (Ziziphus jujuba Mill) establishment and 2 year performance in Mississippi. Ramón A. Arancibia¹, Jeffrey L. Main² and Williams B. Evans³, ¹Eastern Shore AREC, Virginia Tech, Painter, VA 23420, ²Pontotoc Ridge-Flatwoods Branch Experiment Station, Mississippi State University, Pontotoc, MS 38863, ³Truck Crops Branch Experiment Station, Mississippi State University, Crystal Spring, MS 39059. (raran@vt.edu)  

29) New Large Fruited Rabbiteye Blueberry Varieties from The University of Georgia. D. Scott NeSmith, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, 1109 Experiment Street, Griffin, GA 30223. (snesmith@uga.edu)  

30G) Marketability of Non-Astringent Persimmon to American Consumers. Robert A. Mirabello*, Charles E. Johnson and Don R. Labonte. 104 M.B. Sturgis Hall, School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. (rmirabello@agcenter.lsu.edu)  

31) Optimizing Fertilization of Young Peach Trees: Year 1. Juan Carlos Melgar*, Department of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634. (jmelgar@clemson.edu)  

32) Performance of Recently Released Rabbiteye Blueberry (Vaccinium ashei) Cultivars and Selections in North Alabama. Elina Coneva*, E. Vinson, and Arnold Caylor, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849. (edc0001@auburn.edu)  

Vegetables

34) Companion Planting with White Yarrow or Feverfew Inconsistently Affects Squash Bug Populations on Summer Squash. Brian A. Kahn*, Eric J. Rebek2, Lynn P. Brandenberger1, and Keith Reed1. 1358 Agricultural Hall, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078, 1127 NRC, Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078, 1315 W. Sixth, Suite 103, OSU Cooperative Extension Service – Payne County, Stillwater, OK 74074. (brian.kahn@okstate.edu)

35) Fertilizer Solution Electrical Conductivity Affects Development and Post-Harvest Performance of Hydroponically-Grown Butterhead Lettuce. Hannah R. Quick* and Michael R. Evans, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (hrquick@uark.edu)

36) Improving soils with winter cover crops before planting pumpkin (Cucurbita pepo). Lynn Brandenberger* and Lynda Carrier, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078-6027. (lynn.brandenberger@okstate.edu)

37) Evaluation of Lettuce Cultivars for Use in Hydroponic Greenhouse Crop Production. R. Preston Smith* and Michael R. Evans, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (rs009@uark.edu)

38) Louisiana Sugarcane Bagasse as Natural Mulch for Yellow Squash Production. Charles L. Webber III1,*, Paul M. White Jr.1, Eric C. Petrie1, James W. Shreffer2, and Merritt J. Taylor3. 1USDA, Agriculture Research Service, Sugarcane Research Unit, Houma, LA 70360, 2Oklahoma State University, Division of Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources, Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Durant, OK 74702, 3Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Division of Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources, Department of Agricultural Economics, Durant, OK 74702. (Chuck.Webber@ars.usda.gov)

39) Quantifying buyer preferences for greenhouse-grown lettuce. Sydney Holmes*, Daniel Wells, Jeremy Pickens, and Joe Kemble, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849. (sch0015@auburn.edu)

40) Season Extension of Bok Choy in Organically Managed High Tunnels in North Carolina. Sanjun Gu*, John E. Beck, Joseph A. Moore, and Gena S. Moore, Cooperative Extension Program, North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC 27410. (sgu@ncat.edu)

41G) High Tunnel Systems for Spring Organic Lettuce Production in Georgia. Theekshana C. Jayalath1*, Elizabeth Little2, George E. Boyhan3, Robert Tate3 and Suzanne O’Connell1, 1111 Plant Sciences Bldg., Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, 22105 Miller Plant Sci. Bldg., Department of Plant Pathology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. (sgu@ncat.edu)

42) Selecting Suitable Romaine and Leaf Lettuce Varieties for South Georgia. Timothy Coolong*, Department of Horticulture, The University of Georgia, Tifton, GA 31793. (tcoolong@uga.edu)

43) The Effect of Fertilizer Timing and Concentration on the Rate of Development of ‘Rex’ Lettuce Seedlings for Hydroponic Production. Reetinder K. Gill and Michael R. Evans*, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (revans@uark.edu)

44) The Long and Short of It: Sugarcane Planting Systems (Whole Stalks, Billets, and Single Nodes), Charles L. Webber III1,*, Paul M. White Jr.1, Jeffrey W. Hoy2, Kenneth Gravois3, Sonny Viator4, Herman Waguespack Jr.5, Ryan P. Viator6, and James W. Shreffer7, 1USDA, Agriculture Research Service, Sugarcane Research Unit, Houma, LA 70360, 2Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, 3Sugar Research Station, Louisiana State University, St. Gabriel, LA 70776, 4Iberia Research Station, Louisiana State University, Jeanerette, LA 70544, 5American Sugar Cane League, Thibodaux, LA 70301, 6Calvin Viator, Ph.D. and Associates, LLC, Houma, LA 70360, 7Oklahoma State University, Division of Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources, Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Durant, OK 74702. (Chuck.Webber@ars.usda.gov)
45UG) Inheritance and Characterization of Phenotypic Traits In Sweetpotato (*Ipomoea batatas* (L.) Lam.) Andrew Barocco* and Robert Mirabello, School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 – 2120. (abaroc3@lsu.edu)

46) Timing and Cultivars for Fall Cilantro Plantings in Mississippi. T.C. Barickman* and W.B. Evans2*, 1North Mississippi Research and Extension Center, P.O. Box 1690, Verona, MS 38879 and 2Truck Crops Branch, P.O. Box 231, Crystal Springs, MS 39059. (bill.evans@msstate.edu)

47) Vegetable Seedling Production with Sugarcane Bagasse Ash. Charles L. Webber III*, Paul M. White Jr., Eric C. Petrie, James W. Shrefler, and Merritt J. Taylor, USDA, Agriculture Research Service, Sugarcane Research Unit, Houma, LA 70360, Oklahoma State University, Division of Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources, Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Durant, OK 74702, Oklahoma State University, Division of Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources, Department of Agricultural Economics, Durant, OK 74702. (Chuck.Webber@ars.usda.gov)

48) Winter Organic Broccoli and Cauliflower under High Tunnels in Georgia. Suzanne O’Connell* and Robert Tate, 1111 Miller Plant Science Building, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602 (soco@uga.edu).

Addendum

49G) Bitter Melon (*Momordica charantia*): A Potential New Crop for Texas to Reduce Risk from Diabetes. Jose L. Perez*, G.K. Jayaprakasha, Kevin Crosby, and Bhimanagouda S. Patil. Vegetable and Fruit Improvement Center, Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77845-2119. (karen_c91@tamu.edu)

50G) Stability of Dietary Nitrate in Vegetable Juices During Storage at Different Temperatures. Karen A. Corleto*, G.K. Jayaprakasha, Bhimanagouda S. Patil, and Jashbir Singh. Vegetable and Fruit Improvement Center, Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77845-2119. (karen_c91@tamu.edu)

51G) Implementing Marker-Assisted Selection (MAS) in the University of Arkansas Peach and Nectarine Breeding Program. Terrence J. Frett*, John R. Clark, and Andrew Jecman, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, USA (tjfrett@email.uark.edu).

Sunday, February 7, 2016

**ACB BUSINESS MEETING**

**Room:** Rio Grande Ballroom East  
**Time:** 9:00 - 11:00  
**Presiding:** Kaitlin Ziesmer, President

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND AWARDS PROGRAM**

**Room:** Rio Grande Ballroom East  
**Time:** 11:00 – 12:30  
**Presiding:** Gary Bachman, President

**POSTER VIEWING & TAKE-DOWN**

**Room:** Regency Center West  
**Presiding:** Michael Maurer, Chair  
**Abstracts:** To publish abstract in *HortScience*, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: (maurerma@sfasu.edu).  
**Poster Viewing:** Sunday 8:00-10:45  
**Poster Take-down:** Sunday, 1:00 – 3:00
SECTION TITLES

VEGETABLE CROPS SECTION

Room: Navarro
Presiding: Casey Barickman, Chair
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: cb2407@msstate.edu

8:00 Alternative substrate for soilless production of vegetables in protected agriculture. Alexis Amorese and Shubin K. Saha*, Department of Horticulture, University of Kentucky, Ag Science Building North, N-322C, Lexington, KY 40546-0091. (Shubin.saha@uky.edu).

8:15 Introgressing novel traits into pepper from Capsicum baccatum. Kevin Crosby*, Stephen Perry1, Daniel Leskovar2, John Jifon3, 1Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2133, 2Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, Uvalde, TX 78801, 3Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, Weslaco, TX 78596. (kcrosby@tamu.edu).

8:30 Screening Potential Cucurbit Rootstocks for Resistance to Southern Root-knot Nematode (Meloidogyne incognita). Cody L. Smith1*, Joshua H. Freeman1, Nancy Kokalis-Burelle2, and William P. Wechter1, 1North Florida Research and Education Center, Quincy, FL 32351, 2U.S. Horticultural Research Laboratory, 2001 South Rock Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34945, 3U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, 2700 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29414. (joshuafrr@uf.edu).

8:45 Performance of Sequentially Transplanted Bell Pepper in Organically Managed High Tunnels in Hardiness Zone 7&8. Sanjun Gu*, John E. Beck, Joseph A. Moore, and Gena S. Moore, Cooperative Extension Program, North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC 27410. (sgu@ncat.edu).

9:00 Aggregate Depth and Irrigation Frequency Affects ‘Rex’ Lettuce Development in a Shallow Aggregate Ebb-and-Flood Production System. Joseph C. Chidiac* and Michael R. Evans, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (jchidiac@uark.edu)

9:15 Break

9:30 First and Second Cut Kale Trials in Georgia. Timothy Coolong*, Department of Horticulture, The University of Georgia, Tifton, GA 31793. (tcoolong@uga.edu)

9:45 Evaluation of Organic Cool Season Vegetable Rotations in Georgia. George E. Boyhan1*, Julia W. Gaskin2, Elizabeth L. Little1, and Esenfigue G. Fonsah4, 1111 Miller Plant Science Building, Department of Horticulture, 24115B Miller Plant Science Building, Crop & Soil Science Department, 32105 Miller Plant Science Building Department of Plant Pathology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, 2360 Rainwater Road, Department of Agricultural & Applied Economics, University of Georgia, Tifton, GA 31793 (gboyhan@uga.edu)

10:00 High Tunnel and Field Vegetable Cultivar Trial Updates from Mississippi. W.B. Evans*, Truck Crops Branch, Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 231 Crystal Springs, Mississippi 39059. (bill.evans@msstate.edu)

10:15 Tomato Responses to Broiler Litter Fertilizer. W.B. Evans*, Truck Crops Branch, Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 231, Crystal Springs, Mississippi 39059. (bill.evans@msstate.edu)

10:30 Quantifying Nitrate Levels in Aquaponic Water and Lettuce (Lactuca sativa L.) Leaves Grown under Two Feeding Regimens. Joseph G. Masabni*, Overton Research and Extension Center, Texas A&M University, Overton, TX 75684. (jmasabni@tamu.edu)

10:45 Comparison of Grafted Versus Non-grafted Organic Watermelon Yield and Quality within an Enhanced Native Pollinator Habitat. Brian K. Ward1*, Richard L. Hassell1, Mimi M. Jenkins1, B. Merle Shepard2 and Amnon Levi3, 1Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Clemson University Coastal Research and Education Center., 2700 Savannah Hwy., Charleston, SC 29414, 3USDA-ARS US Vegetable Lab., 2700 Savannah Hwy., Charleston, SC 29414. (bw@clemson.edu)
**FLORICULTURE, ORNAMENALS AND TURF SECTION**

Room: Bowie AB  
Presiding: MengMeng Gu, Chair  
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: mgu@tamu.edu

8:00 Biosolids Influence Growth and Quality in Field-grown Kale, Petunia, Dianthus, and Counting the costs: Developing a tool to help ornamental growers understand the costs and benefits of water recycling systems at their operation. John Majsztik¹, Dan Hitchcock², Saurav Kumar³, David Sample¹, and Sarah White¹, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, E-143 Poole Ag Center, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634. ²Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science, P.O. Box 596, Clemson University, Georgetown, SC 29442. ³Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory, 9408 Prince William St., Manassas, VA 20110. ¹Biological Systems Engineering, Hampton Roads Ag. Research and Extension Center, 1444 Diamond Springs Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23455. jmajszt@clemson.edu

8:15 Crapemyrtle bark scale monitoring at College Station, TX. Xiaoya Cai, Haijie Dou*, and Mengmeng Gu, Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, College Station, TX 77843. (mgu@tamu.edu)

8:30 Determination and Validation of Integrated Nutrient Diagnostic Norms for Greenhouse Rose Crops. J.J. Franco-Hermita¹, J.M. Guzman-Palomino², and R.I. Cabrera³*, ¹Dept.Tecnico, GR. Chia S.A., Colombia, ²Dept. Agronomía, Universidad de Almería, Spain, ³Dept. Plant Biology & Pathology, Rutgers University, Bridgeton, NJ 08302. (cabrera@aesop.rutgers.edu)

8:45 Gas Exchange Response to Leaf Excision for Two Field-grown Quercus Species. Thayne Montague* and Cynthia McKenney. Department of Plant and Soil Science, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409-2122. (thayne.montague@ttu.edu)

9:00 Genetic Diversity of a Range of Taxodium distichum Genotypes and Cultivars Based on ISSR and SSR Analysis. Yuhong Zheng¹, David L. Creech¹, and Bea Clack², ¹Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX 75962, ²College of Science and Mathematics, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX 75962. (zhengy1@sfasu.edu)

9:15 Break

9:30 Growing Roses in the Bayou State – Researching, Promoting, Trialing. Allen Owings*, LSU AgCenter, Hammond Research Station, 21549 Old Covington Highway, Hammond, LA 70403. (aowings@agcenter.lsu.edu)

9:45 Highlights of New Bedding Plant Trials – 2015. Allen Owings*, Jason Stagg and Gina Hebert, LSU AgCenter, Hammond Research Station, 21549 Old Covington Highway, Hammond, LA 70403 (aowings@agcenter.lsu.edu)

10:00 Performance of Black Diamond Crepe Myrtles in North Texas. Derald A. Harp and Mariah McPherson. School of Agriculture, Texas A&M University – Commerce, Commerce, TX 77529. (Derald.Harp@tamuc.edu)

10:15 Reducing Surface Runoff Losses of Atrazine from Centipedegrass (Eremochloa ophiuroides [Munro] Hack.) Kim Pope, Jeffrey Beasley¹, Brian Leblanc, and Ron Strahan, School of Plant, Environmental, and Soil Sciences, LSU Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, La 70803.

**FRUIT CROPS SECTION**

Room: Maverick A  
Presiding: Elina Coneva, Chair  
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: edc0001@auburn.edu

8:00 Application of Marker-Assisted Breeding in the University of Arkansas Peach [Prunus persica (L.) Batsch] Breeding Program Targeting the Major Locus for Fruit Acidity. Alejandra A. Salgado¹, John R. Clark¹*, Terrence J. Frett¹, Paul J. Sandefur,
and Andrew Jecmen1, 316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, 219D Johnson Hall, Department of Horticulture, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164. (asalgado@uark.edu)

8:15 Consumer attitudes towards genetic engineering in muscadine grapes. A. Edenbrandt1, L. House2, M. Olmstead1, Z. Gao2, and D. Gray1. 1Department of Food and Resource Economics, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, 2Food and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611. (megarcia@uark.edu)

8:30 Evaluation of Selected Fire Blight (Erwinia amylovora) Resistant Apple Rootstocks for Alabama. Elina Coneva* and James Pitts, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849. (edc0001@auburn.edu)

8:45 Evaluation of Three Table Grape Cultivars under High Tunnel and Three Training Systems. M. Elena Garcia1, D. T. Johnson1, D. A. Dickey1, and S. Altman1. 1Department of Horticulture. 2Entomology Department. University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701 (megarcia@uark.edu).

9:00 Break

9:15 Golden Kiwi, Actinidia chinensis, Evaluation at SFA Gardens and Opportunities for Commercialization. David Creech*, Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX 75962-3000. (dcreech@sfasu.edu)

9:30 Growing Strawberries in High Tunnels: Five Years of Lessons Learned. M. Elena Garcia1, D. T. Johnson2, D. A. Dickey1, and M. McGovern1. 1Department of Horticulture, 2Entomology Department. University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701 (megarcia@uark.edu).

9:45 Method to measure drought tolerance of Rabbiteye (Vaccinium ashei) and Southern highbush (Vaccinium corymbosum X) blueberry cultivars. Donna Marshall-Shaw, Stephen Stringer and Hamidou Sakhanokho. Thad Cochran Southern Horticultural Laboratory, USDA-ARS. Poplarville, MS 39470. (Donna.Marshall@ars.usda.gov)

10:00 Phenology, Physiology, and Fruit Characteristics of Pierce's Disease Resistant Vitis vinifera Selections in Alabama. Andrej Svyantek*, Elina Coneva, J. Raymond Kessler, James D. Spiers, and Edgar Vinson, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849. (aws0006@auburn.edu)

10:15 Phenotypic and Molecular Analysis of Black Raspberry Plant and Fruit Traits in the Southern US. Christine Bradish1, Jill M. Bushakra2, M. Dossett3, N. Bassil2, C. Finn3, P. Perkins-Vezzie5, G. Fernandez1, 1Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA, 2United States Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) – National Clonal Germplasm Repository, Corvallis, OR, USA, 3B.C. Blueberry Council (in partnership with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada), Agassiz, B.C., Canada, 4USDA-ARS-Horticultural Crops Research Unit, Corvallis, OR, USA, 5NC State University Plants for Human Health Institute, Kannapolis, NC, USA. (cmbradis@ncsu.edu)

POSTHARVEST AND BIOTECHNOLOGY SECTION

Room: Directors
Presiding: Penny Perkins-Vezzie, Chair
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: penelope_perkins@nscu.edu.

8:00 Fresh-Market Attributes Impacted by Postharvest Storage of Arkansas Blackberry Genotypes. Daniela M. Segantini1, Renee T. Threlfall2, John R. Clark1. 1316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture,
8:15 Small Scale Pomace Handling Systems for Value Added Product Generation from Grape Winery Waste. Niels Maness1, Neha Thunga1, Govinda Sapkota1, Donna Chrz1 and Susan Boehrer2.1Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, 358 Ag. Hall, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078. 2Redbud Farms, Washington, OK 73093 (niels.maness@okstate.edu)

8:30 Stable Pigments For Muscadine: What Components Will Slow Wine And Juice Browning? Penelope Perkins-Veazie1*, Guoying Ma2, Patrick Conner2, John R. Clark3, James Ballington4Plants for Human Health Institute. Department of Horticultural Sciences, North Carolina State University, 600 Laureate Way, Kannapolis NC 28081, 224605 Research Way University of Georgia, Tifton, GA 31793, 31316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, 4Department of Horticultural Sciences, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695 (Penelope_perkins@ncsu.edu)

8:45 Value Added Products From Watermelon: Watermelon Fries to Sunscreen. Penelope Perkins-Veazie1*, Plants for Human Health Institute, Department of Horticultural Sciences, North Carolina State University, 600 Laureate Way, Kannapolis NC 28081 (Penelope_perkins@ncsu.edu)

9:00 Watermelon as a Means to Boost Citrulline in a Rice-Based Diet in Senegal. Penelope Perkins-Veazie1*, Mamadou Sadji2, Ndèye Fatou Ndiaye2, Guoying Ma2 1Plants for Human Health Institute, Department of Horticultural Sciences, North Carolina State University, 600 Laureate Way, Kannapolis NC 28081, 2Institut de Technologie Alimentaire, Route des Pères Maristes, Hann, Dakar BP 2765, Senegal (Penelope_perkins@ncsu.edu)

9:15 Crispy Blackberry Fruits: Their Morphological Components and Postharvest Potential. Alejandra A. Salgado and John R. Clark* 316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. (asalgado@uark.edu)
WORKING GROUPS
(Contact Chairs for Agenda and order of presentations if not given)

National Sweetpotato Collaborators
Presiding: Ken Pecota, Chair
Friday: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Room: Live Oak

Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: ken_pecota@ncsu.edu.

Root knot nematode (RKN) management in sweetpotatoes with Nimitz and Dominus. Scott Stoddard1*, Antoon Ploeg2, Chris Leon3, 12145 Wardrobe Av., UC Cooperative Extension, Merced, CA, 95341, 22240A Spiehl Hall, Department of Nematology, UC Riverside, Riverside, CA 92521, 3Isagro-USA, Inc., 430 Davis Dr, Suite 240, Morrisville, NC 27560. ( cstoddard@ucanr.edu)

Sweetpotato Growth, Developmental, Physiological, and Storage Root Bulking Responses to Mid- and Late-Season Soil Moisture Deficits. K. Raja Reddy* and Bandara Gajanayake, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, 117 Dorman Hall, Box 9555, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762. (krrddy@pss.msstate.edu)

Bulk Piling of Sweetpotatoes for Short Term Storage. Justin Macialek* and Mike Boyette, Biological & Agricultural Engineering Department, NC State University, Raleigh, NC 27695. (jamacial@ncsu.edu)

Potyvirus Re-infection During Virus-tested Sweetpotato Seed Production in Louisiana. Christopher A. Clark*1 and Tara P. Smith2. 1Department of Plant Pathology & Crop Physiology, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 and 2Sweet Potato Research Station, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Chase, LA 71324. (CClark@agcenter.lsu.edu)

Evaluation of Various Insecticides Regimes for Control of Fall Armyworm in Mississippi Sweetpotato Production, 2015. Larry Adams* and Chris Johnson, USDA-ARS, SIMRU, Stoneville, MS 38776. (larry.adams@ars.usda.gov)

Chemical and Alternative Control Options for Managing Soft Rot and Black Rot of Sweetpotato. Andrew Scruggs* and Linda Quesada-Ocampo, Department of Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695. (acscrugg@ncsu.edu)

Current status and future direction of sweetpotato research at USVL. Livy Williams*, Phillip A. Wadl, and D. Michael Jackson. USDA-ARS, US Vegetable Laboratory, 2700 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29414. (livy.williams@ars.usda.gov)

Influence of growth retardant and cultivars on secondary metabolites profile in sweet potato grown under hydroponic system in greenhouse conditions. Damerius Johnson*, Victor Njiti, Qun Xia, Ananda K Nanjundaswamy and Franklin Chukwuma, Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS 39096. (vcnjii@alcorn.edu)

Developing Bacillus subtilis probiotic feed supplement feed supplement from Sweetpotato-oil meal fermentation. Angela Jackson*, Ananda K Nanjundaswamy, Victor Njiti, Xia, Qun, and Franklin Chukwuma, Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS 39096. (ananda@alcorn.edu)

Sweet potato as a feedstock for bio-oil production using oleaginous yeast fermentation. Ananda K Nanjundaswamy, Angela, Jackson, Amber Jones, Victor Njiti, Xia, Qun, and Franklin Chukwuma, Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS 39096. (ananda@alcorn.edu)

Compositional Characteristics of Principal U.S. Sweetpotato Cultivars and Genotypes. David H. Picha* and Mary S. Bowen, School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. (dpicha@agcenter.lsu.edu)

Variation in sweetpotato root architecture response to nematode infection. Arthur Villordon1* and Christopher Clark3, 1LSU Agricultural Center Sweet Potato Research Station, Chase, LA 71324; 2LSU AgCenter Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. (avillordon@agcenter.lsu.edu)

Lost in translation? Exploring the presumptive association between arbuscular mycorrhizae-phosphorus interaction and some root rotting pathogens. Arthur Villordon1*, Don LaBonte2 and Christopher Clark3, 1LSU Agricultural Center Sweet Potato Research Station, Chase, LA 71324, 2LSU AgCenter School of Plant, Environmental, and Soil Science, Baton Rouge, LA 70803; 1LSU AgCenter Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.
Sweetpotato Vine Puller-Chopper: A transition from prototype to a semi-commercial unit. Anirudh Akula*, J.A. Macialek and M.D. Boyette, Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695. (aakula@ncsu.edu)

Evaluating Linuron for Weed Control and Sweetpotato (Ipomoea batatas) Crop Response. Lauren L. Barber¹*, Mark W. Shankle²*, Trevor F. Garrett², and Stephen L. Meyers³, ¹Plant and Soil Sciences, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39759, ²Pontotoc Ridge-Flatwoods Branch Experiment Station, Mississippi State University, Pontotoc, MS, 38863. (llb383@msstate.edu)

Method Development and Assessment of Plastic Mulches for Sweet Potato Bedding Systems. Jason K. Ward* and J.W. Lowe, Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762. (jward@abe.msstate.edu)

Development of transgenic sweetpotato with multiple virus resistance in US. David Henderson, Chunquan Zhang, Victor Njiti, Yan Meng, Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS 39096. (ymeng@alcorn.edu)

Sulfur Fertilization in Mississippi Sweetpotatoes. Jeffrey L. Main, Pontotoc Ridge-Flatwoods Branch Experiment Station, Mississippi State University, Pontotoc, MS 38863. (jmain@ra.msstate.edu)

Insecticide Management of the Sugarcane Beetle and other Soil Insects in Sweetpotato in Louisiana. T.P. Smith¹, J. Beuzelin², T.F. Arnold³, and D. May², ¹LSU Agricultural Center Sweet Potato Research Station, Chase, LA 71324. ² LSU Agricultural Center Dean Lee Research Station, Alexandria, LA 71302. (tsmith@agcenter.lsu.edu)

Update on the Genomic Tools for Sweetpotato Improvement Project. G. Craig Yencho, Department of Horticultural Science, NC State University, Raleigh, NC 27695. (craig_yencho@ncsu.edu)

Sweetpotato yield in response to Timac fertilization and biostimulant on Covington Sweetpotatoes. *Jonathan R. Schultheis* and William B. Thompson, Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC27695-7609 (jonathan_schultheis@ncsu.edu)

Developing agronomic best practices for sweet potatoes under Canadian growing conditions. Melanie Filotas¹, Cathy Bakker² and Mary Ruth McDonald³. ¹Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Simcoe Research Centre, Simcoe Ontario, N3Y 4K6, ²Department of Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, N1G 2W1 (Melanie.Filotas@ontario.ca)

Saponins in sweetpotato varieties grown in North Carolina: an exploratory study. Ying Feng¹, Rong Reynolds² and Van-Den Truong*², ¹College of Food Science, Shenyang Agricultural University, Shenyang, China; ²USDA-ARS, SAA Food Science Research Unit, Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695 (Den.Truong@ARS.USDA.GOV)

Comparison of three color combinations of light-emitting diode, and ambient light treatments for sweetpotatoes (Ipomoea batatas) grown in greenhouse conditions. T. F. Arnold*¹, A. Q. Villordon¹, T. P. Smith¹, and C. A. Clark². ¹LSU AgCenter Sweet Potato Research Station, Chase, LA 71324, ²LSU AgCenter School of Plant Environmental and Soil Sciences, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. (TArnold@agcenter.lsu.edu)

Overview of Vineland’s Sweet Potato Breeding Program. Valerio Primomo¹, Amy Bowen¹, Travis Reynolds¹, David Liscombe¹, and Don LaBonte². ¹Vineland Research and Innovation Centre, Vineland Station, Ontario, Canada, L0R 2E0; School of Plant, Environmental, and Soil Sciences, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. (valerio.primomo@vinelandresearch.com)

Poster titles

Effect of Microbial formulation on sweetpotato growth and yield, and insect damage to the roots. T. Rashid¹, R. Luttrell², V. Njití¹ and L. Adams², ¹Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS 39096, ²USDA-ARS, SIMRU, Stoneville, MS 38776 (trashid@alcorn.edu)

Corn Tolerance to Command Carryover in Sweetpotato (Ipomoea batatas). Lauren L. Barber*¹, Mark W. Shankle*², Dan B. Reynolds*², and Trevor F. Garrett*², ¹Plant and Soil Sciences, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, 39759, ²Pontotoc Ridge-Flatwoods Branch Experiment Station, Mississippi State University, Pontotoc, MS, 38863. (llb383@msstate.edu)

Validation of Sample Collection Methods for Salmonella Detection in Sweetpotato. Jeff Main¹,
Taejo Kim¹, Stephen Meyers¹, Juan Silva², ¹Pontotoc Ridge-Flatwoods Branch Experiment Station, Mississippi State University, Pontotoc, MS 38863, ²Department of Food Science, Nutrition, and Health Promotion, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (stephen.meyers@msstate.edu)

Watermelon Research Group

Presiding: Shaker Kousik, Chair
Friday: 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Room: Llano/Pecos

Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: shaker.kousik@ars.usda.gov

Friday, February 5, 2016
1:00 Welcome: Shaker Kousik, Chair, WRDWG
1:10 Introductions: All in attendance

Industry updates and presentations
1:30 Update for West Coast (AZ and CA) and Texas. Matt Kinkade*, Syngenta (matt.kinkade@syngenta.com)
1:45 Global Challenges for the Future of Watermelon Breeding. Emilio Sarria Villada*, Rijk Zwaan, Ibérica S.A. Ctra Viator-PJ.Mami, S/N 04120, Almería, España. (e.sarria@rijkzwaan.es)
2:00 Watermelon Industry in Venezuela. Jérôme Bernier*, Monsanto Vegetable Seeds, 37437 State Highway 16, Woodland, CA, 95695, USA. (jerome.bernier@monsanto.com)
2:15 Regional Watermelon Production Updates
Florida
Carolinas
DelMarVa
Georgia
Indiana & Midwest
3:00 Variety updates from Seed Companies
3:30 Break

Variety Trial Reports:
4:00 Georgia Watermelon Variety Trial Results for 2015. Timothy Coolong*, Department of Horticulture, 2360 Rainwater Road, the University of Georgia, Tifton, GA 31793. (tcoolong@uga.edu)
4:20 2015 South Carolina Seedless Variety Trial. Gilbert Miller*, 64 Research Road, Clemson University – EREC Blackville, SC 29817. (gmllr@clemson.edu)

4:40 Watermelon Cultivar Yield and Quality Results, North Carolina, 2015. Jonathan R. Schultheis* and William B. Thompson, Dept. Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, 2721 Founders Drive, Raleigh, NC 27695-7609. (jorr@ncsu.edu)

5:00 Seedless Watermelon (Citrullus lanatus) Variety Trial for Kentucky, 2015. Shubin K. Saha¹ and John Walsh², ¹Department of Horticulture, University of Kentucky, Ag Science Building North, N-322C, Lexington, KY 40546-0091. ²Department of Horticulture, University of Kentucky, Horticulture Research Farm, 4321 Emment Farm Lane, Lexington, KY 40514. (Shubin.saha@uky.edu)

5:20 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trials Conducted by University of Delaware Cooperative Extension 2015. Emmalea Ernest* and Gordon Johnson, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Delaware, Elbert N. and Ann V. Carvel Research and Education Center, 16483 County Seat Highway, Georgetown, DE 19947. (emmalea@udel.edu)

5:40 2015 South East Regional Seedless Variety Trial – NC, SC, GA, FL. Gilbert Miller¹⁶, Josh Freeman¹, Tim Coolong¹, and Jonathan Schultheis¹⁴. ¹¹⁶Research Road, Clemson University - EREC, Blackville, SC 29817. ¹¹⁵Research Road, University of Florida – NFREC, Quincy, FL 32351. ¹¹⁴2360 Rainwater Road, University of Georgia, Tifton, GA 31793-5766. ¹²721 Founders Drive, Department of Horticulture Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7609. (gmllr@clemson.edu)

6:00 Adjourn

Saturday, February 6, 2016
8:30 Day 2, Welcome and additional introductions: Shaker Kousik, Chair

Research Reports

Grafting
9:00 Watermelon Cultivars Reaction to Grafting. Richard L. Hassell, Clemson University Coastal Research and Education Center, Charleston, SC 29414. (rhassel@clemson.edu)
9:20 Potential New Rootstocks for Watermelon Grafting. Richard L. Hassell, Clemson University Coastal Research and Education Center, Charleston, SC 29414. (rhassel@clemson.edu)

9:40 Watermelon Yield and Fruit Size Response to Grafted versus Non-grafted Transplants in Plasticulture and Bare Ground Productions Systems. Jonathan R. Schultheis* and William B. Thompson, Dept. Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, 2721 Founders Drive, Raleigh, NC 27695-7609. (jonr@ncsu.edu).

Pollenizers

10:00 Influence of Pollenizer Variety on Seedless Watermelon Production and Anthracnose Severity. Shubin K. Saha1* and Dan Egel2, 1Department of Horticulture, University of Kentucky, Ag Science Building North, N-322C, Lexington, KY 40546-0091. 2Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Southwest Purdue Agricultural Center, Purdue University, 4369 N. Purdue Rd, Vincennes, IN 47591. (Shubin.saha@uky.edu).

Watermelon Growth and development

10:20 The Impact of Growth Habit, Planting Density and Weeding Regime on Watermelon Yield in an Organic System. Suzanne Stone* and George Boyhan, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30605 (sstone2@uga.edu)

10:40 Break

11:00 Early Watermelon Fruit Development and Hollow Heart in Triploid Watermelon. Gordon C. Johnson*, Donald Seifrit, and Rebecca J. Carroll Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Delaware, Elbert N. and Ann V. Carvel Research and Education Center, 16483 County Seat Highway, Georgetown, DE 19947. (gcjohn@udel.edu).

Biotic and Abiotic Stress

11:30 Evaluation of Alternative Differential Lines for Identification of Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. niveum Races. Kathryne L. Everts*, Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742. (keverts@umd.edu)

11:50 How Does Planting Date Impact Stand Loss From Fusarium Wilt in Watermelon. Timothy Coolong1*, Anthony Keinath2, Pingsheng Ji3, and Bhabesh Dutta4. 1Department of Horticulture, The University of Georgia, Tifton, GA 31973, 2Coastal Research and Education Center, Clemson University, Charleston, SC, 3Department of Plant Pathology, The University of Georgia, Tifton, GA 31793. (tcoolong@uga.edu)

12:10 Evaluation of Fungicides for Management of Fusarium Wilt of Watermelon. Nathan Miller*, Mike Adams, and Lina M. Quesada-Ocampo. North Carolina State University, Department of Plant Pathology, Raleigh, NC. (nmille2@ncsu.edu).

12:30 Lunch

2:00 Update from NWPB. Mark Arney*. National Watermelon Promotion Board. 1321 Sundial Point Winter Springs, FL 32708. (info@watermelon.org)

2:20 Progress Toward’s Understanding the Biology of Watermelon Seed Infection by Acidovorax citrulli. Bhabesh Dutta*, University of Georgia, 2360 Rainwater Road, Tifton, GA 31793. (bhabesh@uga.edu)

2:40 Screening the Watermelon Germplasm Collection for Resistance to Bacterial Blotch at the Fruit Stage. James D. Daley* and Todd C. Wehner Dept. Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC. (tcwehner@gmail.com)

3:00 Molecular Dissection of Resistance Signaling in Watermelon fruit through Metabolomics and Transcriptomic Approach. Mihir K. Mandal1*, Shaker Kousik2 and Brian Ward1. ORISE participant sponsored by U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, USDA, ARS, 2U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, USDA, ARS, 2700 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29414. 3 Clemson University Coastal Research and Education Center, Charleston, SC 29414. (shaker.kousik@ars.usda.gov)

3:20 Screening Potential Cucurbit Rootstocks for Resistance to Southern Root-knot Nematode (Meloidogyne incognita) and Reniform Nematode (Rotylenchulus reniformis). Cody L. Smith1*, Joshua H. Freeman1, Nancy Kokalis-Burelle2, and
3:40 Break

4:10 Managing Plant Pathogenic Nematodes in Cucurbits with Novel Non-fumigant Nematicides. Joshua H. Freeman* and Nancy Kokalis-Burelle2. 1North Florida Research and Education Center, 155 Research Road, Quincy, FL 32351, 2U.S. Horticultural Research Laboratory, 2001 South Rock Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34945, (joshuafr@ufl.edu).

4:30 Breadth of Resistance of USVL Developed Phytophthora Fruit Rot Resistant Germplasm Lines to Phytophthora capsici Isolates from Across USA. Shaker Kousik*, Jennifer L. Ikerd and Mihir K. Mandal. 1U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, USDA, ARS, 2700 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29414; 2ORISE participant sponsored by U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, USDA, ARS. (shaker.kousik@ars.usda.gov).

4:50 Genetic relationships among Citrullus colocynthis accessions as viewed with high frequency oligonucleotide–targeting active gene (HFO–TAG) markers. Amnon Levi*, Alvin Simmons1, Laura Massey1, John Coffey1, Padma Nimmakayala2 and Umesh K. Reddy2. 1USDA, ARS, U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, 2700 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29414; 2Department of Biology, Douglass Land-grant Institute, West Virginia State University, Institute, WV 25112-1000, USA. (amnon.levi@ars.usda.gov).

5:10 WRDG Business
NWA Update
WRDG-Survey-Update
Hot Topics
Scientific name for citron melon-Citrullus amarus
CGC-Update
Website
Other topics??
2017 WRDG meeting

6:00 p.m. Adjourn

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National Cowpea Improvement Association

Presiding: Blair Buckley, Chair
Saturday: 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Room: Medina
Abstracts: To publish abstract in HortScience, see instructions at end of program. Submit on disk at meeting or email to Chair: bbuckley@agctr.lsu.edu

Association Analysis of Cowpea Bacterial Blight Resistance in USDA Cowpea Germplasm. Aiong Shi*, Blair Buckley2, Beiquan Mou1, Dennis Motes3, J. Bradley Morris3, Jianbing Ma1, Haizheng Xiong1, Jun Qin1, Wei Yang1, Jessica Chitwood3, Yuejin Weng1, Weiguo Lu1, 1Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, 3USDA-ARS Crop Improvement and Protection Research Unit, Salinas, CA 93905, 4USDA-ARS Plant Genetic Resources Conservation Unit, 1109 Experiment St., Griffin, GA 30223. (ashi@uark.edu)

Horticulture Administrators

Presiding: Wayne Mackay, Chair
(mackay@uark.edu)
Friday: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Room: Mesquite

Vigna Crop Germplasm Committee

Presiding: Blair Buckley, Chair
(bbuckley@agctr.lsu.edu)
Saturday: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Room: Medina

Pecan Research and Extension Forum

Presiding: Lenny Wells, Chair
(lwells@uga.edu)
Friday: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Room: Nueces/Frio

Southern Blueberry/Small Fruit Workers

Presiding: Eric Stafne, Chair
(eric.stafne@msstate.edu)
Friday: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Room: Directors
Instructions for Submission of Abstracts for Publication in *HortScience*

1) One of the authors must be registered for the conference.
2) The title of the abstract must appear in the published conference program.
3) The abstract must be submitted as a document file in the proper format.
4) The abstract must be submitted to the Chair of the session by the deadline.

**Submission of Abstract**

**File Format:** Each abstracts must be submitted as a separate Word (.doc) file. If you use another word processing language, submit abstract in rich text format (.rtf).

**Deadline:**
1) At meeting: Give disk with file to the Chair of the session.
2) Email abstracts as an attached file to the Chair of the session before the meeting or within a few days after the meeting. See the Section Program for the Chair’s email address.

**Abstract Format**

**Length:** Limit the abstract body to about 2000 characters.

**Font:** 12 point, Times New Roman or similar

**Format:** Format abstract as below. Asterisk denotes presenting author.

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**Example Format**

**Molecular Marker-Derived Genetic Similarity Analysis of a Segregating Blackberry Population**

Eric T. Stafne*, 1 John R. Clark1, and Kim S. Lewers2

1316 Plant Sciences, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, 2USDA-ARS Fruit Lab, 10300 Baltimore Ave., BARC-West Bldg. 010A, Beltsville, MD 20705

A tetraploid blackberry population that segregates for two important morphological traits, thornlessness and primocane fruiting, was tested with molecular marker analysis. Both randomly amplified polymorphic DNA (RAPD) and simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers were used to screen a population of 98 genotypes within the population plus the two parents, ‘Arapaho’ and ‘Prime-Jim’® (APF-12). RAPD analysis averaged 3.4 markers per primer, whereas SSR analysis yielded 3.0 markers per primer pair. Similarity coefficient derived from the Dice index averaged over all individuals was 63% for RAPD markers, 73% for SSR markers, and 66% for both RAPD and SSR markers together. The average similarity coefficients ranged from a high of 72% to a low of 38% for RAPD markers, 80% to 57% for SSR markers, and 73% to 55% for both. Comparison of the parents indicated a similarity of 67% for RAPD markers, 62% for SSR markers, and 67% for both. This is similar to a previous study that reported the similarity coefficient at 66%. Although inbreeding exists within the population, the level of heterozygosity is high. Also, evidence of tetrasomic inheritance was uncovered within the molecular marker analysis. This population will be used to identify potential markers linked to both morphological traits of interest. Further genetic linkage analysis and mapping is needed to identify any putative markers.
Meeting Room Locations
### 2016 Program at a Glance

#### Friday, February 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Hotel Lobby</td>
<td>7:00 open</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Nueces/Frio</td>
<td>Directors</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Mesquite</td>
<td>Southem Blueberry/Small Fruit Workers</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
<td>Llano/Pecos</td>
<td>Horticulture Administrators</td>
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<td>11:00</td>
<td>Live Oak</td>
<td>Watermelon Research Group</td>
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<td>12:00</td>
<td>Chula Vista</td>
<td>ACB Club Share and Networking</td>
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<td>1:00</td>
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<td>ACB Activities, Tour, Meal</td>
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#### Saturday, February 6

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<td>Regency Ballroom Foyer</td>
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<td>8:00</td>
<td>Regency Center West</td>
<td>Poster Session Set-Up</td>
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<td>9:00</td>
<td>Regency Ballroom Center East</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Llano/Pecos</td>
<td>Watermelon Research Group</td>
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<td>11:00</td>
<td>Medina</td>
<td>Extension Section</td>
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<td>12:00</td>
<td>Vigna Crop Germplasm Committee</td>
<td>National Cowpea Improvement Association</td>
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<td>1:00</td>
<td>Nuces/Frio</td>
<td>National Cowpea Improvement Association</td>
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<td>2:00</td>
<td>Mesquite</td>
<td>Edmond UG Paper Comp.</td>
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<td>3:00</td>
<td>Live Oak</td>
<td>Children M.S. Paper Competition</td>
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<td>4:00</td>
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<td>J. Benton Storey Horticulture Judging Contest</td>
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<td>5:00</td>
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<td>Authors at Posters &amp; Judging</td>
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#### Sunday, February 7

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<td>Regency Ballroom Foyer</td>
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<td>8:00</td>
<td>Regency Center West</td>
<td>Poster Session Viewing</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Rio Grande Ballroom East</td>
<td>ACB Business Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Navarro</td>
<td>Business Meeting/Awards Prog.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Bowie AB</td>
<td>SAAS Business Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Maverick A</td>
<td>Vegetable Crops Section</td>
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<td>1:00</td>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>Floriculture, Ornamentals &amp; Turf Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
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<td>Fruit Crops Section</td>
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<td>3:00</td>
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<td>PostHarvest &amp; Biotechnology Section</td>
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