

# 2016 Pre-Conference Newsletter





## Southern Region

**Parent Society**
**American Society for Horticultural Science**
**Member SAAS**

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### Message from the President



As we start to wrap up 2015 I want to encourage you to make plans to attend the Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science meeting in San Antonio, TX.

We continue the Friday through Sunday scheduling to encourage greater participation from both students and faculty.

It's an opportunity to learn the latest research results from around the southeast and take advantage of the collegial atmosphere. Also, the faculty from across the southeast are readily available and welcome the chance to interact with both undergraduate and graduate

students. Each day after the meetings are finished the San Antonio Riverwalk offers many opportunities to continue discussions in the various dining and entertainment venues.

This meeting was the first professional meeting I attended as an undergraduate and has always been one of my favorites with its welcoming and supportive structure for students.

I'd also like to invite you to wear your favorite Hawaiian shirts; you know I'll be wearing mine. I hope to see you in San Antonio. Gary

### About the 2016 Annual Meeting

San Antonio, TX  
February 5-7, 2016

SRASHS will meet in conjunction with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientist (SAAS) in San Antonio, TX. Lodging and meetings will be available at Hyatt Regency San Antonio Riverwalk. For more information go to:

[http://saasinc.org/2016-SanAntonio/Welcome\\_page.asp](http://saasinc.org/2016-SanAntonio/Welcome_page.asp)

### Program Schedule Notes

See the program schedule at the end of the newsletter. Notice that the meetings are Friday through Sunday and there is no programming after the business meeting on Sunday.

### Pre-Registration and Registration Information

The cost of Registration is \$110 for Members, Faculty and Industry, \$40 for graduate students, \$20 for undergraduate students, and \$30 for ACB Club registration and dues. Pre-registration online prior to the meeting and registration at the meeting are the same rate. Pre-registration is fully refunded if you cancel at any time and for any reason. Therefore, everyone is **strongly encouraged** to pre-register online. If you pre-register online, your cancellation refunds will be credited to your credit card.

### Pre-Registration Online (strongly encouraged)

**Deadline:** Prior to and through the meeting.  
Go to the following URL to access the Southern Region ASHS Registration Site:

<https://www.eventville.com/catalog/eventregistration1.asp?eventid=1011758> We would like to thank Mike Neff and ASHS Headquarters for supplying the online registration service.

### Registration at the Meeting

On-site registration will be available at the meeting.

**Payment:** Credit card via onsite online registration, check (personal, institutional, organization, foundation), or cash.

### Hotel Registration Information

#### Conference Site

##### Hyatt Regency San Antonio Riverwalk

123 Losoya Street, San Antonio, TX 78205

Phone: 210.222.1234

Fax: 210.451.6162

**Deadline:** Friday, January 22 (for conference rate).

#### **Rates:**

Single/Double \$139/night

Triple/Quad \$139/night

**SAAS rate includes:** No resort fee, no fee for Health Club or pool usage, 50% discount on self-parking fees, complimentary Internet in guest rooms for up to one device, complimentary use of electrical outlets in meeting rooms for presenters only, and complimentary room sets to include chairs, tables, podium, projector table, easels, risers, water stations, pen, and paper.

**Check in:** 3:00 pm      **Check out:** Noon

**Reservations** can be made online at:

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/SAAS2016> or by calling 1-888-421-1442 and refer to the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (SAAS) group block at the Hyatt Regency San Antonio Riverwalk. If rooms are available, reservations can be made for 3 days ahead and/or 3 days after the meeting dates at the discounted group rate if you would like to come early or stay longer for sightseeing.

**Early Departure Fee:** Hyatt has an early departure fee of a full night's room and tax. Departure dates are reconfirmed at check-in and

are subject to a fee if changed after the check-in process is complete.

#### **Airport Information**

The San Antonio International Airport (SAT), located at 9800 Airport Boulevard, San Antonio, TX 78216, is approximately 15 miles from the conference hotel.

Hotel does not have shuttle service

### Alternate Overflow Hotel

#### Omni La Mansion del Rio Riverwalk

112 College Street, San Antonio, TX 78205

(one block off the Riverwalk)

Phone: 210-518-1000

Rate: \$139

Due to a shortage of double rooms at the Hyatt, SAAS is contracting with the Omni to be an alternate hotel site. The contract is pending, but should be finalized the week of December 14; check the SAAS web site ([saasinc.org](http://saasinc.org)) for group rate registration details.

### Notes to Paper Presenters

#### Oral Paper Presentation Format:

Presenters must bring their presentation(s) as a PowerPoint presentation saved on a USB memory device. It is advisable to bring your presentation on at least two storage devices for redundancy. If you would like to bring your presentation on any other storage form, check with the Chair ahead of time to make sure their computer will accept that form.

#### Poster Preparation Instructions

**Size, Format and Font.** Poster presentations must fit with a 48" x 48" size. Abstract titles, names, and affiliations should appear on the top of the poster. A simple sans serif-face font (e.g., Helvetica) should be used. Lettering for the title should be at least one inch tall. Lettering for text and illustrations should range in size between 6 mm and 12 mm. The authors' names and affiliations may be somewhat smaller. Authors are urged to include photographs to assist in author identification.

**Content.** Do not prepare a poster as if it were a manuscript. Primarily, use tables and figures and use limited verbiage. Details of the work can be provided in discussions with interested parties.

**Display.** Mount your poster on the poster board that has the same number as your title in the program. Push-pins or Velcro buttons may be used to hang posters. Pins/Velcro must be supplied by presenter—they will not be available on-site.

**Poster Competition.** Undergraduate and graduate students wishing to participate in the poster judging competition should indicate their intent to the Chair of the Poster Section when they submit their poster title. Limited numbers may be accepted at the meeting; check with the registration table.

### **Abstract Preparation Instructions:**

In order to publish abstracts: 1) one of the authors must be registered for the SRASHS conference (or one of the other SAAS groups), 2) the paper or poster must be presented in a conference session, and 3) the title must appear in the Conference Program. Prepare abstracts according to the "Instructions for Submission of Abstracts for Publication by ASHS" form at the end of the Newsletter. Each abstract must be submitted as a separate Word (.doc) file. If you use another word processing language, save and submit the abstract as a rich text format (.rtf) file.

Email your abstract to the Chair before the meeting or you may submit the abstract in a file format to the Chair at the meeting. The Chair may give a few days grace period to send the abstract by email after the meeting. To be published, all abstracts must be formatted properly.

### **Notes to Section Chairs and Judges**

**Section Chairs:** The Section Chairs are responsible for bringing a laptop computer and projector for their Sections. If this is a problem, there will be two projectors and one laptop that can be checked-out at the registration desk.

#### **Judges:**

**ACB Advisor:** Arranges judges for the J. Benton Storey Judging Contest.

**Collegiate Branch Section Chair:** Arranges judges for the Edmund Undergraduate oral presentations.

**Poster Section Chair:** Arranges judges for the undergraduate and graduate National Cowpea Poster judging.

**President-Elect:** Arranges judges for the Childers Masters and Barham PhD graduate oral presentations.

#### **Chairs collect abstracts:**

All Chairs collect abstracts at the meeting or give the presenters a few days to submit abstracts to the Chair by email. The Chair sends abstracts to Sylvia DeMar (sdemar@ashs.org) by mid-February. In order for an abstract to be published:

- The abstract title must appear in the Conference Program.
- The paper must have been presented orally or as a poster at the meeting. "No shows" are not published.
- One of the authors must be registered for the conference.
- The abstract must be formatted properly.

### **Fall 2015 Election Results**

Congratulations to the following individuals who were elected in the Fall 2015 Elections.

#### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

(will preside over 2018 meeting)

Tim Davis, Texas A&M University

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

(will serve starting with 2017 meeting)

Richelle Stafne, USDA

Carolyn W. Robinson, Auburn University

#### **SECTION CHAIRS-ELECT**

(will coordinate Section for 2017 meeting)

##### **Education Section**

Garry McDonald, University of Arkansas

##### **Extension Section**

Bodie Pennisi, University of Georgia

##### **Floriculture, Ornamentals & Turf Section**

Allen Owings, Louisiana State University

##### **Fruit Crops Section**

Dario Chavez, University of Georgia

##### **Vegetable Crops Section**

Katie Jennings, North Carolina State Univ.

##### **Postharvest & Biotechnology Section**

Cecelia McGregor, University of Georgia

##### **Poster Section**

Leo Lombardini, Texas A&M University

##### **Collegiate Branch (Edmond Paper Competition)**

Chris Marble, University of Florida

### **Southern Region Dues and Membership**

ASHS Headquarters collects and manages dues for the Southern Region. It is recommended that ASHS members pay their dues with their yearly ASHS membership. Non-ASHS members should pay their dues through the ASHS Online Store at: <https://ashs.site-ym.com/store/ViewProduct.aspx?ID=2463036>. If absolutely necessary, dues can also be paid at the annual meetings. Dues are \$30. Notice: Dues must be paid to be elected to an office or to receive an award.

### **Future Meetings Sites**

2017 Mobile, AL (Feb 4-7, 2017)

2018 Jacksonville, FL (Feb 3-6, 2018)

**2015-2016 Officers, Chairs and Committees**  
 (Term of office is from end of 2015 meeting through 2016 meeting)  
**Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science**

<b>Officers</b>		
President	Gary Bachman	gary.bachman@msstate.edu
President-Elect	Ed Bush	ebush@agctr.lsu.edu
President-Elect-Elect	Tim Davis	t-davis5@exchange.tamu.edu
Secretary-Treasurer	David Wm. Reed	dwreed@tamu.edu
<b>Executive Committee</b>		
Chair	David Hensley	dhensley@uark.edu
Vice-Chair	Pat Williams	pecbaw@gmail.com
Member	Guihong Bi	gbi@pss.msstate.edu
Member	Jim Robbins	jrobbins@uaex.edu
Member	Amy Wright	awright@auburn.edu
Member	Sarah White	swhite4@clemson.edu
Member, President-Elect	Ed Bush	ebush@agctr.lsu.edu
<b>ACB Officers</b>		
President	Kaitlin Ziesmer	kziesmer@murraystate.edu
President-Elect	Andrew Thomas	awt2r@mtmail.mtsu.edu
Secretary	Auston Holland	alh0080@auburn.edu
Treasurer	Loren Anthony	lmanthon@uark.edu
ACB Rep	Christine Jackson	soccerchick11@gmail.com
Activities Chair	Meghan Peoples	meghanpeoples@gmail.com
Recruitment Chair	Stephanie Stoner	stephanie.stoner@okstate.edu
ACB Advisor	Jay Spiers	jds0017@auburn.edu
<b>Section Chairs</b>		
Education Section	Carolyn Robinson	cwrobinson@auburn.edu
Extension Section	Jim Robbins	jrobbins@uaex.edu
Floriculture, Ornamentals and Turf Section	MengMeng Gu	MGu@tamu.edu
Fruit Crops Section	Elina Coneva	edc0001@auburn.edu
Poster Section	Michael Maurer	maurerma@sfasu.edu
Postharvest/Biotechnology Section	Penny Perkins-Veazie	penelope_perkins@ncsu.edu
Vegetables Crops Section	Casey Barickman	cb2407@msstate.edu
Collegiate Branch Chair	Dario Chavez	dchavez@uga.edu
Childers and Barham Grad Competition	Ed Bush	ebush@agctr.lsu.edu
<b>Working Groups Chairs</b>		
Horticultural Administrators	Wayne Mackay	mackay@uark.edu
National Cowpea Improvement Assoc.	Blair Buckley	bbuckley@agctr.lsu.edu
National Sweet Potato Collaborators	Ken Pecota	ken_pecota@ncsu.edu
Pecan Research & Extension Forum	Lenny Wells	lwells@uga.edu
Southern Blueberry/Small Fruit Workers	Eric Stafne	eric.stafne@msstate.edu
Vigna Crop Germplasm Committee	Blair Buckley	bbuckley@agctr.lsu.edu
Watermelon Research Group	Shaker Kouisk	shaker.kousik@ars.usda.gov

<b>Nominations Committee</b>		
Chair, Senior Retired President	Curt Rom	crom@uark.edu
Member, Immediate Past President	Wayne Mackay	mackay@uark.edu
Member	Brian Jackson	brian_jackson@ncsu.edu
Member	Matthew Chappell	hortprod@uga.edu
Member	Christine Coker	christine.coker@msstate.edu
<b>Awards Committees</b>		
Miller Distinguished Educator, Chair	Cynthia McKenney	cynthia.mckenney@ttu.edu
Member	Shad Nelson	shad.nelson@tamuk.edu
Member	Helen Kraus	helen_kraus@ncsu.edu
Miller Distinguished Researcher, Chair	Don Labonte (sub)	dlabonte@agcenter.lsu.edu
Member	Thomas Ranney	tom_ranney@ncsu.edu
Member	Arthur Villordon	avillordon@agcenter.lsu.edu
Covington Extension Award, Chair	Chris Gunter	cgunter@ncsu.edu
Member	Lucy Bradley	lucy_bradley@ncsu.edu
Member	Elina Coneva	edc0001@auburn.edu
Hutchinson Young Extension , Chair	Memgmeng Gu	MGu@tamu.edu
Member	Cheryl Boyer	crboyer@ksu.edu
Member	Peter Dittmar	pdittmar@ufl.edu
Krezdorn Doctoral Writing, Chair	Ramon Arancibia	aran@vt.edu
Member	Jim Robbins	jrobbins@uaex.edu
Member	Richard Harkess	richard.harkess@msstate.edu
Smeal Leadership, Chair	David Creech	dcreech@sfasu.edu
Member	Curt Rom	crom@uark.edu
Member	Wayne Mackay	mackay@uark.edu
Extension Communications, Chair	James Robbins	jrobbins@uaex.edu
Member	Tim Coolong	tcoolong@uga.edu
Member	Sarah White	swhite4@clemson.edu
Childers Outstanding Graduate Stu., Chair	Wayne Mackay	mackay@uark.edu
Member	Gary Bachman	gbachman@ext.msstate.edu
Member	Ed Bush	ebush@agctr.lsu.edu
Outstanding ACB Club & Club Member	Jay Spiers	jds0017@auburn.edu

# Instructions for Submission of Abstracts for Publication by ASHS

## To Publish Your Abstract in *HortScience*:

- The abstract title must appear in the Program.
- The paper must have been presented orally or as a poster at the meeting.
- One of the authors must be registered for the conference.
- The abstract must be formatted properly.

## Submission of Abstract

**File Format:** Each abstract 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 prior to the meeting or within a few days after the meeting. See the 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.

### Example Format

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

Eric T. Stafne\*<sup>1</sup>, John R. Clark<sup>1</sup>, and Kim S. Lewers<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>316 Plant Sciences, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, <sup>2</sup>USDA-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'<sup>®</sup> (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 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.

## Tentative 2016 Program at a Glance

Friday, February 5																
5-Feb	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00						
Hotel Lobby	Registration															
Nueces/Frio	Pecan Research & Extension Forum															
Directors	Southern Blueberry/Small Fruit Workers															
Mesquite	Horticulture Administrators															
Llano/Pecos	Watermelon Research Group															
Live Oak	Sweetpotato Collaborators															
Chula Vista	ACB Club Share and Networking															
	ACB Activities, Tour, Meal															
	ACB Mixer															
Saturday, February 6																
Room	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00						
Regency Ballroom Foyer	Registration															
Regency Center West	Poster Session Set-Up								Poster Session Viewing, Authors at Posters & Judging							
Regency Ballroom Center East	Judging Contest Set-Up								J. Benton Storey Horticulture Judging Contest							
Llano/Pecos	Watermelon Research Group															
Medina	Vigna Crop Germplasm Committee								National Cowpea Improvement Association							
Live Oak	Sweetpotato Collaborators															
Nueces/Frio	Extension Section				Education				Floriculture, Ornamentals & Turf Section				Fruit Section			
Mesquite	Edmond UG Paper Comp.				Childers M.S. Paper Competition				Barham Ph.D. Paper Comp.							
Sunday, February 7																
Room	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00						
Regency Ballroom Foyer	Registration															
Regency Center West	Poster Session Viewing								Poster Take down							
Rio Grande Ballroom East	ACB Business Meeting				Business Meeting/Awards Prog.											
Navarro	Vegetable Crops Section															
Bowie AB	Floriculture, Ornamentals & Turf Section															
Maverick A	Fruit Crops Section															
Directors	PostHarvest & Biotechnology Section															
	Super Bowl Reception															