

# 2017 Pre-Conference Newsletter





## Southern Region

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

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day after the meetings there will be many opportunities to continue discussions in the various dining and entertainment venues.

There is a rich history of academic success within this group, as well as, many new and promising outreach programs. I would like to commend the many successful programs within our Society. I have been impressed with the diversity of knowledge and success since I attended my first meeting as a Masters Student in 1984. We truly have become a powerful group when we combine our successes and efforts.

The Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science has a successful tradition of sharing knowledge. Looking forward to seeing our new faculty and students as well as our established members.

Ed

### Message from President Ed Bush



I want to encourage you to make plans to attend the Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science meeting in Mobile, AL. The Friday through Sunday scheduling

was established to encourage greater participation from both students and faculty.

It's an opportunity to meet horticulturists from around the southeast and take advantage of the collegial atmosphere. Undergraduate and graduate students get to meet some of the best researchers in our region and make connections for employment and/or graduate school. Each

**81st Annual Meeting**  
**Mobile, AL**  
**February 3-5, 2017**

SRASHS will meet in conjunction with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientist (SAAS) in Mobile, AL. Lodging will be available at the Renaissance Riverview Plaza and Battle House Hotels. The SRASHS sessions will be in the Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel; register soon if you want to stay in the Riverview. Additional conference information can be found at [saasinc.org](http://saasinc.org).

### 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:

URL: <https://www.eventville.com/catalog/eventregistration1.asp?eventid=1012057>

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

### Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel

64 South Water Street  
Mobile, Alabama 36602 USA  
251-438-4000

**NOTE:** All SRASHS sessions are in the Riverview Plaza.

### Battle House Renaissance Hotel

26 North Royal Street  
Mobile, Alabama 36602  
251-338-2000

Note: The two hotels are 0.21 miles apart (approx. 6 minute walk).

### Lodging Reservations:

Deadline: Friday, January 20, 2017 for both hotels.

Phone: 1-800-922-3298 and ask for the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists group room block.

Register online for the Riverview Plaza:

[http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=Southern%20Agricultural%20Scientists%20Triple/Quad%20Rate%20\\$149.00%5Emobrv%60saasaab%60149%60USD%60false%604%602/1/17%602/10/17%6001/20/17&app=resvlink&stop\\_mobi=yes](http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=Southern%20Agricultural%20Scientists%20Triple/Quad%20Rate%20$149.00%5Emobrv%60saasaab%60149%60USD%60false%604%602/1/17%602/10/17%6001/20/17&app=resvlink&stop_mobi=yes)

(if you get directed to a page to update your browser, then cut-and-paste the above link directly into your browser, and it will take you directly to the hotel web site).

Register online for the Battle House:

[http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=Southern%20Association%20of%20Agricultural%20Scientists%20Single/Double%20Rate%20\\$139%5EMOBBR%60SASAAA%60139%60USD%60false%602%602/1/17%602/8/17%601/20/17&app=resvlink&stop\\_mobi=yes](http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=Southern%20Association%20of%20Agricultural%20Scientists%20Single/Double%20Rate%20$139%5EMOBBR%60SASAAA%60139%60USD%60false%602%602/1/17%602/8/17%601/20/17&app=resvlink&stop_mobi=yes)

(if you get directed to a page to update your browser, then cut-and-paste the above link directly into your browser, and it will take you directly to the hotel web site).

### SAAS Rates for both hotels:

Single/Double: \$139/night

Triple/Quad: \$149/night for Deluxe Room

Group rates can be obtained for 2 days before and after the meeting based on availability.

### Parking:

Riverview Plaza: self-parking reduced to \$6/night (reg. \$14/night)

Both hotels: Valet parking \$17/night (regular \$19/\$20/night)

**SAAS rate includes:** Complimentary Internet in guest rooms, double Marriott Reward Points, complimentary wireless in lobby and public areas

### Mobile Convention Visitor's Bureau

#### Onsite Transportation, Dining and Attractions

The Mobile's Convention Visitor's Bureau (CVB) has arranged for a continuous running trolley for Monday evening Feb. 6 from 6 - 10 pm picking up at the Riverview Plaza and making the rounds by downtown restaurants and attractions. CVB will have a staffed info booth at convention center on Sunday Feb. 5 and Monday Feb. 6 from 8-5. Booth will be fully stocked with brochures regarding attractions and dining.

## 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 2016 Election Results

Congratulations to the following individuals who were elected in the Fall 2016 Elections.

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

(will preside over 2019 meeting)

Eric Stafne  
Mississippi State University

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(will serve starting with 2018 meeting)

Bill Evans  
Mississippi State University

Leo Lombardini  
Texas A&M University

### SECTION CHAIRS-ELECT

(will coordinate Section for 2018 meeting)

#### Education Section

Brian Pearson  
University of Florida

#### Extension Section

Elina Coneva  
Auburn University

#### Floriculture, Ornamentals & Turf Section

Thayne Montague  
Texas Tech University

#### Fruit Crops Section

Erick Smith  
University of Georgia

#### Vegetable Crops Section

Rick Snyder  
Mississippi State University

#### Postharvest & Biotechnology Section

Ainong Shi  
University of Arkansas

#### Poster Section

Amanda McWhirt  
University of Arkansas

#### Collegiate Branch (Edmond Paper Competition)

Cynthia McKenney  
Texas Tech University

## 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

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

**2016-2017 Officers, Chairs and Committees**  
 (Term of office is from end of 2016 meeting through 2017 meeting)  
**Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science**

<b>Officers</b>		
President	Ed Bush	ebush@agcenter.lsu.edu
President-Elect	Tim Davis	t-davis5@tamu.edu
President-Elect-Elect	to be elected	to be elected
Secretary-Treasurer	David Wm. Reed	dwreed@tamu.edu
<b>Executive Committee</b>		
Chair	Jim Robbins	jrobbins@uaex.edu
Vice-Chair	Guihong Bi	gbi@pss.msstate.edu
Member	Amy Wright	awright@auburn.edu
Member	Sarah White	swhite4@clemson.edu
Member	Carolyn Robinson	cwrobinson@auburn.edu
Member	Richelle Stafne	pws123@excite.com
Member, President-Elect	Tim Davis	t-davis5@tamu.edu
<b>ACB Officers</b>		
President	Andrew Thomas	awt2r@mtmail.mtsu.edu
President-Elect	Preston Smith	rs009@uark.edu
Secretary	Dylan Neuhaus	dneuhas14@gmail.com
Treasurer	Kevin Goheen	Kgoheen@murraystate.edu
ACB Rep	Lauren Kilpatrick	lauren.kil@tamu.edu
Activities Chair	Ashley Cunliffe	rac0034@auburn.edu
Recruitment Chair	Loren Luther	lmanthon@uark.edu
ACB Advisor	Jay Spiers	jds0017@auburn.edu
<b>Section Chairs</b>		
Education Section	Garry McDonald	gmcdonal@uark.edu
Extension Section	Bodie Pennisi	bpennisi@uga.edu
Floriculture, Ornamentals and Turf Section	Allen Owings	aowings@agcenter.lsu.edu
Fruit Crops Section	Dario Chavez	dchavez@uga.edu
Postharvest/Biotechnology Section	Cecilia McGregor	cmcgre1@uga.edu
Vegetables Crops Section	Katie Jennings	kmjennin@ncsu.edu
Poster Section	Leo Lombardini	l-lombardini@tamu.edu
Edmond UG Comp. - Collegiate Branch Chair	Chris Marble	marblesc@ufl.edu
Childers and Barham Grad Competition	Tim Davis	t-davis5@tamu.edu
<b>Working Groups Chairs</b>		
Horticultural Administrators	Janet Cole	janet.cole@okstate.edu
National Cowpea Improvement Assoc.	Blair Buckley	bbuckley@agctr.lsu.edu
National Sweet Potato Collaborators	Melanie Filotas	melanie.filotas@ontario.ca
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	Wayne Mackay	mackay@uark.edu
Member, Immediate Past President	Garry Bachman	gary.bachman@msstate.edu
Member	Brian Jackson	brian_jackson@ncsu.edu
Member	Matthew Chappell	hortprod@uga.edu
Member	Christine Coker	christine.coker@msstate.edu
Member	Mike Arnold	ma-arnold@tamu.edu
<b>Awards Committees</b>		
Miller Distinguished Educator, Chair	Shad Nelson	shad.nelson@tamuk.edu
Member	Helen Kraus	helen_kraus@ncsu.edu
Member	Jay Spiers	jds0017@auburn.edu
Miller Distinguished Researcher, Chair	Thomas Ranney	tom_ranney@ncsu.edu
Member	Arthur Villordon	avillordon@agcenter.lsu.edu
Member	Genhua Niu	gniu@ag.tamu.edu
Covington Extension Award, Chair	Lucy Bradley	lucy_bradley@ncsu.edu
Member	Elina Coneva	edc0001@auburn.edu
Member	Michael L. Parker	mike_parker@ncsu.edu
Hutchinson Young Extension , Chair	Cheryl Boyer	crboyer@ksu.edu
Member	Peter Dittmar	pdittmar@ufl.edu
Member	Kathryn Karsh Fontenot	kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu
Krezdorn Doctoral Writing, Chair	Jim Robbins	jrobbins@uaex.edu
Member	Richard Harkess	richard.harkess@msstate.edu
Member		
Smeal Leadership, Chair	Curt Rom	crom@uark.edu
Member	Wayne Mackay	mackay@uark.edu
Member	Gary Bachman	gary.bachman@msstate.edu
Extension Communications, Chair	Tim Coolong	tcoolong@uga.edu
Member	Sarah White	swhite4@clemson.edu
Member	Joe Kemble	kembljm@auburn.edu
Childers Outstanding Graduate Student, Chair	Gary Bachman	gary.bachman@msstate.edu
Member	Ed Bush	ebush@agctr.lsu.edu
Member	Tim Davis	t-davis5@tamu.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 Program

### 2017 Program at a Glance

Friday, February 3																																																	
Riverview Plaza Hotel	8:00				9:00					10:00					11:00					12:00					1:00					2:00					3:00					4:00					5:00				
Hotel Lobby	7:00 open																Registration																																
Bon Secour I																	National Sweetpotato Collaborators																																
Mobile Bay Ballroom I & II																	Pecan Research & Extension Forum																																
Mobile Bay Ballroom III																	Southern Blueberry/Small Fruit Workers																																
Bon Secour II																	Watermelon Research Group																																
Admiral Suite																	Horticulture Administrators										Executive Com.																						
Schooner Suite																	ACB Club Share and Networking					ACB Activities, Tour, Meal					ACB Mixer																						
Saturday, February 4																																																	
Riverview Plaza Hotel	8:00				9:00					10:00					11:00					12:00					1:00					2:00					3:00					4:00					5:00				
Ballrooms Center Foyer	7:00 open																Registration																																
Ballrooms Center Foyer																	Poster Session Set-Up					Poster Session Viewing, Authors at Posters & Judging																											
Schooner Suite																	Judging Contest Set-Up					J. Benton Storey Horticulture Judging Contest																											
Bon Secour I																	National Sweetpotato Collaborators																																
Bon Secour II																	Watermelon Research Group																																
Windjammer Suite																	Vigna Crop Germplasm Committee					National Cowpea Improvement Association																											
Grand Bay Ballroom I																	Extension Section					Education Section					Fruit Crops																						
Mobile Bay Ballroom I & II																	Floriculture, Orn. & Turf Section					Vegetable Crops																											
Clipper																	Edmond UG Paper Comp.					Childers M.S. Paper Competition					Childers M.S. Paper Competition					Barham Ph.D. Paper Comp.																	
Sunday, February 5																																																	
Riverview Plaza Hotel	8:00				9:00					10:00					11:00					12:00					1:00					2:00					3:00					4:00					5:00				
Ballrooms Center Foyer	7:00 open																Registration																																
Ballrooms Center Foyer																	Poster Session Viewing					Poster Take down																											
Bon Secour I																	ACB Business Meeting					Business Meeting/Awards Prog.																											
Mobile Bay Ballroom I & II																	Vegetable Crops Section																																
Mobile Bay Ballroom III																	Floriculture, Ornamentals & Turf Section																																
Grand Bay Ballroom I																	Fruit Crops Section																																
Riverboat Suite																	PostHarvest & Biotechnology Section																																
Prefunction & E W Ballroom																											SAAS Supr Bowl Party																						