

# 2018 Pre-Conference Newsletter





## Southern Region

Parent Society      American Society for Horticultural Science      Member SAAS

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### Message from President Tim Davis



I strongly encourage you to make plans to attend the Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science annual meeting in Jacksonville, FL.

This should be a great venue for a mid-winter meeting and attendance should be strong. We will be meeting in one of our nation's largest states in terms of horticultural industry as well as tourism. The meeting provides an opportunity to meet horticulturists from around the southeast and take advantage of the collegial atmosphere. Undergraduate and graduate students will have the opportunity to meet some of the best researchers/educators in our region and make

connections for employment and/or graduate school. Each day after the meetings there will be many opportunities to continue discussions in the various nearby dining and entertainment venues.

There is a rich history of academic success, outreach programs, student involvement and volunteerism in our annual meetings. I commend the many members and leaders of our Society who made past meetings a success. I have been impressed with both the quantity and quality of participation in our annual meetings. Many long-lasting professional relationships and friendships have started at regional meetings.

The Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science has a successful tradition of sharing knowledge and networking. Let's keep this tradition going. I look forward to seeing our new faculty and students as well as our established Society members in Jacksonville.

Tim

### About the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Jacksonville, FL February 2-4, 2018

SRASHS will meet in conjunction with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientist (SAAS) in Jacksonville, FL. Lodging will be available at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront. 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 Members, Faculty and Industry

\$40 Graduate student

\$20 Undergraduate student

\$20 ACB Club registration.

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, 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=1012301>

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

## Hotel Information

### Hyatt Regency Jacksonville-Riverfront

225 E Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32202

Phone: 904.588.1234

Fax: 904.633.9988

Deadline to make reservations: Friday, January 22, 2018

#### Group Rates:

Single/Double/Triple: \$139/night

Quad: \$159/night

Riverview Room: +\$20/night

Premier Room: +\$40/night

Junior Suite: +\$100/night

NOTE: Due to room inventory, SAAS only contracted for Queen/Queen rooms at the conference rate.

SAAS rate includes: No resort fee, no fee for Health Club or pool usage, and 50% discount on self-parking fees.

#### Reservations:

The Hyatt Regency Jacksonville-Riverfront has provided us with a dedicated website for online hotel booking.

**Booking Website:**

<https://aws.passkey.com/e/16345711>

(If you need additional assistance, call the reservations phone number listed below.)

Or, reservations can be made online or by calling 1-888-421-1442. Refer to the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (SAAS) group block. Reservations can include 3 days ahead and 3 days after the meeting dates at the discounted group rate, if rooms are available.

**Check in:** 3:00 pm

**Check out:** Noon

## Airport Information

The Jacksonville International Airport (JAX), located at 2400 Yankee Clipper Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32218, is approximately 15 miles (22 minutes) from the conference hotel.

## 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.

### 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 vote, be elected to an office or to receive an award.

### Future Meetings Sites

Birmingham, AL

## **Fall 2017 Election Results**

Congratulations to the following individuals who were elected in the Fall 2017 Elections.

### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

(will preside over 2020 meeting)

Bodie Pennisi

University of Georgia

### **SECTION CHAIRS-ELECT**

(will coordinate Section for 2019 meeting)

#### **Education Section**

Daniel Wells

Auburn University

#### **Extension Section**

Lucy Bradley

North Carolina State University

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

Gene Blythe

Mississippi State University

#### **Fruit Crops Section**

Amanda McWhirt

University of Arkansas

#### **Vegetable Crops Section**

Danielle Treadwell

University of Florida

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

Niels Maness

Oklahoma State University

#### **Poster Section**

Rick Snyder,

Mississippi State University

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

Jay Spiers

Auburn University

**2017-2018 Officers, Chairs and Committees**  
 (Term of office is from end of 2017 meeting through 2018 meeting)  
**Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science**

<b>Officers</b>		
President	Tim Davis	t-davis5@tamu.edu
President-Elect	Eric Stafne	eric.stafne@msstate.edu
President-Elect-Elect	Bodie Pennesi	bpennesi@uga.edu
Secretary-Treasurer	David Reed	dwreed@tamu.edu
<b>Executive Committee</b>		
Chair	Sarah White	swhite4@clemson.edu
Vice-Chair	Amy Wright	awright@auburn.edu
Member	Carolyn Robinson	cwrobinson@auburn.edu
Member	Richelle Stafne	thegardenmaiden@gmail.com
Member	Bill Evans	wbe@ra.msstate.edu
Member	Leo Lombardini	l-lombardini@tamu.edu
Member, President-Elect	Eric Stafne	eric.stafne@msstate.edu
<b>Nominations Committee</b>		
Chair, Senior Retired President	Garry Bachman	gary.bachman@msstate.edu
Member, Immediate Past President	Ed Bush	ebush@agcenter.lsu.edu
Member	Christine Coker	christine.coker@msstate.edu
Member	Mike Arnold	ma-arnold@tamu.edu
Member	Kiki Fontenot	kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu
Member	Juan Carlos Melgar	jmelgar@clemson.edu
<b>ACB Officers</b>		
President	Preston Smith	rs009@uark.edu
President-Elect	Kelsey Brazelton	kbrazelt@uark.edu
Secretary	Kelsie Bewley	kbewley@murraystate.edu
Treasurer	Collen Weynand	chweynand@gmail.com
ACB Rep		
Activities Chair	Dylan Neuhaus	dneuhaus14@gmail.com
Recruitment Chair	Ashley Cunliffe	rac0034@auburn.edu
ACB Advisor	Steve Still	sstill@murraystate.edu
<b>Section Chairs</b>		
Education Section	Brian Pearson	bpearson@ufl.edu
Extension Section	Elina Coneva	edc0001@auburn.edu
Floriculture, Ornamentals and Turf Section	Thayne Montague	thayne.montague@ttu.edu
Fruit Crops Section	Erick Smith	ericks@uga.edu
Postharvest/Biotechnology Section	Ainong Shi	ashi@uark.edu
Vegetables Crops Section	Rick Snyder	Rick.Snyder@msstate.edu
Poster Section	Amanda McWhirt	amanda.mcwhirt@gmail.com
Edmond UG Comp.-Collegiate Branch Chair	Cynthia McKenney	cynthia.mckenney@ttu.edu
Childers and Barham Grad Competition	Eric Stafne	eric.stafne@msstate.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	Victor Njiti	vicnji@alcorn.edu

	Secretary	Steve Meyers	stephen.meyers@msstate.edu
Pecan Research & Extension Forum		Lenny Wells	lwells@uga.edu
Southern Fruit Workers		Rachel Itle	ritle@uga.edu
Vigna Crop Germplasm Committee		Blair Buckley	bbuckley@agctr.lsu.edu
Watermelon Research Group		Jerome Berneir	jerome.bernier@monsanto.com
	Vice-Chair	Dan Egel	egel@purdue.edu
<b>Awards Committees</b>			
Miller Distinguished Educator, Chair		Helen Kraus	helen_kraus@ncsu.edu
	Member	Jay Spiers	jds0017@auburn.edu
	Member	Thayne Montague	thayne.montague@ttu.edu
Miller Distinguished Researcher, Chair		Arthur Villordon	avillordon@agcenter.lsu.edu
	Member	Genhua Niu	gniu@ag.tamu.edu
	Member	Juan Carlos Diaz-Perez	jc Diaz@uga.edu
Covington Extension Award, Chair		Elina Coneva	edc0001@auburn.edu
	Member	Michael L. Parker	mike_parker@ncsu.edu
	Member	Allen Owings	aowings64@gmail.com
Hutchison Young Extension, Chair		Cheryl Boyer	crboyer@ksu.edu
	Member	Peter Dittmar	pdittmar@ufl.edu
	Member	Kathryn Fontenot	kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu
Krezdorn Doctoral Writing, Chair		Richard Harkess	richard.harkess@msstate.edu
	Member	Suzanne O'Connell	soco@uga.edu
	Member	Jim Owen	jsowen@vt.edu
Smeal Leadership, Chair		Douglas Bailey	dabailey@uga.edu
	Member	Patricia Knight	patricia.knight@msstate.edu
	Member	Dan Lineberger	dan-lineberger@tamu.edu
Extension Communications, Chair		Sarah White	swhite4@clemson.edu
	Member	Joe Kemble	kembljm@auburn.edu
	Member	Erick Smith	ericks@uga.edu
Childers Outstanding Graduate Student, Chair		Ed Bush	ebush@agcenter.lsu.edu
	Member	Tim Davis	t-davis5@tamu.edu
	Member	Eric Stafne	eric.stafne@msstate.edu
Outstanding ACB Club & Club Member		Steve Still	sstill@murraystate.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

### 2018 Program at a Glance

Friday, February 2																																		
Hyatt Regency Riverfront	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																																	
City Terrace 4	Pecan Research & Extension Forum																																	
City Terrace 5	Southern Blueberry/Small Fruit Workers																																	
River Terrace 3																			Watermelon Research Group															
Boardroom 1																			Horticulture Administrators			Executive Com.												
River Terrace 2	ACB Club Share and Networking										ACB Activities, Tour, Meal - TBA																							
Saturday, February 3																																		
Hyatt Regency Riverfront	8:00				9:00				10:00				11:00				12:00			1:00			2:00			3:00			4:00			5:00		
3 Floor Sky Bridge	7:00 open Registration																																	
Conference Center A	Poster Session Set-Up										Poster Session Viewing, Authors at Posters & Judging																							
River Terrace 1	Judging Contest Set-Up										J. Benton Storey Horticulture Judging Contest																							
River Terrace 3	Watermelon Research Group																																	
City Terrace 9	Vigna Crop Germplasm Committee										National Cowpea Improvement Association																							
City Terrace 5	Extension Section					Education Section					Reserved for Sections that overflow Sunday slots																							
City Terrace 4	Reserved for Sections that overflow Sunday slots																																	
City Terrace 6	Edmond UG Paper Comp.					Childers M.S. Paper Competition					Childers M.S. Paper Competition					Barham Ph.D. Paper Comp.																		
Sunday, February 4																																		
Hyatt Regency Riverfront	8:00				9:00				10:00				11:00				12:00			1:00			2:00			3:00			4:00			5:00		
3 Floor Sky Bridge	7:00 open Registration																																	
Conference Center A	Poster Session Viewing										Poster Take down																							
Grand Ballroom Section 6	ACB Business Meeting					Business Meeting/Awards Prog.																												
City Terrace 9	Vegetable Crops Section																																	
City Terrace 10	Floriculture, Ornamentals & Turf Section																																	
City Terrace 8	Fruit Crops Section																																	
Boardroom 2	PostHarvest & Biotechnology Section																																	
Grand Ballroom Section 6											SAAS Board Meeting					SAAS Business Mtg																		
Grand Ballroom Section 4/5	SAAS Supr Bowl Party																																	