

2020 Pre-Conference Newsletter





Southern Region

Parent Society
American Society for Horticultural Science
Member SAAS

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been in the past, our Southern Region society is strong in its core, and consistently enjoys high participation at the annual meeting. I strongly encourage you to come to the 2020 meeting in Louisville and engage in its many events - from the student competitions, working group meetings, oral and poster sessions, to informal discussions with colleagues, students, and potential collaborators – it is well worth the price. I thank our volunteers whose valuable help makes this event a success year after year. If you have not volunteered to serve in the past, I highly encourage you to do so this time around. A vibrant and successful society does best when new leaders step up, offer their ideas, and work to craft and implement an innovative path for the future.

Do not let this opportunity pass by – register today for the 2020 annual meeting of the Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science! I look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones in February. Together, let’s share our passion for horticulture and science and make this one stand out in the history of our great society!

Bodie

Message from President Bodie Pennisi



Like many of you, the Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science was my first foray onto the academic stage. I can still remember

my nervousness in preparing for the graduate student competition; that nervousness quickly vanished once I was immersed in the atmosphere of friendly conversation, shared challenges, and intellectually stimulating talks. Twenty-odd years later, as I prepare for the 2020 meeting, I find myself talking to students and colleagues and encouraging them to come to Louisville and continue this great tradition of fun and learning. Although not as numerous in members as it has

About the 84th Annual Meeting
January 31-February 2 2020
Louisville, KY

SRASHS will meet in conjunction with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientist (SAAS) in Louisville, KY. Lodging will be available at the Omni Louisville Hotel. Additional conference information can be found at saasinc.org.

Tentative Program Schedule

See the draft 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://ashs.org/events/register.aspx?id=1309012>

There are registration options for both members and non-members of ASHS. If you are an ASHS member, click on "Sign In". If you are NOT a member of ASHS, click on "Continue as Guest". You can enter multiple registrations through the "Save & Add Another Attendee".

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 both online and by check or cash for you "dinosaurs" that do not have a credit card.

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

Hotel Information

Omni Louisville Hotel
400 2nd Street
Louisville, KY 40202

<https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/louisville/properly-details>

RESERVATIONS: For lodging reservations, click on this link that is specific for our Louisville SAAS conference:
<https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/louisville/meetings/2020-annual-meeting-01302020>.

Or, call the Omni Louisville Hotel at 1-800-THE-OMNI (1-800-843-6664). Be sure to ask for the SAAS (Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists) group rate.

RATES: Single/Double \$159
Triple \$169; Quad \$179
(SAAS group rates apply 3 days prior and 3 days after meeting dates, if rooms are available.)

CHECK IN: 3:00 pm
CHECK OUT: 11:00 am (\$60 charge for late check out till 4:00 pm)

NOTE: Early departure fee of one night's room and tax will apply if attendee checks out prior to the confirmed checkout date. To avoid fee, advise hotel at or before checking in of any change in plans.

AIRPORT: Hotel is 5.9 miles (8 minutes) from Louisville International Airport (SDF). Hotel does not provide shuttle to/from airport. Estimated taxi fee is \$28 one-way. Estimated Uber or Lyft fee is \$13-17 one way.

PARKING: Hotel has only valet parking. Cost is \$32/night. Click here for public parking lots near the hotel for less cost.

AMENITIES: Complimentary access to fitness center.

NOTE: Hotel has a smoke-free policy.

SHIPPING AND STORAGE: Storage of packages sent to hotel prior to meeting: Handling fees are based on weight and include the acceptance, storage and delivery of the item to the required meeting room or guest room.

1-10 lbs. \$7; 11-20 lbs \$15; 21-40 lbs \$25, 41-60 lbs \$45, 61-80 lbs \$70; 81-100 lbs \$100, 100+ lbs \$120. (Items received greater than 4 days prior to pick up are subject to a separate storage fee.)

All items must have the following information to ensure proper delivery:

Attn: Mark Legendre

For: [your name, cell number & Assn]

Contact Phone: 225-773-3055

Group: Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists

Arrival: January 30, 2020

Property Address:

Omni Louisville Hotel

400 2nd St., Louisville KY 40202

Sales Manager: Tyler Lowry

Sales Manager Phone: 502-313-6674

Number of Boxes:

LOYALTY PROGRAM: Click here to join Omni Select Guest loyalty program.

<https://www.omnihotels.com/loyalty>

(SAAS participants in the loyalty program will receive complimentary internet in guest room.)

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. Pushpins 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 Section.

If this is a problem, there will be two projectors and one laptop that can be checked-out at the registration desk – first come first serve.

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 (Horticulture or any other SAAS sections).
- The abstract must be formatted properly.

Southern Region Dues and Membership

Dues are paid through the ASHS web site. Southern Region-ASHS membership is separate from ASHS membership. If you want to pay dues and join the Southern Region-ASHS go to: <https://www.ashs.org/store/ListProducts.aspx?catid=294320>

If you are an ASHS member, you can check your SR-ASHS dues status in your member record under Invoicing, Payments, and History in your Profile

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

2021 – Irving, TX, Westin Irving at Las Colinas and Irving Convention Center

2022 – Mobile, AL, Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel and Mobile Convention Center.

Fall 2019 Election Results

Congratulations to the following individuals who were elected in the Fall 2019 Elections.

PRESIDENT-ELECT-ELECT

(will preside over 2022meeting)
Matt Chappell, University of Georgia

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(will serve starting with 2020 meeting)
Elina Coneva, Auburn University
Thayne Montague, Texas Tech University

SECTION CHAIRS-ELECT

(will coordinate Section for 2021 meeting)

Education Section

Garry McDonald, University of Arkansas

Extension Section

Amanda McWhirt, University of Arkansas

Floriculture, Ornamentals & Turf Section

Genhua Niu, Texas A&M University

Fruit Crops Section

Edgar Vinson, Auburn University

Vegetable Crops Section

Joe Masabni, Texas A&M University

Postharvest & Biotechnology Section

Savithri Nambeesan, University of Georgia

Poster Section

Andre DaSilva, University of Georgia

Collegiate Branch (Edmond Paper Competition)

Jeb Fields, Louisiana State University

2019-2020 Officers, Chairs and Committees

(Term of office is from end of 2019 meeting through 2020 meeting meeting)

Officers		
President	Bodie Pennisi	bpennisi@uga.edu
President-Elect	Amy Wright	awright@auburn.edu
President-Elect-Elect	Matt Chappell	hortprod@uga.edu
Secretary-Treasurer	David Reed	dwreed@tamu.edu
Executive Committee		
Chair or Vice-Chair -need to select	Bill Evans	bill@upinfarms.com wbe0416@att.net
Chair or Vice-Chair -need to select	Leo Lombardini	Lombardini@uga.edu
Member	Mengmeng Gu	mgu@tamu.edu
Member	Jay Spiers	jds0017@auburn.edu
Member	Elina Coneva	edc0001@auburn.edu
Member	Thayne Montague	thayne.montague@ttu.edu
Member, President-Elect	Amy Wright	awright@auburn.edu
Nominations Committee		
Chair, Senior Retired President	Tim Davis	t-davis5@tamu.edu
Member, Immediate Past President	Eric Stafne	eric.stafne@msstate.edu
Member	Daniel Wells	wellsda@auburn.edu
Member	Casey Barickman	cb2407@msstate.edu
Member	Dario Chavez	dchavez@uga.edu
Member	Brian Pearson	bpearson@ufl.edu
ACB Officers		
President	Rhiannon de la Rosa	radelaro@uark.edu
Vice President	Robert Eichas	
Secretary	Elizabeth Clippard	elizabeth.clippard@gmail.com
Social Chair	Abbie Keairns	
Treasurer	Joshua Tebow	jbtebow@email.uark.edu
Recruitment director	Madison Carmichael	mcarmichael@murraystate.edu
National Chair ACB Rep	Kendal Shaw	kendalljshaw@tamu.edu
ACB Advisor:will to manage judging contest	Steve Still - contest Nate Philips-ACB Activit.	steven.still@siu.edu nate.phillips@mtsu.edu
Section Chairs		
Education Section	Richard Harkess	richard.harkess@msstate.edu
Extension Section	Mike Schnelle	mike.schnelle@okstate.edu
Floriculture, Ornamentals and Turf Section	Jeb Fields	JFields@agcenter.lsu.edu
Fruit Crops Section	Margaret Worthington Justin Scheiner	mlworthi@uark.edu jscheiner@tamu.edu
Postharvest/Biotechnology Section	Anne Randle	arandle@uga.edu
Vegetables Crops Section	Peter Dittmar	pdittmar@ufl.edu
Poster Section	Yan Chen	yachen@agcenter.lsu.edu
Edmond UG Comp. - Collegiate Branch Chair	Chris Marble	marblesc@ufl.edu
Childers and Barham Grad Competition	Amy Wright	awright@auburn.edu
Working Groups Chairs		

Horticultural Administrators	Dean Kopsell	dean.kopsell@ufl.edu
National Sweet Potato Collaborators	Lina Quesada	lmquesad@ncsu.edu
Southern Fruit Workers	Rachel Itle	ritle@uga.edu
Watermelon Research Group Vice-Chair	Daniel Egel Matt Kinkade	egel@purdue.edu matt.kinkade@syngenta.com
Awards Committees		
Miller Distinguished Educator, Chair Member Member	Thayne Montague Nate Phillips Garry McDonald	thayne.montague@ttu.edu nate.phillips@mtsu.edu gmcdonal@uark.edu
Miller Distinguished Researcher, Chair Member Member	Genhua Niu Juan Carlos Diaz-Perez Gina Fernandez	gniu@ag.tamu.edu jcdiaz@uga.edu gina_fernandez@ncsu.edu
Covington Extension Award, Chair Member Member	Allen Owings Michael Schnelle Bodie Pennisi	aowings@agcenter.lsu.edu mike.schnelle@okstate.edu bpennisi@uga.edu
Hutchison Young Extension , Chair Member Member	Peter Dittmar Kathryn Karsh Fontenot Amanda McWhirt	pdittmar@ufl.edu kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu Amcwhirt@uaex.edu
Krezdorn Doctoral Writing, Chair Member Member	Jim Owen Eugene Blythe Katherine Jennings	jsowen@vt.edu blythe@pss.msstate.edu katie_jennings@ncsu.edu
Smeal Leadership, Chair Member Member	Dan Lineberger Wayne Mackay Dave Reed	dan-lineberger@tamu.edu mackay@uark.edu dwreed@tamu.edu
Extension Communications, Chair Member Member	Erick Smith Justine Moss Daniel Treadwell	ericks@uga.edu mossjq@okstate.edu ddtreadw@ufl.edu
Childers Outstanding Graduate Student, Chair Member Member	Eric Stafne Bodie Pennisi Amy Wright	eric.stafne@msstate.edu bpennisi@uga.edu awright@auburn.edu
Outstanding ACB Club & Club Member	tba	tba

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*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 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

2020 Program at a Glance

Friday, January 31																										
Omni Room	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00																
Omni Hotel Lobby	7:00 open											Registration														
Olmsted 2												Southern Fruit Workers														
Olmsted 3												Watermelon Research Group														
Clifton												Horticulture Administrators											Executive Com.			
Old Louisville	ACB Club Share and Networking											ACB Activities, Tour, Meal or TBA														
Olmsted 1												National ASHS Board of Directors														
Saturday, February 1																										
Omni Room	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00																
Second Street Prefunction	7:00 open											Registration														
Olmsted 4	Poster Set-Up				Authors Pin-Up Posters				Poster Session				Author at Poster Even Number				Author at Poster Odd Number									
Olmsted 5	Judging Contest Set-Up								J. Benton Storey Horticulture Judging Contest																ACB Scoring	
Olmsted 3												Watermelon Research Group														
Old Louisville	Extension and Education Sections											Fruit Crops Section														
Olmsted 1												Floriculture, Ornamental, and Turf Section														
Cherokee Triangle	Edmond UG Paper Competition																									
Olmsted 6	Childers M.S. Paper Competition											Barham Ph.D. Paper Competition														
Sunday, February 2																										
Omni Room	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00																
Second Street Prefunction	7:00 open											Registration														
Olmsted 4	Poster Session Viewing											Poster Take down														
Commonwealth 3	ACB Business Meeting				Business Meeting/Awards Prog.																					
Oak	Vegetable Crops Section																									
Charred	Floriculture,Ornamentals & Turf Section																									
Barley	Fruit Crops Section																									
Wheat	Postharvest & Biotechnology Section																									
Commonwealth 3												SAAS Board Mtg.				SAAS Business Mtg										
Off Site												Super Bowl Party														