

2025 Fall Newsletter

Call for Paper Titles and Award Nominations



Parent Society



Southern Region

American Society for Horticultural Science



Member SAAS

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(SAAS) in Louisville, KY at the Omni Louisville.



Message From President White

The Southern Region of ASHS has undergone big changes this year. Importantly, our executive committee elected Dr. Cheryl Boyer as the next Secretary Treasurer at our summer meeting in NOLA. Cheryl will follow in the footprints left by

Dr. Dave Reed; she has already hit the ground running and is working in tandem with the executive committee and Dave to ensure our society's future.

The election procedures piloted under Dr. Chappell's leadership last year were a success. We had a high voting response rate – and more importantly – we had multiple individuals volunteer to serve. We thank you all for your willingness to serve our society and take on leadership roles that will help set us up for future success.

Dr. Boyer is working with ASHS headquarters to revamp our website – we are looking forward to seeing our new, more modern and accessible webpage in the near future – thanks to the help of Tracy Shawn at ASHS headquarters and her amazing staff.

Please mark your calendars for the January 30 – February 1, 2026 meeting in Louisville, KY. I look forward to seeing all of you – please stop me and say hello at the conference!

Sarah

2026 Annual Conference January 30-February 1, 2026 Louisville, KY

91st Year
Southern Region
**American Society for Horticultural
Science**

107th Year
Horticulture Section
**Southern Association of Agricultural
Scientists**

About the Louisville Meetings

SR-ASHS will meet in conjunction with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientist

SR-ASHS Web Site
srashs.org

ASHS Web Site
ashs.org

SAAS Web Site
saasinc.org

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Great News about Secretary- Treasurer

At the SR-ASHS Executive Meeting in New Orleans, Cheryl Boyer, Kansas State University, was nominated and appointed as the new Secretary-Treasurer

for the society. Both Cheryl and Dave Reed will work together to as they transition through the 2026 meetings. Dave will manage the newsletters, program and meeting room assignments with SAAS, and Cheryl will manage the submission/acceptance process of titles, award nominations and elections through Qualtrics surveys. Both will be working the onsite registration desk, poster room setup and handling brush fires at the meetings.

Schedule of the Meetings

The general schedule of the meetings will be:

Friday

- Working Group Meetings
- Hort Administrator's Meetings
- ACB Club Share and tour
- Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday

- Poster session set-up and viewing
- ACB judging contest
- Working Group Meetings
- Extension, Education & overflow Sections
- Edmund, Childers, Barham, and Poster Judging competitions
- SAAS Board Meeting

Sunday

- Poster session and viewing
- ACB Business meeting & officer election
- Commodity Section meetings.
- Business Meeting
- Social Gathering if you hang around

**Early Bird
Hotel Information and Reservations**
(Book early - rooms often run out if you wait too late.
You can always cancel.)

Omni Louisville Hotel

400 S 2nd St.,
Louisville, KY 40202

FOR LODGING RESERVATIONS AT THE OMNI:

Phone: Call 800-843-6664 and be sure to ask for the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists group rate. You can also say SAAS group rate.

Online: Use the following link

[2026 SAAS Conference.](#)

Make sure you change dates on the Omni's reservations opening page to the dates you need, otherwise it may say selected rooms are unavailable.

Deadline to reserve at group rate:

SAAS Group Rates good through Tuesday, January 16, 2026: \$194/+ tax double/single/triple/quad rooms

Check in: 3:00 pm

Check out: 11:00 am

HOTEL PARKING:

All parking at the hotel is conducted by valet only. The current overnight rate is \$45.00 plus tax per vehicle per night. Rates are subject to change without notice.

THE OMNI HOTEL AMENITIES:

Group Rate will be honored for extended stay from Monday, January 26, 2026 through Saturday, February 7, 2026 if available.

• Internet: Complimentary internet in guestrooms for Omni Select Guest Registration: Select Guest Loyalty Program for information and to enroll.

• Fitness Center: Complimentary access to hotel's fitness center

Airport Information

<https://www.flylouisville.com/>

Things to do in Louisville

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/things-to-do/>

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Forms – Where to Get

The Southern Region web site:

<http://srashs.org/Forms/forms.html>

- ACB Awards Nomination Forms
- Outstanding Graduate Student Award Nomination form
- Member Awards Nomination Forms
- Abstract Preparation Instructions
- Instructions to Section Chairs
- Instructions to Judges and score sheets

Note: The current website srashs.org is outdated in some areas. A new and updated website for Southern Region is “under construction”, but has is yet to be posted.

But, the forms on the current website are current and can be downloaded and used.

SAAS Web Site

<https://www.saasinc.org/>

SAAS posts updates relative to hotel availability, overflow hotels, meeting information, things to do, weather, airport info etc.

Southern Region Dues

ASHS Headquarters collects and manages dues for the Southern Region. It is recommended to pay your dues with your yearly ASHS membership. If you are not a member of National ASHS, you can pay your dues through the ASHS Online Store at <https://ashs.org/store/ViewProduct.aspx?id=2463036> or at the annual meetings. Dues are \$50. Notice: Dues must be paid to be elected to an office or to receive an award.

Call for Nominations for Fall 2025 Elections

Last year a Call for Nominations for Elections was piloted by Matthew Chappel and Cheryl Boyer. The response was very positive. Thus, the process will be followed for the Fall 2025 Elections.

- Self-nominations are encouraged.
- But, you could also use the form to nominate someone else that you feel would be an excellent candidate – but check with them before you do.

Instructions: Complete and submit the form at:

https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1LVuX6LSfd

[Kdsiy](#)

Return by October 15, 2025

Call for Titles of Presentations and Posters Commodity Sections and Student Competition

Deadlines: November 13 Authors: submit properly formatted titles to the Qualtrics survey.
December 12 Section Chairs: email to the Secretary-Treasurer a complete list of all titles, properly formatted, and as one .doc file. List Titles in the preferred order of presentation.

Authorship: One of the authors must be registered for the conference (SR-ASHS or one of the other societies and SAAS); authors do not have to be dues paying members of SR-ASHS.

Abstract Publication: To publish abstracts, one of the authors must be registered for the SR-ASHS conference, the title must appear in the Conference Program, and the paper/poster must be presented at the conference. No-shows will not be published

Abstract Format:

*indicates the presenting author, list corresponding author's email address at the end of the abstract.

If all authors have the same address, use the following format for Paper Titles:

Identification of the Compounds Contributing to Antioxidant Activity in Specialty Potatoes (*Solanum tuberosum* L.). Lavanya Reddivari* and J.C. Miller, Jr., Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2133. (lavanya@neo.tamu.edu)

If authors have separate addresses, use the following format for Paper Titles:

Molecular Marker Analysis of a Segregating Blackberry Population. Eric T. Stafne^{1*}, John R. Clark¹, and Kim S. Lewers², ¹316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, ²USDA-ARS Fruit Lab., 10300 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705. (estafne@uark.edu)

Submission of Titles

Titles are uploaded as a formatted Word document to a Qualtrics Survey

- Submit only one title per survey entry.
- Properly formatted titles are submitted online to a Qualtrics survey:
Click on this link: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eWiPh1fht46CRy6
- Complete the contact information.
- Click and submit to the Section or Session the paper is to be presented.
- A title can be submitted to only 1 section. For example, one cannot submit a title to a Student Competition Section and a Commodity Section.
- Upload the title as a properly formatted Word document file (.doc or .docx); then Click the submit button (arrow).
- **NOTE:** Only properly formatted titles will be accepted.
- **NOTE:** Working Group Sections collect their own presentation titles. Contact the Chair of the Working Group for their submission process. The title can be published as an abstract, if the title has NOT been presented in another session.

Student Presentations and Posters Instructions and Awards

Format of Competitions

- Poster presentations are at your poster at the time listed in the Conference Program.
- Oral presentations are at the time and room listed in the Conference Program.
 - The presentations will be in the order in which the titles are listed in the Conference Program.
 - If you have a problem with the time of your presentation, communicate with the Chair to determine if accommodations are possible.
 - Contact the Chair for instructions for submitting the file of your presentation.
 - Bring your presentation on a USB drive to the Chair one-half-hour before the start time.
 - Email your presentation to the Chair ahead of time.

Awards Announced and Presented

at the ACB Business Meeting and at the Annual Business Meeting on the last day of the Conference.

J.B. Edmond

Undergraduate Student Paper Awards

Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners reporting original research by undergraduate students. The awards are certificates and checks for \$300, \$200, and \$100 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. The award is funded by the J.B. Edmond Undergraduate Student Paper Endowment.

Norman F. Childers

M.S. Graduate Student Paper Awards

Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners reporting original research by M.S. students. The awards are certificates and checks for \$500, \$300, and \$200 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. The award is sponsored by the Norman F. Childers Endowment.

Warren S. Barham

Ph.D. Graduate Student Paper Awards

Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners reporting original research by Ph.D. students. The awards are certificates and checks for \$500, \$300, and \$200 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. The award is sponsored by Warren S. Barham Endowment.

Outstanding Poster Awards

One award is given for the best undergraduate student poster and one for the best graduate student poster. The awards are certificates and \$100 for undergraduate and graduate posters.

J. Benton Storey Undergraduate Student Horticulture Judging Contest

Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place clubs and individuals in each commodity category. Only one team per ACB club or department may compete for awards. The ACB club must have current dues paid, and all student competitors must be registered for the current meeting. Individual students may judge as space allows **Clubs sign-up to compete at the meeting.**

Call for Nominations for Student Awards

Deadlines: November 13 Authors: submit nomination material to the Qualtrics survey.
December 12 Award Chairs: email to the Secretary-Treasurer the winners.

Norman F. Childers' Outstanding Graduate Student Award

The award is given to the outstanding graduate student in the southern region. The award is \$1,000 funded by the Childers Endowment.

Christine Coker, Chair

Louisiana State University
Hammond Research Station
21549 Old Covington Highway
Hammond, LA 70403
ccoker@agcenter.lsu.edu

Association of Collegiate Branch (ACB) Awards

Outstanding Club Award

Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ACB Clubs (active dues paid clubs) based on the club's activity record for the previous academic year. Certificates and awards of \$150, \$100, and \$50 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively.

Hammett Memorial Award for Outstanding Association of Collegiate Branch Member

The award is given to the student judged to be the Outstanding ACB Club Member. The award consists of a plaque.

Gerald Burgner, ACB Advisor

Texas A&M University
Dept of Hort Sciences
TAMU 2133
College Station, TX 77843
gerald.burgner@ag.tamu.edu

Club Share Award

Determined at meeting.

Submission of Childers and Hammett Student Award Nominations

The nomination form and documents are uploaded to a Qualtrics Survey

- Go to the Forms link (srashs.org/Forms/forms.html) on the SRASHS (srashs.org) web site. Download and complete all required documents.
- Complete the Call for Nominations Qualtrics survey:
https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_08mozabk16QHF66
- Complete the contact information.
- Click and submit to the category Student Awards.
- Upload all required nomination forms and associated documents. Click the submit button (arrow).
- If a required document or file cannot be uploaded, then contact the Chair for instructions.

Call for Nominations for Member Awards

Deadlines: November 13 Authors: submit nomination material to the Qualtrics survey.
 December 12 Award Chairs: email to the Secretary-Treasurer the winners.

J. Creighton Miller, Jr. Distinguished Educator Award

The award recognizes outstanding teaching.

Requirements: (1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) classroom teaching and advising for 10 or more years, with primary emphasis in undergraduate teaching; (3) substantial portion of effort in teaching regardless of appointment; (4) nominations are limited to one per institution; and (5) not a previous recipient (or of L.M. Ware Teaching Award). The award consists of a plaque and a check for \$200. The award is endowed by Dr. Jeannie P. Miller, wife of Dr. Miller. Formerly (pre-2006) the L.M. Ware Teaching Award.

Carolyn Robinson, Chair

Auburn University
 Dept of Horticulture
 101 Funchess Hall
 Auburn, AL 36849
 cwr0001@auburn.edu

Julian C. Miller, Sr. Distinguished Research Award

The award recognizes outstanding research.

Requirements: (1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) outstanding record in research on one or more horticultural crops and in one or more areas of horticultural research for a period of 10 or more years; (3) substantial portion of effort in research regardless of appointment; (4) nominations are limited to one per institution; and (5) not a previous recipient (or of L.M. Ware Research Award). The award consists of a plaque and a check for \$200. The award is endowed by Dr. J. Creighton Miller, Jr. in memory of his father. Formerly (pre-2006) the L.M. Ware Research Award.

Kevin Crosby, Chair

Texas A&M University
 Dept of Hort Sciences
 M.S. 2133
 College Station, TX 77843-2133
 kevincrosby210@hotmail.com

Krezdorn Award for Excellence in Doctoral Research and Writing

The award is presented in recognition of the best published paper developed from doctoral research.

Requirements: (1) award recipient and/or primary advisor must be active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) submit reprint of paper published in any refereed journal, (3) paper published within calendar year of award due date and the previous calendar year; therefore for this cycle the paper must have been published in calendar year 2020 or 2021, (4) doctoral research must have been completed in horticulture at a university in the Southern Region; (5) one paper per senior author and submitted only once. The award consists of a plaque and a check for \$200. The award was endowed by the late Dr. Alfred Krezdorn.

Katherine M. Jennings, Chair

NC State University
 Dept of Horticulture
 Box 7609
 Raleigh, NC 27695
 katie_jennings@ncsu.edu

Henry M. Covington Extension Award

The award is in recognition of outstanding and valuable contributions to horticulture by an Extension Horticulturist.

Requirements: 1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) minimum 5 years' experience as an extension agent or specialist; (3) minimum 60% extension appointment; (4) not a member of the selection committee; (5) not a previous recipient or any other Region award this year. The award is endowed by the late Dr. Henry Covington and his wife. The award consists of a plaque and a check for \$200.

Mark Hoffmann, Chair

Department of Horticultural Science
Campus Box 7609
Raleigh, NC 27605-7609
mark.hoffmann@ncsu.edu

John E. Hutchison Extension Award for Young Professionals

The award is presented in recognition of outstanding service by a young Extension Worker.

Requirements: (1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS for at least two years; (2) person must be 35 years or younger on December 31 in year of nomination or 5 or less years in continuous extension experience; (3) greater than 50 percent extension appointment in horticulture (city, county, area, or state). The award consists of a \$200 award and a plaque. The award is sponsored by the Texas Pecan Growers Association.

Andre da Silva, Chair

Auburn University
101 Funchess Hall
Auburn, AL 36830
adasilva@auburn.edu

Paul Smeal Leadership and Administration Award

The award is presented in recognition of outstanding leadership and administration, which contributes to the progress of professional horticulture.

Requirements: (1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) active administrator and leader as Department Chair or Head, or College or University administrator at a University in the Southern Region; or administrators of horticultural units, such as Universities, USDA stations, botanical gardens, arboreta, etc., with a minimum of 6 faculty equivalent positions in horticulture. (3) not a member of the selection committee.

Daniel Leskovar, Chair

Texas A&M AgriLife Research
1619 Garner Field Rd
Uvalde, TX 78801
d-leskovar@tamu.edu

Extension Communications Awards (Blue Ribbon Award)

The award is presented in recognition of outstanding contribution to the understanding of horticultural subjects. Submissions may be circulars, bulletins, tabloids, manuals, newspaper series, fact sheets, video, computer programs, and other methods of electronic delivery.

Requirements: (1) senior author must be active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) one publication per author; (3) entry may be submitted by the author(s) themselves or by SR-ASHS members on behalf of the authors; (3) entry should have been prepared within the past two years; (4) submit three copies (print, electronic or digital) of the entry, and (5) a completed Extension Communication Entry Form. Copies of entries will not be returned unless arrangements are made with the Chair. The award consists of a Blue Ribbon Certificate.

Jim DelPrince, Chair

Mississippi State University
Coastal Research and Extension Center
1815 Popps Ferry Rd.
Biloxi, Mississippi 39532
j.delprince@msstate.edu

Submission of Member Award Nominations

The nomination form and documents are uploaded to a Qualtrics Survey

- Go to the Forms link (srashs.org/Forms/forms.html) on the SRASHS (srashs.org) web site. Download and complete all required documents.
- Complete the Call for Nominations Qualtrics survey:
https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_08mozabk16QHF66
- Complete the contact information.
- Click and submit to the category Member Awards.
- Upload all required nomination forms and associated documents. Click the submit button (arrow).
- If a required document or file cannot be uploaded, then contact the Chair for instructions.

Contact Information for Commodity Section Chairs

Education Section

Lorenzo Rosi, Chair

Texas A&M University
Dept of Hort Sciences
TAMU 2133
College Station, TX 77843
l.rossi@tamu.edu

Extension Section

Kathryn Fontenot, Chair

Louisiana State University AgCenter
103 Efferson Hall
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu

Floriculture, Ornamentals and Turf Section

Andrew King, Chair

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
PO Box 200
Overton, TX 75684
andrew.king@ag.tamu.edu

Fruit Crops Section

Renee Threlfall, Chair

Food Science Department
University of Arkansas
2650 N. Young Avenue
Fayetteville, AR 72704
rthrelf@uark.edu

Vegetables Crops Section

Timothy Coolong, Chair

University of Georgia
1111 Miller Plant Sciences
Athens, GA 30602
tcoolong@uga.edu

Postharvest/Biotechnology Section

Marlee Trandel-Hayse, Chair

Auburn University
Department of Horticulture
101 Funchess Hall
Auburn, AL 36849
mat0141@auburn.edu

Posters

Anthony Bowden, Chair

Univ of Arkansas
Department of Horticulture
2301 S. University Ave.
Little Rock, AR 72204
abowden@uada.edu

Contact Information for Student Competition Chairs

Undergraduate Student Oral Competition

J.B. Edmond Undergraduate Student Competition

Kaitlin Hopkins, Chair

Sam Houston State University
1019 Bowers Blvd
Huntsville, TX 77340
kah147@shsu.edu

Graduate Student Oral Competition

Norman F. Childers M.S. Graduate Student Competition

Warren S. Barham Ph.D. Graduate Student Competition

Jeb Fields, Chair

University of Florida
PO Box 110670
Gainesville, FL 32611
jsfields@ufl.edu

Undergraduate/Graduate Student Poster Competition

Poster Competition

Anthony Bowden, Chair

University of Arkansas
Department of Horticulture
2301 S. University Ave.
Little Rock, AR 72204
abowden@uada.edu

Working Group Sessions

The following Working Groups will meet at the annual meeting. Information about the sessions can be obtained by contacting the respective Working Group Chair. If you have agenda items, topics, papers titles, etc. that you would like to present, contact the respective Working Group Chair.

Registration: All participants in the Working Groups must register with SR-ASHS and SAAS. ASHS registration concurrently registers you with SAAS.

Abstract Titles Deadlines: December 12 –For titles and agenda to appear in the Southern Region Program. Working Group Chairs email to the Secretary-Treasurer a complete list of all abstracts as a properly formatted Word document. Only properly formatted abstracts will be published.

Abstract Publication: To publish abstracts presented in the Working Group Sessions, one of the authors must be registered for the SR-ASHS conference, the title must appear in the Conference Program, and the poster must be presented at the conference by one of the authors. No-shows will not be published. Abstracts must be submitted as a properly formatted Word document to the Working Group Chair by their deadline. For format, see the Submission of Titles earlier in the program. The group of abstracts is submitted by the Working Group Chair to Secretary-Treasurer; the abstracts will be published as a block under name of the Working Group.

Send Agenda items, paper titles, communication, etc. to the Working Group Chairs

Horticulture Administrators

Amit Dingra, Chair

Texas A&M University
Dept of Hort Sciences
M.S. 2133
College Station, TX 77843-2133
amit.dhingra@ag.tamu.edu

Southern Fruit Workers

Amanda McWhirt, Co-Chair

University of Arkansas
Department of Horticulture
2301 S. University Ave
Little Rock, Arkansas 72204
amcwhirt@uada.edu

Zilfina Rubio Ames, Co-Chair)

University of Georgia
2360 Rainwater Road,
Tifton, GA 31793
zilfina.rubioames@uga.edu

Watermelon Research Group

Brian Ward, Chair

Clemson University, CREC
2700 Savannah Hwy
Charleston, SC 29414
bw@clemson.edu

Melissa Acevedo, Vice-Chair

HM Clause USA Agricultural Service
260 Cousteau Place, Suite 210
Davis, CA 95618
melissa.acevedo@hmclause.com

National Sweet Potato Collaborators (Will not meet with SR-ASHS this year)

Tristan Watson

302 Life Sciences Bldg.
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
twatson@agcenter.lsu.edu

2025-2026 Officers, Chairs and Committee Members

2025-26 Officers, Chairs and Committees		
(Term of office is from end of 2025 meeting through 2026 meeting)		
Officers		
President	Sarah White	swhite4@clemson.edu
President-Elect	Jeb Fields	jsfields@ufl.edu
President-Elect-Elect	to be elected Fall 25	
Secretary-Treasurer	David Wm. Reed Cheryl Boyer	dwreed07@gmail.com or dwreed@tamu.edu crboyer@ksu.edu
Executive Committee		
Previous Chair	Julie Campbell	julie.campbell@uga.edu
Previous Vice-Chair	Chris Gunter	cc.gunter@ufl.edu
Chair	Cheryl Boyer	crboyer@ksu.edu
Vice-Chair	Daniel Wells	wellsda@auburn.edu
Member	Heather Kirk-Ballard	hkirkballard@agcenter.lsu.edu
Member	Patricia Knight	patricia.knight@msstate.edu
Member	to be elected Fall 25	
Member	to be elected Fall 25	
Member, President-Elect	Sarah White	swhite4@clemson.edu
Nominations Committee		
Chair, Senior Retired President	Elina Coneva	edc0001@auburn.edu
Member, Immediate Past President	Christine Coker	christine.coker@msstate.edu
Member	Amanda McWhirt	amcwhirt@uada.edu
Member	Andre da Silva	adasilva@auburn.edu
Member	to be appointed	
Member	to be appointed	
ACB Officers		
President	Aidan Souder	aidansouder@tamu.edu
Vice President	Tristen Taylor	tresten@tamu.edu
Secretary	Ananiah Barbee	ananiah.barbee@siu.edu
Treasurer	Jack Huckaby	jhuck000@gmail.com
Social Chair	Corrin Heilig	corrinh18@gmail.com
Recruitment Chair	Cecilia Acosto Lopez	cecilia.acostalopez@siu.edu
ACB Representative	Trishia Nyugen	trishiii@tamu.edu
Advisor	Gerald Burgner	gsburgner@tamu.edu
Section Chairs		
Education Section	Lorenzo Rosi	l.rossi@tamu.edu
Extension Section	Kathryn Fontenot	kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu
Floriculture, Ornamentals and Turf Section	Andrew king	andrew.king@ag.tamu.edu
Fruit Crops Section	Renee Threlfall	rthrelf@uark.edu
Postharvest/Biotechnology Section	Marlee Trandel-Hayse	mat0141@auburn.edu
Vegetables Crops Section	Timothy Coolong	tcoolong@uga.edu
Poster Section	Anthony Bowden	abowden@uada.edu
Edmond UG Comp. - Collegiate Branch	Kaitlin Hopkins	kah147@shsu.edu
Childers and Barham Grad Competition	Jeb Fields	jsfields@ufl.edu

Working Groups Chairs			
Horticultural Administrators		Amit Dingra	amit.dhingra@ag.tamu.edu
National Sweet Potato Collaborators		Tristan Watson	twatson@agcenter.lsu.edu
Southern Fruit Workers	Co-Chair	Amanda McWhirt	amcwhirt@uada.edu
	Co-Chair	Zilfina Rubio Ames	zilfina.rubioames@uga.edu
Watermelon Research Group	Chair	Brian Ward	bw@clemson.edu
	Vice-Chair	Melissa Acevedo	melissa.acevedo@hmclosure.com
Awards Committees			
Miller Distinguished Educator	Chair	Carolyn Robinson	cwr0001@auburn.edu
	Member	Bruce Dunn	bruce.dunn@okstate.edu
	Member	Catherine Simson	catherine.simpson@ttu.edu
Miller Distinguished Researcher	Chair	Kevin Crosby	kevincrosby210@hotmail.com
	Member	Daniel Leskovar	d-leskovar@tamu.edu
	Member	John Ruter	ruter@uga.edu
Covington Extension Award	Chair	Mark Hoffman	mark.hoffmann@ncsu.edu
	Member	Cheryl Boyer	crboyer@ksu.edu
	Member	Tim Coolong	tcoolong@uga.edu
Hutchison Young Extension	Chair	Andre da Silva	adasilva@auburn.edu
	Member	Jeb S. Fields	jsfields@ufl.edu
	Member	Damon Abdi	DAbdi@agcenter.lsu.edu
Krezdorn Doctoral Writing	Chair	Jennings, Katherine M.	katie_jennings@ncsu.edu
	Member	Penny Perkins-Veazie	penelope_perkins@ncsu.edu
	Member	Catherine Simpson	catherine.simpson@ttu.edu
Smeal Leadership	Chair	Daniel Leskovar	d-leskovar@tamu.edu
	Member	Shad Nelson	shad.nelson@tamuk.edu
	Member	Leo Lombardini	lombardini@uga.edu
Extension Communications	Chair	Jim DelPrince	j.delprince@msstate.edu
	Member	Ping Yu	pingyu@uga.edu
	Member	Damon Abdi	DAbdi@agcenter.lsu.edu
Childers Outstanding Graduate Student	Chair	Christine Coker	ccoker@agcenter.lsu.edu
	Member	Sarah White	swhite4@clemson.edu
	Member	Jeb Fields	jsfields@ufl.edu
Outstanding ACB Club & Club Member		Gerald Burgner	gerald.burgner@ag.tamu.edu