



# Georgia Crop Improvement Association



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Association of Official  
Seed Certifying Agencies  
<http://www.aosca.org>

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## GCIA News Briefs

FALL 2019

### I've Been Thinking

*Terry Hollifield, Executive Director*

In August of this year, the National Association of Plant Breeders held its 2019 Annual Meeting in Georgia. Attendance was outstanding with over 400 attendees. The organizing committee, headed up by Dr. Peggy Ozias-Akins, did a fantastic job. The program consisted of 2 days of presentations covering such topics as:

- Unlocking novel wild alleles in cultivated peanuts to increase disease resistance and productivity;
- Transdisciplinary plant phenomics and unmanned aerial system phenotyping for maize crop improvement.

Later in the week there was a post-conference tour of the Southwest Research and Education Center located in Plains, Georgia. This facility is certainly a credit to the University of Georgia and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

On the post-conference tour, I shared a spot on the program with Dr. Roger Boerma, Georgia Seed Development's Executive Director. I provided a brief history of GCIA, our organizational structure, what is seed certification, field inspections, testing, etc. and reviewed Georgia's Integrated Cultivar Release System (GICRS). I was surprised by two developments that I did not expect.

First, it has been a long time since I made a presentation and had as many questions. The attendees were interested in our certification program and very interested in GICRS, especially how seed certification and GICRS work together to obtain and verify royalty payments.

Second, I was blown away by how young, energetic and bright the graduate students were. These young people are so advanced in the sciences that you just know that they are the cream of the crop. However, they have little knowledge of production agriculture. They know the science but not the art, the application of those things that so many of us take for granted. Most of us reading this narrative were either raised on a farm or may be one generation away. This is not true today. There are fewer and fewer farmers, resulting in fewer and fewer "farm raised" employees, students, etc., who know production agriculture. I've been thinking, advocating and saying that one of the best ways to expose young people to applied agriculture is through multiple intern programs. The agricultural industry, to include universities, has to develop intern programs that will expose these bright young faces to the many facets of agriculture. The cutting edge science of agriculture has attracted these students to agriculture, but it is up to us to help them understand what agriculture needs and how to apply what they develop in the way of varieties, pest management, fertility, etc. to production agriculture.

## GCIA Peanut Activities

In preparation for the peanut field inspection season, GCIA held an inspector training on July 25th in Tifton. At the training, Dr. Bill Branch, UGA Professor & Peanut Breeder, reviewed peanut varieties on a tour of his field plots. He also planted several plots of intentionally mixed varieties that were used for the training. In addition, Billy Skaggs, GCIA Certification Program Manager, reviewed peanut seed certification standards and inspection procedures with the inspection team. Special thanks to Dr. Branch for his support of the GCIA Certified Peanut Seed Program.



*Pictured (L-R): Dr. Bill Branch, Mark Collier, Johnny Luke, Thomas Kessler, Raymond Bryant, Terry Crane, Sean Cunard.*

With almost 113,000 acres of peanuts applied for, our inspectors covered a lot of ground and racked up quite a few miles. Special thanks to all the buying point managers for their assistance in helping us complete our field inspections. We could not undertake such a task without their help. Next up, our inspectors will be visiting buying points as they prepare to receive seed peanuts.

On August 27th, we held our annual GCIA Buying Points Training at the Georgia Federal-State Inspection Service in Albany. Thanks to Mr. T.E. Moye and Ms. Teresa Cox for hosting us. At the training, we reviewed the requirements for buying points handling certified peanut seed as well as the rules and regulations related to Plant Variety Protection, plant patents and utility patents. In addition, we were fortunate to be joined by Tyron Spearman, National Peanut Buying Points Association, who provided a peanut market update, and Jack Davis, JLA International, who discussed production practices and post-harvest considerations related to aflatoxin and overall peanut quality.

## Green Industry Update - October 18 in Lawrenceville

GCIA's Billy Skaggs will be speaking on certified turfgrass at the upcoming Green Industry Update brought to you by UGA Cooperative Extension Gwinnett County. Organized by Timothy Daly, Gwinnett County Extension Agent, the update includes an informative lineup of speakers as well as continuing education credits. See below for the complete agenda, and to register, click [HERE](#).

### UGA Extension Gwinnett Green Industry Update

Come join us for an informative workshop with some of the top specialists in their fields!

#### Topics and Speakers:

- Reducing Fertilizers, Pesticides, and other Nonpoint Source Pollutants - *John Butler, Water Resources Outreach Manager, Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources*
- Using Certified Sod to Reduce Pests -*Billy Skaggs - Certification Program Manager, Georgia Crop Improvement Association*
- IPM and Reducing Pesticide Impact on Pollinators - *Will Hudson, Professor, UGA Department of Entomology*
- Core Principles of Pesticide Safety - *Mickey Taylor, Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator, UGA Department of Entomology*
- Appropriate Selection and Maintenance of Turfgrasses to Reduce Pest Issues - *Tim Daly, County Extension Agent, UGA Extension Gwinnett*

Date: Friday, October 18, 2019

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Location: Gwinnett Government Annex Building, Second Floor Conference Room, 750 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Cost: \$30 per participant. **Deadline to register is Monday, October 14!** Lunch will be provided.

#### CEU credits:

- 5 pesticide applicator license credits in Category 21 ( Plant Agriculture), Category 24 (Ornamental and Turf), Category 27 (Right-of-Way) and Category 32 (Regulatory).
- 3 ISA credits
- 5 credits GCLP/GCPP certifications

For more information, please contact Timothy Daly at 678-377-4011 or by e-mail at [tdaly@uga.edu](mailto:tdaly@uga.edu).



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
EXTENSION  
Gwinnett County



## EPA, Corps of Engineers finalize 2015 WOTUS repeal

- Courtesy of Georgia Farm Bureau

On Sept. 12, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Army finalized repeal of the 2015 “Waters of the United States” (WOTUS) rule. The agencies are also reinstating the regulatory text that existed prior to the 2015 rule - ending a regulatory patchwork that required implementing two competing Clean Water Act regulations, which has created regulatory uncertainty across the United States.

Georgia Farm Bureau has opposed the 2015 rule since it was proposed, maintaining that it constituted regulatory overreach and deviated from two Supreme Court rulings.

The repeal is the first step in a two-step rulemaking process to define the scope of “Waters of the United States” that are regulated under the Clean Water Act. Step 1 provides regulatory certainty for the definition of “Waters of the United States” following years of litigation surrounding the 2015 rule. Two federal district courts, including the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, have reviewed the merits of the 2015 rule and found that the rule suffered from certain errors. The courts issued orders remanding the 2015 rule back to the EPA and the Corps of Engineers.

Multiple other federal district courts had preliminarily enjoined the 2015 rule pending a decision on the merits of the rule. In this action, EPA and the Army jointly concluded that multiple substantive and procedural errors warrant a repeal of the 2015 rule.

The EPA and Corps indicated they will implement the pre-2015 regulations currently in place in more than half of the states, using applicable agency guidance documents and consistent with Supreme Court decisions and longstanding practice. The final rule takes effect 60 days after publication in the Federal Register.

In December 2018, EPA and the Army proposed a new definition - Step 2 - that would clearly define where federal jurisdiction begins and ends in accordance with the Clean Water Act and Supreme Court precedent. In the proposal, the agencies provide a clear definition of the difference between federally regulated waterways and those waters that rightfully remain solely under state authority.

For more information visit [www.epa.gov/wotus-rule](http://www.epa.gov/wotus-rule).



November 5 & 6, 2019  
Fort Valley, GA

### UAC SOD PRODUCERS FIELD DAY AGENDA Tuesday, November 5

**Evening reception for attendees and exhibitors**  
Super-Sod Turf Farm, Fort Valley; 5:00 - 6:00 pm

### Wednesday, November 6

**Business session**  
Fort Valley State University Conference Center  
46 Camp John Hope Road, Fort Valley; 8:00 - 10:30 am

### Trade show & demonstrations

Super-Sod Turf Farm, Fort Valley; 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

For more information on this and other UAC events, call 706-750-0350 or click [HERE](#).



This annual three-day celebration of all things agriculture features something of interest for everyone – farm equipment, harvest demonstrations, educational seminars, cooking demonstrations, stock dog trials and more. Known as “North America’s Premier Farm Show”® the Expo features more than 1200 exhibitors showcasing the latest in farming technology. The Expo’s unique site has a 100-acre exhibit area adjoining a 600-acre working research farm. Visitors can take a tram from the exhibit area to the fields where cotton, peanuts, corn, soybeans, and hay are being harvested. Gates open at 8:30 a.m. each day of the show and admission is \$10 per person. For tickets or more information, visit [www.sunbeltexpo.com](http://www.sunbeltexpo.com).

## Georgia Soybean News is available online

The fall edition of the Georgia Soybean News is available online - click [HERE](#).

Brought to you by the Georgia Soybean Commodity Commission, this quarterly newsletter is distributed to over 400 producers and industry. If you would like to receive it, send your contact info to [gasoybean@gmail.com](mailto:gasoybean@gmail.com).

To view past editions as well as the Soy Connection (courtesy of the United Soybean Board), click [HERE](#). Once there, look for the blue box titled ‘Related Publications’.

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*Farmers  
Putting  
Soybean  
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Dollars to  
Work for  
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## Georgia Soybean News

FALL 2019

### Scout & Manage Late Season Pests in Soybeans

- Mark Freeman, UGA East Georgia Area Agronomist (former)

As the crop season starts to wind down, it can sometimes be easy to forget about scouting and managing some of our late season pests in soybeans. Often growers can get side tracked with corn harvest and checking peanut maturity that managing the soybean crop can often become a secondary concern where things can easily get overlooked. Failing to manage late season insect infestations can cause major losses to both yield and quality.

Typically our most common late season insect pests are stink bugs and foliage feeding caterpillars. Scouting should be done weekly for both of these insect complexes and insect counts done by using either a drop cloth or sweep net as economic thresholds are based on these two methods. Frequent scouting/monitoring will allow the grower to make timely applications and apply the most appropriate products to maximize effectiveness and preserve yield.

When monitoring stink bug pressure after mid pod fill (R5), insecticide applications should be initiated once stink bug populations reach one stink bug/row foot or nine stink bugs/25 sweeps. In soybeans, pyrethroids are our most effective insecticide options and if the majority of the stink bugs found are Brown Stink Bug, a bifenthrin product will be the most effective pyrethroid for control. Stink bug insecticide applications should be terminated at R6.5 (pods are separated in the pod) + 7 days.

The other common late season insect pests of soybeans are the foliage feeding caterpillars, which consist of three species: Green Cloverworm, Soybean Looper, and Velvetbean Caterpillar. Proper identification of these caterpillars is very important. The green cloverworm and velvetbean caterpillars can be controlled with either a pyrethroid or a preventative application of Dimlin. Both of these options are relatively inexpensive compared to the diamide type insecticides needed to control the soybean loopers. Economic thresholds for the foliage feeders are eight caterpillars/row ft or 38 GCW or VBC/25 sweeps or 19 soybean loopers/25 sweeps.

For additional information on insect identification or scouting procedures, please contact your local UGA Extension Agent at 1-800-ASK-UGA1.

### Related Publications

- Soy Connection - Fall 2019
- Georgia Soybean News - Fall 2019
- Soy Connection - Summer 2019
- Georgia Soybean News - Spring 2019
- Soy Connection - Spring 2019
- Georgia Soybean News - Winter 2019



# Georgia Crop

## Improvement Association

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### OFFICERS

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Larry Cunningham, R.L. Cunningham & Sons, Inc.

Jutt Howard, North Georgia Turf

Reed Rogers, Golden Peanut & Tree Nuts

Chris Roquemore, Super Sod / Patten Seed

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Billy Skaggs, Certification Program Manager