



Georgia Crop Improvement Association



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GCIA News Briefs

WINTER 2019

I've Been Thinking

- Terry Hollifield, Executive Director

The holiday season reminds me a great deal of when the grandkids come to visit. I am happy to see them come and happy to see them go! OK, just kidding about the grandkids. The end of the holiday season signals the starting of a new year full of optimism and hope, and I am ready to get started.

As you read this edition of *News Briefs*, it is full of announcements for upcoming meetings, trade shows, short courses, etc. GCIA works with 13 major crops, so we attend and promote certified seed and turfgrass at many industry events.

Lately, "I've Been Thinking" about the value of the conferences, conventions, tradeshow, field days and various educational programs we attend. I have always been supportive of these events, and I am now even more convinced that commodity producers, seedsmen, researchers, staff and even executive directors have to make such events an integral part of their life.

Even with the unlimited data available on the internet, the need to have one on one conversation to stimulate ideas, discussion and hear differing opinions is still one of the best ways to gather information used to make better decisions. It is also worthy to note that face-to-face networking, putting a face with a name and getting to know the competition are still important.

The science of agriculture, including but not limited to plant breeding, pest management, soil fertility and even marketing, is advancing at an unbelievable rate. If you are managing your Ag related enterprises the same today as you were four or five years ago, you are behind.

If you are not a "lifelong learner", you will be left behind. Attending short courses, field days, annual membership meetings and conventions are a great way to stay abreast of those ever changing "Hot Topics". So get out of the shop, into the truck and hit the road.



Upcoming Ag Industry Events - GCIA hitting the road in 2019

Over the first few months of 2019, GCIA staff will be participating in a number of Ag industry events and trade shows. Such activities provide us a great opportunity to visit with our members as well as those working in related industries. If you're attending one of these events, we hope you will stop by and visit.

The 2019 Southeast Regional Fruit & Vegetable Conference is January 10-13 at the Savannah International Convention Center. The Southeast Regional is the largest educational conference and trade show in the southeast that unites growers, vendors and suppliers. GCIA staff will be on hand to visit with current and potential organic and produce food safety clients. Several GCIA staff will be on hand to promote our organic and food safety programs. [Click here for more information.](#)



The 43rd Annual Georgia Peanut Farm Show will be held Jan. 17, 2019, at the University of Georgia Tifton Campus Conference Center, Tifton, Georgia. The one-day show offers peanut farmers and those involved in the peanut industry the ability to learn more about the latest products, services and peanut research within the peanut industry. Several GCIA staff members will be on hand to promote Certified seed to growers in attendance. [Click here for more information.](#)



Golf Industry Show 2019 is February 2-7 at the San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, California. The Golf Industry Show (GIS) is an innovative trade show designed for owners and operators of golf facilities and golf course management professionals. Featuring the largest exhibit floor in the industry, the event combines education, networking and solutions for golf course superintendents, equipment managers, owners/operators, general managers, chief operating officers, and architects and builders. Terry Hollifield, Executive Director, and Don Roberts, ITGAP Program Manager, will be attending to promote our International Turfgrass Genetic Assurance Program. [Click here for more information.](#)



The 2019 Georgia Organics Conference and Expo is taking place at the UGA Tifton Campus Center in Tifton, Georgia February 8-9. Johnny Luke, Organic Program Manager, and Billie Dunn, Program Assistant, will be on hand to interact with current organic clients and meet potential new growers and processors. For more information, [Click here for more.](#)



The 2019 Annual Winter Conference of the National Peanut Buying Points Association will be February 15-18 at the Hilton Nashville Downtown in Nashville, Tennessee. The winter conference is a great time of networking and learning for the peanut industry. Billy Skaggs, Certification Program Manager, will be representing GCIA at the conference. For more information, visit <http://www.peanutbuyingpoints.org/>.



UGA CAES set to host annual Ag Forecast meetings

By: Clint Thompson, UGA CAES

Sam Pardue, Dean of the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES), will serve as the keynote speaker at the upcoming Georgia Ag Forecast seminar series set for Jan. 22 through Feb. 1. The annual meetings allow UGA agricultural economists to address Georgia's farmers, lenders and agribusiness leaders about the latest trends and economic conditions in Georgia's No. 1 industry — agriculture.

At the seminar's six locations across the state — Bainbridge, Carrollton, Lyons, Macon, Tifton and Watkinsville, Georgia — Pardue will discuss how CAES works with Georgia's agricultural leaders and how the college works to help solve the issues facing rural Georgia.

"Perhaps more than ever, the Ag Forecast is needed to assist farmers, ranchers, agribusinesses and the organizations that support them to plan for the future," Pardue said. "Uncertainty in weather, commodity prices, trade and access to markets, regulatory policy, and labor creates a challenging environment for Georgia producers. While we cannot predict the future, we can bring all the tools at our disposal to better inform our stakeholders in their decision-making processes."

CAES hosts the Georgia Ag Forecast seminar series every year. Those interested in attending the seminars can register at www.georgiaagforecast.com. Economists from the UGA Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development and CAES Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics will present the economic outlook for Georgia's producers with an emphasis on Georgia's major commodities.

"Ag Forecast provides producers, bankers and agribusiness leaders with a glimpse of what will happen in 2019. It presents data on how conditions in Georgia, the United States and the globe will impact producers here in Georgia," said Kent Wolfe, Director of the UGA Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development.

Participants will have the opportunity to meet with UGA faculty and UGA Cooperative Extension agents and will leave the meeting with a copy of the 2019 Georgia Ag Forecast book. It provides detailed outlooks of Georgia's major commodities.

The 2019 Georgia Ag Forecast series will be held:

Tuesday, Jan. 22: Macon, Georgia — Georgia Farm Bureau Building

Wednesday, Jan. 23: Carrollton, Georgia — Carroll County Ag Center

Friday, Jan. 25: Watkinsville, Georgia — Oconee County Civic Center

Tuesday, Jan. 29: Lyons, Georgia — Toombs County Agri-Center

Thursday, Jan. 31: Bainbridge, Georgia — Decatur County Agricultural Center

Friday, Feb. 1: Tifton, Georgia — Tifton Campus Conference Center

The Georgia Ag Forecast seminar series is presented by UGA CAES and the Georgia Department of Agriculture. For more information on the 2019 Georgia Ag Forecast series and a complete schedule, visit georgiaagforecast.com.

(Clint Thompson is a news editor with the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences based in Tifton.)

2019 Soybean / Small Grain Expo set for January 15th

The Georgia/Florida Soybean Association and Georgia Soybean Commodity Commission present the Soybean & Small Grain Expo on Tuesday, January 15th at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry. Registration begins at 8:00am and the Expo will conclude by 3:00pm.

The Expo provides up-to-date market projections and information on the newest production techniques, as well as remarks from the University of Georgia College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences leaders. This year, we are featuring:

Dr. Allen Moore - Research Update from UGA College of Agriculture

Dr. Adam Rabinowitz - World Outlook for Southern Ag Commodities

Dr. Bob Kemerait - Controlling Diseases in High Yield Soybeans

Dr. David Buntin - Management of Insect Pests in Winter Wheat

Dr. Tim Grey - Grass & Weed Control in Small Grains

Dr. Michael Maw - Desiccation of Indeterminate Soybeans

Mark Freeman - 2019 Georgia Soybean Production Update

PLUS

Presentations related to soybean and wheat production, poster session featuring latest research out of UGA, and an update on research projects funded by the Georgia Soybean Commodity Commission.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#) or contact the Georgia/Florida Soybean Association directly at 706-542-3793.



Georgia Soybean
Commodity Commission

GA PESTICIDE CREDIT
4 hrs Cat 21: Plant Ag
4 hrs Cat 25: Seed Treatment
2 hrs Cat 10: Private Applicator

Landscape Pro University - January 30th

Landscape Pro University (LPU), powered by Georgia Urban Ag Council and SiteOne Landscape Supply, brings seminars and training to industry professionals, providing the tools needed to raise industry standards and provide the best service to customers - tools that can help drive profits and set companies apart. LPU takes place on January 30, 2019 at the Cobb Galleria Centre.

Eight educational tracks will be taught by UGA and other and industry experts from specific fields (hardscape, irrigation, landscape lighting). Check out the latest products and services, try things out, get answers to your questions, and get to know the people behind the products. Stop by the GCIA exhibit booth and visit with Chase Crawford, Field Inspector, and Becki Hicks, Turf Administrative Assistant.

For schedule, course descriptions, and registration, visit: www.urbanagcouncil.com/landscape-pro-university.





Seed Short Course - February 6th at Patten Seed

The annual seed short course for approved conditioners of soybean, small grain and grass seed will be held Wednesday, February 6th, 2019 at Patten Seed Company in Marshallville. Joy Cooper, Seed Administration Assistant, will register attendees beginning at 1:00 pm, and the program will conclude at 4pm.

At the short course, you will hear from Billy Skaggs, Certification Program Manager, on conditioning facility requirements, and Department of Agriculture staff will provide an overview of Georgia seed law, rules and regulations. New this year, Max Demott of Syngenta will discuss seed treatments, Jeremy Kichler of UGA Extension will cover weed control in soybean and small grain, and Chris Roquemore of Patten Seed Company will provide a tour of their facility.

Attendance by an approved representative will fulfill the requirement to attend a GCIA sponsored seed short course once every two years. We hope you and/or your employees will join us. Please confirm your registration by email (joy.cooper@georgiacrop.com) or phone 706 542-2351 before Friday, February 1st.

Special thanks to Chris Roquemore, Ben Copeland, Jr. and the staff of Super-Sod / Patten Seed Company for hosting the 2019 GCIA Seed Short Course. We greatly appreciate their hospitality!

Peanut Seed Short Course set for February 27th

The 2019 Peanut Seed Short Course will be held on Wednesday, February 27th at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center. Registration will begin at 8:30am, and the program will conclude at noon. As you will see below, we have a good lineup of speakers for this year, and we hope you will make plans to join us.

Dr. Scott Monfort - Peanut Production Update

Tyron Spearman - Peanut Market Forecast

Dr. John Shugart - Georgia Dept of Ag Tifton Lab Update

Dr. Marshall Lamb - Update on Peanut Sustainability Research

Dr. Tim Brenneman - Peanut Seed Treatment

Dr. Mark Abney - Peanut Insect Management

GCIA approved plant representatives and buying point representatives are required to attend a seed short course once every two years for the conditioning facility or buying point to remain on the GCIA approved list. If you are unsure if you are required to attend this year, contact Joy (joy.cooper@georgiacrop.com) at the GCIA office at 706-542-2351.





Georgia Crop

Improvement Association

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