



Georgia Crop

Improvement Association

GCIA News Briefs

FALL 2017



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I've Been Thinking

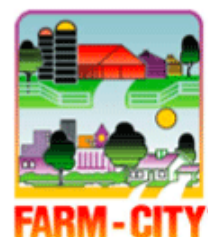
- Terry Hollifield, Executive Director

I've been thinking about all the current uproar concerning historical monuments. Apparently some people have too much free time on their hands and are clueless about the real issues facing our country. I don't want to bore you with my disdain for the spineless local community leaders and those folks who don't appreciate the need to recognize our history, both the good and the bad. However, I do want to ask the question, "Where are the monuments recognizing the scientists and leaders who have made Georgia Agriculture the largest industry in the state?" I would like to see a bronze or marble statue to:

- The scientists who have increased crop yields to a point that our Georgia farmers can stay competitive and at the same time made the environment safer and healthier;
- The dedicated producers of high quality seed - "First the Seed";
- The visionary entrepreneurs who make monetary and time investments in infrastructure;
- The local, state and federal government leaders who help fund many needed research projects, established self-help, self-funded commodity commissions, enact laws that protect us, and the state agencies that support agriculture;
- The leaders who advance agriculture by serving on non-profit boards and commissions;
- The often forgotten county agent that is there when "you" have a pressing question.

Fortunately, many of our colleagues are recognized by various organizations, and that recognition is greatly appreciated and serves as a motivator for others. But we can never do enough or say "thank you" often enough to those scientists, leaders, businesses and the army of support people that make Georgia Agriculture the #1 industry in our great state.

National Farm-City Week is November 15-22, 2017. This week is used to celebrate and recognize the beneficial partnerships between rural and urban communities that make our food supply safe and plentiful. If you have an opportunity, be sure to say 'thanks' to those around you involved in food and fiber production.



UAC Sod field day set for Oct. 31, Nov. 1 in Ft. Valley and Perry

Sharon Dowdy, UGA CAES

Georgia turfgrass producers and industry leaders will gather Tuesday, Oct. 31, and Wednesday, Nov. 1, in Fort Valley, Georgia, for the annual Georgia Sod and Turf Producers Field Day.

Industry leaders and university experts will provide updates on turfgrass-related topics, and the latest equipment will be displayed and demonstrated at the event's trade show.

The field day will begin at 5 p.m. on Tuesday with a reception at Super-Sod Turf Farm in Perry, Georgia. The reception is sponsored by Trebro Manufacturing and the Georgia Crop Improvement Association.

Registration and continental breakfast are set for 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday at the Fort Valley State University Agricultural Technology Conference Center. The breakfast will be sponsored by Brouwer Kesmac.

Educational sessions will begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at 11:30 a.m. The keynote address, "On the Economic, Business and Political Climate," will be delivered by Roger Tutterow, professor of economics and the director of the Econometric Center at the Kennesaw State University Coles College of Business.

University of Georgia Cooperative Extension weed scientist Patrick McCullough will give a presentation on enhancing weed control programs for sod production, and UGA Extension turfgrass specialist Clint Waltz will provide an update on UGA turfgrass research and education programs. Georgia Agribusiness Council President Bryan Tolar will give a legislative update.

Lunch will be held at Super-Sod Turf Farm. The trade show and equipment demonstrations will be held after lunch, from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

The field day is sponsored by the Georgia Urban Ag Council (UAC). Registration is \$75 for UAC members, \$95 for nonmembers and \$25 for students. After Oct. 7, registration is \$100 for UAC members, \$120 for nonmembers and \$45 for students. UGA Extension personnel can attend Wednesday for \$25.

For more information, call 800-687-6949, email info@urbanagcouncil.com or go to www.urbanagcouncil.com.

(Sharon Dowdy is a news editor with the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.)



GA Dept of Agriculture Seed Laboratory Update

Scott Hobby, Program Director



Small grain season for the lab has been much smaller than normal this summer due to the extreme drought conditions last fall. Many non-irrigated grain fields were never planted. The good news for our Georgia farmers is that seed germination has been excellent overall.

Wheat germination has averaged mainly in the 90's except for a small percentage that did receive rain at harvest and germs were reduced due to sprout damage. Rye germinations have been the strongest in 20 years with most in the 80's and 90's. Oats also have been very strong in germination in the mid to high 90's.

Pensacola bahiagrass lots have been received in the lab at a very high volume this summer, and the quality of seed has shown to be good with germ and dormant seed totals in the 90's. The lab has been monitoring bahiagrass closely for the weed seed Brunswickgrass that has been showing up mainly from lots being shipped in from Florida. Brunswickgrass is a very aggressive weed that can cause cattle to gain less weight overall if the rate of field infection is too high.

The lab also sent several staff members to training courses this summer. Jenny Hall and Amanda Gonzales were sent to USDA Seed Analyst training in August. The week long study was an in-depth course that will prepare them to become Nationally Certified Seed Analysts. Evie Blount and Amanda Suggs are also spending a week in Gastonia, North Carolina during September where they will be trained in Genetic Seed Testing. The testing will include the ability to distinguish different peanut and small grain varieties.

Peanut Season 2018 is right around the corner, so let's all remember that it is always a good plan to send spot check preliminary samples to see what your germination will be in different warehouses / lots. We are looking for a great year ahead. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have about your seed testing needs.

Put farm safety into practice with YouTube videos

The U.S. Agricultural Centers' [YouTube channel](#) provides the quickest way of "Putting Farm Safety into Practice," the theme for this year's National Farm Safety and Health Week, Sept. 17-23.

The 11 U.S. Agricultural Centers, funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), have posted 100 safety and health videos related to agriculture, forestry and fishing. The videos, many in both English and Spanish, can be used by anyone interested in agricultural safety best-practices.

Agriculture is among the nation's most hazardous industries, with a work-related death rate of 22.2 deaths per 100,000 workers annually, according to the most recent numbers from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, far ahead of transportation (13.1/100,000) and mining (12.3/100,000).

[NIOSH](#) joins the Ag Centers in recognizing National Farm Safety and Health Week as an opportunity to emphasize the importance of working together to prevent injuries and illnesses to agriculture workers. Additional information and resources for the Week are available through the [National Education Center for Agricultural Safety](#).

GCIA Peanut Update

In preparation for the peanut field inspection season, GCIA held an inspector training on July 27th in Tifton. Along with our staff, we were joined by Dr. Roger Boerma, Georgia Seed Development and Dr. Jim Bostick, Alabama Crop Improvement and Southern Seed Certification Association. 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, Dr. Scott, UGA Extension Peanut Specialist, provided us with update on field conditions and problems to watch for. Special thanks to Dr. Branch and Dr. Monfort for their support of the GCIA peanut program.



With almost 147,000 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 monumental task without their help. Next up, our inspectors will be visiting buying points as they prepare to receive seed peanuts.

On September 1st, we held our annual GCIA Buying Points Training at the Georgia Federal-State Inspection Service in Albany. Thanks to Mr. T.E. Moyer 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 Stuart Franklin of Mazur & Hockman who provided a peanut market update, and Dr. Marshall Lamb, USDA ARS Peanut Lab, and Jack Davis, JLA International, discussed pre-harvest and post-harvest considerations related to high oleic peanuts.

Variety	2017 acres applied for:
297	871
Georgia-06G	132516.12
Georgia-09B	7924.85
Georgia-12Y	270.8
Georgia-14N	3630.6
Georgia-16HO	400
Tifguard	800.8
TifNV-High O/L	157
All others	423
TOTAL	146944.17

UGA Extension welcomes new agronomist



Dr. Reagan Noland started August 1st as the new Extension Agronomist with responsibilities in Corn, Soybean and Small Grains. GCIA welcomes Dr. Noland to UGA CAES. We look forward to working with him in the years to come.

Soon after arriving at UGA, Noland met with the Georgia Soybean and Corn Commodity Commissions; with both offering support of his Extension and research programs.

SPOTLIGHT on our NEW SPECIALIST

Reagan Noland

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Extension Agronomist

(Corn, Soybean and Small Grains Specialist)

80% Extension, 20% Research | Department of Crop and Soil Sciences

Dr. Noland's research is focused on agronomic management of field corn production, soybean and small grains to ensure profitability and sustainability. He supports county agents through in-service trainings by providing educational information and one-on-one interaction at county meetings and onsite farm visits.

Background:

B.S. Natural Resource Management, Angelo State University

M.S. Agronomy - Texas A&M University

Ph.D. Agronomy and Agroecology, University of Minnesota



GCIA & Industry Coming Events

October 17-19, 2017	40th Annual Sunbelt Ag Expo, Moultrie
November 8, 2017	GCIA Turfgrass Representative Training; Georgia Farm Bureau, Macon
January 9, 2018	GCIA Seed Short Course; Georgia Seed Development, Athens
January 11-13, 2018	SE Regional Fruit & Vegetable Conference; Savannah
January 18, 2018	Georgia Peanut Farm Show; UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center
January 30, 2018	Soybean & Small Grain Expo; Georgia National Fairgrounds, Perry
February 13, 2018	GCIA Peanut Seed Short Course; UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center
February 4-8, 2018	Golf Industry Show; San Antonio, Texas
February 16-19, 2018	National Peanut Buying Points Association Winter Conference; Biloxi, Mississippi



Georgia Crop

Improvement Association

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