

THE TAPA QUARTERLY

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association

Message from the President

By Dr. John F. Bradley

March/April/May 2016



The TAPA Agronomic Workshop held in Jackson two weeks ago was a huge success in my book. In fact I thought it was one of the best. Many 'Thanks!' to Eric Walker, our Vice President and Program Chairman. Eric did a great job of securing speakers with very timely and interesting presentations and discussion. I heard several positive comments from our members after the daylong session. The presentations were designed to help many members acquire their much needed CCA CEUs in nutrient management and soil and water conservation.

Plans are already under way for our Annual TAPA Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop, to be held in Gatlinburg August 2-4, 2016. The details are included in this newsletter. This will be an excellent meeting and workshop to attend with family members, with lots to do and see in the number one entertainment attraction of our state. Please let Eric know of your thoughts and recommendation of topics and speakers.

Our TAPA membership is growing. After our recent workshop our membership grew to 70 official members. I would like to challenge you to help us increase our membership to 80 by our annual meeting. Slowly but surely we are growing with younger and quality members.

Did you know that we have a Facebook Page? Tennessee Agricultural Production Association has 364 'Likes'. We can increase our promotion and awareness by 'Liking' and inviting our Friends to 'Like' our social media page. Darrell Hensley, TAPA Editor, is our Facebook Page administrator. He does an excellent job of posting timely news and links directly related to our ag industry. Social media is another avenue to educate our friends and family of agriculture issues and informing them of solutions.

Welcome new Board of Directors members Kyle Jackson, representing Consultants and Hillary Spain, representing Other Industries (seed). Also welcome Guy Spence, who was elected to fill the remainder of Jake Bachman's term representing Fertilizer. Jake transferred to a new location with Agrium. Guy will be eligible for a full term on the Board in August. We have a good and active Board of Directors that are great to work with.

Let's continue to promote our organization and its benefits to our co-workers and associates in order to grow our membership and give them support of their careers in Tennessee agriculture.

We as officers and board members want and seek each member's input on how we can continue to make TAPA bigger and better.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>Calendar of Events...</i>	<i>Page 2</i>
<i>Grow Grass, Not Weeds!...</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>TAPA Winter Workshop...</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>TAPA Board News...</i>	
<i>Industry Sponsors...</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Pesticide News...</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Retailer News and Views...</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>Outstanding CCA Award...</i>	<i>Page 8</i>

Do you know someone deserving of the 2016 Outstanding Certified Crop Advisor award? The winner will receive a \$500 cash prize! See Page 8 for details!

TAPA THREE STAR SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT



The Tennessee Agricultural Production Association is pleased to announce the third year of **three regional scholarships for deserving college sophomores and juniors** seeking degrees in the field of agriculture. Students will be eligible for the \$1,000 Three Star Scholarships in West, Middle, and East Tennessee by submitting a resume, a statement of career goals, and an explanation of what this scholarship opportunity means to the candidate.

To qualify, the candidate must be currently

enrolled in a Tennessee college or university and actively pursuing a degree in agriculture or related area. Students may apply via email at psep@utk.edu by **May 31, 2016**. Within the subject line include "TAPA Scholarship". Place submission information (resume, other work in area of agriculture) within the body of the text. No attachments please. Previous winners are not eligible.

A TAPA representative will communicate the potential award to Ag program coordinators throughout Tennessee.

Afterwards, individuals will be notified upon receipt of application. All applicants, including the winners, will be contacted by phone or e-mail.

TAPA is proud to reach out to the leaders of our future and we look forward to announcing the winners at our summer meeting in Gatlinburg August 2-4.

Sincerely,
Rick Turnage
Scholarship Chairman

Add these important events to your 2016 Calendar!



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Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation

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Plan for our summer meeting in Gatlinburg...and bring the family!

The 2016 TAPA Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop will be held at The Park Vista a Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, located at 705 Cherokee Orchard Road in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The TAPA Board Meeting and CCA Board Meeting will be held the afternoon of Monday, August 1, 2016. The meeting will begin on the morning of Tuesday, August 2, 2016 and will conclude at Noon on Thursday, August 4, 2016.

The Park Vista Doubletree by Hilton Hotel is offering TAPA members a **Single Rate** and a **Double Rate of \$119 per night**. The Park Vista also offers One and Two Bedroom Suites, King Suites and Family Suites that can be reserved by TAPA members. The suite rates range from \$219 per night to \$385 per night and are based upon availability.

Individual Reservations must be made no later than Midnight July 18, 2016. Once the cut-off date has passed, all unreserved guestrooms will be released from the block. Guestrooms and the guestroom rate will be based on availability for any individuals calling to make reservations under the group block after the cut-off date.

Reservations can be made online or by phone. The website for online reservation is www.parkvista.com and the Group Code is **TAG**. The Hilton Reservation line is 800-421-7275 and you can use the Group Code **TAG** or TAPA Annual Meeting when making reservations by phone. For TAPA members wanting to arrive early or stay a few days after the meeting you can still get the TAPA room rate. If the reservationist does not give the proper room rate when making the reservation contact Ricky Foster at Ricky.Foster@tn.gov and he will notify The Park Vista to make sure that TAPA members get the proper room rate.

Registration information will be available soon.

<i>Schedule of Events</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Location</i>
National Grain and Feed Association Annual Convention	March 13-15	San Diego, CA
Tobacco, Beef and More (UT)	June 23	Springfield, TN
Summer Celebration (UT)	July 14	Jackson, TN
Progeny Ag Products Field Day	July 21	Wynne, AR
Tobacco & Forage Production Field Day (UT)	July 21	Greenville, TN
Pioneer White Corn Field Day	July 27	Murray, KY
Milan No-Till Field Day	July 28	Milan, TN
American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting	July 30 - August 3	Tampa, FL
TAPA Annual Meeting & Agronomic Workshop	August 2-4	Gatlinburg, TN
Cotton Tour (UT)	September 7	Jackson, TN
Tennessee Green Industry Expo	October 6-7	McMinnville, TN
Northeast Tennessee Beef Expo (UT)	October 13	Greenville, TN



PIONEER WHITE CORN FIELD DAY

~
Wednesday, July 27, 2016
Murray State University Campus
Murray, KY
Registration: 8:30 A.M.
Program Begins: 9:00 A.M.

For more information, contact:
John Raines
(731) 694-3283



Grow Grass, Not Weeds!

By Dr. Neil Rhodes

Professor and Extension Weed Management Specialist
University of Tennessee Extension

Annual and perennial broadleaf weeds can reduce forage yield, palatability and quality. They also reduce grazing efficiency which means cattle spend more time picking through and around weeds looking for grass and less time eating. The bottom line is that reduced grazing efficiency is just one more thing that contributes to lower average daily gain (ADG). Fortunately the selection of broadleaf herbicide options for cool-season grass pastures and hay has improved greatly over the past two decades.

Weed Control “Windows of Opportunity”

If we lived in a perfect world, all pasture and hay crop weeds would come up at one time and a cattle producer could spray one time in the spring and be finished with his or her weed management program for the year! Unfortunately we all know that this is not the case. Because different weeds have different life cycles (i.e., winter annuals, summer annuals, biennials and perennials), we encourage producers to think about the three main windows of opportunity for weed control.

Late Winter to Early Spring – Two of the most common and troublesome weeds in much of Tennessee are buttercups and musk thistle. Producers are encouraged to make herbicide applications for these in March to early-April, as proper timing is the key to success. University of Tennessee research has shown that annual

buttercups (prior to bloom) and musk thistle (plants no taller than 6 inches) may be easily controlled with 2,4-D ester during this window. Be sure the weeds are actively growing; this is usually when daytime temperatures reach approximately 60 degrees F for 3 days in a row. Buckhorn plantain may also be controlled at the same time with 2,4-D, but it will require a higher rate. Other weeds that should be controlled at this timing include curly dock and broadleaf dock. GrazonNext HL will be needed for these two, and it will also control buttercups, musk thistle at the same time. If buckhorn plantain is also present, consider adding additional 2,4-D to GrazonNext HL to improve control.

Late Spring to Summer/After First Hay Cutting - Warmer soil temperatures, as we move into late spring, trigger the germination of numerous annual broadleaves and the emergence of several perennials. And, some are more easily controlled than others. Easy-to-control weeds (sensitive to 2,4-D amine) include common cocklebur, common ragweed, and common lambsquarters. Pigweeds are also controlled with 2,4-D and most other pasture/grass hay herbicides, but in areas with a heavy seed bank and a poor stand of grass (around hay rings and other areas where cattle congregate) producers will see new flushes of pigweeds with each rainfall. More difficult-to-control weeds include horsenettle,

tall ironweed, beggarweed (tick clover), prickly sida, cudweed and oxeye daisy. GrazonNext HL will provide much better control of these weeds than will 2,4-D.

Late Fall – This is also a good time to control buttercups, musk thistle, and buckhorn plantain, particularly if weather, wet field conditions or other operations on your farm such as spreading fertilizer, preparing row crop ground, etc. have historically made it difficult for you to make a March application. Producers are encouraged to begin scouting pastures in early October and make plans for an application in late October to mid-December when daytime temperatures are reaching approximately 60 degrees F for 3 days in a row. Follow the same recommendations as for late winter to early spring sprays.

Herbicide Stewardship Reminders

Proper herbicide stewardship is everyone’s responsibility. While we do an excellent job of applying pasture herbicides without off-target movement in the vast majority of cases in Tennessee, we do have some issues each year. Most cases of off-target movement of pasture herbicides occur due to spraying on days when it is too windy. Be sure to thoroughly read the label and follow directions and precautions before applying any herbicide. Also, be thoroughly aware of sensitive crops, gardens, greenhouses, etc. on neighboring property and plan your applications accordingly. For more information on proper herbicide stewardship, please visit our website: herbicidestewardship.com

TAPA Winter Agronomic Workshop

February 17, 2016

Jackson, Tennessee

Day of Learning and Building Relationships



Dr. Jeff Barnes' topic was "Current and Future Technology to Improve Crop Management".



Josh Johnson lectured our attendees on "Practical Uses of Aerial Imagery".



L-R: Dr. Scott Stewart (Speaker), Dr. Jason Krutz (Speaker)



L-R: Hassell Smith, Kinney McRae, Danny Pattat



L-R: Dr. JoAnna Gillilan (Speaker), Nicky Burgess



L-R: George Evans, Rob White, Joey Caldwell



L-R: Joe McKinnon, Paul Kennedy



L-R: Terry Denton, Terry Sellers, Forrest Laws



L-R: Dr. John Bradley, Dr. James Holloway



L-R: Billy Hanks, Matthew Denton (Speaker)



L-R: Stan Anderson, Spence Lowery

New Board Members!



We are delighted in welcoming **Kyle Jackson** and **Hillary Spain** to the TAPA Board of Directors. Kyle, a consultant with TennArk Crop Service, will represent “Consultants”. Hillary, a sales representative with Progeny Ag Products, will represent “Other” Industries (Seed). Thank you for accepting your new roles and welcome aboard!

SCPA Hill Visits

The Southern Crop Protection Association Board and their members will be visiting representatives and senators and their staffs in Washington, D.C. on May 11-12, 2016. In addition, representatives of several state associations from various Ag disciplines will join SCPA for this important visit. The purpose is to discuss issues that are relevant to the farming industry in the South. The Tennessee Agricultural Production Association has sent a representative for many several years and will do so again in 2016.

Rick Turnage, who made this trip last year, will represent TAPA again in 2016. The representatives, senators and their staff from Tennessee will be visited to discuss issues vital to the Tennessee farming industry. A full report will be presented by Rick at our annual meeting in Gatlinburg August 2-4, 2016. Let’s all wish him a safe trip!

TAPA Board Meets

The TAPA officers, board of directors, and committee chairs met at the Doubletree Hotel in Jackson on February 16. Attendees were John Bradley, Ron Akin, Don Tyler, Scott Stewart, Dianne Jenkins, Kyle, Jackson, Rick Turnage, Mike Saxton, Ricky Foster, Kenneth Hassell, Hillary Spain, and Forbes Walker.

One of the items of business was the upcoming Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop in Gatlinburg August 2-4. Ground work is now being laid for a terrific three days of education, rekindling friendships, and enjoying the sites in Gatlinburg.

If you’re in the business of agriculture, this summer meeting is for you! Pre-registration and meeting agenda details will be coming soon!

TAPA Sponsors for 2016

Thanks to our sponsors for their generous support in the new year! Click on their links below to learn more about them:

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CROP PRODUCTION SERVICES	cpsagu.com
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Pesticide News you can use...

EPA Posts List of Pesticides Registered to Combat Varroa Mites in Bee Hives



The EPA has posted a list of pesticides registered for use against Varroa mites to help beekeepers identify products that can help fight this invasive species of bee pest. As part of EPA's role in the National Pollinator Health Strategy, the Agency has expedited its review of registration applications for new products targeting pests harmful to pollinators.

In 2015, EPA expedited the review of applications for oxalic acid and a new biochemical miticide, potassium salts of hops beta acids, to provide more options for beekeepers to combat Varroa mites. More pest control options help avoid the development of resistance toward other products. The list EPA published makes it that much easier for beekeepers to identify all products that are registered for use against Varroa and helps advance toward the goals in the National Bee Health Strategy. Find out about other EPA efforts to address pollinator loss. <http://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection>

Source: EPA Pesticide Program Updates, 1/28/16

FDA to Begin Testing for Glyphosate

Recently, the Food & Drug Administration developed streamlined methods to test for glyphosate. The agency is now preparing plans for fiscal 2016 to measure glyphosate in soybeans, corn, milk and eggs, among other potential foods, according to FDA spokesperson Jason Strachman Miller.

“The FDA has not routinely looked for glyphosate in its pesticide chemical residue monitoring regulatory program in the past for several reasons, including that available methods for detecting glyphosate were selective residue methods that would have been very cost and labor intensive to implement in FDA field labs,” Strachman Miller said.

Also, glyphosate levels, if present in genetically engineered corn and soybeans, are likely to be reduced by the processing done to those foods, he added.

The action follows an October 2014 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report that said FDA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture should strengthen pesticide residue monitoring programs and further disclose monitoring limitations.

The report points out that although FDA is not required by law to select particular commodities for sampling or test for specific pesticides, disclosing this limitation would help meet Office of Management & Budget best practices for conducting and reporting data collection and help users of the reports interpret the data.

The start-up costs to implement selective residue methods for glyphosate at six FDA testing laboratories is pegged at about \$5 million, according to [a statement](#) FDA gave GAO after GAO criticized FDA for not testing for glyphosate in the 2014 audit.

Under the existing regulatory framework, the Environmental Protection Agency sets standards — or tolerances — for pesticide residues on foods. An arm of USDA monitors meat, poultry and processed egg products to ensure that they do not violate EPA's tolerances, while FDA monitors other foods, including fruits and vegetables. USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service gathers annual residue data for highly consumed foods.

Consumer advocacy group U.S. Right to

Know applauded FDA for examining residues in soybeans, corn, milk and eggs. Although FDA has responsibility for food safety and routinely measuring for pesticide residues on certain foods, the agency has not routinely looked for glyphosate in its pesticide chemical residue monitoring regulatory program in the past.

“The FDA move is a good first step, but the testing must be thorough and widespread,” said Gary Ruskin, co-director of U.S. Right to Know. “USDA also should get on board.”

USDA conducts its own annual testing of foods for pesticide residues through a “pesticide data program” that typically tests for several-hundred different pesticides each year.

Still, only once in the history of the 24-year program has the agency conducted tests for glyphosate residues. Those tests, conducted in 2011, were limited to 300 soybean samples and found that 271 of the samples had glyphosate residues.

Source: Foodstuffs, February 18, 2016



Retailer News and Views



CSB Releases Investigation Report on West Fertilizer

The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) presented their long-awaited Investigation Report on the West Fertilizer facility explosion on January 28th in Waco, Texas. As feared in the days immediately following the April 17, 2013 tragedy, the report highlights gaps, limitations and outright absence of federal regulation as likely facilitating the fire and explosion. CSB's report and recommendations were met with mixed feelings by the ag retail industry based on the content. CSB's report speculated the event could likely have been prevented had Process Safety Management (PSM) regulations been in place for fertilizer grade ammonium nitrate (FGAN) and calls on both OSHA and EPA to add FGAN to the list of regulated substances.

CSB's report cited the "retail exemption" as one of the faults that led to the event. At the time of the incident, West Fertilizer qualified for OSHA's "retail exemption" from PSM, meaning the company didn't have to comply with the rule because more than half of its income was derived from sales to direct end users. Had the PSM rule applied to West, the company would have had to conduct a process hazard analysis that, among other things, would have identified the close proximity of the facility's AN storage warehouse and its anhydrous ammonia storage tanks. That knowledge, in turn, theoretically would have led the company to implement additional safeguards according to CSB. The explosion damaged West's anhydrous ammonia tanks according to CSB. OSHA, in a December 23, 2015 memo, said the agency won't cite storage facilities for failing to comply with its recent reinterpretation of the PSM

retail exemption through September 30, 2016. Although anhydrous ammonia played no role in the West Fertilizer incident, all indications are that it will be affected by CSB's recommendations.

We recommend every retailer, regardless of whether or not you handle ammonium nitrate or anhydrous ammonia, review the CSB report and video. Click [here](#) to watch the 12 minute video and click [here](#) to access the 265 page Investigation Report.

Injury Reporting Webpage Simplified

Now Online! To help employers comply with new requirements to report severe worker injuries, OSHA has created a streamlined [reporting webpage](#) and now offers the option of reporting incidents online. The expanded requirements took effect in January. Now, in addition to reporting any worker fatality within 8 hours, employers must report within 24 hours any severe injury – defined as an amputation, hospitalization or loss of an eye. In the first year of the new requirement, OSHA received about 12,000 reports.

KY DOT Issues New Warning for Transporting Dual Wheeled Farm Equipment

Under a new interpretation of the law, the Kentucky State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division started issuing warnings late last fall to lowboys transporting dual wheeled farm equipment, even those in possession of a proper over-width permit. Commercial Vehicle Enforcement says that the oversized permit only allows for the transportation of farm equipment with single wheels,

therefore the transporter needs to remove the wheels prior to delivery and then put them back on once they get to their final destination. The Agri-Business Association of Kentucky (ABAK) met with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the State Police and Governor Beshear's office to discuss the problem and the costly burden this will place on the agricultural industry. As a result, KY Senate Bill 76, sponsored by Senators Paul Hornback, Stan Humphries, and Dennis Parrett, was filed to reverse this new interpretation and would allow equipment dealers to transport equipment with dual wheels left on the equipment. If this issue impacts your operation, we would ask you to contact your State Senator and your State Representative NOW to ask him/her to support Senate Bill 76.

Reminder: DOT Revises Physical Report and Card

DOT announced a 120-day grace period during which Medical Examiners may use either the current or the newly revised versions of the Medical Examination Report Form and Medical Examiner's Certificate. This period is from December 22, 2015 until April 20, 2016, due to a problem DOT encountered in adhering to their own schedule. There has been some confusion so, it's finally official – the old AND new forms and cards can be used until April 20, 2016.

Environmental Respect Award Call for Entries

Join the hundreds of ag retailers worldwide who have been honored for their commitment to environmental safety and security. Click [here](#) for more information.

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Would you like to visit the
*Tennessee Agricultural
Production Association*
website? Click here:
tapa.tennessee.edu

TAPA has a Facebook page with
excellent Tennessee ag-related
posts! Just [CLICK HERE](#) and
click on the "Like" button.

Would you like to become a
TAPA member? If so, send an
email with your phone number
to: tapanews@ymail.com.
Ron Akin will contact you with
membership details.

*The Tennessee Certified Crop Advisor
Board of Directors Announces:
2015-16 Tennessee Outstanding
Certified Crop Advisor Award*

Criteria for Selection

- Be actively involved as a CCA in the agricultural industry
- Be well respected in their agricultural community
- Accomplishments in their field will impact and have impacted many over time
- Have either a lifetime of achievement in agriculture, be an industry leader, or an upcoming active innovative crop advisor (or a combination).

Selection Process: Scan and submit nomination package by email to CCA Board Awards Selection Committee by **May 15, 2016**.

Nomination package should contain:

- Signed letter of nomination addressing above criteria with contact information for individual making the nomination
- 1 to 3 signed letters of support from current clientele with contact information for each client

Submit package by email to: TN CCA Board awards selection committee, C/Ojseay@ourcoop.com.

The winner will receive a **\$500 cash prize (provided by Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation)** when announced at TAPA's Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop August 2-4 at the Park Vista Hotel in Gatlinburg.

**Jaymie Seay
Executive Secretary
CCA Board of Directors (TN)
(615) 793-8410**

The Tennessee Agricultural Production Association (TAPA) is a non-profit organization established in September 1996 through the merger of the Tennessee Agricultural Chemical Association (TACA) and the Tennessee Plant Food Educational Association (TPFEA). TAPA's purpose is to promote, coordinate and disseminate information related to current recommended agricultural production practices among those engaged in research, education, manufacture, distribution and regulation of Tennessee agriculture.

The TAPA Quarterly is published in March, June, September, and December. Please submit articles or other information of interest to be published to Ron Akin at tapanews@ymail.com. Use this e-mail address if you wish to unsubscribe.

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