

THE TAPA QUARTERLY

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association

September—November 2017

Summer Meeting Serves as Launch Pad for an Exciting Year Ahead

The annual meeting of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association was held at the Park Vista Hotel in Gatlinburg, Tennessee August 1-3, 2017. The feedback has been very positive. Registration was in apple-pie order and we want to thank Ricky Foster, Harry Craft, and Bill Qualls for their smiles at the registration table. The hotel welcomed us enthusiastically and we're looking forward to our return July 31-August 2, 2018. And last but certainly not least was the program that Dr. Bruce Kirksey worked very hard to put together.

Dr. Kirksey's goal as program committee chair was to provide timely agricultural information and useful take-home tips for our attendees. If you attended the summer meeting you already know that Bruce achieved his goal. His speakers had a variety of topics and we would like to thank them for giving us a very successful meeting. They were **Dr. Neil Rhodes** (University of Tennessee), **Mr. Jeff Beegle** (Grow BioPlastics), **Ms. Kristine Johnson** (Great Smoky Mountains National Park); **Mr. Rick Turnage** (TAPA/Bayer), **Mr. Gary Moore** (Foothills Land Conservancy), **Dr. Fitzroy Bullock** (Tennessee State University), **Dr. Dennis West** (University of Tennessee), **Dr. David Butler** (University of Tennessee); **Dr. Wayne Clatterbuck** (University of Tennessee), **Dr. Paula Gale** (University of Tennessee at Martin), **Mr. Bill Qualls** (ResponsibleAg), **Dr. Darrell Hensley** (University of Tennessee), and **Mr. Alex Adams** (GeoAir).



Dr. Bruce Kirksey, Dr. Eric Walker

Passing of the Gavel

Our association has new leadership! **Dr. Bruce Kirksey** accepted the presidential gavel from **Dr. Eric Walker** during the TAPA business session of the meeting. Our membership is looking forward to Bruce's leadership in the year ahead. Eric served as TAPA President in 2016-17 and was recognized for his valuable service and leadership. Also, **Dr. Scott Stewart** was voted by the membership as President-Elect and program chairman for the new year.

Outstanding Individual Award

The winner of TAPA's highest award was announced during the business session. See Page 5 for his story.

Officer and Board Members Reelected

During the business session TAPA treasurer **Ms. Dianne Jenkins** was voted by membership to serve a second 2-year term. **Dr. Darrell Hensley** was also voted to serve a sixth 2-year term as editor. **Dr. Rick Carlisle** (Director, Academia) was elected to his first 2-year term. **Dr. Garret Montgomery** (Director, Agricultural Chemical Industry) was voted to serve the remainder of Mike Saxton's term, which ends at the 2018 summer meeting. Both **Kyle Jackson** (Director, Agricultural Consultants) and **Hillary Spain** (Director, Other Areas) were voted to serve second 2-year terms. **Mr. Will Spence** (Director, Government Agencies) was voted to serve the remainder of Ricky Foster's ninth two-year term, which ends at the Summer Meeting in August 2018. **Dr. John Bradley**, outgoing board member, was recognized for his devoted service to the association. Last and certainly not least, **Ricky Foster** retired from his TAPA duties at this year's Summer Meeting and was recognized for his unwavering service during his nine two-year terms as Director (Government) and Local Arrangements Chairperson since TAPA began in 1996.

New Honorary Members

During the business session two TAPA members were recognized as "Honorary Members". They were **Mr. Harry Craft** and **Mr. Ron Akin**. These awards was presented for their long standing support of Tennessee Agricultural Production Association and their commitment to Tennessee Agriculture. The TAPA board and its members deeply thank them for their support of TAPA.

Three Star Scholarships Awards

Three deserving college students from our state were awarded for their achievements during the business session. See these extraordinary students' stories on page 2 of this newsletter.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Three Star Scholarship Award Winners...
Page 2

Weed Management Changes for Tennessee...
Page 3

2017 Annual Meeting in Pictures...
Page 4

Awards and Recognitions...
Page 5

Calendar of Events, Industry Sponsors...
Page 6

2017 Annual Meeting in Pictures (Cont.)...
Page 7

New Officers, Board of Directors, Committee Chairs for 2017-2018...
Page 8

Would you like to be a TAPA member?

To be a TAPA member, you can click here: [TAPA Membership](#), complete the form and mail it with your check to treasurer Dianne Jenkins. If you prefer, you can fax Dianne your form and include your credit card information. Or you can call her with your credit card information. Support TAPA by being a new member today!

TAPA Announces Three Star Regional Scholarship Winners

Tennessee Agricultural Production Association is pleased to announce for the fourth year the awarding of regional scholarships to three deserving college students who are seeking degrees in the field of agriculture.

The winners, from West, Middle, and East Tennessee, were announced during the TAPA Business Session at the Park Vista Hotel in Gatlinburg, Tennessee on August 1st. They were each awarded \$1,000 and a certificate for this honor.

To qualify for this award, each student submitted a resume, statement of career goals, and an explanation of what this scholarship opportunity meant to them. Each

TAPA is proud to reach out to the leaders of our future. Congratulations to the winners and to the exceptional students from across the state who applied for these scholarships.

candidate must also be currently enrolled in a Tennessee college or university and actively pursuing a degree in agriculture or related area.

TAPA is proud to reach out to the leaders of our future. Congratulations to the winners and to the exceptional students from across the state who applied for these scholarships.

The Western Region recipient is **Sarah Dodd**. Sarah's home town is Trenton, Tennessee. She attends the University of Tennessee at Martin and is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Plant and Soil Sciences with a concentration in Crop and Soil Management. Sarah has been on the UTM Chancellor's Honor Roll with a current grade point average of 3.9/4.0.

Among her activities at UTM, she is a member of the Collegiate FFA, Student Cattlemen Association, Agronomy Club, Weeds Team, and Crop Judging Team. After completing her degree at UTM, she will pursue a masters degree in Agronomy. Sarah plans to follow up with her PhD and work in cotton research or in the cotton industry.



Western Region Recipient Sarah Dodd

Abigayle Pollock, scholarship winner in the Middle Region, is from Taft, Tennessee. Abigayle is a student at The University of Tennessee (Knoxville) where she currently has a grade point average of 3.89/4.00. She



Abigayle Pollock, Middle Region Winner

is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Animal Science, with a concentration in Bioscience. Abigayle is very active at UT. Among her activities, he is a member of the Block and Bridle Club, Beef Cattle Show Team, Collegiate FFA, Collegiate 4-H, Chancellor's Honors Program, and UT Ministries. She was recently honored as the CASNR Outstanding freshman, and the Block and Bridle Club Outstanding Freshman.

Abigayle is undecided as to where she will pursue her graduate degree after receiving her bachelor's degree in Animal Science, but she plans to pursue a PhD in beef reproductive physiology.

Logan Adams, the East Region scholarship recipient, is from Crossville, Tennessee. Logan attends Tennessee Tech University (Crossville). He is a junior majoring in Ag Business with a current grade point average of 2.87/4.00. He is currently President of the Cumberland County Young Farmers and



Logan Adams, East Region Winner, was accompanied by his mom, Beth.

Ranchers. He was recently honored as being a part of the Tennessee Tech School of Ag Study Abroad Program - Coasta Rica, Agriculture in the Tropics. And although Logan has been active in many clubs, his heart is in FFA. He is now the Vice President of the collegiate FFA chapter at Tennessee Tech.

With his degree he plans to work in the agriculture industry, most likely in sales.

We at TAPA wish to congratulate Sarah, Abigayle, and Logan for being chosen as the Three Star Regional Scholarship winners! Our association would also like to thank the exceptional students in agriculture from across Tennessee who applied for these scholarships.

Sincerely,

Rick Turnage
Scholarship Chair

“The soil is the great connector of lives, the source and destination of all. It is the healer and restorer and resurrector, by which disease passes into health, age into youth, death into life. Without proper care for it we can have no community, because without proper care for it we can have no life.”

— Wendell Berry, *The Unsettling of America: Culture and Agriculture*

The State of Weed Management Changes in 2017

**By Dr. Larry Steckel
Extension Weed Specialist
University of Tennessee**



From a weed management standpoint, there were three main changes in 2017 that had major impacts on weed control. The big switch over to Xtend weed management has provided the most impact. Many growers also utilized cover crops to help suppress weeds for the first time, and finally some growers got a good look at Enlist cotton this spring.

With all three changes there was some good mixed with some bad. From the good standpoint, all three changes clearly helped improve the consistency of weed control in Tennessee row crops. The changes that had bad repercussions are more particular to each technology/system.

Of course with the Xtend technology all the off-target dicamba issues are the major negative and call into question how much longer this technology will be available. It is most likely that Engenia and Xtendimax will still be labeled for use in Tennessee in 2018, albeit with perhaps

more regulation. As it was, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) added emergency rules to try to help mitigate the drift issues. These new rules included banning in field use of older dicamba formulation until October, the approved dicamba formulations could only be applied from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and no dicamba could be applied to cotton after first bloom. Though these rules did not eliminate dicamba drift as well as many had hoped, according to a survey of retailers they did help mitigate drift in some cases.

The question is should they be left in place or should there be some changes? To help answer that question, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture is putting together a working group of farmers, representatives from Farm Bureau, TN Soybean Assn, Cotton Council, TAPA, as well as University of Tennessee Researchers and Extension personnel tasked with coming up with suggestions on best management practices that could be used to avoid a repeat of all the off-target dicamba issues of 2017.

It is unclear at this point if the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will make any changes to the registration of Engenia or Xtendimax for 2018. The future of a label to use dicamba in Xtend crops is even sketchier in 2019. The decision may very well depend on improvement in dicamba stewardship in 2018.

Probably even less reported is how insurance companies who insure applicators will proceed in 2018 after receiving a large number of dicamba drift claims this year. This is particularly true in much of the Midwest where retailers custom apply most of the herbicides. As such they have the most risk of off-target dicamba issues. Indeed, reports I have heard from Illinois and Indiana would indicate that many retailers there are working thorough numerous dicamba drift insurance claims. If they will not spray Engenia or Xtendimax on Xtend crops next year due to lack of insurance then its use there will be greatly limited. The insurance question will no doubt affect us here in Tennessee as well.

The major setback with cover crop use was all the slug damage in many cover crop fields which triggered some significant replant across the state. The replant issues the slugs caused have some reconsidering cover crop use next year.

Finally, a good number of farmers got a good look at Enlist cotton on their farms in 2017. Fortunately, there were really no large scale drift issues with Enlist Duo. The major drawback was that some who raised Enlist cotton also grew Xtend crops as well and getting herbicides applied to both those crops without mistakes proved to be very hard to do.

What has been very positive in 2017 is the overall good weed control that is very evident across the state. In my opinion the better weed control is a combination of the new herbicide tolerant technologies coupled with more use of cover crops. How we steward these weed management technologies next year will go a long way in determining if and how we can keep using them.

Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop

Gatlinburg, Tennessee
August 1-3, 2017



Hubert Conley - Agrium
Scott Benjamin - Agrium
Leigh Hamric - Gavilon/Microsource

*Thanks Everyone
for your Participation
and your Attendance!*



David Graves - Morristown Milling Co.
Ricky Foster - TDA (Retired)



Heather Lowery - Tennessee State Univ.
Rick Carlisle - UT Ames Plantation



Kody Read - LongVue Farms
Larissa Ruchotzke - WinField United



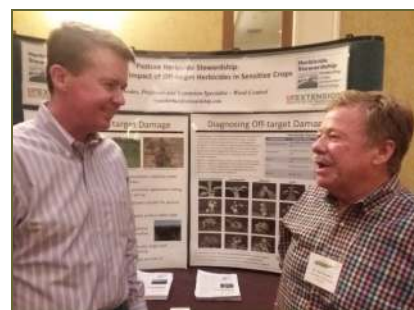
Darrell Hensley - University of Tennessee
Kevin Knop - Crop Production Services



Terry Denton - Gibson Farmers Co-op
Gene Dye - Chandler Spreaders



Mark Spiller - Yara North America
Stan Anderson - Tipton Farmers Co-op



Ian Leonard - Horizon Ag Products
Neil Rhodes - University of Tennessee



AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Turnage Receives the 2017 TAPA Outstanding Individual Award



TAPA's highest award is presented to Rick Turnage (left) by TAPA President Bruce Kirksey

Congratulations to Rick Turnage! He was chosen as TAPA's Outstanding Individual for 2017. His achievement was announced during the business session of the annual meeting at the Park Vista Hotel in Gatlinburg, Tennessee on August 1, 2017.

His story in agriculture began after he graduated from Hayti (MO) High School as class valedictorian in 1975. He received his B.S. Degree at Murray State University. He sold credit life insurance through Production Credit Association for four years before returning to his family farm for nine years.

Industry then came calling and Rick went to work for Rhone Poulenc. Those who have been in the Ag business for a long period of time know that a company name can be short-lived, so Rick worked for Rhone Poulenc before it became Aventis and eventually Bayer in 2002. He is currently Senior Technical Sales Representative and Rick will celebrate twenty five years with his company next year.

Rick has been active in TAPA, too. He has been a member since it began in 1996, served on the board, and was president 2005-2006. He has been TAPA's representative for the Washington, D.C. trip for five years, including the last three. Rick is currently serving his fourth year as chair of the Three-Star Scholarship Program. (See page 2)

Rick is married to Gina and they have two grown young men, Jordon and Peyton.

On behalf of the TAPA Board of Directors and the TAPA Membership, we congratulate Rick for his many years of dedication to Tennessee agriculture.

Jenkins Receives the 2017 Tennessee Outstanding Certified Crop Advisor Award



Joe Jenkins (left) is presented a \$500 check and a plaque by Matt Fennel, Regional Field Director - Tennessee Farm Bureau

The recipient of the 2017 Tennessee Outstanding Certified Crop Adviser Award was announced at the recent Tennessee Agricultural Production Association's Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. This award goes to Joe Jenkins. Congratulations, Joe, for this well deserved honor!

Joe has had a very distinguished agriculture career in West Tennessee, working in corn, soybeans, cotton, and other crops. After farming for years and managing a farm, he saw the need for fertility management and consulting and he felt that this was needed for the farmers in Tennessee.

Joe and his wife Dianne have been a reliable resource in helping farmers make profitable crops for thirty years.

Joe has been a Certified Crop Adviser since 1995, the first year the program was offered in Tennessee. And as a team, he and his wife Dianne won TAPA's Outstanding Individual Award in 2015. With the exception of this year, Joe has attended every TAPA meeting since its beginning in 1996.

Joe's expertise lies not only in his experiences and knowledge in fertility management but also in his ability to communicate with farmers, researchers, and the agricultural industry in very practical and common sense terms. His 'hands-on' experience and knowledge of soil fertility and fertilizers has given Joe a great foundation for crop advising and recommendations.

Joe Jenkins has served his family, church, and community faithfully while making a tremendous contribution to West Tennessee agriculture.

Calendar of Events

UT Cotton Tour



Dear Colleagues,

The West Tennessee Research and Education Center (WTREC) would like to cordially invite you to the 2017 University of Tennessee Cotton Tour. This event is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 6th at the WTREC (605 Airways Blvd., Jackson, TN 38301). Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Field tours will begin at 9:00 a.m. The event concludes at noon with a complimentary lunch.

Sessions will include updates on cotton variety performance, fungicides and target spot, weed and resistance management; irrigation, defoliation, UAVs and insect control.

There is no cost to attend the Cotton Tour. Pesticide recertification points will be available.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Tyson B. Raper, PhD
Assistant Professor
Cotton and Small Grains Specialist
Department of Plant Sciences
University of Tennessee

Event	Date	Location
Turf and Ornamental Field Day	September 7	Knoxville
Univ. of Kentucky Wheat Field School	September 13	Princeton, KY For more, click here
Forest Research Overview Gathering	September 22	Oliver Springs
Ag in the Foothills	October 6	Louisville
Northeast Tennessee Beef Expo	October 12	Greenville
Heritage Festival	October 14	Ames Plantation
Fall Folklore Jamboree	October 21	Milan

TAPA Sponsors for 2017

We are grateful for the generous support of our sponsors! To learn more about them, click on their links below:

GOLD LEVEL—\$500

website

AGXPLORE INTERNATIONAL	agxplore.com
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CHANDLER SPREADERS, INC.	chandlerequipment.net
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DUPONT PIONEER	pioneer.com
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STEYER SEEDS	steyerseeds.com
SYNGENTA / NK SEED	syngenta-us.com
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YARA NORTH AMERICA, INC.	yara.us/

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BRONZE LEVEL—\$150

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THE LAND TRUST FOR TENNESSEE	landtrusttn.org

Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop *Gatlinburg, Tennessee* *August 1-3, 2017*

**Continued
(from Page 4)**



Kristine Johnson - Speaker and Supervisory Forester with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park



Loston Rowe - DuPont
Benjamin Wiggins - Helena Chemical Co.
Garret Montgomery - Monsanto
Rick Turnage - Bayer



John Wilson - University of Tennessee
Tom Bible - Tennessee Farmers Co-op



Buddy Petty - DuPont
Paul Denton - GAP Connections



Bill Qualls - ResponsibleAg
Donna Jones - Asmark Institute



Matt Fennel - Tennessee Farm Bureau
Joe Duck - Mosaic

How did TAPA begin? A glimpse back in time...

1996 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

At the February 1996 Annual Tennessee Agricultural Chemical Association (TACA) meeting, members voted in favor of dissolving TACA and forming a new organization, the "Tennessee Agricultural Production Association (TAPA)." Members of the Tennessee Plant Food Education Association (TPFEA) also voted during their annual meeting to dissolve and form the new organization provided TACA voted in favor. The two boards then met and assigned a committee to put the wheel in motion toward dissolving the two organizations such that TAPA could be formed. Further investigation led to the conclusion that, due to the time frame involved in chartering the new organization and the fact that tax exempt status is becoming more difficult to obtain as well as the lengthy process, the most feasible move would be to merge the two existing organizations to form TAPA there by achieving both the federal and state tax exempt status that TACA currently holds. The by-laws and constitution of the two organizations require that this come before the membership by vote. Therefore, at our annual meeting in September TACA/TPFEA Meeting, ballots will again be circulated for voting approval of the membership of both organizations to vote in favor of the merger. The program committee has an excellent program outlined for the upcoming meeting, so mark your calendars now for the TAPA/FPFEA meeting in September.

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website? Click here:
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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.



We want to thank John Bradley (left) and Ricky Foster for their service to the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association. These men recently left the Board of Directors and we will miss their hard work, their ideas, and their smiles at our board meetings. John served on the Board 2014-2017 and moved us forward as president 2015-2016. Ricky served on the Board 1997-1998 and 2000-2017. He also just recently left his position as Local Arrangements Chairperson, a position he held going back to when TAPA began in 1996 and even several years before that, when he was a member of Tennessee Agricultural Chemical Association (TACA).

We hope that both men will continue being active in TAPA in the future. Thank you both for your extraordinary service.

**Harry Craft and Ron Akin, New Honorary Members**

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.

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Membership

Open