

THE TAPA QUARTERLY

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association

March/April/May 2015

Message from the President



Dr. Frank Yin

As we know TAPA was formed 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. We share the common goal of helping our growers and agribusinesses remain economically viable and environmentally sound.

TAPA conducted its 2015 Winter Agronomic Workshop at the DoubleTree/Hilton in Jackson on February 11. The workshop is an effective venue for retailers, university, industry, and consultants in our state to obtain up-to-date information relating to agricultural production. It is also an opportunity for our members to gain CCA CEUs and commercial applicator certification points. The program put together by John Bradley, our president-elect and program chair, was excellent. The speakers provided useful and up-to-date information on a wide range of topics including UAV use for agriculture, disease management in winter wheat, fungicide efficacy of corn leaf diseases, managing drift with the Enlist herbicide program, Xtend technology spray requirements, wild hog management, soil health and soil sampling, choosing lime sources, pollinator protection and crop protection, importance of micronutrients in Tennessee crops, and biostimulants. Special thanks to the program speakers who made this workshop possible: Dr. Heather Kelly, University of Tennessee; Spenser Bradley, Auburn University; Mike Hubbs, USDA NRCS; Dr. Don Parker, National Cotton Council; Kelli Polatty, Entria; Dr. Chris Main, Dow Agrosiences; Dr. Bob Montgomery, Monsanto; Kelly Robertson, Precision Crop Services; and Jessica Skinner, FBSciences. Sixty registrants attended the agronomic workshop.

The 2015 Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association will be held at the Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro on July 27-29. I strongly encourage members, board members, officers, and potential members to mark your calendar now so that you have those dates reserved for this meeting. John Bradley is currently developing the program and would welcome any valuable input or suggestions for relevant topics. See the back page for John Bradley's contact information.

Thanks to all our members and the companies or organizations that our members represent for the positive effects that our members have made on Tennessee agriculture, and for the good things our members have done for TAPA. A sustainable agricultural industry is vital for Tennessee and the country.

I am thankful and honored to have the privilege to serve as the president of TAPA, an organization whose members make a positive impact on Tennessee agriculture. I encourage every member to do the utmost you can to make TAPA a stronger organization, serve its members, and make Tennessee agriculture shine.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Tennessee Pollinator Conservation Plan...
Page 2

The Latest on UAVs...
Page 3

News from "The Hill"...
Page 4

Pesticide Recertification, Good News on Residues...
Page 5

Retailer News & Views...
Page 6

Winter Agronomic Workshop Highlights in Photos...
Page 7

Industry News & Sponsors, Schedule of Events...
Page 8

Do you have an Outstanding Certified Crop Advisor in mind?...
Page 9

TAPA THREE STAR SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT



The Tennessee Agricultural Production Association is pleased to announce the second 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, 2015**. 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. The

individual 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 winners at our summer meeting in Murfreesboro July 27-29.

Sincerely,

Rick Turnage
Scholarship Chairman



To Bee or Not to Bee

By Dr. Scott Stewart

Honey bees and other pollinators are an important resource to Tennesseans. They provide valuable pollination of fruit and vegetable crops and are a source of income for many beekeepers in the state ... and a source of honey for those of us with a sweet tooth. Pollinators and honey bees in particular have been receiving a lot of attention in the media and scientific communities. Honey bees in some areas of the U.S. (and the world) have suffered from a malady known as colony collapse disorder or CCD. This malady affects honey bees and results in the sudden decline of a hive. The extent and cause of CCD is highly controversial, but one thing is for sure, insecticides are receiving a lot of the credit. Based on the data we've collected in the Mid-South, insecticides don't appear to be a major factor causing colony collapse disorder or any general decline in bee health. However, it should not surprise anyone that many insecticides used in agricultural or horticulture can kill pollinators. It is also indisputable that we can reduce the risk of pesticides to honey bees and other pollinators through common sense and communication.

The Tennessee Pollinator Conservation Plan (TPCP) is the proposed name of a program designed to protect honey bees and pollinators from the unreasonable exposure to pesticides through education and stewardship recommendations. This voluntary program is similar to those already enacted in several states to ensure the compatibility of crop production,

apiculture, and pollinator health. The goal is to increase communication and suggest ways to improve pollinator health by collaboration and education among beekeepers, pesticide applicators, farmers, crop consultants, and regulatory authorities. This effort is being spearheaded by the Tennessee Farm Bureau and UT Extension.



The program suggests realistic "cooperative standards" for all parties such as making sure that growers and pesticide applicators know the locations of bee hives on or near cropping fields and placing hives in areas where pesticide exposure is less likely. Those applying insecticides will take extra precautions to protect pollinators, especially when bee hives are located nearby. This includes notifying beekeepers of pending applications, timing

applications when bees are not present or later in the day when fewer pollinators will be in the field, and avoiding applications where pesticides are likely to drift onto bee hives or other food sources. The University of Tennessee will take an active role in increasing awareness of pollinator protection efforts, but the backbone of success will be cooperation among beekeepers, growers, pesticide applicators and other stakeholders.

So what's the game plan? Representatives of the Tennessee Beekeepers Association, growers, aerial applicators, independent crop consultants, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, TAPA, the Tennessee Farm Bureau, and the University of Tennessee have met to discuss the proposed Pollinator Conservation Plan. A follow-up meeting is being planned to formalize a consensus agreement among these groups to participate. The TAPA Board of Directors recently voted to present the Tennessee Pollinator Conservation Plan to the general membership for its approval at its Annual Meeting in Murfreesboro in July. But we don't have to wait to start communicating better!

Dr. Stewart is Professor of Entomology, The University of Tennessee

A glimpse back in time...The TAPA beginning

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/TPFEA meeting in September.

Approval of Commercial UAV Use is Hovering...

For unmanned aerial vehicles on the farm, it's a few steps forward...but there are still hurdles to clear

By Kelli Polatty, Associate, Entira, Inc.



The ability to put UAVs, otherwise known as drones, to work on farms seems to be in reach after the Federal Aviation Administration's February 15, 2015 announcement. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was met with lots of chatter on social media, and initial reactions across the industry have been mostly positive. Agriculture has much to gain once commercial UAV use is allowed, with positive economic projections in the tens of billions over the next decade.

So how do these proposed regulations affect the use of UAVs on the farm? Here is a brief overview of some of the proposed rules and what they could mean for farm use:

- **Unmanned aircraft must weigh less than 55 pounds.** Most UAVs being used in the ag space weigh less than 10 pounds.
- **Unmanned aircraft must remain within visual line of sight (VLOS) of the operator.** On large-acreage farms, the operator would have to run multiple flights to cover all acres, which will decrease efficiencies.
- **Small unmanned aircraft may not operate over any persons not directly involved in the operation.** Farm and ranch land is typically private and in rural, non-populated areas, so this rule would not be problematic for most farm operations.
- **Operations should only take place during daylight hours.** This, too, is an easy rule to implement, as crop scouting normally takes place during daylight hours.
- **Maximum airspeed of 100 mph.** Most fixed-wing UAVs used for agriculture reach between 25-40 mph, and rotary-winged UAVs are typically slower than fixed-winged.
- **Maximum altitude of 500 feet above ground level.** Some believe this may hinder the range and capabilities of farm-use UAVs, but this is higher than the hobbyist rule allows (400 feet.)
- **Operators must pass an initial aeronautical knowledge test at an FAA-approved knowledge testing center, and retest every two years.** This is more realistic and economical than requiring an actual pilot's license, plus reiterates that safety comes first.

Even though proposed regulations are out, it is estimated that final regulations will not be available for another 18-24 months. The public has until mid-April, or 60 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register, to comment on the proposal and then all comments must be reviewed and addressed by the FAA.

Agriculture will be the industry most affected by the approved use of UAV technology. Constructive feedback from involved individuals and companies is critical to establishing final rules that incorporate safety, benefits and economics. Comments can be posted by visiting www.regulations.gov and searching for docket FAA-2015-0150.

Meanwhile, even though it's still not legal to operate UAVs for commercial purposes, recent exemptions have provided additional small steps forward in the quest to put this technology to use on the farm. Previous to the rule proposal, the FAA granted 28 exemptions—four of those to agriculture-based companies—to fly unmanned aerial systems (UAS) for commercial use. One of the companies is Trimble Navigation, which now has regulatory exemption to use drones to capture still photographs for precision agriculture purposes.

Entira plans to keep UAVs and systems front and center on our radar, because all of us in the agribusiness industry must use this time to plan for the eventual availability and use of the technology. We will continue to help our clients evaluate the technologies and incorporate them into their operations and business strategies, along with other precision ag tools.

We invite you to join us this summer for the second annual **Delta AgTech Symposium: Advancing UAVs in Agriculture**, July 14 and 15, 2015, in Memphis, TN. Read more at deltaagtech.com.

Entira is an agribusiness management consulting firm focused on the entire picture—from discovery, to strategy, to execution—to help our clients meet and exceed goals. More information is available at www.entira.net or you can contact Kelli Polatty at kpolatty@entira.net.

TAPA has a presence on FACEBOOK!

Yes, TAPA has a presence on FACEBOOK. If you don't have a FACEBOOK account, visit <http://www.facebook.com> and create one. After you have created an account, just search for Tennessee Agricultural Production Association. If you have an account or just created one, please look us up and LIKE our FACEBOOK Page. The site does post some timely information that covers many aspects concerning agricultural production systems. Much of the information impacts our group. So keep ahead of the game by LIKING the page.



News from “The Hill”

State Agriculture Officials Oppose Pesticide Limits In EPA Pollinator Plan

Some state agriculture officials are opposing possible restrictions on pesticide use as part of a federal pollinator protection strategy that EPA and other agencies are expected to release soon, arguing agencies should instead focus on improving coordination between farmers and beekeepers, though advocates contend federal restrictions are necessary.

InsideEPA.com
Feb. 19, 2015

Pesticide That Kills Mites in Beehives Put on Fast Track for Review by EPA

The EPA is expediting review of a new pesticide that can kill mites in beehives and is taking the unusual step of having the Department of Agriculture stand in as the pesticide's registrant instead of a private company. Oxalic acid dihydrate is an ingredient in disinfectant products and is approved as a beehive miticide in Canada but not in the U.S. “Beekeepers in the U.S. have been asking for approval to use a more pure form of oxalic acid on their hives,” EPA spokeswoman Cathy Milbourn tells Bloomberg BNA.

Chemical Regulation Reporter
February 16, 2015

Drones

Reuters writers Karl Plume and P.J. Huffstutter reported yesterday that, “U.S. farmers hoping to use drones to locate lost livestock or monitor trouble spots in their fields were disappointed by what they say are overly restrictive commercial drone rules proposed Sunday by the Federal Aviation Administration.

“Two of the long-awaited draft rules were singled out for particular criticism: a requirement that pilots remain in visual contact with their drones at all times and a height restriction that limits the crafts to flying no more than 500 feet above ground. These constraints, farmers and drone operators say, would limit a drone's range - and consequently its usefulness.”

FarmPolicy
Feb. 19, 2015

House Bill Would Block Permits for Spraying Pesticides Near Water

Legislation to prohibit the EPA from requiring Clean Water Act discharge permits for spraying pesticides on or near waters is reintroduced in the House by Rep. Gibbs (R-Ohio). The Bill would prohibit the EPA from requiring National Pollutant Discharge, Elimination System permits for pesticides that already are authorized for sale, distribution or use under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act.

Chemical Regulation Reporter
February 16, 2015

Biotech

Chris Clayton reported at the DTN Ag Policy blog that, “Rep. Mike Pompeo, a Republican from Kansas, lashed out Thursday at three Democrats in Congress for introducing a bill that would require labeling foods that have ingredients from biotech corps. The congressman said lawmakers should “stop listening to celebrity chefs and well-heeled ‘activists,’ and start really caring about those less fortunate.”

“Sens. Barbara Boxer of CA and Richard Blumenthal of CT introduced a bill in the Senate and Rep. Peter DeFazio of PR introduced a bill in the House. The bills are

called the Genetically Engineered Food Right-to-Know Act. The bills would require labeling of foods that contain ingredients from biotech corps and require FDA oversight. The lawmakers introduced the same legislation in the prior Congress, but it did not go anywhere.”

FarmPolicy
Feb. 13, 2015

Protecting Monarchs

Meanwhile, environmentalists are seeking support in Congress for calls for EPA to stop approving new herbicides for use on GM crops and restrict glyphosate to protect Monarch butterflies. Advocates are seeking to accomplish this, in part, by petitioning the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to list Monarchs as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. (ESA)

A source with Rep. Chellie Pingree's (D-ME) office says Pingree is circulating to other legislators a letter to Obama backing environmentalists' arguments that herbicides designed for use with GM crops, and particularly glyphosate, are threatening Monarch butterflies. The letter also suggests than ESA listing, which Center for Food Safety (CFS) and other environmental groups sought late last year, would help.

In the letter, Pingree targets herbicide spraying, specifically of glyphosate on GM crops, as primary threat to Monarch populations, saying the herbicide destroys milkweed in the Midwest, a migratory path and breeding ground for many Monarchs.

“The Endangered Species Act has the necessary legal mechanisms to ensure that the ecosystems that the monarchs depend on are adequately protected, and the recovery planning process of the ESA is one of the most successful and powerful tools that can restore the monarch butterfly,” the letter says.

InsideEPA.com
Feb. 17, 2015

PESTICIDE CERTIFICATION

By Dr. Darrell Hensley

Do you plan to purchase restricted-use pesticides in the future? If you do, the only way to purchase these products is by having a valid Certification Card.

The new 3-year commercial applicator certification cycle began on January 1, 2015 and will end December 31, 2017. The private applicator cycle also began on January 1, 2015, however it has an ending date of October 21, 2017. If commercial applicators did not obtain enough credit from attending meetings in the previous certification cycle, they will need to retake a pesticide certification exam. Exams may be scheduled through the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, via calling their offices at 615-837-5148. If a Commercial Applicator fulfilled requirements for certification and is in need a new certification card, they may obtain one by sending a renewal fee to the Tennessee Department of Agriculture with the completed form <http://www.tn.gov/agriculture/forms/replcertcard.pdf>.



If you are already certified or become certified, you will still need to maintain your continuing education units (CEUs)/points to retain pesticide certification into the new certification cycle of 2020. You will need to maintain your CEUs/points by attending approved meetings. Remember to sign any roster sheets that are distributed to attendees prior to, during and/or just after the approved meeting so you can get credit for attending. All applications requesting credit for meetings from industry should be made through the Tennessee Department of Agriculture's office at 615-837-5310 or email Mary Borthick at mary.borthick@tn.gov. Application

forms for requesting points can be found at <http://psep.utk.edu/secondlevel/info/EPP82.pdf>. Roster sheets for attendees may be found at: <http://psep.utk.edu/secondlevel/info/EPP81.pdf>. If you need additional information concerning training materials, visit <http://psep.utk.edu> or call 865-974-1286.

For more information concerning certification and or points standing, contact TDA at 865-837-5310.

*Dr. Hensley is Extension Specialist,
Pesticide Safety Education Program,
University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

Report confirms that pesticide residues do not pose a safety concern for U.S. food

On December 19, 2014, The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) posted data from the 2013 Pesticide Data Program (PDP) Annual Summary. The PDP summary confirms that overall pesticide chemical residues found on the foods tested are at levels below the tolerances established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and do not pose a safety concern. This information, along with an explanatory guide for consumers, can be found at www.ams.usda.gov/pdp.

The Summary showed that over 99 percent of the products sampled through PDP had residues below the EPA tolerances. Residues exceeding the tolerance were detected in 0.23 percent of the samples tested. The PDP pesticide residue results are reported to FDA and EPA through monthly reports. In instances where a PDP finding is extraordinary and may pose a safety risk, FDA and EPA are immediately notified. EPA has determined the extremely low levels of those residues are not a food safety risk, and the presence of such residues does not pose a safety concern.

Each year, USDA and EPA work together to identify foods to be tested on a rotating basis. In 2013, surveys were conducted on a variety of foods including fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, infant formula, butter, salmon, groundwater, and drinking water. AMS partners with cooperating state agencies to collect and analyze pesticide chemical residue levels on selected foods. The EPA uses data from PDP to enhance its programs for food safety and help evaluate dietary exposure to pesticides.

The findings of the Pesticide Data Program Annual Summary, Calendar Year 2013 can be downloaded at www.ams.usda.gov/pdp. Printed copies can be obtained by contacting the USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Science and Technology Program, Monitoring Programs Division by e-mail request @ amsmpo.data@ams.usda.gov.

For more information on EPA pesticide residue tolerances, visit the EPA website at www.epa.gov/pesticides/food.

Retailer News and Views



Busy Season's Almost Here...Bee Safe!

OSHA Reporting Requirements Announced

New OSHA reporting requirements went into effect January 1st. Starting January 1, 2015, all employers must report all work-related fatalities within 8 hours and all in-patient hospitalizations, amputations and losses of an eye within 24 hours of finding out about the incident. Employers can report an incident by calling 1-800-321-OSHA (6742), calling your nearest OSHA area office, during normal business hours (www.osha.gov/html/RAmap.html) or online at http://www.osha.gov/report_online.

Driver Convicted of Causing Fatal Crash: SMV Related

An Illinois man faces jail time later this month when he's sentenced on misdemeanor convictions for causing a 2013 Iowa crash that killed a teenage girl. The driver was found guilty of failure to display a "slow-moving" triangle on a vehicle and movement of an improperly equipped vehicle. Investigators said the driver was operating a tractor that was pulling a 30-foot-long manure auger the night of October 12, 2013 when the auger was rear-ended by a sport utility vehicle carrying the 16-year-old girl. A section of the auger pierced the SUV's windshield, killing the teenager instantly. Several witnesses told investigators the manure pump was almost invisible in the darkness, and several drivers came within inches of hitting the auger in the minutes before the crash. Burnett faces 30 days in jail and up to \$625 in fines for each count. He also faces a wrongful death lawsuit in the matter. Burnett's employer at the time of the crash and the maker of the auger are also named as defendants.

Agribusiness Friendliness Index Ranks States

South Dakota is the number #1 Agribusiness-friendly state according to a new index created by Colorado State University professors. The Index takes into consideration 38 variables including local and state government policies, geography, climate and the overall state business climate. It considers ag inputs; crop, fruit and vegetable production; meat and livestock products; and, agricultural processing. New Hampshire was rated second. The report says both earned high marks for less government regulation, higher efficiency and greater services - "offsetting relatively weak performance in the business climate area." The bottom five states were: California, Hawaii, New York, Alabama and Mississippi - scoring low in government services important

to agriculture, high levels of government regulation and less vibrant business climates. According to the index, Tennessee's ranking is 37.

Idaho Company Cited Following Fatal Forklift Accident

The 30-year-old employee clocked in that fatal day, as he had many times before, at the Idaho-based company. The employee was in an unsecured basket raised improperly on a forklift about nine feet off the floor when the basket fell off a forklift onto the concrete floor below. In the past year, nearly one in four Idaho workplace fatalities was a result of improper forklift use. An investigation by OSHA found the company did not protect employees from numerous hazards related to the use of forklifts, including training, modifications and operation. OSHA has proposed fines of \$38,780 for the violations. OSHA's Boise Area Office has developed a Local Emphasis Program for the Powered Industrial Trucks enforcement program to target many of the hazards found during their investigation.

Tennessee Workers' Compensation Notice Revised

Workers' Compensation (Effective date 01/2015): Tennessee has revised their Workers' Compensation notice. On the new notice, the requirements for the panel of physicians have been updated. Rather than requiring four physicians for back injuries, the requirement is now simply for three physicians which may, instead of the previous "must," include a chiropractor. This is a substantive change and an updated Tennessee poster is required. (Poster version 2.0). If you need posters, [click here](#). If you have questions about ordering, call Ron Akin (731) 431-7216.

DOT Refuses to Lower Drug Testing Rate from 50% to 25%

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has announced the 2015 rates for drug and alcohol testing, and in doing so, has revealed their unwillingness to respond to a positive track record by the regulated community. The decision has caused anger in the trucking industry. For 2015, testing will remain at the 50% of drivers rate for drugs and 10% of drivers for alcohol. The decision has sparked anger from some in the trucking industry as FMCSA has the option to lower the drug testing mandate to 25% of drivers. Other branches of DOT, such as the Federal Transit Administration, have already lowered their rates to 25%. American Trucking Associations Executive Vice President Dave Osiecki said in a press release, "the trucking

industry met the incentive-based rate reduction criteria in FMCSA's own regulations. And, the information and other data cited in FMCSA's statement on this issue raises a whole host of questions concerning the basis for the random rate decision." FMCSA revealed slight increases in the overall initial positive drug test results and huge spikes in positive reasonable suspicion drug test results over the past few years as the reason for testing the higher rate. Positive random drug tests, however, are down slightly for the second year in a row. Reasonable suspicion positive test rates continued to rise sharply from 5.6 percent in 2010, to 15.7 percent in 2011 and 37.2 percent in 2012, marking a five-fold increase over the 3-year period.

ResponsibleAg Surpasses 1,000 Facility Registrations

Does your business store, handle or distribute fertilizer products? If so, you may want to check out ResponsibleAg. This new initiative, announced on December 8, 2014, recently surpassed 1,000 facility registrations. It is an independent, non-profit organization (funded by industry participants) that was created to assist fertilizer storage and handling facilities in achieving and maintaining compliance with federal laws and regulations. The focus of the program for the first three years will be on companies that store and handle ammonium nitrate fertilizer and/or anhydrous ammonia fertilizer. By participating in the ResponsibleAg audit, the participant can address compliance issues and allow for corrections before the next government agency audits the facility, saving time and potential penalties.

Participation begins with the on-line registration of each physical location. This establishes the base information for each location. Locations will receive an audit by a credentialed auditor every three years. The audit checklist, compiled by industry experts familiar with agricultural facilities, consists of more than 320 questions based on federal regulations that pertains to agricultural facilities. Once the auditor reports their findings to ResponsibleAg, a Corrective Action Plan is electronically sent to the participant. This plan lists any issues that are identified in the audit and is formatted to help track the corrections.

Registration is voluntary and open to you. You can begin your online registration process by [clicking here](#) and you will be taken to the ResponsibleAg homepage. For more information about this new initiative, call Ron Akin at (731) 431-7216.

TAPA Winter Agronomic Workshop

Jackson, Tennessee, February 11, 2015

One Day of Growing Knowledge and Building Relationships

THE TAPA QUARTERLY PAGE 7



Kelly Robertson - Precision Crop Services;
Melvin Newman - BASF



Wes Johnson - Yara North America;
Joe McKinnon - Tennessee Farm Bureau



Greg Allen, Heather Kelly -
University of Tennessee



Danny Pattat, Hassell Smith, Kinney
McRae - Crop Production Services



Ben Wiggins, Katie Ward -
Helena Chemical



Stan Anderson - Tipton Farmers Co-op;
John Duke, Tennessee Farmers Co-op



John Bradley - Spring Valley Farms;
Harry Craft - Tennessee Valley Resources



Kenneth Hassell - Crop Production Services;
Terry Sellers - Mid-South Farmers Co-op



Bob Montgomery - Monsanto;
Jimmy Hopper - Tennessee Dept.
of Agriculture



The TAPA officers, board of directors, and committee chairs met at the Doubletree Hotel in Jackson. One of the items of business was the upcoming Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop in Murfreesboro this summer. Ground work is now being laid for a terrific two days of education, rekindling friendships, and a few surprises along the way. If you're in the business of agriculture, this event is for you! Pre-registration, lodging, and meeting agenda details will be coming soon!

(L-R) Forbes Walker, Kenneth Hassell, John Bradley, Jake Bachman, Dianne Jenkins, Don Tyler, Ricky Foster, John Duke, Scott Stewart, Frank Yin, Rick Turnage

Next Meeting: TAPA Annual Meeting & Agronomic Workshop, Embassy Suites, Murfreesboro, TN, July 27-29, 2015

Wes Rodgers is the new Innovation Specialist for **BASF**, covering West Tennessee and West Kentucky. Wes graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Soil and Water Conservation from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He also obtains a GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Certificate. Wes is currently working on a Master's Degree in Agronomy from the Auburn University. He and his wife Anna reside in Halls, Tennessee. They are expecting their first son in March.

Elizabeth Lague is the new Senior Business Representative for **BASF**. She began her position in August 2014 and her territory is West Tennessee. Besides her employment with BASF and being a Certified Crop Advisor, Elizabeth is actively involved in farming with her family, Pugh Farms, in Double Bridges, Tennessee. She graduated from The University of Tennessee at Knoxville where she earned her B. S. degree in Agricultural Econ-

omics. Elizabeth is currently living in Ripley, Tennessee with her husband Paul and 4-year old son Edward.

Bayer Crop Science has a new sales representative, **Jake Hamm**. Jake's area of responsibility covers select counties in southeast West Tennessee and Middle and East Tennessee. He graduated with a Global Economics and Policy degree at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Jake resides in Franklin, Tennessee with his wife, Abby, and their 7-month old son, Parker.

Timac Agro USA has added two new sales representatives to Tennessee:

Jonathon Mixon graduated from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville with a Masters Degree in Plant Pathology. After spending a year in Afghanistan as an Agribusiness Advisor assigned to the

Department of Defense, Jonathon returned to his family farm and took over ownership and management of the vegetable production. He is responsible for working with Timac Agro's distribution partners in Central and Eastern Tennessee working to introduce Timac Agro's line of agricultural products. He and his wife, Hannah, live in Rutledge, Tennessee.

Lucas Durall graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a degree in Communications and Public Relations and a minor in Sales and Marketing. He has spent the last nine years working in Agricultural Retail business as a sales specialist and crop consultant most recently with Crop Production Services in Milan, Tennessee. Lucas is responsible for working with Timac Agro's distribution partners in Western Tennessee working to introduce Timac Agro's line of agricultural products. Lucas and his wife, Erika and their two children live in Rutherford, Tennessee.

Schedule of Events	Dates	Location
National Grain and Feed Association Annual Convention	March 15-17	San Antonio, TX
TAPA Annual Meeting & Agronomic Workshop	July 27-29	Murfreesboro, TN
American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting	August 1-5	Pasadena, CA
Monsanto Field Day	August 6	Union City, TN
Pioneer White Corn Field Day	August 6	Murray, KY
Tennessee Green Industry Expo	September 17-18	Nashville, TN
Entomological Society of America	November 15-18	Minneapolis, MN

University of Tennessee Events

Field Days	Location	Date	Time
Tennessee Healthy Hardwoods	Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center - Highland Rim Forest, Tullahoma	April 25	8:00 a.m.
Fruits of the Backyard	Middle Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center	June 16	8:30 p.m.
UT Weed Tour	West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center	June 24	9:00 a.m.
Tobacco, Beef and More	Highland Rim AgResearch and Education Center	June 25	8:00 a.m.
Summer Celebration	West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center	July 9	10:00 a.m.
Steak and Potatoes	Plateau AgResearch and Education Center	August 4	8:00 a.m.
UT Cotton Tour	West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center	September 2	8:30 a.m.
Turf and Ornamental	East Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center - Plant Sciences Unit	September 10	8:00 a.m.
Pumpkin	West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center	September 24	11:00 a.m.
Northeast Tennessee Beef Expo	AgResearch and Education Center at Greeneville	October 8	7:30 a.m.
Woods and Wildlife	Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center - Highland Rim Forest, Tullahoma	October 16	8:00 a.m.
Ag in the Foothills	East Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center - Little River Animal and Environmental Unit	October 22	8:00 a.m.

Special Events	Location	Date	Time
Blooms Days	UT Gardens, Knoxville	May 9-10	9:00 a.m.
Summer Color Green Industry	UT Gardens, Knoxville	June 23	8:30 a.m.
Fall Gardeners' Festival	Plateau AgResearch and Education center	August 25	9:00 a.m.
Heritage Festival	AgResearch and Education Center at Ames Plantation	October 10	9:00 a.m.
Fall Folklore Jamboree	AgResearch and Education Center at Milan	October 17	9:00 a.m.

TAPA's 2015 Industry Sponsors

GOLD LEVEL		website
AGXPLORE INTERNATIONAL		agxplore.com
BASF CORPORATION		agproducts.basf.com
BAYER		cropscience.bayer.com
CROP PRODUCTION SERVICES		cpsagu.com
DOW AGROSCIENCES		dowagro.com
DUPONT PIONEER		pioneer.com
FBSCIENCES		FBSciences.com
FMC CORPORATION		FMCcrop.com
MOSAIC COMPANY		mosaicco.com
MYCOGEN SEEDS		mycogen.com
STEYER SEEDS		steyerseeds.com
SYNGENTA		syngenta-us.com
VERDESAN LIFE SCIENCES		vbsci.com
YARA NORTH AMERICA, INC.		yara.us/
SILVER LEVEL		website
AGRIUM U.S.		agrium.com
AMERICOT, INC.		americot.com
DREXEL CHEMICAL CO.		drexchem.com
JENKINS PRECISION AG SERVICE		---
JIMMY SANDERS, INC.		sanders.com
MONSANTO		monsanto.com
TENNESSEE FARMERS CO-OP		ourcoop.com
TENNESSEE SOYBEAN PROMOTION COUNCIL		tnsoybeans.org
TENNESSEE VALLEY RESOURCES		tennesseevalleyresources.com
TIMAC AGRO USA, INC.		timacusa.com
UNISOUTH GENETICS		usgseed.com
BRONZE LEVEL		website
AGRICENTER INTERNATIONAL		agricenter.org
GIBBS AGRONOMY		---
HELENA CHEMICAL		helenachemical.com
MASON HALL GRAIN		obiongrain.com
OBION GRAIN CO.		obiongrain.com
PROGENY AG PRODUCTS		progenyag.com
THE LAND TRUST FOR TENNESSEE		landtrusttn.org
VALENT USA		valent.com

**TAPA OFFICERS
(2014-2015)****President**

Frank Yin
WTREC
(731) 425-4750
xyin2@utk.edu

President Elect

John F. Bradley
Spring Valley Farms
(901) 834-1034
johnbradley@springvalley.farm

Secretary

Forbes Walker
UT Extension
(865) 974-6402
fwalker@utk.edu

Treasurer

John Duke
Tennessee Farmers Co-op
(615) 793-8355
jduke@ourcoop.com

Editor

Darrell Hensley
UT Extension
(865) 974-7958
dhensley@utk.edu

Immediate Past President

Terry Kelley
Tennessee Farmers Co-op
(615) 793-8515
tkelley@ourcoop.com

Executive Secretary

Ron Akin
Obion Grain Company
(731) 431-7216
ronakin64@gmail.com

Would you like to visit the
*Tennessee Agricultural
Production Association*
website? [Click here](#)

TAPA has a Facebook page with
excellent Tennessee ag-related
posts! Just [click the link 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:

2014-15 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, 2015.**

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/O jseay@ourcoop.com.

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

The winner will be announced at TAPA's Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop July 27-29 at the Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro.

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.

**TAPA BOARD
OF DIRECTORS
(2014-2015)****Dir. / Academia**

Don Tyler
WTREC
(731) 425-4747
dtyler@utk.edu

Dir. / Consultant

Dianne Jenkins
Jenkins Precision Ag Service
(731) 446-5813
joetn@ycinet.net

Dir. / Crop Protection

Mike Saxton
Syngenta
(270) 792-5885
mike.saxton@syngenta.com

Dir. / Fertilizer

Jake Bachman
Agrium U.S.
(336) 414-0021
Jake.Bachman@agrium.com

Dir./ Government

Ricky Foster
Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture
(615) 837-5148
ricky.foster@tn.gov

Dir. / Other

Jake Haun
(423) 422-7565
haunjake@hotmail.com

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS
(2014-2015)****Program Committee**

John Bradley
Spring Valley Farms
johnbradley@springvalley.farm

Local Arrangements

Ricky Foster
Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture
ricky.foster@tn.gov

Recognition and Awards

Rick Turnage
Bayer
rick.turnage@bayer.com

**Constitution and
Operating Procedures**

Kenneth Hassell
Crop Production Services
kenneth.hassell@cpsagu.com

Membership

Scott Stewart
WTREC
sdstewart@utk.edu