

THE TAPA QUARTERLY

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association

Join us in Gatlinburg for our summer meeting!

June/July/August 2021

You are invited to attend Tennessee Agricultural Production Association's **Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop** at the Park Vista Hotel, located at 705 Cherokee Orchard Road in Gatlinburg, TN. The event will begin on Tuesday at noon, July 27, and will conclude at noon Thursday, July 29. The CCA and TAPA boards will meet on Tuesday morning, July 27.

Your attendance at the business session on Wednesday at 11 a.m., July 28, is important to our association. As a member, you may vote for a the new president-elect, officers, and new board of directors. Also, the three college student winners of the TAPA Three-Star Scholarship Program will be announced. During this session, the TAPA Outstanding Individual Award and Honorary Member will be announced.

Pre-registration: You can save \$15 by pre-registering for this meeting by July 5. Pre-Registration form is attached in email.

Webpage link: [PRE-REGISTRATION](#)

Membership: Your TAPA membership dues are included when you register for the Annual Meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, we encourage you to still become a TAPA member for the new business year by checking the box that corresponds to "TAPA Membership Dues" on the pre-registration form and sending your \$30 check to our treasurer, Dianne Jenkins. Credit cards are also accepted.

Webpage Link: [MEMBERSHIP](#)

Hotel Registration: The Park Vista Doubletree by Hilton Hotel is offering TAPA members a **Single Rate and a Double Rate of \$136 + tax per night. Individual reservations must be made no later than midnight June 25, 2021.** 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 online booking code is TPA. The Hilton Reservation line is 800-421-7275 and you can use the Group Code TPA or TAPA Annual Meeting. For TAPA members wanting to arrive early or stay a few days after the meeting, you can still get the TAPA room rate.

Certified Crop Advisor CEU's and Tennessee recertification points will be available at this meeting.

Bring the family! We hope to see you there.

For questions regarding hotel information email Ron Akin : ronakin64@gmail.com
For any other questions contact Julie Reeves, TAPA Executive Secretary, 731-415-0418

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Article by Dr. Neil Rhodes
Page 2-3

UT Fruits of the Backyard Field Day
UT Weed Tour
Page 3

University Field Days and Events
Page 4

TAPA News, CCA Award
Page 5

TAPA Sponsors
TAPA Officers and Board Listing
Page 6

Article by Dr. Neil Rhodes

Management of Brambles in Pastures

G. Neil Rhodes, Jr., Professor and Extension Weed Management Specialist
Department of Plant Sciences

Classification and Description

Blackberries and dewberries (*Rubus spp.*), collectively called brambles, are troublesome perennial weeds in Tennessee pastures and adjacent fence rows. Numerous blackberry and dewberry species occur in Tennessee; the most common are bush blackberry and southern dewberry. As the names imply, bush blackberry (hereafter referred to as blackberry) exhibits an upright growth pattern, while southern dewberry (hereafter referred to as dewberry) trails or runs along the ground. Blackberry can grow 4 to 6 ft tall, while dewberry is generally under 2 ft tall. Blackberry has a smooth stem with thorns, while dewberry has a hairy stem with thorns.

Problems in Pastures

If left unmanaged, brambles can cause serious problems in pastures. They reduce the quality of both grazing and hay. Blackberries often create dense thickets that can restrict the movement of cattle and other grazing animals. The sharp thorns also can cause physical injury to grazing animals. Injury to bull reproductive organs can reduce reproductive performance and create infections. Lactating dairy cows can also be injured. Scratches to udders can create infections and reduce milk production.

Management in Pastures

The good news is that it takes several years for brambles to overtake a pasture. The bad news is that it often takes several years to reclaim a heavily infested pasture, and it is very expensive to do so. Because of this, producers are encouraged to periodically scout pastures for brambles, and utilize spot sprays to prevent infestations from worsening. Spot sprays not only reduce the cost of treatment compared to broadcast sprays, they also allow for better spray coverage and, in turn, better control.

Planning and management of mowing is critical to control. While mowing will reduce the top growth and improve the looks of a pasture, the plants will recover quickly due to the presence of robust root systems. Research has consistently shown that avoiding mowing the canes during the year a treatment is planned will greatly improve lasting control. If brambles are in patches, producers are strongly encouraged to mow around the patches. If the pasture is completely overgrown and contains large thickets to the point that obtaining coverage is of concern, the best approach is to mow the pasture one year during the summer, and then delay herbicide treatment until the following summer. Likewise, delaying mowing *after* treatment for as long as practical is very important. Delay mowing until the canes are brown, dry and crispy all the way to the ground. This usually means not mowing for at least six weeks or longer after spraying if at all possible.



Article by Dr. Neil Rhodes Continued

Recommended Herbicides and Spray Timing

Herbicides effective on brambles include PastureGard HL (triclopyr + flouroxypyr premix) and Remedy Ultra (triclopyr). For spot sprays, mix either PastureGard HL or Remedy Ultra at the rate of 0.5%, plus the same rate of a good nonionic surfactant. For example, if you are preparing 100 gallons of spray mix, add 2 quarts of either herbicide plus 2 quarts of nonionic surfactant in 100 gallons of water and agitate. Spray to thoroughly wet all leaves, but not to the point of run-off. Runoff or spraying the ground around the canes wastes time and money. If broadcast sprays are required, apply PastureGard HL at 1.5 to 4 pints per acre plus nonionic surfactant at the rate of 1 quart per 100 gallons of spray mix. Another less expensive option is Chaparral (aminopyralid + metsulfuron) at 2 to 3 oz/A. Due to stunting and yellowing on tall fescue, Chaparral should not be used 2 years in a row. Use plenty of water, at least 20 gallons per acre. For best control, make either spot or broadcast sprays when bramble leaves are fully expanded, either before flowering or after fruit drop. After fruit drop is the preferred timing. Research in Tennessee has shown August or September applications to be very effective. Commonly used pasture herbicides such as 2,4-D or 2,4-D + dicamba premixes do not control brambles.

As is the case with all crop protection chemicals, be sure to thoroughly read the label before application and follow all directions and precautions. For more information regarding pasture herbicides, please see herbicidestewardship.com, utbeef.com, or utcrops.com.

Fruits of the Backyard Field Day June 15, 2021

Do you want to grow your own blueberries or blackberries, but you're not sure how to get started? Or maybe you want some advice to enhance your efforts? Learn more at the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture's annual Fruits of the Backyard Field Day on June 15 at the Middle Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center at Spring Hill. Session topics will include selection of types and cultivars, site preparation and planting as well as management with cover crops and support systems.

This event is free and open to the public. The blueberry session will begin at 8 a.m. Central time. After a ten-minute break, the blackberry session will begin at 8:55 a.m. This field day will conclude at 11 a.m.. The Middle Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center at Spring Hill is located at 1000 Main Entrance Drive in Spring Hill, Tennessee. It is accessible from Interstate 65. To request an accommodation for accessibility, contact the Center at 931-486-2129.

<https://utianews.tennessee.edu/fruits-of-the-backyard-field-day-scheduled-for-june-15/>

UT Weed Tour June 16, 2021

The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture will host the annual Weed Tour on Wednesday, June 16 at the West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center. The guided tour will feature 60 weed management research tests in corn, soybean and cotton as well as a demonstration of herbicide symptomology.

Weed Tour runs from 9 – 11:30 a.m., with registration opening at 8:30 a.m. A light breakfast will be served. Larry Steckel, UT Extension weed specialist, will lead the tour, along with Dr. Clay Perkins, and PhD candidate Delaney Foster with the UT Department of Plant Sciences.

The tour will also cover research-based strategies to manage the increasing problem with glyphosate-resistant grass species, as well as glyphosate/PPO/dicamba-resistant Palmer amaranth. Cultural weed control practices and many of the newer premixes in corn and soybean will be demonstrated.

At the conclusion, tour leaders will be available for consultation, as well as discussion of issues and product performance.

The West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center is located at 605 Airways Boulevard, Jackson, Tennessee. Upon arrival, follow signs to the weed management research plots. For directions, or more information, call 731-425-4705.

Larry Steckel, Extension Weed Specialist <https://news.utcrops.com/2021/05/ut-weed-tour-wednesday-june-16-2021/#more-20220>

Check out UTCrops News for the latest blogs: <https://news.utcrops.com/>

Add these important events to your 2021 Calendar!

2021 University of TN Field Day Schedule

Topic	Location	Date	Registration Time
Turf Tuesdays	Online at: tiny.utk.edu/TurfTuesday	Monthly, 1 st Tuesday April-October. See Website	See Website
Fruits of the Backyard	Middle TN AgResearch & Education Center at Spring Hill	June 15	8:00 a.m. CDT
Weed Tour	West TN AgResearch & Education Center at Jackson	June 16	8:30 a.m. CDT
Tobacco, Beef & More	Highland Rim AgResearch & Education Center at Springfield	June 24	8:00 a.m. CDT
Green Industry Day	UT Gardens / UTIA Brehm Animal Science Arena at UT Ag Campus at Knoxville	June 29	TBD
Summer Celebration	West TN AgResearch & Education Center at Jackson	July 8	8:00 a.m. CDT
Soybean Scout School	West TN—TBD	July 12	TBD
Soybean Scout School	Middle TN—Summerville Grain & Feed Co	July 22	TBD
Soybean Scout School	East TN—TBD	July 23	TBD
Turf & Ornamental	East TN AgResearch & Education Center Plant Sciences Unit at Knoxville	August 26	TBD
Fall Gardeners' Festival	Plateau AgResearch & Education Center at Crossville	August 31	8:00 a.m. CDT
Cotton Tour	West TN AgResearch & Education Center at Jackson	September 1	8:00 a.m. CDT
Steak and Potatoes	Plateau AgResearch & Education Center at Crossville	September 2	8:00 a.m. CDT
UT Arboretum Butterfly Festival	Forest Resources AgResearch & Education Center at Oak Ridge Forest/ Arboretum	September 18	10:00 a.m. EDT
Northeast TN Beed Expo	Northeast TN AgResearch & Education Center at Greenville	October 7-8	7:30 a.m. EDT
Horse Management	UTIA Brehm Animal Science Arena at UT Ag Campus at Knoxville	October 7	4:00 p.m. EDT
Horse Management	West TN AgResearch & Education Center at Jackson	October 11	5:00 p.m. CDT
Horse Management	Middle TN AgResearch & Education Center at Spring Hill	October 12	5:00 p.m. CDT
Ag in the Foothills	East TN AgResearch & Education Center, Blount Unit	October 14	7:30 a.m. EDT
Woods and Wildlife	Forest Resources AgResearch & Education Center at Oak Ridge Forest/ Arboretum	October 21	7:00 a.m. EDT
Beef Heifer Development School	Middle TN AgResearch & Education Center at Lewisburg	October 22	10:00 a.m. CDT

TAPA Annual Officers Meeting held May 10

The TAPA officers met virtually on May 10th. Attendees were Virginia Sykes, Matthew Wiggins, Bruce Kirksey, Darrell Hensley, Dianne Jenkins, Julie Reeves, Kyle Jackson, Jo Gillilan, Rick Carlisle, Tim Adcock, Ron Akin, Will Spence, Garret Montgomery, Paul Kennedy.

Nominations were brought forth for 2021 President-Elect, Outstanding Individual, Honorary Member, and Board of Directors whose terms end this summer. The group also discussed the upcoming Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop in Gatlinburg July 27-29. Ground work is now being laid for a terrific three days of education, rekindling friendships, and enjoying the sites in Gatlinburg.

Voting members: Please plan to attend the business meeting on Wednesday morning (11 am), July 29, in Gatlinburg to vote on the nominations for President-Elect and Board of directors.

Did you know?

TAPA has a Facebook page with excellent Tennessee ag-related posts! Check it out and keep up to date. Search for Tennessee Agricultural Production Association to find us.

You can also find more information about TAPA, how to become a member, and of course how to become a sponsor on our website. Click our logo!

The Tennessee Certified Crop Advisor Board of Directors Announces:

Tennessee Outstanding Certified Crop Advisor Award

The Tennessee Farm Bureau along with the Tennessee Certified Crops Adviser Board of Directors sponsor an award to a deserving Tennessee Certified Crops Adviser who has exemplified the merits of service and dedication to their customers.

The winner will receive a \$500 cash prize.

To nominate someone, please write a letter of outlining this person's accomplishments and one to three letters of support from current clientele. Submit to Jaymie Seay, Executive Board Administrator for the Tennessee CCA Board of Directors. You do not have to be a CCA to nominate someone.

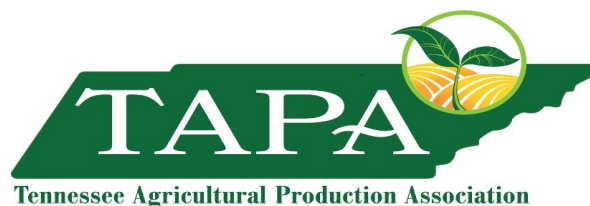
Please submit by August 31, 2021

to:

Jaymie Seay

jseay@ourcoop.com

**Executive Secretary
CCA Board of Directors**



TAPA Sponsors for 2021 <i>Thanks to our sponsors for their generous support in the new year!</i>	
GOLD LEVEL—\$500	website
BASF CORPORATION	agproducts.basf.com
BAYER	cropscience.bayer.com
CHANDLER SPREADERS, INC.	chandlerequipment.net
CORTEVA	Corteva.com
FB SCIENCES	FBSciences.com
FMC CORPORATION	FMCcrop.com
HELENA AGRI-ENTERPRISES. LLC	Helenaagri.com
MOSAIC COMPANY	Mosaicco.com
TENNESSEE FARMERS COOPERATIVE	ourcoop.com
TENNESSEE SOYBEAN PROMOTION COUNCIL	tnsoybeans.org
YARA NORTH AMERICA, INC.	yara.us
SILVER LEVEL—\$300	website
AMERICOT, INC.	americot.com
DREXEL CHEMICAL CO.	drexchem.com
VANTAGE MIDSOUTH	vantage-midsouth.com
NUTRIEN	nutrien.com
TENNESSEE FARM BUREAU	tnfarmbureau.org
TENNESSEE VALLEY RESOURCES	tennesseevalleyresources.com
UNISOUTH GENETICS	usgseed.com
VALENT USA	valent.com
BRONZE LEVEL—\$150	website
AGRICENTER INTERNATIONAL	agricenter.org
DILIGENCE TECHNOLOGIES, INC	diligencetechinc.com
MASON HALL GRAIN	obiongrain.com
PROGENY AG PRODUCTS	progenyag.com
SYNGENTA	Syngenta.com

TAPA OFFICERS (2020-2021)

President
Virginia Sykes
University of TN
(865) 974-7285
vsykes@utk.edu

President Elect
Matthew Wiggins
FMC
(731) 617-0840
matthew.wiggins@fmc.com

Secretary
Bruce Kirksey
Agricenter International
(901) 355-9124
bkirksey@agricenter.org

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

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

Immediate Past President
Paul Kennedy
AgLaunch
(901) 277-2343
pkennedy@aglaunch.com

Executive Secretary
Julie Reeves
University of TN
(731) 415-0418
jullreev@utk.edu

TAPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2020-2021)

Dir. / Academia
Rick Carlisle
Ames Plantation REC
(901) 878-1067
rcarlisle@amesplantation.org

Dir. / Agricultural Consultants
Kyle Jackson
TennArk Crop Service
(731) 414-9392
kylbjack@gmail.com

Dir. / Ag Chemical Industry
Garret Montgomery
Bayer
(731) 446-5642
garret.montgomery@bayer.com

Dir. / Fertilizer Industry
Guy Spence
Crop Production Services
(731) 225-6838
guy.spence@cpsagu.com

Dir. / Government Agencies
Will Spence
Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture
(731) 225-1564
will.spence@tn.gov

Dir. / Other Areas

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (2020-2021)

Program Committee
Matthew Wiggins
FMC
matthew.wiggins@fmc.com

Local Arrangements
Ron Akin
ronakin64@gmail.com

Recognition and Awards
Tim Adcock
Diligence Technologies
timadcock@charter.net

Constitution and Operating Procedures
Jo Gillilan
Gillilan Ag Research
joa.gillilan@gmail.com

Membership Committee
Open

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 Julie Reeves:

jullreev@utk.edu

Use this e-mail address if you wish to unsubscribe.