

THE TAPA QUARTERLY

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association

Summer Meeting in Beautiful Gatlinburg a Success

Sep-Nov 2021

The TAPA Annual Summer meeting was held at the Park Vista Hotel in Gatlinburg, Tennessee Jul 27 -July 29, 2021. A big thank you is in order for Dianne Jenkins, Julie Reeves, and Ron Akin for managing the pre-registration forms, name tags, hotel accommodations and manning the registration table each morning. Each of our invited speakers delivered excellent material in their presentations, and we thank each one of them for committing their time and talents to our organization. Lastly, our President-Elect Matthew Wiggins did a tremendous job lining up dynamic speakers containing excellent information. We will be returning to the Park Vista Hotel for our 2022 Summer Meeting.

We covered a wide variety of topics at the summer meeting. **Nutifafa Adotey** (UT), **Mike Buscher-mohle** (UT), **Delaney Foster** (UT), **Dan Grove** (UT), **Andy Holt** (TDA), **John McClurkan** (TDA), **David Mercker** (UT), **Mark Powell** (TDA), **Tyson Raper** (UT), **Alicia Rihn** (UT), **Neil Rhodes** (UT), **Mitchell Richmond** (UT), **Avat Shekoofa** (UT), **Paul Spain** (TDA), **Bruce Stripling** (FMC), **Virginia Sykes** (UT)

Passing of the Gavel

During our Business Meeting on July 28 in Gatlinburg, the presidential gavel passed from **Dr. Virginia Sykes** to **Dr. Matthew Wiggins**. TAPA is grateful to have strong leadership from both Industry and Academic circles to bring the best of both worlds to our organization. **Dr. Virginia Sykes** served as TAPA President in 2020-2021. **Dr. Mitchell Richmond** was voted by the membership as President-Elect and program chairman for the new year.



Outgoing TAPA President Virginia Sykes (Left) passes the gavel to in-coming TAPA President Matthew Wiggins (Right)

Outstanding Individual Award

The winner of TAPA's highest award was announced during the business session. See Page 4.

Officer and Board Members Re-elected

During the Business Meeting, TAPA Treasurer **Dianne Jenkins** ended her term and **Garret Montgomery** was voted by membership to serve a two-year term. Editor **Darrell Hensley** was voted to serve his eighth two-year term. **Rick Carlisle** (Director, Academia), **Kyle Jackson** (Director, Ag Consultant) were each voted to serve another two-year term. **Adam Whalen** ended his term and **Suzannah Wiggins** will fill the two-year term for Director, Agriculture Other. **Clay Perkins** will finish out **Garret Montgomery's** term as Director, Crop Protection. **Ron Akin** ended his time as local arrangements chair and **Matt White** will fill this position. **Virginia Sykes** will fill the Education and Information chair. TAPA is fortunate to have such great support in all of these critical roles.

New Honorary Members

During the Business Meeting, **Drs. Neil Rhodes and Paula Gale** were recognized as TAPA's newest Honorary Members. This award was presented as a token of appreciation for their years of support and leadership in various forms over many years. See Page 4 for more information.



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TAPA Announces Three Star Regional Scholarship Winners

Tennessee Agricultural Production Association is pleased to present for the eighth year the awarding of regional scholarships to three deserving college students seeking degrees in the field of agriculture. The winners from West, Middle, and East Tennessee were announced during the TAPA Business Session by President, Virginia Sykes, at the Park Vista Hotel in Gatlinburg on July 28. There were each awarded a \$1000 scholarship and a certificate to commemorate this recognition.

To qualify for this award, students submitted a resume, statement of career goals and an explanation of what this scholarship would mean to them. Each candidate is required to be currently enrolled in a Tennessee college or university and actively pursuing a degree in agriculture or related area. A selection committee appointed by the chairman reviews the applications and makes the decision on who is most deserving of the scholarships within each region.

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

EAST Region recipient is Maci Gernt

Maci is from Crossville, TN. She attends the University of Tennessee at Martin and is pursuing a degree in Animal Science.



MIDDLE Region recipient is Mary Jane Arnette

Mary Jane is from Christiana, TN and attends Middle TN State University. She is currently pursuing a degree in Agribusiness.



WEST Region recipient is Jacob Williams

Jacob Williams is from Bells, TN and is a senior at University of Tennessee at Martin. He is pursuing a degree in Agriculture Business.



Message From The President

The TAPA Annual Summer meeting was held at the Park Vista Hotel in Gatlinburg, TN from July 27th – July 29th 2021. There was great attendance and participation in this year’s summer meeting, as we had 60+ registrations for attendance. It was great to have an in-person meeting to enjoy conversation and fellowship within our organization, so thank you to those of you who joined us in Gatlinburg. Additionally, I want to extend a tremendous thank you to Dianne Jenkins, Ron Akin, and Julie Reeves. As always, this group of individuals worked together to make sure all the behind the scenes tasks were accomplished for the TAPA Annual Summer meeting to be a success. Also, I would like to thank each of our invited speakers that devoted their time and talents to deliver a diverse range of informational presentations to our organization. Lastly, TAPA would like to thank our sponsors that contribute to our organization. Overall, this meeting was a success and we look forward to returning to the Park Vista Hotel for our 2022 TAPA Annual Summer meeting.

TAPA would like to welcome our new President-Elect Dr. Mitchell Richmond and wish him well as he starts to put together our program for our upcoming winter meeting. Our winter meeting will be held at the West Tennessee Research and Education Center in Jackson, TN on February 9, 2022. Hope to see you there.

- Matthew Wiggins

25 Years of TAPA

The following is an excerpt from the June 1996 TACA newsletter on how TAPA was formed.

At the February 1995 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 wheels 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 pro-gram committee has an excellent program outlined for the upcoming meeting, so mark your calendars now for the TAPA/TPFEA meeting in September.

<i>University of TN Field Days</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>
UT Arboretum Butterfly Festival	Virtual	September 18, 2021
Northeast TN Beef Expo	Northeast TN AgResearch and Education Center	October 7, 2021
Bicentennial Heritage Festival	West TN Research and Education Center	October 9, 2021
Ag in the Foothills	East TN AgResearch and Education Center	October 14, 2021
Woods and Wildlife Field Day	Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center	October 21, 2021
Beef Heifer Development School Field Day	Middle TN Research and Education Center	October 22, 2021

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Jo Gillilan Receives the 2021 TAPA Outstanding Individual Award

Dr. Jo Gillilan was chosen as the Outstanding Individual in recognition of her support of TAPA. Dr. Gillilan served as the Executive Secretary 2018-2021. Dr. Gillilan owns and operates Gillian Ag Research along with her husband, John, in Springfield, TN. We are honored to have Dr. Jo Gillilan's support in our organization.



Dr. Neil Rhodes Receives TAPA Honorary Membership

Dr. Neil Rhodes served as professor and extension weed management specialist at The University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN. Dr. Rhodes is a past-president of both the Tennessee Agricultural Chemical Association and Tennessee Agricultural Production Association. We are thankful to Dr. Rhodes for his support of TAPA and his contribution to agriculture in the great state of Tennessee.



Dr. Paula Gale Receives TAPA Honorary Membership

Dr. Paula Gale served as professor of soil science and soil judging coach at The University of Tennessee at Martin. We sincerely thank Dr. Gale for her years of service to the university, students, and agricultural community.



TAPA would like to sincerely thank Dianne Jenkins and Ron Akin for their many years of service.

Dianne Jenkins
Director, Agricultural Consultants 1999-2015
Outstanding Individual 2015
Treasurer 2015-2021

Ron Akin
Director, Agriculture Other 1999-2003
Outstanding Individual 2011
Honorary Member 2017
Executive Secretary 2013-2018
Local Arrangements 2019-2021

Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop
Gatlinburg, Tennessee July 27– July 29, 2021

Thanks Everyone
for your
Participation and Support of
TAPA



Left to Right

Awards and Recipients

Jacob Williams—West TN Scholarship
Ron Akin—Local Arrangements
Dianne Jenkins—Treasurer
Neil Rhodes—Honorary Member



Left to Right

TN Dept. of AG

John McClurkan
Neil Rhodes—Honorary Member
Will Spence
Paul Spain
Mark Powell



Left to Right

TAPA

Will Spence— Director, Government
Rick Carlisle—Director, Academia
Dianne Jenkins—Treasurer
Ron Akin—Local Arrangements
Bruce Kirksey—Secretary
Julie Reeves—Executive Secretary
Virginia Sykes— Past-President
Matthew Wiggins—President
Mitchell Richmond—President-Elect

New Faces - Board of Directors and Committee Chair

Clay Perkins is a Tennessee native and grew up in Dyersburg, Tennessee. Clay was very active in the FFA program during high school and this was a big influence in his decision to pursue a degree in the agriculture industry. Clay graduated from Mississippi State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Agronomy with a concentration in Integrated Pest Management. He then attended The University of Tennessee where he obtained his Master of Science in Entomology under the direction of Dr. Scott Stewart. He just recently graduated with his PhD in Weed Science under the direction of Dr. Larry Steckel. Clay has since taken a job with Helena Agri-Enterprises and the Helena Products Group as a R&D Crop Protection Specialist. If Clay is not at work, you can find him working on the farm or in the woods hunting. He is also very involved with Ducks Unlimited, as he serves as the State Social Media & Advertising Chair and has been recognized as the Tennessee Area Chairman of the Year in both 2018 and 2020.



Clay Perkins
Board of Directors,
Crop Protection

Suzannah Wiggins is a Field Agronomist for Corteva servicing the Pioneer and PhytoGen seed brands across the cotton counties in TN as well as parts of Mississippi and Alabama. She grew up in York County, PA and now lives in Arlington, TN with her husband, Ben, and daughters Maggie (age 3) and Millie (turning 1 in September). Suzannah is a graduate of Tennessee Tech and UT Knoxville. When she's not in the field, you can likely find her spending time with friends & family or reading.



Suzannah Wiggins
Board of Directors,
Agriculture Other

Matt White is a consultant for Vantage Mid-South in Rutherford, TN. Matt got his start under Joe and Dianne Jenkins and was able to purchase their business with his partner. Matt has been a consultant for 8 years and his primary focus is in fertility management with a secondary focus on irrigation management and in season crop management. Matt resides in Trenton, TN along with his wife Nicole, daughter Eloise (3), and son Sawyer (11 weeks). Matt spends his free time with his family, at church, and chasing turkeys and deer.



Matt White
Committee Chair,
Local Arrangements

TAPA Sponsors for 2021
Thanks to our sponsors for their generous support in the new year!

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CORTEVA	Corteva.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
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AGRICENTER INTERNATIONAL	agricenter.org
DILIGENCE TECHNOLOGIES, INC	diligencetechinc.com
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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:
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 Use this e-mail address if you wish to unsubscribe.

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