

PROCEEDINGS OF



RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Sixty-second Annual Report

2018

Compiled and Edited By:
Dr. Nick Gawel
Tennessee State University
College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences
Nursery Research Center
472 Cadillac Lane
McMinnville, TN 37110

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Southern Nursery Association, Inc.
PO Box 801454
Acworth, GA 30101

Tel: 678-809-9992

Fax: 678-809-9993

mail@sna.org
www.sna.org

Proceedings of the SNA Research Conference are published annually by the Southern Nursery Association.

It is the fine men and women in horticultural research that we, the Southern Nursery Association, pledge our continued support and gratitude for their tireless efforts in the pursuit of the advancement of our industry.

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Cole Nurseries
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Pipestem, WV 25979
Tel: 304.466.1970
Email: thecoles1@frontiernet.net

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Athens Wholesale Growers
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Athens, GA 30605
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Fax: 706.546.0263
Email: awn1984@att.net

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Rickey Minton
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McMinnville, TN 37110
Tel: 931-688-8022
Fax: 931-683-3297
Email: triangle@blomand.net

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Todd Ellefson
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12398 Hwy 25
Franklinton, LA 70438
Tel: 985-786-9655
Fax: 800-370-3854
Email:
todd@WindmillNurseryLLC.com

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Tel: 334.875.9176
Fax: 334.875.9621
Email: dusty@plantationtrees.com

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Karen Summers
Southern Nursery Association
PO Box 801454
Acworth, GA 30101
Tel: 678.809.9992
Fax: 678.809.9993
ksummers@sna.org

Board Advisor

Danny Summers
PO Box 801454
Acworth, GA 30101
Tel: 678.809.9992
Fax: 678.809.9993
dsummers@sna.org

RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Director of Horticultural Research & Conference Chair

Dr. Nick Gawel
Tennessee State University
Nursery Research Center
472 Cadillac Lane
McMinnville, TN 37110
ngawel@tnstate.edu

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Special thanks are extended to the sponsors of the 2018 SNA Research Conference, Bennett's Creek Nursery and Lancaster Farms. Without the financial contributions of these sponsors, the conference could not be held.

We extend our gratitude to all the researchers and nurserymen who attended the 62st Annual SNA Research Conference and/or contributed to these Proceedings. You make this annual event a success.

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Using Research Data Safely and Effectively

Good research is conducted under an exact set of controlled conditions, varying only the specific treatments which are to be evaluated. Results from the specific treatments are directly applicable to your operations only if all the conditions in your operation are controlled the same as in the research. Unfortunately, this seldom happens. However, this does not mean that you cannot benefit from the research. What it does mean is that you should use the research information on a trial basis if your plant species, soil type, watering method, size and age of plant, climatic region, etc. is different than that described by the researcher.

What an alert grower should expect to gain from these research reports is ideas – ideas as to the best control for insects, disease, nematodes and weeds – labor saving ideas such as chemical pruning and using growth regulators to minimize maintenance. Also, ideas on water management, nutrition, alternative growing media, new plants for landscaping and guides for improving profits and marketing skills can also be found.

Should you desire additional information on any report, please contact the author.

THE PORTER HENEGAR MEMORIAL AWARD

for

HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH

Marc van Iersel



The Southern Nursery Association honored Dr. Marc van Iersel with the Porter Henegar Memorial Award during the 62nd Annual SNA Research Conference.

Originally known as the Research Award of Merit, the recognition was created in 1968 to honor those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to ornamental horticulture research and specifically to members of the association. In 1972, the award was renamed the Porter Henegar Memorial Award in honor of one of SNA's former Executive Secretaries. Nominations

are made each year by the SNA's Director of Research and past award winners.

Marc van Iersel was born in the Netherlands and exposed to horticulture at a young age, playing in his grandfather's flower shop and greenhouses. Marc studied horticulture in the Netherlands, where he received his MS degree in 1989. He then came to the US and received his PhD from the University of Arkansas in 1994.

Dr. van Iersel has been with horticulture department of the University of Georgia since 1995, where he now holds the Dooley Professorship. His current research focuses on cost-effective supplemental lighting technologies in greenhouses and vertical farms. He does so by studying plant physiological responses to different light intensities and spectra. The goal is to develop crop-specific, cost-effective lighting protocols. Past research focused on efficient irrigation and fertilization in the production of ornamental plants. Marc has published over 120 scientific papers and has given invited lectures about his research around the world, including in Italy, Spain, Taiwan, Kenya, Canada, Chile, and Brazil.

The Bryson L. James Student Research Competition 2018 Awards

This long-standing program was renamed in August 1989, in honor of Dr. Bryson L. James, longtime Director of Horticultural Research for the Southern Nursery Association. As Dr. James has been an active participant and leader in the annual Research Conference for more than 50 years, the award, named in his honor, is a tribute to his tireless efforts on behalf of the researchers, the association and the industry. Listed below are guidelines for the Student Competition as well as this year's winners:

1. Any student of a university or a college having researchers that participate in the Southern Nursery Association Research Conference, are not more than one (1) academic year removed from graduation and whose research was completed prior to graduation are eligible to compete.
2. Research is to be that of the presenter and a part of his/her educational studies. Contract work, unless a part of a thesis or classroom report (credit given), is not acceptable, as it may provide unlimited funding and an unfair advantage.
3. The number of student papers from a single university or college may be limited, should time restraints dictate.
4. The student must have submitted a title to the SNA Conference Editor by the deadline specified in the Call For Titles. The paper should then be submitted to the Section Editor for the Student Competition no later than the specified deadline.
5. The paper must follow the guidelines for format and subject matter as stated in the Call For Titles for the SNA Research Conference.
6. Student and advisor should be listed as co-authors.
7. Oral presentation must be limited to seven (7) minutes. An additional three (3) minutes will be allotted for questions. A penalty of two (2) points per minute or part thereof for every minute over seven (7) minutes will be assessed.
8. Judging shall be based on preparation of the paper (50 points) and oral presentation (100 points) for a total of 150 points.

2018 Bryson L. James Student Competition Award Winners

M.S. Candidates

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Conner Ryan | University of Georgia |
| 2. Matthew Brown | Tennessee State University |

Ph.D. Candidates

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Geoffrey Weaver | University of Georgia |
| 2. Md Niamul Kibir | Tennessee State University |
| 3. Kaitlin Barrios | University of Georgia |

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