

PROCEEDINGS OF



RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Fifty-Seventh Annual Report

2012

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Special thanks are extended to the sponsors of the 2012 SNA Research Conference, Bennett's Creek Nursery and Lancaster Farms. Without the financial contributions of these sponsors, the conference could not be held. We would also like to thank the Gulf States Horticultural Expo for providing the venue and additional support for the 2012 SNA Research Conference.

We extend our gratitude to all the researchers and nurserymen who attended the 57th 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



The Southern Nursery Association honored Dr. Charlie Hall, Professor of Horticulture and Ellison Endowed Chair in International Floriculture at Texas A&M University with the Porter Henegar Memorial Award during the 57th Annual SNA Research Conference. Dr. Win Dunwell, last year's honoree, announced the award during the 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 honour of one of SNA's former Executive Secretaries. Nominations are made each year by the SNA's Director of Research and past award winners.

A native of North Carolina, Dr. Charlie Hall received his B.S. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Tennessee in 1984 and his Master's Degree in Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design from the University of Tennessee in 1986. He then obtained his Ph.D. from Mississippi State University in 1988 and began his academic career at Texas A&M University in 1988, where he spent 13 years on the faculty before joining the faculty at the University of Tennessee in 2002. In August 2007, Dr. Hall returned to Texas A&M University as Professor and Ellison Chair in International Floriculture.

Dr. Hall's expertise in the production and marketing of Green Industry crops is nationally recognized in academia and among the horticultural clientele he serves. His major research, teaching, & extension areas of specialization include strategic management, market situation/outlook, cost accounting, and financial analysis for Green Industry firms. He is an invited speaker at numerous regional, national, and international meetings of various industry-related associations and organizations. He is particularly known for the enthusiasm, passion, and intensity he exhibits when speaking.

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