

**PROCEEDINGS OF**



**RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

**Fifty-Ninth Annual Report**

**2014**

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**59th Annual  
Southern Nursery Association  
Research Conference Proceedings  
2014**

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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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© Published October, 2014

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## Acknowledgments

The Editor and Board of Directors of the Southern Nursery Association wish to express their sincere appreciation to Jim Robbins, Forrest Steglin, Scot Langolis, Alicia Bray, Donna Fare, Genhua Niu, Anthony LeBude, Ed Bush, Alan Windham, Tim Rinehart, Gene Blythe, Sam Dennis and Hannah Mathers for the fine job they did as Section Editors and Moderators. Thanks go to Karla Adesso for her efforts in selecting and instructing judges and moderating the Bryson L. James Student Research Competition. Our very special thanks goes to Holly Hodges who spent many hours helping the Editor organize the program, and most importantly, preparing the manuscripts for publication. Without the efforts of all these people, the conference would not happen and this year's Proceedings would not be published.

Special thanks are extended to the sponsors of the 2014 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 59th 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**

**Sandra M. Reed**



The Southern Nursery Association honored Dr. Sandra Reed with the Porter Henegar Memorial Award during the 59th Annual SNA Research Conference. John Olive, last year's recipient, made the presentation at the SNA Awards Luncheon.

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.

Dr. Sandra Reed received her Bachelor's degree in Agronomy in 1974 and her a Ph.D. in Plant Breeding and Genetics 1979, both from the University of Kentucky. She started her career at the Campbell Institute for Research and Agriculture and later joined the Department of Crop Science at North Carolina State University. In 1989, Sandy went to work with USDA-ARS as a research geneticist, focusing on tobacco. She transferred to the US National Arboretum in 1995 to begin work on ornamental plant breeding and genetics at the TSU Nursery Research Center, where she continued until her retirement in 2011.

Sandy has been an integral part of the SNA Research Conference, serving many years as a section chair, student judge, and publishing and presenting her research for over 20 years. In 2012, the SNA Board of Directors recognized her with honorary membership for her outstanding contributions to the industry and her dedication to SNA and the field of horticulture.

As a plant breeder and geneticist, her contributions to the industry are many and include the plant introductions 'Duet' Callicapra, 'Firefly' Clethra, 'Spring Showers' Styrax and probably most familiar, the oakleaf hydrangeas 'Munchkin', 'Ruby Slippers', and 'Queen of Hearts', all of which are hot sellers on the market all over the country.

Since her retirement, she has moved to Atlanta to be close to her son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren.

## The Bryson L. James Student Research Competition 2014 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.

### 2014 Bryson L. James Student Competition Award Winners

#### B.S. Candidates

- |                    |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Conner Ryan     | Auburn University               |
| 2. Laura Kaderabek | North Carolina State University |
| 3. Runshi Xie      | Texas A & M University          |

#### M.S. Candidates

- |                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Carl Clem    | Auburn University               |
| 2. Ted Yap      | North Carolina State University |
| 3. Paul Bartley | Auburn University               |

#### Ph.D. Candidates

- |                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Elizabeth D. Riley | North Carolina State University |
| 2. Emily Rotich       | Tennessee State University      |
| 3. Lesley Judd        | North Carolina State University |

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