

PROCEEDINGS OF



RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Sixty-third Annual Report

2019

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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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We extend our gratitude to all the researchers and nurserymen who attended the 63rd 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

Allen Owings



The Southern Nursery Association honored Dr. Allen Owings 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.

Dr. Owings was born and raised in Hammond, LA. He holds a BS degree (plant science) from Southeastern Louisiana University, MS degree (Horticulture) from LSU and PhD (Horticulture) from Mississippi State University.

Dr. Owings began his career as professor at the LSU AgCenter - Calhoun Research Station in 1992 and continued as resident coordinator at the LSU AgCenter – Hammond Research Station before retiring in 2017 after 25 years of service. He provided statewide extension service programming for nursery growers, landscapers, garden centers and secondarily to master gardeners and home gardeners. Dr. Owings coordinated the LSU AgCenter Louisiana Super Plant program and conducted research in the area of ornamental horticulture plant trials and evaluation programs.

Since October 2017, Dr. Owings has been employed as senior horticulturist at Bracy's Nursery in Amite, LA and horticulturist at Clegg's Nursery in Baton Rouge, LA. In this role he works in the area of new plant recommendations, social media education, horticulture outreach and customer relations.

Dr. Owings has participated annually in the SNA research conference since 1987 and has published over 70 articles in the proceedings. He was an inaugural recipient of SNA's Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship.

In his free time, Allen enjoys gardening, golf, and LSU sports.

**The Bryson L. James
Student Research Competition
2019 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.

2019 Bryson L. James Student Competition Award Winners

M.S. Candidates

1. Mary Lewis
2. Ian Howard

University of Georgia
University of Maryland

Ph.D. Candidates

1. Jenny B. Ryals
2. Lauren Garcia Chance
3. Kaitlin Barrios

Mississippi State University
Clemson University
University of Georgia

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