

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunbelt Ag Expo
October 18 -20, 2011
Moultrie, GA
www.sunbeltexpo.com

GPFES Fall Board of Directors Meeting
October 27, 2011
Tifton, GA
www.georgiaplantfood.org

Georgia CCA Board Meeting
November 1, 2011
Macon, GA
Rudy.hancock@rwgriffin.com

Plant Food Association of North Carolina
Winter Meeting
January 3 – 4, 2012
Pinehurst, NC
www.ncplantfood.org

Beltwide Cotton Conference
January 3 – 6, 2012
Orlando, FL
www.cotton.org/beltwide

GPFES Winter Meeting & Trade Show
January 10 – 11, 2012
UGA Conf. Center
Tifton, GA
www.georgiaplantfood.org

Florida Fertilizer Ag Chem Association
Winter Business Meeting
January 19 -20, 2012
Orlando, FL
www.ffaa.org

• NOTICE •

Please forward any program recommendations you have for upcoming meetings to:
Tim Forshee
Chairman, Arrangements
& Program Committee
tforshee@carolina-eastern.com



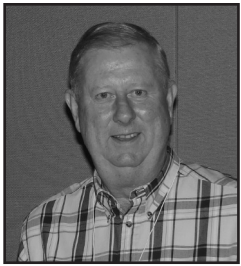
CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS TY DEMUYNK

Greetings. It has been an amazing year so far with all the contrasts market forces and Mother Nature have thrown our way. Favorable markets have granted us some of the highest commodity prices ever, which translated into a great deal of optimism for this crop year only to have Mother Nature grant us floods, droughts, fires and a hurricane. This, as one of you pointed out, is what makes a “normal” year in our business. Abnormal circumstances are the norm in agriculture.

There was nothing abnormal about our summer meeting on Amelia Island. Based on countless comments, it certainly appears everyone had a wonderful time and are all looking forward to our next summer meeting. A special thanks from all of us is owed to Tim Forshee for continuing to make these excellent arrangements. Congratulations to Greg Slade for receiving the Blair Davis award. He joins a special group of people who have positively shaped our industry and the GPFES.

Our next winter meeting will convene in Tifton. After many years of meeting in Perry, we are changing the venue due to the growth our society is experiencing. We will have access to additional space for equipment and booth space for exhibitors. The close proximity to ABAC and UGA-Tifton will encourage closer ties, cooperation and recognition of these training grounds for our future ag leaders, current researchers, and the GPFES. Better and higher quality accommodations will enhance our meeting and provide choices of several of your favorite hotels. All in all, a better format to conduct our society's meetings and our member's business. Everyone may want to consider planning some lunch and breakfast meetings at the many good restaurants in Tifton.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone there and in light of all these positive developments for our GPFES, I would like to challenge each of you to recruit a new member for our society. Growth is essential to the success of any organization or business. Thanks and good luck!



FROM THE OFFICE OF GPFES

JIMMY CHAMPION, PRESIDENT

Change is inevitable, yet most of us tend to resist change, even when we know that it is going to occur. I remember how long I put off using a computer, cell phone and even satellite TV. Now they have become “necessities” and I don’t know how I got by without them.

The same is true for GPFES For a number of years we held our Winter Meeting in Athens. Then, following a snow storm in which a number

of attendees got trapped for several days, moved to Macon where we remained for a number of years. Then, after encountering problems with Macon locations we moved our meeting to Perry. This proved to be a very good location for us for many years.

Now, however, it is the feeling of your board of directors that the Perry location has become obsolete in that it is limiting the growth of our event. We need more room for the trade show and improved meeting

facilities. Therefore, our 2012 meeting will be held at the UGA Conference Center in Tifton. This represents another change, but in this case, a step forward.

Meeting packets will be mailed within a few weeks and will be available on the website. Please mark your calendar for January 10- 11, 2012 and plan to attend. The program committee is putting together an excellent program and with the new location this should be an even better event than in the past.

GPFES 2011 Summer Meeting Highlights

Amelia Island – Once again the GPFES membership and their families trekked to The Ritz-Carlton Resort Hotel for fun in the sun. The outstanding turnout testifies to the popularity of this conference.

Ty DeMuynk, Chairman of the Board, kicked off the excellent afternoon educational program with a welcome and introductions.



The **Honorable Gary W. B. Black**, Commissioner of Agriculture, presented an overview of activities in the Georgia Department of Agriculture, particularly the updating and upgrading that was necessary to bring the department up to speed with present day technology.

He introduced **Dr. Steve Cole** who has been appointed Program Director for the newly named Seed, Fertilizer & Feed Division.



to the Plant Protection Division. **Julie Hester** has retired.



Dr. Glen Harris, UGA Tifton, discussed “The Whole Story “Calcium” in which he detailed research he is doing with traditional sources of the element as well as new products including some for foliar application.

Shelly Weathers, Director UKT Chicago, Inc., (Uralkale - Trading) provided an outlook on fertilizer for Fall 2011 and Spring 2012.



Ford West, President, The Fertilizer Institute, Washington, D.C., presented an interesting and informative perspective on the “Continuing Effects of Changes in Washington”.



Bryan Tolar, President, Georgia Agribusiness Council, provided an update on legislative and regulatory affairs both for Georgia and in Washington.



We are grateful to **Yara North America** for sponsoring the afternoon coffee break and **Potash Corp** and **The Mosaic Company** for the Monday Evening reception.

Mike Anderson lead a prayer gathering in the lobby Tuesday morning. Committee work sessions and recreational activities filled the remainder of the day.

The Silent Auction and reception was a time for fun and fellowship with some spirited bidding on auction items. Even the children got in on the act. **Judy Sherling** and her group again did a superb job of setting up and organizing the auction. This was followed by an excellent banquet. Elegant and scrumptious.

Wednesday morning **Dr. Glen Harris**, GPFES Educational Advisor, conducted CEU training for the Certified Crop Advisors.

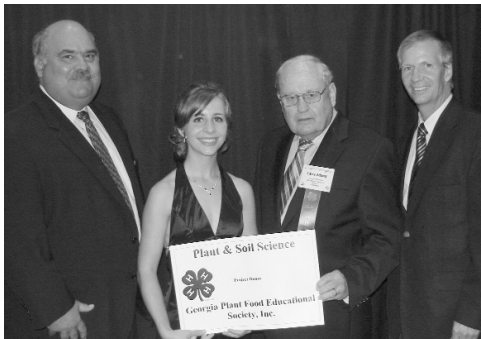
Tim Forshee, **Jimmy Champion** and the Arrangements Committee are to be commended for a fine meeting.

State 4-H Plant and Soils Project Winner Named

Atlanta – **Rachel Rice** of Hart County was named the state winner in this year’s 4-H Plant and Soils Project at the 69th Annual Georgia 4-H Congress Banquet held in Atlanta in July. Her project involved the growing of legumes as a cover crop in pecan orchards as an alternative source of nitrogen.

A junior at Hart County High School, she is planning a career in Plant Pathology.

State winners are designated Master 4-Hers and receive a trip to the National 4-H Congress in Atlanta in November.



Pictured from left are **J. Michael Moore**, UGA Tifton and a close friend of the Rice family, Rachel, **Larry Adams**, GPFES donor representative at the banquet and Rachel’s father, **Charles D. Rice**, Hart County Extension Agent.

The Society supports this project on an annual basis through the Educational Projects Fund.

2011 SUMMER MEETING SPONSORS

The following companies contributed to our summer meeting. Without the support of these companies we would be unable to continue to hold our meetings at a first class location like the Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island. Please express your appreciation to representatives of these companies.

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|----------------------------------|--|
| AG Spray Equipment | Lasseter Equipment Co. |
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| Frit Industries, Inc. | Potash Corp |
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GPFES 2011 Summer Meeting Photos





BETWEEN THE ROWS.....

BY: DR. GLEN HARRIS, EDUCATIONAL ADVISOR

Solid Ground

I spent the last three afternoons (October 3-5) in one of my all-time favorite places to be on this earth. No, not Brazil, or Australia, or at a Beerfest, but on top of my 1952 Case one-row cotton picker bagging research plots at the Darrel Williams Research Farm at the Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie, Georgia. The weather was perfect; sunny but not too hot with a slight breeze. And the cotton? It's hard to describe in words. I'll show you a picture of it at a meeting this winter. And you may not believe this, but when my full time technician and student worker (funded in part by GPFES by the way, thank you again) started weighing the bags, they were consistently around 4-bale. One plot, dare I say it...5-bale!! I didn't want to believe it my self. But the cotton

did look good. Just a sea of white fluffy bolls.

I have to give more than the lion share of credit to Michael Williams, farm manager at Expo and his crew, for an outstanding job of planting, weed control, insect and disease control (yes he sprayed once for *Corynespora*), growth regulation and of course irrigation! Then the reports started rolling in from fellow UGA specialists, county agents and others that some Georgia cotton farmers were making some pretty incredible yields also, some averaging up around 4-bale. Maybe these new varieties liked the hot weather in June. And as long as you got a stand and some water, the early planted cotton may save the day for this year. What variety did I plant? I actually had 8 different varieties from 3 different companies in a potassium management trial. They all looked good. I'll let you know which

was the "best" after I crunch the numbers and get the lint quality data back from the UGA microgin. Based on what I've seen, some of these new varieties may make us forget about 555...

Then I started thinking about what kind of fertilizer I put on this dare-I-say 5- bale cotton....I don't mean to step on any toes here, but I didn't use any humates, or chelated lime, or 15 tons of "dirt". Heck, I didn't even use any urease or nitrification inhibitor since it was irrigated. I just used good 'ol DAP and muriate and 28-0-0-5(S). And oh yeah, the FULL RATE of boron via 2 qt/a of 10% liquid B derived from boric acid. What was my secret? I don't have any. And I guess I don't need any.

It reminds me of something else I did recently. As part of the 2011 "Georgia Peanut Tour" me and about 150 others, including food companies representatives from across the country that buy Georgia peanuts, attended a performance of "Swamp Gravy" in Colquitt, Georgia. If you have never seen this production using local amateur actors telling and singing about true stories from Miller County, Georgia, you are really missing something special. It's really fun to take people from foreign countries like Argentina, Guyana, New Jersey and Pennsylvania (ha!) to see their reactions. This year's performance (they change it every year) is titled "Solid Ground". As you can imagine, it drives home the point of hard work, family and religion as the firm foundation of rural life in the South. I guess for me, things like DAP, muriate and good ol nitrogen solutions are the "solid ground" for my fertilization strategy.



In Memoriam



BILL FLETCHER

GPFES member, **Bill Fletcher** of Tifton passed away on July 18, 2011, at the Tift Regional Medical Center, Tifton, Georgia. He was 51. Funeral services were held in the Memorial Chapel of Tifton's First Baptist Church with burial at Oakridge Cemetery.

Bill was the owner of Fletcher Limestone, Inc., a business started by his father, the late Willie Jack Fletcher.

Besides his wife, Brenda Dixon Fletcher, he is survived by one son, a daughter and three sisters.

The Society's membership extends its sincerest sympathies to his wife and family.

TATUM W. GRESSETTE, JR.

The Society was sad to hear the news of the death of long time member, Tatum W. Gressette, Jr., of St. Matthews, South Carolina. He passed away on September, 15, 2011, at the age of 69.

Tatum attended Clemson College where he was a member of the Persian Rifle drill team, head cheerleader and a member of Delta Kappa Alpha fraternity. Upon graduation with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, he was a lieutenant in the US Army serving as an Airborne Ranger. After 4 years he resigned as a captain with a Bronze Star for actions during the Vietnam War.

He joined Calhoun Trading Company of St. Matthews and was the founder of YellaBear Equipment Company.



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GPFES Winter Meeting

January 10 - 11
UGA Conf. Ctr. - Tifton, GA

Contact: Jimmy Champion
(229) 883-7050 / (229) 881-0254
jpchampion3@bellsouth.net

What's New(s) in the Industry . . .

Chem Nut, Inc. made a number of changes in their top management earlier this year. **Chris Payne**, who came to CNI from Bayer Cropscience a year ago, has been promoted to President and CEO replacing recently retired **Howard Corbett** who served as President and CEO for 11 years.

Greg Fowler has assumed the position of Senior Vice President.

Donny Oleniczak, also formerly with Bayer Cropscience, has been appointed Vice President.

Tim Forshee has accepted a position with Carolina Eastern under the designation as Carolina Eastern-Tifton. Tim brings to Carolina Eastern over 24 years of fertilizer sales knowledge and experience. He was previously employed by American Fertilizer Exchange.

GPFES Honors Greg Slade

Greg Slade of Southern States Cooperative was presented with the distinguished Blair W. Davis Outstanding Service Award at the recent Summer Meeting in Amelia Island, Florida.



Raybon Anderson (above left), in presenting the award, noted that it was given in recognition of Greg's outstanding contribution to the Society, to the fertilizer industry and to Georgia agriculture.

Greg has been an active supporter of GPFES for many years, serving on the Board of Directors, on various committees and as President in 2001.

This prestigious award is given to outstanding individuals in the agribusiness industry, in honor of the late **Blair W. Davis**, a GPFES founding member and leader who traveled the state building the organization and advocating for agriculture.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

THANKSGIVING DAY
November 24

CHRISTMAS
December 25