



# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

NEW! 2020 SPECIAL TOPIC:  
AGRICULTURAL RESILIENCE in a CHANGING CLIMATE



January 22–25, 2020  
Statehouse Convention Center  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Pre-conference Courses and Field Trips: Jan 22–23  
General Conference and Trade Show: Jan 24–25



Write Your  
Name Here:



# WELCOME!

Welcome to Little Rock and the 29th annual Southern SAWG Conference! We are happy to be back in Arkansas and are so appreciative of all the support from our partners and friends in the state.

Each year, the conference offers us the opportunity to cultivate knowledge and connections to strengthen our capacity to transform the food system. Living in a 13-state region spanning 2,000 miles across, Southern farmers and food system leaders have limited opportunities to gather, engage, teach, learn, and be inspired alongside others facing similar social, economic, and environmental challenges. We hope that you will fully immerse yourself in the conference from farm tours to breakout sessions while also taking advantage of the special events including the mixer, seed swap at the tradeshow, state networking sessions, and the information exchange.

As farmers and food system leaders, your engagement in the conference is equally as important in shaping the programs and policy agenda for Southern SAWG. Looking forward, our strategic plan focuses on creating an interconnected network of southern growers and support organizations, strengthening and supporting states in the region with the greatest challenges to sustainable agriculture, and building capacity for SSAWG to serve its mission. How, where, and with whom we achieve these goals is tied to the feedback gathered throughout the conference both formally through networking sessions and surveys, as well as informally, through conversations with staff and board members.

We encourage you to leverage the conference as an opportunity to voice those issues you believe are of greatest importance in building a robust and sustainable agriculture movement in the South. Our information exchange topics offer a glimpse of some of these areas including regenerative agriculture, networks and food councils, industrial hemp, mental health, and LGBTQ+ diversity in agriculture. In the last two years, the collective voice advocated for racial equity and inclusion as a key priority, making it an area of focus integrated internally, as well as build upon programmatically. As a complex and ongoing challenge, it will continue to be a core aspect of our work in this field.

Looking to this year's program, you will also have the opportunity to join the conversation on **Agricultural Resilience in a Changing Climate**, our featured topic. (Look for the blue dot. ●) As we have for 29 years, SSAWG is approaching this conversation with an eye towards practical tools and solutions to addressing this monumental challenge. The complex, global, interconnected nature of climate change makes it a daunting problem, one which we as stewards of the soil play an integral role. The World Resources Report and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change emphasize that agricultural land management is critical in addressing the impact of climate change. As southern farmers, we are living on the front lines of extreme weather patterns and stand to lose our livelihoods without the knowledge, tools, and support systems to understand, address, and overcome the challenges of a changing climate. Ultimately, we all have incredible power for positive change through our production and business practices. The conference gives us an opportunity to come together to understand the potential impacts, learn from each other, and strengthen our network in order to take action at a personal and national level.

Regardless of which sessions you attend, we encourage you to build relationships, expose yourself to new ideas, and share your perspective on the future of agriculture. Building a truly sustainable food system is long-term, transformational work that is achieved through day-to-day actions of individual people passionate about working together to realize change. We look forward to digging in with you!

Sincerely,

Southern SAWG Board of Directors



Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group, Inc. (Southern SAWG) is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1991 to promote sustainable agriculture in the southern United States. Southern SAWG operates in 13 states in the South: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

Southern SAWG's mission is to empower and inspire farmers, individuals, and communities in the South to create an agricultural system that is ecologically sound, economically viable, socially just, and humane. Because sustainable solutions depend on the involvement of the entire community, Southern SAWG is committed to including all persons in the South without bias.

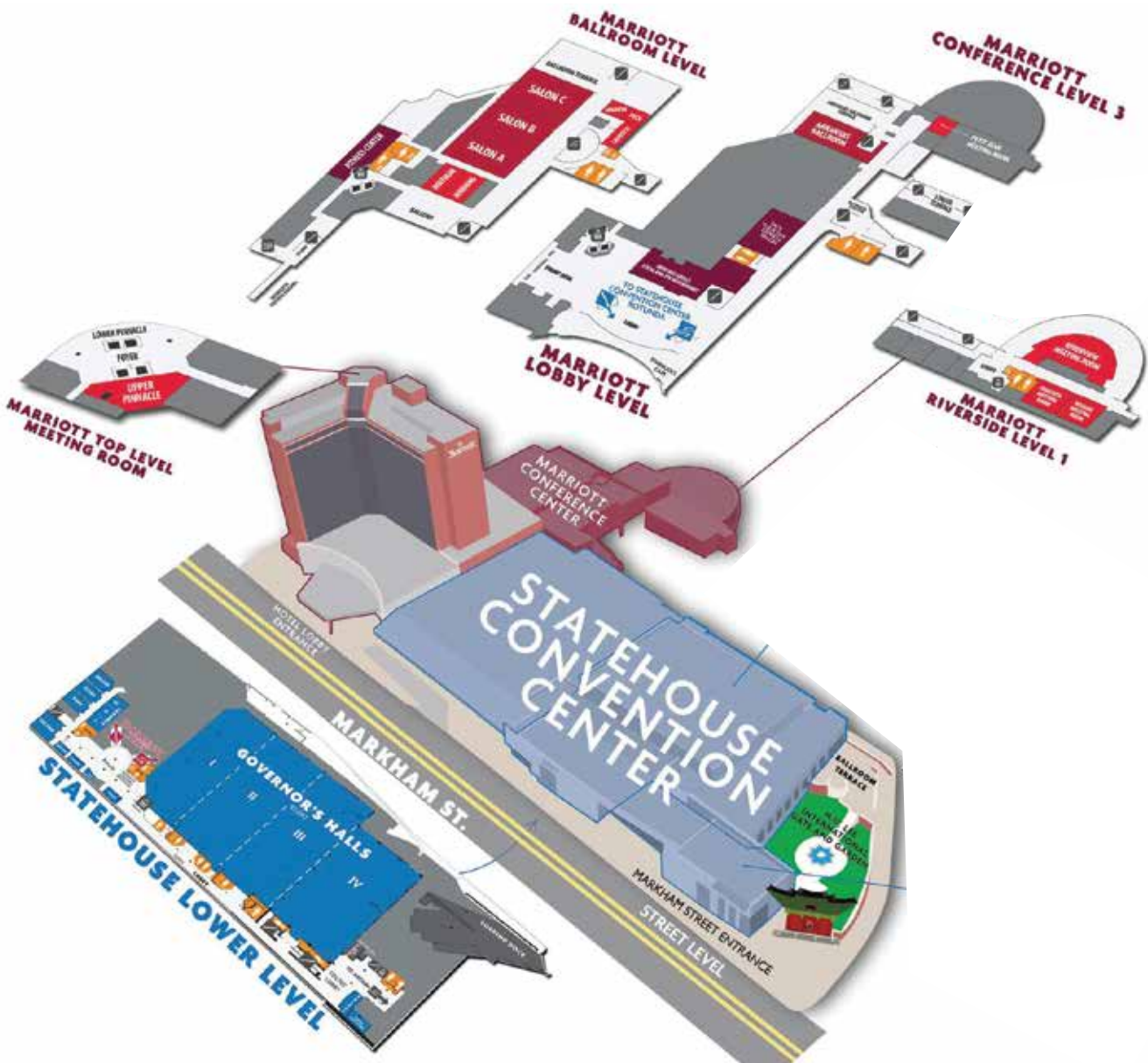


# GETTING AROUND AT THE CONFERENCE

Pre-conference and general registration is at the Osage Room on the lower level of the Statehouse Convention Center.

## MARRIOTT CONFERENCE CENTER

Salons A, B and C	Marriott Ballroom Level	Ouachita	Marriott Riverside Level 1
Hoffman	Marriott Ballroom Level	Grampas	Marriott Riverside Level 3
Manning	Marriott Ballroom Level	Arkansas Ballroom	Marriott Conference Level 3
		Grand Ballroom	Marriott Ballroom Level: Salons A, B, and C



## STATEHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER

Governor's Hall 1, 2 and 3	Statehouse Lower Level	Fulton	Statehouse Lower Level
Rotunda	Statehouse Lower Level	Izard	Statehouse Lower Level
Caraway 1, 2, 3	Statehouse Lower Level	Miller	Statehouse Lower Level
		Pope	Statehouse Lower Level

# Top Ten Things You Should Know about the 2020 Conference

- #1 Your Nametag Is Very Important** — It's *required* for entry into sessions. It contains a confidential number which may make you eligible for drawings & prizes. Name tag replacements start at \$150.
- #2 Your Sheet Contains a Confidential Survey** — Take a moment to complete this and drop it off in the blue buckets near the registration desk. Your entry is eligible for a drawing for FREE 2021 Conference Registration.
- #3 Evaluation Survey** — We value your input. Fill out the online evaluation survey to be eligible for a drawing for FREE 2021 Conference Registration. [www.ssawg.org/evaluation](http://www.ssawg.org/evaluation)
- #4 Vote for Your Favorite Poster** — You have a ballot card in your registration packet. Visit the poster display, vote for your favorite, and drop your card in the ballot box in the Trade Show area in Governor's Hall 1.
- #5 Conference Program Map Just Inside the Front Cover** — At-a-Glance of sessions and locations in at the centerfold of your program.
- #6 Trade Show and Poster Display** — Visit the Trade Show in Governor's Hall 1:  
Thursday 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Friday 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Support our vendors because they support you!
- #7 Our Sponsors** — A very special thanks to our 2020 conference sponsors. Their commitment to sustainable agriculture and local communities fuels our conference.
- #8 Recordings and Presentations** — Save your registration sheet for the website address and password to access ALL the conference general session recordings.  
[www.ssawg.org/2020-audio](http://www.ssawg.org/2020-audio)
- #9 Join Us on Social Media** — Our handle is @southernsawg. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Let's create a social media storm! Conference Hashtag: #SSAWG2020
- #10 Donate to SSAWG** — Please consider giving a little extra to Southern SAWG. Any amount helps. Your \$\$\$ go toward promoting sustainable agriculture in the South.

## Stay Connected with SSAWG

Sign up for our e-newsletter at [www.ssawg.org](http://www.ssawg.org).

You can also find us on these social media sites:



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Use Conference Hashtag:  
**#SSAWG2020**

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Educational efforts funded through the SRMEC Competitive Grants Program are producer-focused, results-based and encourage public-private partnerships.

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Win a free ticket to next year's conference!

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# VISIT THE TRADE SHOW

## Governor's Hall 1

*Thursday 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. • Friday 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. • Saturday 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.*

Thursday night mixer is in the trade show with a seed swap, poster display and book signing. (See page 17.) There is an active marketplace for products and information in the exhibit hall ballroom. Check out the poster display (See page 11.) and visit with vendors offering sustainable agriculture supplies, information and services.

***Support our vendors! They support you!***





## POSTER PRESENTATIONS ON RESEARCH AND PROJECT OUTCOMES

**New this year!** Poster authors will be present at their posters on Friday, January 24th, from 3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., and on Saturday, January 25th, from 10:30 a.m. – noon. Interact with researchers, educators, extension staff and others who are presenting research results and innovative program outcomes through posters. This is your chance to learn directly from people involved in the research and willing to share. Topics will cover a wide range of issues relevant to sustainable farming, with an emphasis on the needs and priorities of organic farmers and ranchers.

**Vote for your favorite poster!** The audience's favorite poster wins a cash prize. Vote with the ballot in your registration packet and return to ballot box in the Trade Show area.



## FUND A FARMER

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or mail a check to:  
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## Sold Out Policy

Space is limited for field trips, mini courses and short courses. Seats are sold first-come, first-served. If a pre-conference event is sold out, we will immediately indicate that it is sold out on our registration and program web pages. Our online pre-registration system will not allow you to register for a sold out event. But if we receive your mailed-in registration for a pre-conference event that has sold out, we will immediately notify you and offer you the choice of an alternative event, or a refund will be provided.

We do not create waiting lists for field trips. If the field trip of your choice is sold out before you secure a ticket, you may stand by at departure time to purchase seats that may become available at the last minute.

Though we have never had to cancel a field trip, field trips may be cancelled if minimum registration is not reached. You will be immediately notified and a refund will be provided if we cancel due to low registration.

We do not provide refunds due to inclement weather. Therefore, we highly recommend you wear clothing and footwear suitable for walking on farms in January.



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# PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

## Wednesday, January 22 and Thursday, January 23

### SHORT COURSES

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. *and*

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Intensive Short Courses** (ticket required)

*Salon A*

**Short Course #1 Beginning Organic Vegetable Production and Marketing**—This comprehensive course on organic vegetable production and marketing will give you the critical information needed to get off to a great start and make the most of your early farming years. Information in this course is designed for new farmers, interns and apprentices, and those thinking about switching careers to farming. It will also be valuable for farmers with a couple of years of experience who want to improve their operations. Cathy Jones and Josh Hardin have different backgrounds and experiences that defined how they arrived at their respective farms. Josh grew up on a “conventional” family farm in Arkansas and went on to start Laughing Stock Farm 11 years ago, whereas Cathy and her husband started Perry-winkle Farm as “first generation farmers” with no previous experience 29 years ago. They will use their experience to teach you what you need to know to succeed in your new farming enterprise. *Presenters: Cathy Jones, Perry-winkle Farm (NC) and Josh Hardin, Laughing Stock Farm (AR)*

*Hoffman*

**Short Course #2 Raising, Finishing and Marketing Pasture-Raised Meat** —This course will provide a comprehensive overview of the many different components of a pasture-based, direct-marketing meat operation. The information is designed for new farmers, or current farmers who want to add pastured livestock to their farms. It will also be valuable for farmers who already manage some animals but want to improve their operations. James Maginot and Lauren Stine are partners in Ozark Pasture Beef, a partnership of farms who are all committed to producing beef, lamb and goats in a natural, environmentally sustainable manner. This operation has been selling grass-finished, pasture-raised meat direct-to-consumer and to wholesale outlets since 2000. James practices management intensive grazing on his farm in Northwest Arkansas where he markets pasture-based meats and vegetables. Lauren has become particularly focused on developing a meat goat herd. She is also a food and agriculture law professor and journalist. *Presenters: Lauren Stine, White Hoof Acres (AR) and James Maginot, Beyond Organics Farm (AR)*

*Ouachita*

**Short Course #3 Expand Your “Bees”Ness by Adding Honey Bees to Your Farm** — Are you looking for new ways to expand your farm business and bring in more income without taking on another full-time enterprise? Honey bees may be a good match for you and your farm. Honey bees are increasingly important for pollination, but can also help diversify your farm enterprises. In this course we’ll provide a primer on the history and biology of honey bees to give you a better understanding of these amazing insects. Then we’ll explain what is involved in establishing and maintaining hives. All aspects of basic beekeeping will be covered, including the equipment and skills needed to get started as well as the yearly maintenance and management required. We’ll also discuss several ways to market the honey and give you ideas for expanding your income. Bemis Farms added their honey bee business seven years ago to diversify their operation and increase off-season income. *Presenter: Jeremy Bemis, Bemis Honey Bee Farm (AR)*

*Manning*

**Short Course #4 Story-Telling for a Cause in the New Media Age** — Want to connect with eaters directly in an increasingly consolidated and corporate-controlled food marketplace? Interested in how 59 seconds can further your cause? Is your message one that would benefit from networking and collaborating with others? Are you constrained by budget limitations? If you want to learn how to craft new media messages and build community, then join us for an interactive how-to course grounded in lessons learned from our story-telling campaign, Hungry for Justice: Whose Voice is Missing? This project engages stakeholders and communicates complexities of systemic injustices to a diversity of audiences in bite-size portions. *Presenters: Shelley Rogers, Little Bean Productions (FL), Leon Orange, OrangelMedia (FL), and Leah Cohen, Agricultural Justice Project (FL)*



## PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Thursday, January 23

## FIELD TRIPS

12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Field Trips** (ticket required)*Meet Near Marriott Lobby**Line Forms for Buses  
Promptly at Noon*

**Field Trip #1 Arkansas Natural Produce—Growing Specialty Crops Under Cover**—Arkansas Natural Produce has been growing beautiful fresh produce in southern Arkansas since 1988. They serve Little Rock and Hot Springs with high quality specialty baby greens, fresh herbs, and garnishes year-round. In 1995, Fulbright began to transition the property from field crops, and have now expanded to over 60,000 square feet of specialty crops under cover. Arkansas Natural Produce is currently producing spring mix, arugula, spinach, kale, and other greens. They also grow several varieties of peppers, culinary herbs, microgreens and edible flowers. Arkansas Natural Produce markets directly to grocers, restaurants and individuals, and sells through an online farmers market. Arkansas Natural Produce adheres to sustainable growing techniques, but is not certified organic by a third party. This tour will explore the use and installation of high tunnels, cultivation techniques, and marketing tricks of a veteran vegetable producer.

**Field Trip #2 Tammy Sue's Critters—Creating a Value-Added Life! Developing Educational Workshops and Internships to Support a Value-Added Production Model**—Tammy Sue's produces goats milk soap on site in the Soap Cottage. Goats milk is also sold on site for consumption. The farm is also home to a flock of chickens; a large variety of unusual birds! The Soap Cottage is a multipurpose facility where Make and Take classes are held, product is made, and it also houses a farm store and intern quarters. Tammy Sue's has had great success with Workawayers in terms of finding great folks to come, stay on farm, and learn. Tammy Sue's Critters offers roughly 20 products that are marketed through craft shows, online sales, and whole-sale. They open the farm twice a year for Open Farms days in the spring and at the holidays. This tour will highlight the production process, farm-to-market pipeline, and marketing farm products and workshops. The relationship and housing of Workaway interns for production will also be discussed.

**Field Trip #3 The Farm at Barefoot Bend—Vertical Integration at the Farm**—The Farm at Barefoot Bend is a sustainable farm owned and operated by veteran Damon Helton and family with a mission to educate their community to "Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food" by offering farm-raised meats and produce to the community, both directly and through local stores. The farm is a 165-acre parcel of timber, specialty crops raised under high tunnels, pasture-raised animal, and hemp production. Specialty crops produced on the farm include tomatoes, okra, peas and peppers, all grown in high tunnels. Damon Helton offers visitors a tour of the production acreage, pasture and high tunnels. He will share information he has gleaned over the past six years on topics such as growing under cover, using small ruminants as "employees", vertical integration and marketing. Jeremy Huff, with the NRCS will be on hand to talk about the use of tire tanks, electric fencing, grazing systems, and an interactive rainfall simulation for soil health.

**Field Trip #4 Heifer Ranch—Small and Mid-Scale Tools 2.0 Co-Hosted with Johnny's Selected Seeds**—Heifer ranch is a 12,000-acre sustainable farm primarily used for agricultural training. Heifer is home to a demonstration market garden that includes specialty crops, flowers and high tunnels. Sean Pessara, Heifer's resident horticultural expert, and a representative from Johnny's Selected Seeds will share their first-hand knowledge of small and mid-scale farm tools. Tools featured will be the BCS two-wheel PTO tractor, Tilmor's Power Ox two-wheel cultivating tractor, the Paperpot Transplanter, and Quick-Cut Greens Harvester. A representative from Johnny's Selected Seeds will demonstrate the use of a manual mulch layer and the Terrateck Wheels Hoe and Finger Weeders. We will also take a look at mechanical washing and root crop storage for markets. If you are running a farm for small markets, this field trip will help you understand what tools you need to cut your labor time for more efficient output.

● **Field Trip #5 Heifer Ranch—Regenerative Grazing Systems: A Crash Course in Good Land Management for Livestock Production**—Heifer Ranch in Perryville, Arkansas, is a 12,000-acre sustainable farm that's home to pigs, goats, sheep, horses and chickens. This field trip will highlight Heifer's regenerative livestock grazing systems. Topics include rotational grazing, fencing, and the use of silvopasture for feed and cover. This field trip will begin with a hayride to the "bottoms" where Ellen Brown, Operations Manager at Heifer Ranch, will give an overview of our current work to regenerate the bottoms with the use of rotational grazing, planting cool and warm season annuals, winter forage stockpiling, and how regenerative agriculture can benefit the environment. Donna Kilpatrick, Heifer USA's Farmer Engagement Manager, will expand on the practices that Heifer employs on their 550-acre ranch to support their grass-finished beef, pastured poultry, and woodlot pork, and grass-finished lamb enterprises.

# 2020 SOUTHERN SAWG C

## PRE-CONFERENCE ■ WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY ■ JANUARY 22–23, 2020

Wed 8:00 a.m. – Thur 11:00 a.m.	SHORT COURSES	See page 12 for descriptions and locations
Thurs 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	FORUM	See page 17 for descriptions and locations
Thurs 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	FIELD TRIPS	See page 13 for descriptions and locations
Thurs 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	MINI COURSES	See page 16 for descriptions and locations
Thurs 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	Opening Mixer • Trade Show • Seed Swap • Poster Display • Book Signing • Cash Bar <b>Governor's Hall I</b>

## FRIDAY ■ JANUARY 24, 2020

Fri 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	Trade Show • Poster Display			
Fri 8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS	Growing Food, People and Community <i>K. Rashid Nuri (GA)</i> <b>Miller</b>	Take Your Cut Flowers to Another Level <i>Mark Cain (AR)</i> <b>Arkansas Ballroom</b>	Cover Crops for Hot and Humid Areas <i>Justin Duncan (TX)</i> <b>Fulton</b>	Ecological Poultry Production <i>Anne Fanatico (NC)</i> <b>Izard</b>
Fri 9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS	● Managing Risks in Organic Production through Soil Health Practices <i>Mark Schonbeck (VA)</i> <b>Fulton</b>	High Tunnel Production and Marketing Challenges <i>Krista Jacobsen (KY) and Tim Woods (KY)</i> <b>Caraway 1,2,3</b>	Growing Cucurbits for Market <i>Patryk Battle (NC)</i> <b>Arkansas Ballroom</b>	Producing and Marketing Pasture-Raised Pork <i>Jeremiah Jones (NC)</i> <b>Miller</b>
Fri 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	WELCOME and PLENARY	● Climate Change, Resilience and the Future of Food <i>Laura Lengnick (NC)</i> <b>Grand Ball Room</b>			
Fri 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	LUNCH ON YOUR OWN				
Fri 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS	<b>CANCELLED: Organic Farming and Organic Living: Practical Principles and Systems</b>	Hemp Farming in the South <i>Josh Hardin (AR), Shawn Peebles (AR), Vic Ford (AR) and Anna Minor (AR)</i> <b>Salon C</b>	● Introduction to Restoration Agriculture <i>Mark Shepard (WI)</i> <b>Salon B</b>	Healthy Sheep and Goats for a Happy Farm <i>Linda Coffey (AR)</i> <b>Fulton</b>
Fri 3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS	Exploring the Soil Food Web <i>Kirsten Simmons (GA)</i> <b>Salon A</b>	Crop Planning for Sustainable Vegetable Production <i>Pam Dawling (VA)</i> <b>Salon B</b>	Seed to Seed <i>Clifton Slade (VA) and Ira Wallace (VA)</i> <b>Salon C</b>	Walk-Behind Farm Equipment for Small Market Growers <i>Joel Dufour (KY)</i> <b>Arkansas Ballroom</b>
Fri 3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	POSTER PRESENTATIONS	Poster Presentations on Research and Project Outcomes: Authors Will Be Present at their Posters <b>Governor's Hall I</b>			
Fri 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	STATE NETWORKING	Alabama— <b>Pope</b> Arkansas— <b>Salon C</b> Florida— <b>Governor's Hall 2</b> Georgia— <b>Arkansas Ballroom</b> Kentucky— <b>Salon B</b> Louisiana— <b>G</b>			

## SATURDAY ■ JANUARY 25, 2020

Sat 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	Trade Show • Poster Display <b>Governor's Hall I</b>			
Sat 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS	● Regenerating Soils Using the Five Principles of Soil Health <i>Nina Prater (AR)</i> <b>Salon A</b>	Growing Fruit in High Tunnels <i>Luke Freeman (AR) and Elena Garcia (AR)</i> <b>Salon B</b>	Bioinsecticides 101 <i>Ayanava Majumdar (AL)</i> <b>Salon C</b>	● Pastured Poultry Production with the "Nomad" System <i>Erica Hellen (VA)</i> <b>Pope</b>
Sat 10:30 a.m. – Noon	INFORMATION EXCHANGE	People of Color in Sustainable Ag — <b>Salon B</b> Young and Beginning Farmers— <b>Salon C</b> Military Veterans— <b>Hoffman</b> Managing Farmers Markets— <b>Arkansas Ballroom</b> Maintaining Mental Health— <b>Manning</b> ● Regenerative Agriculture— <b>Pope</b>			
Sat 10:30 a.m. – Noon	POSTER PRESENTATIONS	Poster Presentations on Research and Project Outcomes: Authors Will Be Present at their Posters <b>Governor's Hall I</b>			
Sat Noon – 1:30 p.m.	LUNCH ON YOUR OWN				
Sat 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS	Profitable Vegetable Farming <i>Emily Oakley (OK) and Mike Appel (OK)</i> <b>Salon A</b>	Cover Crops and Cultivation for Weed Management <i>Carlene Chase (FL) and John Bitter (FL)</i> <b>Salon B</b>	● Farming on Challenging Soils: Adaptations for a Changing Climate <i>Adam Barr (KY)</i> <b>Salon C</b>	● Practical Agroforestry: Establishing Silvopastures <i>Matt Wilson (KY), Christine Nieman (AR), Gregory Ormsby Mori (MO)</i> <b>Izard</b>
Sat 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS	Advanced No-Till Techniques <i>Shawn Jadmicek (SC) and Patryk Battle (NC)</i> <b>Salon A</b>	Microgreens: Tiny Plants That Can Generate Big Profits <i>Jenny Jackson (GA)</i> <b>Salon C</b>	Dish Dive Right into Restaurant Sales <i>Lauren Cox (GA)</i> <b>Fulton</b>	● Native Forages for Livestock Production <i>Twig Satterfield (AR) and Ryan Diener (AR)</i> <b>Miller</b>
Sat 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	CLOSING MIXER	Closing Mixer • Live Music • Cash Bar <b>Governor's Hall 3</b>			



# CONFERENCE – AT A GLANCE

● Denotes 2020 Special Topic Sessions: *Agricultural Resilience in a Changing Climate*

Enter our contest to win a free 2021 Southern SAWG conference registration by letting us know what you think of this event.

Go to: [www.ssawg.org/evaluation](http://www.ssawg.org/evaluation)



Time- and Money-Saving Techniques for Your Farm <i>Shawn Jadrnicek (SC) and Katherine Belk (SC)</i> <b>Caraway 1,2,3</b>	Why Farms Fail: How to Keep Yourself Out of Crisis <i>Scott Marlow (NC)</i> <b>Pope</b>	Reaching SNAP/EBT Clients with Your CSA <i>Monica Clark (LA)</i> <b>Manning</b>	After the 2018 Farm Bill: What's Happening <i>Candace Spencer (DC) and Brennan Washington (GA)</i> <b>Hoffman</b>
● Disaster Relief for Sustainable Farms <i>Stephen Carpenter (MN) and Lindsay Kuehn (MN)</i> <b>Izard</b>	Quickbooks Online Setup for Farm Sales <i>Debbie Dangerfield (GA)</i> <b>Pope</b>	Veterans Succeeding in Agriculture <i>Margo Hale (AR), Ryan Pace (AR), Lovay Wallace-Singleton (NC), and Davon Goodwin (NC)</i> <b>Manning</b>	Shaping State Policy Through Local Mobilization <i>Mark Winne (NM) and Karen Bassarab (MD)</i> <b>Hoffman</b>
● Cultivating Climate Resilience on Your Farm <i>Laura Lengnick (NC)</i> <b>Caraway 1,2,3</b>	Heirs' Property and Land Preservation: What Are You Going to Do with Your Family Land? <i>Monica Rainge (GA)</i> <b>Arkansas Ballroom</b>	Tools for Coping with Farm-Related Stress <i>Robin Tutor-Marcom (NC)</i> <b>Izard</b>	Supply Chain Development in Rural Communities <i>Laura Lauffer (NC)</i> <b>Miller</b>
● How Farmers Can Combat Climate Change <i>Johnny Wray (MS), Marshall Bartlett (MS), Jody Reyer (MS), Allen Williams (MS), and Jim Worstell (AR)</i> <b>Caraway 1,2,3</b>	Seed to Student: Selling to Schools <i>David Dickey (AR), Randy Arnold (AR), Ally Mrachek (AR), Emily English (AR)</i> <b>Izard</b>	Inspiring Your Community to Better Health and Wellness Through Agriculture <i>Kay Bell (TX)</i> <b>Fulton</b>	<b>CANCELLED: Sustaining Your Mission in a Changing Landscape</b>
<b>Governor's Hall 3</b> Mississippi— <b>Caraway 1,2,3</b> North Carolina— <b>Fulton</b> Oklahoma— <b>Izard</b> South Carolina— <b>Governor's Hall 2</b> Tennessee— <b>Salon A</b> Texas— <b>Hoffman</b> Virginia— <b>Manning</b>			
Taking Your CSA to the Next Level <i>Chris Jackson (GA)</i> <b>Fulton</b>	Financing Opportunities for Farm Business Development <i>Aaron Newton (NC) and Julia Asherman (GA)</i> <b>Izard</b>	Plant, Water and Hoe, Then Off To Class We Go <i>Daniel Parson (GA) and Ruth Geiger (GA)</i> <b>Miller</b>	● Agriculture and Climate Change: Policy Imperatives and Opportunities <i>Sarah Hackney (DC) and Dodd Galbreath (TN)</i> <b>Caraway 1, 2, 3</b>
BTQ+ Diversity in Ag— <b>Miller</b> Industrial Hemp— <b>Salon A</b> High Tunnels— <b>Governor's Hall 3</b> Grazing Management— <b>Fulton</b> State Inspected Meat Processing— <b>Governor's Hall 2</b> ● Resilience in the Midst of Climate Change— <b>Caraway 1, 2, 3</b> Equitable Networks, Food Councils and Coalitions— <b>Izard</b>			
Farmer Story: Marketing with a Vision <i>Damon Helton (AR)</i> <b>Fulton</b>	Quickbooks Reporting for Your Farm Business <i>Debbie Dangerfield (GA)</i> <b>Pope</b>	Creating a Village to Support Youth Education <i>Sam X. White (GA)</i> <b>Caraway 1, 2, 3</b>	Successful Strategies for Conserving Farmland <i>Steve Jester (TX)</i> <b>Miller</b>
"Collective Strategies and Solutions for Land" with Tahz Walker and Alsie Parks was conducted in small groups and not suited for recording.	Recordkeeping Software for Diversified Sustainable Farms <i>Pedro Shambon, Jr. (TX)</i> <b>Pope</b>	USDA Agency Resources for Sustainable Farms <i>Gena Moore (NC), Mike Sullivan (AR), and Amy Lyman (AR)</i> <b>Izard</b>	Hemp: Policy to Maximize Growth and Profitability for Family Farms <i>Scheril Murray Powell (FL), Michelle Namer (GA) and Jonathan Mohr (SC)</i> <b>Salon B</b>

## PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Thursday, January 23

## MINI COURSES

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Mini Courses** (ticket required)*Hoffman***Mini Course #1 How to Make Your Own 300-Year-Old Apple Tree: The Principles and Practice of Grafting**

In this hands-on course, long-time orchardists Guy and his son Dagen will explain the basic principles of grafting and its importance in fruit tree production, and guide you in making your own grafts. You'll learn about rootstocks and scions, the necessity of cambial contact, callus production and healing, as well as the conditions necessary for grafting success, including storage before planting. The second part of the workshop will be focused on "bench grafting" using the "whip and tongue" technique. Dagen and Guy will guide you while you make your own grafts. At the end of the workshop you can take home your new trees!

Note: Course participants are required to bring their own sharp knife such as a Felco/Victorinox grafting knife or something similar. DO NOT bring a knife made for vegetable grafting as it may be too flimsy. All other necessary components will be provided including rootstocks, scionwood, tape, plastic bags, etc. *Instructors: Guy and Dagen Ames, Ames Orchard and Nursery (AR)*

*Salon A***Mini Course #2 Year-Round Hoophouse Vegetable Production**

Fill your hoophouses (high tunnels, polytunnels) all year 'round with productive crops. In this course you'll learn how to decide which crops to grow—with an emphasis on vegetables—how much to plant and how much to harvest by making maps, schedules and crop rotation plans. We'll discuss which market crops are best at various times of year—cold-hardy, early warm-weather and high summer crops—and consider less common crops, such as seed crops and flowers, and cover crops for soil improvement. Learn how to maximize the use of space by clever seasonal transitions, succession planting and follow-on cropping. The course will also provide strategies for managing challenges such as extreme temperatures, nitrate accumulation in leafy greens, soil-borne diseases, pests and nematodes, salt buildup, and maintaining soil organic matter. Instructor Pam Dawling is the author of *Sustainable Market Farming* and an experienced CSA farmer in central Virginia. *Instructor: Pam Dawling, Twin Oaks Community (VA)*

*Manning***Mini Course #3 Community Organizing to Build Markets and a Just Food System**

A committed and empowered base is crucial to creating sustainable food systems where farmers and families with limited resources can thrive. This course will teach participants how to use community organizing to develop and mobilize a base of support. Using lessons from Fresh Stop Markets, they'll explain how farmers and volunteers can develop and maintain relationships with key community partners to expand their market reach and increase farm profits. Farmers will explain how food justice is integrated into their business model, the importance of farmers as leaders and community organizers, and how they use community organizing skills to expand market audience, plan yearly production, harvest and distribute, and create successful markets. A market leader will explain how organizing skills are used to recruit other shareholders and committed volunteers, communicate with farmers, and create, operate and sustain their markets. *Instructors: Rae Strobel, Barr Farms (KY), Karyn Moskowitz, New Roots, Inc. (KY), Heather Hyden, University of Kentucky (KY), and Maggie Bowling, Old Homeplace Farm (KY)*

*Ouachita***Mini Course #4 The Lives They Lead: How to Cultivate Equity and Leadership in the Workplace**

As organizations in our movement continue to implement Diversity and Inclusion initiatives in the workplace, there's still a gap in diversity and inclusion in positions of leadership. Despite our focus on making the food system more just and equitable, racism, power dynamics, oppression, and micro aggressions still seep into our workplaces. The percentages of people of color in decision-making roles such as executive director or board of director positions remain inequitably low. The few that crack the ceiling face additional challenges such as unsupportive to hostile work environments, lack of concrete support from boards and funders, and vulnerable, yet entrenched, organizations. Building equity in the workplace is hard, but it is not magic. In this course, participants will have a unique opportunity to learn from a woman of color Executive Director on how she has been pivoting her workplace towards equity and cultivating diverse leadership. She will share practical lessons and laughs that come from lived experience, as well as research. Come to share and learn practical ways to support leaders of color to thrive and foster in a livable workspace for many. *Instructor: Qiana Mickie, Just Food (NY)*



# 2020 SOUTHERN SAWG CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Thursday, January 23

### FORUM

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ● **2020 Organic Agriculture Research Forum** (ticket required)

*Salon B*

*Presented by the Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRR) and Tuskegee University in partnership with Southern SAWG*

This day-long forum will bring together scientists, organic farmers and ranchers, extension agents, non-profit organizations, and more to explore the latest research and science-based grower education, particularly as it relates to production in the south-east. Topics will range from assessing the impact of organic agriculture on climate change, to soil health and pest and disease management.

The forum will feature many opportunities to learn from fellow attendees and presenters, beginning with oral presentations focused on research that addresses production, economic, and social challenges in organic farming and ranching. After the presentations, there will be a series of facilitated roundtable discussions, followed by a joint poster session and reception with SSAWG. The poster session will include a "People's Choice" award and an award for "Best Research Poster" juried by a small panel of judges.

The Forum is supported by a grant from the Organic Research and Extension Initiative (OREI) program of USDA.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. **Trade Show, Mixer, Book Signing, Poster Display, and Seed Swap**

*Governor's Hall I*

**Thursday Evening Mixer** — **This year, the opening mixer is in the trade show!** Start your weekend by meeting up with folk from all over this country. Come mix it up with old and new friends alike and get a sneak peak of all the great vendors at our trade show. This is a great opportunity to talk with some of the people doing great work around the region. We will have a cash bar.

**Poster Display** — The poster session held during the Thursday evening mixer will include a "People's Choice" award and an award for "Best Research Poster" juried by a small panel of judges. Topics will cover a wide range of issues relevant to sustainable farming, with an emphasis on the needs and priorities of organic farmers and ranchers. Be sure to vote for your favorite.

**Seed Swap** — We are delighted to continue our tradition of the SSAWG Conference Seed Swap, hosted by seed saving extraordinaire, Ira Wallace of Southern Exposure Seed Exchange. We'll provide space and envelopes for those who wish to swap seeds. This will be a good opportunity to meet seed savers and learn about varieties dear to their hearts.

**Book Signing** — A variety of conference presenters will be on hand to sell and autograph their books for you on Thursday evening during the pre-conference mixer.

### Southern SAWG 2020 Conference Team:

**Julia Sampson**  
Executive Assistant

**Tavia Benjamin**  
Conference Coordinator

**Kara Keeton**  
Sponsorship Coordinator

**Susan Rupp**  
Educational Program Coordinator

**Keith Richards**  
Conference Program Advisor

**Shari Hawley**  
Conference Publicity Coordinator

**Teresa Maurer**  
Fee Waiver and Poster Display  
Coordinator

**Jessa Turner**  
Trade Show and Ads Coordinator

**Chandra Hinton**  
Registration Coordinator

**Eric Wagoner**  
Registration Systems Developer

**Sylvia Blain**  
Field Trip/Food Event Coordinator

**Sarah Daniels**  
Volunteers Coordinator

# 2020 SOUTHERN SAWG CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE

Friday, January 24, 2020

## GENERAL CONFERENCE

Registration is required to participate in this event. Name badges must be worn to enter meeting rooms and trade show. PLEASE respect the rights of other participants to learn. Enter and exit meeting rooms quietly when sessions are underway and turn off cell phones before entering rooms. Thank you and happy learning!

### NEW! 2020 SPECIAL TOPIC: AGRICULTURAL RESILIENCE in a CHANGING CLIMATE

**New!** Beginning in 2020, in addition to the usual wide array of subjects and practical information for farmers, each Southern SAWG conference will offer specially-curated information and activities addressing a timely topic or issue. The special topic weaves through the normal conference agenda. A color code appears in the conference program to allow for easy planning. Follow the ● blue dot in this year's program to follow the Climate Change special topic throughout the conference.

#### 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Trade Show and Poster Display

*Governor's Hall I*

**Support our vendors!** They are here to support you! Visit with vendors offering sustainable agriculture supplies, information and services. Plus, check out the posters on display to learn about important research and community food and farming projects.

#### 8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Concurrent General Conference Sessions

*Miller*

**Growing Food, People and Community**—The Truly Living Well (TLW) Center uses food production to create a culture of health and wellness in their community. Their programs demonstrate the power of urban agriculture to improve the future of the world's food production, improve health outcomes, and build strong communities. In this session, TLW founder K. Rashid Nuri will share his life-long experience of growing food naturally and organically, connecting communities and creating local food economies. His message will provide inspiration and guidance to a new generation of food revolutionaries. *K. Rashid Nuri, Truly Living Well Center (GA)*

*Arkansas Ballroom*

**Take Your Cut Flowers to Another Level**—Cut flowers can be a great source of revenue and attract an entirely different group of customers from those buying meat and produce. But how can you stand out in an increasingly crowded field, and avoid mediocre flower quality and poor bouquet design? In this session, a long-time organic flower grower will offer some important pointers about production including species mix, quantities, successions, basic greenhouse and field production techniques, and post-harvest handling. He'll also provide tips on marketing including display and pricing. *Mark Cain, Dripping Springs Gardens (AR)*

*Fulton*

**Cover Crops for Hot and Humid Areas**—Cover crops can provide major benefits to the health of your soil and the sustainability of your farm—if you have the right crops and management plan. We'll discuss how to choose particular cover crops for integration into vegetable production schemes and how to get the best results in the southeast. The discussion will be interactive so producers in the audience can contribute their experiences and challenges for group benefit. Come ready with questions and to share ideas. *Justin Duncan, National Center for Appropriate Technology (TX)*

*Izard*

**Ecological Poultry Production**—This session will provide an overview of ecological poultry production, including sustainable production systems and feeding, appropriate genetics, biodiversity, health management, and the social-economic dimensions. Based on research and experience at Appalachian State University, it will help farmers see pastured poultry production as a whole system and understand where they can improve their practices. *Anne Fanatico, Appalachian State University (NC)*



Caraway 1,2,3

**Time- and Money-Saving Designs and Techniques for Your Farm**—Learn techniques and equipment hacks to make farming easier! Get ideas for automated CSA delivery, greenhouse heating, produce washing and marketing techniques. Drawing on concepts in *The Bio-Integrated Farm*, we'll explore creative ideas and designs to improve efficiency on your small- to mid-scale farm. *Shawn Jadrnicek and Katherine Belk, Wild Hope Farm (SC)*

Pope

**Why Farms Fail: How to Make Tough Choices to Stay in Business**—As farmers make decisions, especially when things get difficult, some choices have a greater impact on staying in business than others (like farming on credit cards or canceling your health insurance). When things get tough, how do you know what choices to make? When recovering from a disaster, what do you invest in first? Hear from someone whose organization works with 100 farms per year that are facing bankruptcy. He will provide tools that you can use to get ready for the tough choices. *Scott Marlow, RAFI-USA (NC)*

Manning

**Reaching SNAP/EBT Clients with Your CSA**—SNAP/EBT funds are a valuable source of revenue for farmers markets and CSAs. Yet the USDA Food Nutrition Service (FNS) requirements for receiving funds from SNAP/EBT users can be confusing. Learn how Inglewood Farm has added this source of revenue allowing them to increase their market reach and provide more community members with access to fresh, organic food. In this session they'll share a "mini-manual" that outlines how you can do this, too. *Monica Clark, Inglewood Farm (LA)*

Hoffman

**After the 2018 Farm Bill: What's Happening in the Field, in Washington and What Does It Mean for Farmers?**—The 2018 Farm Bill included some wins for farmers and eaters—along with some missed opportunities. Hear the latest on ag policy from Washington DC and share your feedback and stories from the field. Have the new federal policies and funding gained helped family farmers? Are resources going where they're needed? Bring your ideas, challenges, and questions—and look forward to an interactive discussion! *Candace Spencer, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (DC) and Brennan Washington, Southern SARE (GA)*

## 9:45 a.m.–11:00 a.m. Concurrent General Conference Sessions

Fulton

● **Managing Risks Through Organic Soil Health Practices**—Healthy soil enhances crop resilience and reduces risk. However, the path to soil health can be bumpy, especially on land that has not been managed sustainably in the past. This session draws on research findings and practical examples from the Southern region to provide guidance on integrating cover crops, rotations, organic amendments, soil-friendly tillage, and other practices to build soil health while reducing financial risk. All practices discussed are appropriate for certified organic farms and beneficial for all farms. *Mark Schonbeck, Organic Farming Research Foundation (VA)*

Caraway 1,2,3

**High Tunnel Production and Marketing Challenges—You Spoke, We Listened!**—High tunnels provide great opportunities for growers of all sizes and market channel orientation. But new challenges and resource considerations come into play as producers add tunnels. In this session we'll present potential solutions to the greatest high tunnel production and marketing challenges identified by growers in a recent, multi-state survey. These include impacts and strategies for dealing with labor and marketing strategies, as well as emerging technical assistance needs for production, such as sustaining soil fertility and crop and variety selection. *Krista Jacobsen and Tim Woods, University of Kentucky*

Arkansas Ballroom

**Growing Cucurbits for Market: Cucumbers, Squash and Gourds**—This highly productive and marketable family of crops offers impressive yields, wondrous diversity, a huge range of flavors, nutrition, beauty and utility. In this session we'll discuss cucurbit diversity focusing on varietal productivity, disease and pest protocols, cultural best practices, harvesting methods, keeping qualities, storage and curing requirements, and seed-saving practices. We'll also cover flavor and nutrition so you can give your customers tips on culinary uses (including the leaves, seeds and blossoms!). *Patryk Battle, Living Web Farms (NC)*

Miller

**Producing and Marketing Pasture-Raised Pork: Pigs Can Still Be the Mortgage Lifter**—Jeremiah Jones and his wife Jessica have been raising several breeds of heirloom hogs on their fields and woodlands since 2004. Using sustainable environmental practices and humane husbandry, they produce wholesome flavored pork and sausage. They market their products through the NC Natural Hog Growers Association, a profitable wholesale marketing cooperative, with 24 other family farms. Learn about the production challenges and benefits of pasture-raised pork, including bio security and disease prevention, and how production can be profitable through collaborative marketing. *Jeremiah Jones, Grassroots Farm/North Carolina Natural Hogs Growers Association (NC)*

Izard

● **Disaster Relief for Sustainable Farmers**—All signs point to an increase in natural disasters in the Southern region through hurricanes, floods, fires and drought. Yet there is a confusing array of programs available for farmers hit by disaster. This session will summarize federal disaster programs, how to think about deadlines for the programs, and what to do if farmers are unfairly denied benefits. We'll also discuss the legal fallout from a disaster and how best to prepare for a possible disaster from a legal point of view. *Stephen Carpenter and Lindsay Kuehn, Farmers' Legal Action Group (FLAG) (MN)*

- Pope** **QuickBooks Online Setup for Fruit, Vegetable, and Meat Product Sales**—Are you thinking about using QuickBooks for your farm recordkeeping? Learn how to set up and use QuickBooks easily to help you make the most of the information you gather and reduce the time you spend on recordkeeping. We'll show you how to create accurate profit and loss statements, as well as keep up with your inputs, plantings, and harvests. Learn how to use your accounting software to its fullest potential to help you manage your farm profitably. *Debbie Dangerfield, Dangerfield Consulting (GA)*
- Manning** **Veterans Succeeding in Agriculture**—Do you want to connect with other military veterans who are farming? Want to learn where to go for help and technical resources? Hear from three dynamic veteran farmers who will share about their farming journeys and their lessons learned. You'll also learn about best tips and unique resources to support veterans seeking to run profitable farms. *Margo Hale, National Center for Appropriate Technology (AR), Ryan Pace, Wholly Cow Farms (AR), Lovay Wallace-Singleton, Veterans Employment Base Camp and Organic Garden (NC) and Davon Goodwin, OTL Farms (NC)*
- Hoffman** **Shaping State Policy Through Local Mobilization**—Do your state regulations support regional food systems or block local actions? Join us for a discussion about the state of state food systems legislation. Learn about state legislation that supports local food systems efforts. Listen to the experience of neighbor states mobilizing to block legislation that would harm family farmers and public health. Talk with peers about food and farm policies taking shape in your state and efforts to mobilize local coalitions to engage in state policy issues. *Mark Winne and Karen Bassarab, Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future (MD)*

## 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Welcome and Plenary

Grand Ballroom

### ● Climate Change, Resilience and the Future of Food

*Laura Lengnick, Cultivating Resilience, LLC (NC)*

Climate change is upon us and agriculture is inextricably involved. The evidence is clear: the way that we eat is fueling a climate crisis that threatens our way of life. The good news is we don't need any more research or new technologies to put us on the path to a resilient food future. Although most of us didn't realize it, sustainable farmers and ranchers, and the people that support them, have been hard at work over the last 50 years innovating a climate resilient agriculture. It turns out that soil quality, agro-ecosystem diversity, and regional networks of mutual benefit can slow climate change and enhance the resilience of farms and the communities they serve. Sustainable practices like whole farm management and diversified production systems promote the capacity to respond, to recover swiftly, and to make changes that sustain farms and food systems in the face of disruptions of all kinds.

Join scientist, author, educator and farmer, Laura Lengnick, as she weaves resilience thinking with practical lessons learned from some of America's best sustainable farmers and ranchers to share a message of hope grounded in the work that we do together.



*Laura Lengnick*

Laura is the founder and principle at Cultivating Resilience, LLC, an Asheville-based firm that works with organizations to integrate resilience thinking into operations, assessment and strategic planning. Her 2015 book, *Resilient Agriculture: Cultivating Food Systems for a Changing Climate*, examines climate change, resilience and the future of food through the adaptation stories of 27 leading sustainable farmers and ranchers located across the U.S. Previously, Laura's research in soil quality and sustainable agriculture systems at the Beltsville Agriculture Research Center in Maryland was nationally recognized by the USDA. She has broad federal policy expertise gained through work as a U.S. Senate staffer and USDA agency staff, and a lobbyist advocating for sustainable agriculture in the U.S. Congress. Laura led the academic program in sustainable agriculture at Warren Wilson College for more than a decade, where she also served as the Director of Sustainability Education, conducted research in sustainability assessment and holistic management, and developed an innovative sustainable dining policy for the college. Laura has also grown organic vegetables in Tidewater Virginia and in western North Carolina for community supported agriculture and farmers' market sales.

## 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Lunch On Your Own

## 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Concurrent General Conference Sessions

Salon A

**Organic Farming and Organic Living: Practical Principles and Systems**—This session will discuss organic farming systems with a focus on cover crops to build soil health, manage nematodes, control weeds and enhance overall yields. We'll also share principles of "organic living" that include enhancing the welfare of farmers and farm workers, providing for healthy communities, and care for the local environment. *Jennifer Taylor, Lola's Organic Farm (FL)*



Salon C

**Hemp Farming in the South**—Now that industrial hemp is legal to grow in many Southern states, what's next for small- and medium-scale farmers? Join our panel for a practical discussion on the production practices for hemp along with information on extraction and marketing hemp-based products. We'll cover the various types of hemp that can be grown and the unique challenges that come with them, and hear what is working and what isn't in these early days of a hemp Renaissance. *Josh Hardin, Laughing Stock Farm (AR), Shawn Peebles, Peebles Organics (AR), Vic Ford, AR Cooperative Extension, Anna Minor, Minor Hemp & Specialty Crop Insurance (AR)*

Salon B

● **Introduction to Restoration Agriculture**—Learn about a system of agriculture that imitates natural plant communities while utilizing agroforestry and water management techniques to produce an agricultural yield that also restores ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration, water purification and infiltration, nutrient cycling, and biodiversity. Perennial crops, live-stock, fungus, and pollinators are integrated into a nutrient-dense ecological landscape. Mark Shepard will share lessons learned from his 106-acre perennial agricultural forest farm and get you thinking about how you can incorporate some of these techniques into your farm. *Mark Shepard, New Forest Farm (WI)*

Fulton

**Healthy Sheep and Goats for a Happy Farm**—Sheep and goats are productive, prolific, easy to manage, and fun to raise . . . when they are healthy! This session will cover the basics of how to acquire and maintain a trouble-free flock. Topics of discussion include managing internal parasites, recognizing and encouraging health, catching problems early and responding appropriately. Drawing on 40 years of farm experience, Linda Coffey will lead this interactive class and provide ATTRA publications to support the learning. *Linda Coffey, National Center for Appropriate Technology (AR)*

Caraway 1,2,3

● **Cultivating Climate Resilience on Your Farm**—Resilience is about much more than simply bouncing back. It involves a new way of thinking about how you can use all of the resources under your management—people, land, crops and livestock, markets, money and technology—to reduce production risk and enhance the adaptive capacity of your business. Learn how some of America's best sustainable farmers and ranchers are enhancing the climate resilience of their operations, and how you can add new climate resilience tools to your management toolbox. *Laura Lengnick, Cultivating Resilience LLC (NC)*

Arkansas Ballroom

**Heirs' Property and Land Preservation: What Are You Going to Do with Your Family Land?**—Estate and transition planning is an important part of sustaining family land. However, heirs' property owners face unique challenges in securing their land tenure. In this session, Monica Rainge, a legal expert in land retention, will explain how the 2018 Farm Bill addresses heirs' property issues. She will present solutions for addressing the problems surrounding heirs' property and help participants prepare for succession planning. Come learn how heirs' property owners can resolve their property issues and create intergenerational wealth opportunities. *Monica A. Rainge, Federation of Southern Cooperatives/ Land Assistance Fund (GA)*

Izard

**Tools for Coping with Farm-Related Stress**—Farming can be incredibly stressful with multiple variables that are out of your control. So how can you juggle the duties of production, marketing and business management along with family obligations, and still keep stress at a minimum? Join us to learn about the effects of stress on health and well-being and how to get equipped with simple strategies for managing stress in the midst of day-to-day operations. *Robin Tutor-Marcom, North Carolina Agromedicine Institute*

Miller

**Supply Chain Development in Rural Communities**—There are logistical and market challenges to linking rural farmers to larger retail, wholesale and institutional outlets. This session will discuss the training, transportation and capital improvements necessary to support a grower's expansion. Based on successes from the North Carolina Growing Together project, we'll discuss lessons learned and offer ideas on how other organizations can create regionally appropriate value chains and help rural producers enter a variety of markets to diversify their farm income. *Laura Lauffer, EmPOWERing Mountain Food Systems (NC)*

## 3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Concurrent General Conference Sessions

Salon A

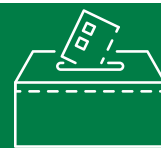
**Exploring the Soil Food Web**—Heard of Elaine Ingham's work on the soil food web? Want to know more? This session will provide a primer on the principles of the soil food web, along with a discussion of benefits and how, in theory, to build a healthy one. Then we'll move into the reality, as told from a farmer and soil health consultant who has been in training with Dr. Ingham's team. She'll share all the ways she made changes on her farm and screwed up her compost piles, and what she's learned along the way. *Kirsten Simmons, Ecosystem Farm (GA)*

Salon B

**Crop Planning for Sustainable Vegetable Production**—Learn to master the planning circle so you can produce the right quantities of crops when you want them, and sell them when and where you need, to support yourself with a rewarding livelihood while replenishing the soil. This workshop will provide planning tools for diversified vegetable production along with a step-by-step planning process that considers income, markets, crops, scheduling and mapping. You'll also learn various fine-tuning tricks to fit more in and improve your plans each year. *Pam Dawling, Twin Oaks Community (VA)*

# Take the Survey

Don't forget to put your completed survey card in the box at the conference registration desk to be eligible for door prizes and to help us understand who you are so we can serve you better.



Salon C

**Seed-to-Seed: Closing the Gap in Sustainable Farming**—High quality seed is the foundation of sustainable agriculture yet more than 60% of vegetable seeds are controlled by large petro-chemical corporations. Learn how seed saving can be integrated into your farm to provide a secure source for your own use or as a market crop to add income for your business. An organic, seed-saving pioneer and third-generation family farmer will explain how he has gone “seed to seed” with certified organic sweet potatoes, industrial hemp, collards and more. *Clifton Slade, Slade Farms (VA) and Ira Wallace, Southern Exposure Seed Exchange (VA)*

Arkansas Ballroom

**Walk-Behind Farming Equipment for Small Market Growers**—For small acreages, walk-behind farm equipment can fill a middle ground between hand tools and four-wheel tractors. Learn about the history, applications, availability, and maintenance of this type of equipment. Joel Dufour, who has been using, selling and servicing walk-behind tractors for over 35 years, will help you assess if a walking tractor is right for your farm. He'll discuss everything from appropriate terrain and scale of operation to the human energy required to run and maintain one. *Joel Dufour, Earth Tools (KY)*

Caraway 1,2,3

● **How Farmers Can Combat Climate Change**—Management intensive grazing is recognized as one of the most effective ways to sequester carbon in order to mitigate climate change. This session will begin with an overview of the use of adaptive grazing to increase soil organic matter, forage yields and animal production. Experienced farmers will then describe how the unique systems they have created enable them to make a living on a small farm while building soil organic matter through intensive rotational grazing. *Johnny Wray, High Hope Farm (MS), Marshall Bartlett, Home Place Pastures (MS), Jody Reyer, Reyer Farms (MS), Allen Williams, Joyce Farms (MS) and Jim Worstell, Resilience Project (AR)*

Izard

**Seed to Student: Selling to Schools**—Interested in the nitty-gritty of selling your products to schools? Want to know about getting started, navigating challenges, and promoting successes? Join us to hear from two producers and a school child nutrition director working together to bring healthy, locally produced strawberries and beef to thousands of students. We'll discuss their partnership, the systems and operational logistics used for managing their farm to school process, and lessons learned along the way. *David Dickey, Dickey Farms (AR), Randy Arnold, Arnold Family Farms (AR), Ally Mrachek, Fayetteville Public Schools (AR), and Emily English, Arkansas Farm to School/Arkansas Children's Research Institute*

Fulton

**Inspiring Your Community to Better Health and Wellness Through Agriculture**—Kay Bell promotes gardening, entrepreneurship and the teaching of natural holistic health in Waco, TX. As an urban farmer, entrepreneur, herbalist, doula and teaologist, she provides coaching and encouragement to community members of all ages, convincing people from all backgrounds to consider becoming an agricultural entrepreneur and to improve their health. Hear how she inspires people to dig deeper in the soil and move their gardening and health to a higher level. *Kay Bell, National Women In Agricultural Association (TX)*

Governor's Hall 1

**Poster Presentations on Research and Project Outcomes**—Interact with researchers, educators, extension staff and others who are presenting research results and innovative program outcomes through posters. Poster authors will be present! This is your chance to learn directly from people involved in the research and willing to share. Topics will cover a wide range of issues relevant to sustainable farming, with an emphasis on the needs and priorities of organic farmers and ranchers.

## 5:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m. State Networking Sessions

Gather with others in your state working for sustainable agriculture and community food systems to learn what's happening, how you can be involved, and how you can make a difference. We provide the room and a facilitator for each of the 13 Southern states. You make the discussion useful.

Alabama – Pope

Arkansas – Salon C

Florida – Governor's Hall 2

Georgia – Arkansas Ballroom

Kentucky – Salon B

Louisiana – Governor's Hall 3

Mississippi – Caraway 1, 2, 3

North Carolina – Fulton

Oklahoma – Izard

South Carolina – Governor's Hall 2

Tennessee – Salon A

Texas – Hoffman

Virginia – Manning

**DOOR  
PRIZES**

Drawings held at Friday morning's plenary. Put your completed survey card in the box at the conference registration desk to be eligible! You must be present to win. *Thank you to all who kindly donated door prizes!*



## GENERAL CONFERENCE

Saturday, January 25, 2020

## GENERAL CONFERENCE

**7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Trade Show and Poster Display***Governor's Hall I*

**Support our vendors!** They are here to support you! Visit with vendors offering sustainable agriculture supplies, information and services. Plus, check out the posters on display to learn about important research and community food and farming projects.

**8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Concurrent General Conference Sessions***Salon A*

● **Regenerating Soils Using the Five Principles of Soil Health**—Robust soil health can lead to more resilient, productive, and profitable farms. In this session you'll learn the five principles of soil health, and how you can adapt these principles to build healthy, thriving soils. We'll look at the science of soil ecosystems as well as real world examples of producers who have regenerated the health of their soils using a wide range of practices. Participants will leave with the knowledge necessary to improve their farm's soil health and will take with them a selection of relevant ATTRA publications for further study. *Nina Prater, National Center for Appropriate Technology (AR)*

*Salon B*

**Growing Fruit in High Tunnels**—Learn about growing strawberries, blackberries and grapes in high tunnels, and get practical recommendations based on the latest research from the University of Arkansas. We'll discuss the benefits of growing fruit crops in tunnels, how to select the right tunnel design and fruit cultivars, crop care, pests (insects, diseases, etc.) of concern, and the economics of high tunnel fruit production. We'll also provide specific recommendations for growing table grapes successfully in high tunnels in the south. *Luke Freeman, NCAT/ATTRA (AR) and Elena Garcia, University of Arkansas*

*Salon C*

**Bioinsecticides 101: Pest Management with Organically Approved Methods**—Learn about several of the major insect pests in vegetables crops in our region and join a discussion on the effectiveness of bioinsecticides as organic controls. We'll provide an overview of major insect pests along with a hands-on experience at identifying specimens. Then there will be in-depth discussion on the effectiveness of bioinsecticides as stand-alone products or as tank-mixes and premixes to reduce disease and insect damage. Bioinsecticides include microbial formulations, botanical insecticides, physical desiccants, etc. *Ayanava Majumdar, Auburn University (AL)*

*Pope*

● **Pastured Poultry Production with the "Nomad" System**—Learn about pastured poultry production from a central Virginia farmer raising broiler chickens and meat ducks using a completely portable infrastructure. For producers who have struggled with Salatin-style pens, we will highlight our "Nomad" system which allows more flexibility on varied terrain and more protection from ground predators. We'll discuss production from day one in the brooder, to field care, to processing day. And we'll discuss adaptations which have become necessary in our changing climate. *Erica Hellen, Free Union Grass Farm (VA)*

*Fulton*

**Taking Your CSA to the Next Level with Customized Boxes**—Chris and Jenny Jackson produce food for a 150-member CSA and a thriving on-farm market on their small farm. After 12 years of operating a traditional CSA, they decided to transition to customized boxes using Harvie, a software company that helps manage the CSA. This has allowed for a significant amount of extra sales and growth in the membership. Chris will discuss the challenges and benefits of customizing boxes and talk about other strategies they've used to consistently maintain high retention rate of membership. *Chris Jackson, Jenny Jack Farm (GA)*

*Izard*

**Financing Opportunities for Farm Business Development**—What are your options when it comes to farm financing? In this session we'll discuss conventional ag lenders like Farm Credit and FSA, along with some creative alternatives. Learn about crowd-funding strategies that create mutually beneficial relationships between sustainable farmers and responsible investors. Hear about creative ways to partner with local landowners and organizations to gain access to land and capital. *Aaron Newton, GoSteward (NC) and Julia Asherman, Rag & Frass Farm (GA)*

Miller	<b>Plant, Water and Hoe, Then It's Off to Class We Go!</b> —Learn how an organic farm at a liberal arts college combines production and pedagogy to enhance the education of their students. Two farmer-educators will explain how they engage student workers, provide internships, host class lectures and laboratory assignments, lead K-12 field trips, conduct research, and supply food to the school dining hall. Everyone can learn something from this session, as they will go in depth about balancing their marketing with programming and scheduling of their student workers and volunteers. <i>Daniel Parson and Ruth Geiger, Oxford College Farm (GA)</i>
Caraway 1, 2, 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Agriculture and Climate Change: Policy Imperatives and Opportunities to Help Producers Meet the Challenge</b>—Learn about proposed policies that can help producers meet the challenges caused by climate change, as well as possible actions that you can take to get helpful programs enacted. In addition, we'll address the role of academia in helping to disseminate, enhance and implement research and policy toward a more sustainable food system in a changing climate. <i>Sarah Hackney, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (DC) and Dodd Galbreath, Lipscomb University (TN)</i></li> </ul>
<b>10:30 a.m.–Noon</b>	<b>Information Exchange: Crowdsourcing Knowledge</b>
	These facilitated group discussions provide you the opportunity to build on what you learned during the conference by exchanging ideas and information with your peers from around the region. Come prepared to ask and answer questions, share your experiences and listen to others.
Salon B	<b>People of Color in Sustainable Agriculture</b> —Join in a discussion about how People of Color can best position ourselves to succeed in the sustainable food and agriculture movement—and continue our conversation from past conferences. Share your insights, concerns, and ideas on vital topics such as health and wellness, intergenerational relationships, representation and power, land access, funding and finance, marketing and racial justice.
Salon C	<b>Young and Beginning Farmers</b> —Join with new(ish) farmers to discuss the critical decisions you need to make in the early stages of operating a farm. How are you accessing land and capital? How are you creating a support system to sustain you? How do you determine your focus and the scale of the operation? Discuss your challenges and share what's working for you.
Hoffman	<b>Military Veterans</b> —Join this session to connect with other veterans in the southern sustainable farming community. Share resources, your successes, and discuss your unique challenges. Network, learn from each other, and get information from organizations that provide resources and technical assistance to veteran farmers.
Miller	<b>Out in the Field: LGBTQ+ Diversity in Ag</b> —How can we increase visibility and support for LGBTQ+ farmers and ranchers in our community? Though disclosing sexual orientation may put careers, families, financial wellbeing and possibly even physical wellbeing at risk, statistics suggest these farmers and ranchers are hardly alone. Come to discuss the needs of diverse communities and how we can do better for ourselves financially, mentally, emotionally, spiritually, by grounding in agriculture. This session is meant to be a safe space for LGBTQ+ individuals, but open to anyone willing to show up with respect and solidarity.
Salon A	<b>Industrial Hemp</b> —Join a group of growers, buyers, engineers, and academics in an open discussion about some of the opportunities and challenges that exist to entering the industrial hemp market. Share experiences with other novice hemp growers and hear about the types of products that are being created from the crop.
Governor's Hall 3	<b>High Tunnels</b> —Share with other producers the issues and solutions you've encountered in high tunnel production. Come ready to discuss challenges like fertility management, heat regulation, crop rotations, and the advantages of fixed vs. moveable tunnels.
Fulton	<b>Grazing Management</b> —Come and learn from other graziers. Bring your questions, your challenges, and your tips. This session is designed to help beginners learn from those who have "been there, done that" and for experienced graziers to share challenges and solutions.
Governor's Hall 2	<b>State Inspected Meat Processing</b> —Arkansas and three other states in the South do not have state inspection for meat processing, which hampers local marketing efforts. Join a conversation with farmers and processors on what it would take to get a program in place. Join this conversation if you're interested in getting state inspection for your state or if you already have state meat inspection and want to provide information to others.
Arkansas Ballroom	<b>Managing Farmers Markets</b> —Share your experiences with fellow market managers and board members. What trends have you noticed at your market in the last several years, and how is your market evolving to stay relevant in a changing marketplace? Share ideas on organizational structure, rules, marketing, funding, and building community support.
Manning	<b>Maintaining Mental Health</b> —Although farming is often portrayed as a pastoral lifestyle, we all know that it can be stressful. Join this conversation to discuss some of the factors that create stress in your farm life and share tips and strategies on how to maintain mental health.
Pope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Regenerative Agriculture</b>—Join this open dialogue about regenerative farming—what is it, and what are the opportunities and challenges for scaling up across the South? Learn what other regenerative farmers across the country have been telling the National Resources Defense Council in a series of facilitated interviews. Add your perspective to this conversation to learn from each other and to make sure your voice is represented as future programs and policies are created to support family farmers.</li> </ul>

Caraway 1, 2, 3

● **Resilience in the Midst of Climate Change**—Join this conversation on dealing with the effects of climate change while farming. Have you experienced damaging storms and other disasters as a result? Bring your stories and share tactics and tools for becoming more resilient. Learn how others have recovered from disaster or avoided the worst.

Izard

**Equitable Networks, Food Councils and Coalitions**—Are you engaged in food and agricultural program and policy work on a local, state or regional level, or do you want to be? Join this conversation to share strategies and resources that you use in your work, and learn how others have tackled food, farm and related policy issues that might be facing your community.

Governor's Hall 1

**Poster Presentations on Research and Project Outcomes**—Interact with researchers, educators, extension staff and others who are presenting research results and innovative program outcomes through posters. Poster authors will be present! This is your chance to learn directly from people involved in the research and willing to share. Topics will cover a wide range of issues relevant to sustainable farming, with an emphasis on the needs and priorities of organic farmers and ranchers.

Noon–1:30 p.m.

**Lunch On Your Own**

1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

**Concurrent General Conference Sessions**

Salon A

**Profitable Vegetable Farming**—Want to hear how two people selling five months of the year gross \$100,000 yearly on a certified organic vegetable farm in Northeastern Oklahoma? Now in their 17th year of production, Emily and Michael of Three Springs Farm have been able to create a profitable business relying mostly on their own labor and only marketing from April to Labor Day. They will show how they make their operation work by relying on few external inputs, through one farmers market per week and with a unique CSA model. They will also open their financial records, so come with your financial questions—there are no questions they won't answer. *Emily Oakley and Michael Appel, Three Springs Farm (OK)*

Salon B

**Cover Crops and Cultivation for Weed Management in Organic Cropping Systems**—Leguminous cover crops can be used for weed and nematode management and also for improving soil. In this session, we'll examine legumes like sunn hemp and cowpeas that can be used as cover crops and green manures. Researcher/educator Carlene Chase will discuss how specific varieties and cultural practices can influence weed suppression. Organic grower John Bitter will discuss how he complements off-season cover cropping with cultivation for weed management on his organic farm. *Carlene A. Chase, University of Florida and John Bitter, Frog Song Organics (FL)*

Salon C

● **Farming on Challenging Soils: Adaptations for a Changing Climate**—Barr Farms has been raising mixed vegetables and livestock on a fragipan (shallow soil) in the Ohio River Valley for 13 years. In response to increasing climate challenges—heavy rain events, high humidity all year, wetter than normal summers, and the possibility of droughts in the fall—they have implemented several mitigating systems. Hear about their use of rye grass and cover crops, biochar, drainage and other adaptations they have tried. Join in a discussion of the pros and cons of various strategies across our region for a changing climate. *Adam Barr, Barr Farms (KY)*

Izard

● **Practical Agroforestry: Establishing Silvopastures**—More than just 'grazing the woods', silvopasture is the intentional integration of trees, forages, and livestock that has a multitude of benefits. Using examples from farm case studies, we'll take you through the process of converting woodland into a productive silvopasture. We will explore the complexities of calculating stand density when thinning, best species for forage establishment, options for fertility management, and other practical considerations. A panel of agroforestry practitioners and experts will be on hand for discussion and Q & A. *Matt Wilson, Grow Appalachia of Berea College (KY), Christine Nieman, University of Arkansas, and Gregory Ormsby Mori, University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry*

Fulton

**Farmer Story: Marketing with a Vision**—Learn how one farm family took a dream to revitalize their local community and developed it into a market for their diversified farm products and the products of other Arkansas farmers. Veteran, farmer and entrepreneur Damon Helton and his wife Jana have opened two stores selling local farm products in Central Arkansas. Hear how Damon transitioned from the battlefields of war to the agricultural fields of America—and then turned his vision and passion into a community-supported market. *Damon Helton, Olde Crow General Store (AR)*

Pope

**QuickBooks Reporting for Your Farm Business**—Are you using QuickBooks, but don't know how to get the right reports for managing your farm business? Come to this session to learn how to get the information you need. You'll learn how to design reports on crops and profitability that will help you make better decisions. We'll also provide tips and tricks to make the most of your QuickBooks software gained from the instructor's 30 years of accounting software training and consulting, primarily on QuickBooks. *Debbie Dangerfield, Dangerfield Consulting (GA)*

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Win a free ticket to next year's conference!

Just complete our conference evaluation and we will enter your name into a drawing for one free ticket! [www.ssawg.org/evaluation](http://www.ssawg.org/evaluation)



Caraway 1, 2, 3

**Creating a Village to Support Youth Education**—Learn how to create a village to support youth and community education. The Village Community Garden goes village to village, bridging art and agriculture, to provide youth-led STEM, agriculture, healthy living, and entrepreneurship education. The project has built a network of strong collaborations with municipalities, city governments, judicial, hospital, school and university systems, non-profits, and business leaders. Learn how to get young people and community members involved in your community/educational garden—and how to engage donors and philanthropists to help fund your project. *Sam X. White, Village Community Garden (GA)*

Miller

**Successful Strategies for Conserving Agricultural and Forest Land**—Partners for Conservation is a national landowner-led group that focuses on building collaboration and communication to sustain working landscapes for people and nature. Learn how they build productive relationships and engage diverse perspectives to conserve working lands including farmland. They will discuss how to create effective public-private partnerships and share strategies that have been successful. *Steve Jester, Partners for Conservation (TX), Bill Sproul (KS) and Jim Stone (MT)*

### 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Trade Show Closes

Governor's Hall I

This is your last chance to shop the Trade Show. Make your purchases by 3:30, before the next session begins.

### 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Concurrent General Conference Sessions

Salon A

**Advanced No-Till Techniques**—Learn new no-till techniques appropriate for an organic farm using the roller-crimper. Two experienced farmers will discuss growing a weed-free cover crop, biomass requirements, raised bed production, crimping early, delaying cover crop maturity, adding mulch to extend weed control, cover crop mixes, seeding rates, covering seed, equipment and techniques for all scales. *Shawn Jadrnicek, Wild Hope Farm (SC) and Patryk Battle, Living Web Farms (NC)*

Salon C

**Microgreens: Tiny Plants That Can Generate Big Profits**—Microgreens have become the most profitable crop on Jenny Jack Farm because of their popularity with CSA and market customers. But beware! There is a steep learning curve to getting started. Jenny will share valuable insights on how to produce high quality, soil-grown microgreens and herbs in a year-round system. Come learn tips for efficient seeding, harvest, and post-harvest handling for a crop that can boost your farm profits. *Jenny Jackson, Jenny Jack Farm (GA)*

Fulton

**Dish Dive Right into Restaurant Sales**—Are you interested in expanding your farm sales to restaurants but don't know how to start? Have you had difficulty in getting to the root of the problem in one of your chef relationships? Lauren Cox, a former farmer who now runs Georgia Organics' Farm to Restaurant program, will help you understand the true barriers to getting food from farm to restaurant, and key considerations for becoming 'restaurant ready.' Topics include successive planting techniques, ideal crop varieties, availability lists, and packaging strategies, along with a task-oriented breakout session. *Lauren Cox, Georgia Organics (GA)*

Miller

● **Native Forages for Livestock Production in the Southeast**—Although non-native grasses and legumes can provide some advantages for livestock producers, they also have limitations. Using native grasses and forbs as forage can increase the number of grazable days and reduce feed needs. An Arkansas livestock producer will explain how he changed to native forages on his operation, along with the events that led to trying native forages and what he continues to learn about grazing natives every day. *Twig Satterfield, Over the Hill Ranch (AR) and Ryan Diener, Quail Forever (AR)*

Caraway 1, 2, 3

**Collective Strategies and Solutions for Land Access for Beginning Farmers of Color**—Beginning farmers face many hurdles as they try to scale up, with land access being one of the most challenging. Hear about collective models of land acquisition and ownership within southeastern communities of color that include strategies such as conservation tools, collective investing, alternative lending, and more. We'll provide time for an interactive discussion, as well as, shared resource mapping among participants. This session is designed for beginning farmers of color from across the southeast. *Tahz Walker, Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA (NC) and Alsie Parks, SAAFON (MS)*

Pope

**Recordkeeping Software for Diversified Sustainable Farms**—Do you need help in tracking all the records that you need to run your farm business? A farmer with 15 years of experience in operating an organic farm and selling to multiple markets will share his ProFarmer Software. This program helps you track information and run reports for FSMA, GAP and GHP compliances as well as organic audits. It also can be used to calculate planting schedules, track farm equipment, generate labor time sheets, run cost analyses, and much more. *Pedro Schambon, Jr., My Father's Farm (TX)*

# SURVEYS

Don't forget to put your completed survey card in the box at the conference registration desk to be eligible for door prizes and to help us understand who you are so we can serve you better.

Izard

**USDA Agency Resources for Sustainable Farms**—There are more USDA resources than most people know about for small and sustainable farmers. Learn about the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and other agency programs that can help you with infrastructure and improvements. Hear about USDA money available for development of conservation management practices on your farm to improve soil stability and health, maintain water quality and quantity, and improve wildlife habitat. Join this session to find out if you qualify for some of these programs. *Gena Moore, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association (NC), Mike Sullivan, NRCS (AR), and Amy Lyman, Arkansas Department of Agriculture (AR)*

Salon B

**Hemp: Developing Policy to Maximize Growth and Profitability for Family Farms**—This session with two attorneys will provide an overview of the current federal rules and regulations affecting hemp growers, as well as an overview of the legal frameworks in the Southern states. It will also cover banking issues around hemp. We'll highlight how policy can support different hemp uses and create more profitable opportunities for sustainable growers in the South. *Scheril Murray Powell, Black Farmers and Agriculturalist Association of Florida and Green Sustainable Strong, LLC, Michelle Namer, The Law Farm (GA), and Jonathan Mohr, Southern SAWG (SC)*

## 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Closing Mixer

Governor's Hall 3

Join us for a relaxing closing mixer to rub elbows one more time with friends and colleagues and share your experience at the conference! There will be a cash bar and live music, so we can mingle, dance, and end our conference on a high note!

# WE'RE HEADING TO KENTUCKY!

## Please join us for the 30th Annual SSAWG Conference

### January 27–30, 2021

## Board Members Wanted: Be a Part of SSAWG's Future

The Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group Board of Directors is accepting applicants for consideration of a board appointment beginning in July 2020 through July 2023. Please leave your contact information or business card in the box next to the registration desk if you are interested in joining the board!



## MISS A SESSION? WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

All registered conference participants received a link in their registration packet that will allow them to access audio recordings of all the main conference sessions. These should be available within a week after the conference.

In addition, all session presenters are encouraged to share any PowerPoint presentations on [www.slideshare.net](http://www.slideshare.net).

## Conference Session Recordings

Are included in your registration fee!



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