



2026 CUT FLOWER SYMPOSIUM

JULY 23, 2026

8:30 AM	WELCOME Dr. Bethany Harris Lanie Riner
8:45 AM	INTRODUCTION TO CUT FLOWERS AND CUT FLOWER RESOURCES Dr. Allen Armitage
9:00 AM	UT RESEARCH UPDATES Dr. Natalie Bumgarner & Celeste Scott University of Tennessee
9:30 AM	KEEPING CUT FLOWERS HEALTHY: DISEASE MANAGEMENT FOR GROWERS Tara Watkins, University of Kentucky
10:00 AM	MESSAGE FROM ASCFG Representative from ASCFG
10:15 AM	PREPARING CUT FLOWERS FOR DROUGHT AND HEAT: TIPS AND TRICKS FROM THE DESERT Dr. Melanie Stock, Utah State University
10:45 AM	MESSAGE FROM ATLANTA FLOWER COLLECTIVE Representative from Collective
11:00 AM	HIGHLIGHTING FIELD-GROWN SUNFLOWERS AND LISIANTHUS Dr. Kate Cassity-Duffey, University of Georgia
11:30 AM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS • Flower Collectives and Cooperative Farming • Scaling Operations and Wholesale Marketing • U-pick operations with liability considerations