

2021 WINTERGREEN Educational Sessions - Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Nursery Disease Update

Dr. Jean Williams-Woodward - UGA CAES Plant Pathology

9:45 AM- 10:45 AM

Disease prevention and treatment represents a major investment in time and financial resources in nursery and greenhouse production. Hear from Jean Williams Woodward from the University of Georgia to learn the latest techniques to add to your bottom line by effectively utilizing tools and treatments to keep your operation disease free.

Nursery Pest and Weed Update

Shimat Joseph - UGA CAES Entomology & **Dr. Mark Czarnota** - UGA CAES Weed Science

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

UGA Entomologist, Shimat Joseph will discuss the life cycle, biology, adult flight, and susceptible trees to ambrosia beetle, the monitoring and management options for ambrosia beetle in woody ornamental nurseries, and some of the recent research data on the beetle flight and monitoring in Georgia. Dr. Mark Czarnota will present information on the life cycle of weeds and the weed control options that are available in ornamentals, including preemergence and postemergence herbicides to help save money, reduce resource competition for the ornamental plant, and improve aesthetics .

Substrates from Macon to Mars: Innovations in Growing Media

Dr. Brian Jackson - NCSC Horticultural Science Associate Professor: Academics, Research, & Faculty

12:15 PM- 1:15 PM

Soiless substrates are as ever-changing as most all other areas of horticulture production systems. Efficiency, Economics, and Environmental awareness are the three big drivers behind a lot of current research efforts. Innovations in organic material (bark, wood, peat, etc.) processing and handling as well as introductions of new materials and mix formulations have led to new product offerings with more consistent water retention, and increased opportunities for growers to trial new materials. The expectations by growers for their substrates to be more durable, forgiving, functional, and timeless are as high as ever. Also, substrates that provide consistent water levels, and reduce the need for pesticides and fungicides, are in high demand. This presentation will highlight some of those changes and challenges.

The Importance and Efficacy of Using Beneficials for Pest Control

Nicholas Bertoni - Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Technical Specialist for Bioline Agrosciences

1:30 PM-2:30 PM

During this talk, Nicholas Bertoni will be speaking about the most common greenhouse/outdoor pests and how best to use biological organisms to control and prevent them. Crop production relies on a large diversity of resources and tools, so my talk will also discuss the best bios to be used in conjunction with the most common chemical fungal remedies. Whether it be spider mites, aphids, thrips, or whiteflies, beneficial predators and parasitoids can be useful tools to help reduce the chemical load on growers' programs and keep pest pressures below critical thresholds for successful crops. My goal is to help growers be more comfortable and familiar with using these beneficials to have more successful yields and better pest management.

2021 WINTERGREEN Educational Sessions - Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Protecting and Promoting Pollinator Populations in the Landscape

Becky Griffin - UGA CAES Extension, **Mary Lewis** - UGA PhD Grad Research Asst., **Lauren Muller** - UGA State Botanical Garden of GA

9:45 AM- 10:45 AM

Discover pollinator related programs from the University of Georgia that can have an impact on your business. The Pollinator Plants of the Year program can assist you in providing pollinator gardens to your clients. Lauren Muller, coordinator of the project, will give updates on the program. Milkweed plants (*Asclepias* spp.) are the larval host for the Monarch butterfly and are becoming very popular in home landscapes. Mary Lewis, from the University of Georgia's horticultural department, will discuss the importance of this plant and why it is a landscape powerhouse. In 2020, 575 pollinator habitats were created across the state in response to the Great Georgia Pollinator Census. Becky Griffin, coordinator of the census, will explain this citizen science initiative and how it can relate to your business.

Impact of Common Horticultural Practices on Insect Pests of the Home; Ants, Termites, Roaches, Mosquitoes

Dr. Dan Suiter - UGA CAES Entomology Professor and UGA Extension Entomologist

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Insects, like all creatures, need food, shelter, and moisture to survive. Many of the horticultural practices around the outside of homes promote favorable living conditions for urban insect pests. This presentation will discuss many of these pests and the links between hort practices and their presence.

Foodscape Revolution

Brie Arthur - Horticulturist & Best-Selling Author

12:15 PM- 1:15 PM

Best-selling author and Horticulturist Brie Arthur has fine-tuned her signature design technique of Foodscaping. Combining expert advice from both of her books, Brie aims to educate attendees about sustainable landscape design and maintenance practices that embrace beauty and bounty. Learn how to pair seasonal food crops with common trees, shrubs, and flowering perennials within traditional landscape borders. Practical strategies are explained including creative ways to deter animals, solutions for weed control, and IPM cycles that are safe for food crops. Foodscaping is a great opportunity for the landscape industry to offer the services homeowners are seeking, now more than ever!

Climate Trees and the Community Forest

Dr. Kim Coder - UGA Warnell School of Forestry & **Dr. Jason Gordon** - UGA Warnell School of Forestry

1:30 PM-2:30 PM

Dr. Kim Coder and Dr. Jason Gordon of UGA's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources team up to discuss Climate Trees: Accelerating Plantings in Communities and the Community Forest: What it is and Why it Matters. Dr. Coder will discuss how variability in our climate is generating more angst among clients and more risks to success in tree-filled landscapes. Climate variability is also impacting how many trees need to be planted, where trees need to be planted, and their sustainable performance over time. New tree plantings for mitigating heat loads and increasing carbon sequestration will be reviewed. Dr. Gordon will describe the components of the community forest and how they relate to local well-being. Based on case studies from across the nation,

components of successful community forestry programs and projects will be reviewed, including considerations for planting and maintenance as well as resident engagement.

The Green Industry Insider's Guide to New Plants Part 1

Dr. Allan Armitage - retired UGA CAES Horticulture & **Dr. Todd Lasseigne** - Executive Director, Bellingrath Gardens

6:15 PM- 7:15 PM

Find out what the Doctors are ordering for your garden designs in 2021. Join us for an hour of new and cool plants, and plant trends from renowned horticulturists, Dr. Allan Armitage, and Dr. Todd Lasseigne. New plants are always a hot topic, as breeders focus on improved disease and pest resistance, aesthetics, and smaller ornamentals for the urban landscape. Both Dr. Armitage and Dr. Lasseigne have extensive backgrounds in Southern Horticulture, plant selection, and have their finger on the pulse of evolving garden trends. We will follow along with their horticultural journeys while learning about their take on new plants, plant trends, and incorporating these plants and ideas into your garden designs.

The Green Industry Insider's Guide to New Plants Part 2

Mark Weathington - Director, JC Raulston Arboretum & **Tony Avent** - Proprietor of Plant Delights Nursery & Juniper Level Botanical Garden

7:15 PM- 8:15 PM

Smaller ornamental plants that fit into the urban landscape, boast improved disease and pest resistance, and increased flowering period are top priorities for today's ornamental plant breeders. Mark Weathington and Tony Avent team up to share with us the best of the newest trees, shrubs, and perennials to hit the market that fit the bill. Mark Weathington will focus on some of the hottest trends and newest introductions in the plant world from Flame Thrower redbud to Steady Eddy viburnum - to find out what's a winner and what's just a flash in the pan. Tony Avent will lead us as we explore some of the best new and exciting plants (mostly perennials) that deserve a place in nurseries, garden centers, and regional landscapes.

2021 WINTERGREEN Educational Sessions - Thursday, January 21, 2021

Turfgrass Disease & Breeders Update: Improving Water Use in Turfgrasses

Dr. Alfredo Martinez - UGA CAES Plant Pathology & Extension & **Dr. David Jespersen** - UGA CAES Crop & Soil Sciences

9:45 AM- 10:45 AM

In this session, Dr. Martinez will review, update, and provide the significance of the main turfgrass diseases observed in 2020 as well as disease trends and forecasts for 2021. Emphasis on the newest research, control strategies and products will be provided. Dr. Jespersen will discuss water as an essential input for maintaining healthy turf areas. The responsible use of water resources, particularly in landscape applications, is increasingly coming into public focus. Understanding how plants uptake and use water is a critical component of improving how efficiently we use this valuable resource. Dr. Jespersen will discuss the environmental, plant, and management factors that affect water use in turfgrasses. Additionally, ongoing research that is being performed at UGA to improve water use in turfgrasses and the breeding of improved cultivars will be discussed.

From the Mountains to the Coast, Variations in Turfgrass Management Across Georgia

Dr. Clint Waltz - UGA CAES Extension Specialist – Turfgrass

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Determining which grass species and cultivars will perform on individual sites and under Georgia's environmental extremes is difficult, but it is the first step to having a sustainable lawn. Additionally, proper agronomics, like mowing, fertilization, and pest management, are variable across the state and dependent on the grass species. During this seminar, Dr. Waltz will help the attendee understand the different turfgrass species and the specific care of each.

Managing Shocks and Disruptions to the Green Industry: COVID-19 and Beyond

Greg Huber – UGA Extension; **Dr. Erin Lipp** – UGA College of Public Health; **Steve Newton** – UGA Small Business Development Center; **Dr. Cheryl Boyer** – KSU Horticulture - Associate Professor; Extension Specialist

12:15 PM- 1:15 PM

Join us for this overview of the COVID-19 and its impact on small businesses in Georgia. This session will cover financial resilience, continuity plans, and business flexibility. We will also explore Changing marketing practices in the nursery and landscape industry: Amazon Plant Store, millennial plant consumers, Facebook marketing, and agricultural storytelling

Wildlife: Nuisance Animals and Good Neighbors

Dr. Mike Mengak – UGA Warnell School of Forestry, Professor, & Wildlife Specialist

1:30 PM-2:30 PM

We often think of ourselves as a rural nation but, in fact, 80% of the US population resides in areas classified as "urban". Urban land is devoted to "built space" -- buildings, roads, grassy lawns, parks, playgrounds, parking lots and more. Urbanization and habitat fragmentation have significant impacts on wildlife. Some wildlife disappears. Some wildlife adapts, increases in abundance, and becomes a nuisance or worse - a threat. I will discuss urban environments and offer suggestions for co-existing with urban nuisance wildlife.