Twelfth Annual Meeting
LA-MS CHRISTMAS TREE ASSOCIATION
The Hotel Bentley
Alexandria, Louisiana
September 16-18, 1988

"Fine Tuning for Quality Tree Production"

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16
7:00 p.m. Registration begins and Exhibit Space open for setup
Larry Miller, Registration Chairman – Lobby of Bentley
Kevin Steele, Exhibitor Chairman – Lobby of Bentley
8:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting – Beauregard Room of Bentley

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
8:00 a.m. CONTEST TREES MUST BE READY FOR JUDGING

8:00 a.m. Registration continues at Bentley
Exhibits open; Coffee and Cokes

8:30 a.m. TECHNICAL SESSIONS
Welcome and Opening Remarks – President Harry May
Welcome to Alexandria – Mayor Ned Randolph
Introduction of Officers, Directors and Nominees

9:00 a.m. ENHANCED CULTURAL PRACTICES – Nash Roberts, Moderator
   1. Fertilization
     Allan Harper, NC State, Extension
   2. Irrigation
     Bill Hadden; LSU Extension

9:50 a.m. BREAK: Sponsor – International Forest Seed Co.
   3. Spore Trap Results and Infestation
      Don Blasingame; MSU
   4. Updates on Cultural Practices
      Bucky Buchanan; President, GA Christmas Association
   5. Insect Control Updates
      Dale Pellet; LSU Extension

11:30 a.m. LUNCH – on your own – Vote on Contest Trees
Bentley, Hilton, D’Anico (across the street)

1:00 p.m. ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING – Harry May, President
Association Affairs – President Harry May
Financial and Business Office Reports – Bob Parker
National Director Report – Reggie Pulliam
Election of Officers and Directors – Byron Perry
Master Grower Certification – Kevin Steele
Advertising and Promotion Programs – Wally Swedenburg
Research Committee Report – Alden Main

2:00 p.m. RECERTIFICATION for PESTICIDE APPLICATOR LICENSE
for Louisiana and Mississippi – Board Room
Concurrent with Harvesting and Marketing Session
2:00 p.m.  **HARVESTING AND MARKETING** – Mike Bentley, Moderator  
1. How Trees Improve or Degrade with Age  
   Jim Geisler, Arkansas Extension  
2. Consumer Preference of Taper, Quality, etc.  
   Dr. Roger Hinton; LSU Agricultural Economic Dept.  
3. Preparing Trees for Harvest  
   Clarke Geronin  

3:00 p.m.  **BREAK**  
4. Handling Trees After Harvest  
   Tom Gould  
5. Pricing Trees for Higher Profit or Breaking the Price Barrier  
   Dr. Alden Main; LSU Extension  

3:30 p.m.  **FINANCE, TAXATION AND SAFETY** – Robert Shearer, Moderator  
1. Lower Cost of Tree Production  
   Bill Murray; GA  
2. Long Range Planning of a Christmas Tree Operation  
   Barton Bennett; Baton Rouge  
3. Safe Use of Chemicals and Equipment  
   Wesley Bass  

5:00 p.m.  Question and Discussion Period  
5:30 p.m.  **ADJOURN**  
6:30 p.m.  **SOCIAL** – Cash Bar in Bentley Lobby  
7:30 p.m.  **BUFFET BANQUET** at Hilton (across the street) – Harry May  
   Music by Marie and Elizabeth Milton  
   NCTA Green Growth Program – Bill Murray, Georgia  
   Christmas Tree Contest Winners – Tim Taugott  
   Drawing of Door Prizes – Kevin Steele  

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**  
7:00 a.m.  Non-denominational Religious Service at Bentley – Fr. Ken Mathews, St. Juliana Catholic Church  
   Exhibits open  
8:00 a.m.  Leave for field; **BREAKFAST CAN BE PURCHASED AT FARM**  
9:00 a.m.  Introduction to Plantation and Operations – Sonie Milton  
   Moderator – Clarke Geronin  
   Chairman – George Stone  
   
   ✯✯✯✯ = Sessions run continuously  
   ✯✯✯✯✯ = Sessions repeated at 9:30, 10:15, 11:00, and 11:45  
   Look for signs with session name  

✯✯✯✯ Tree Planting and Early Cultural Practices  
   Jim Geisler, AR Extension and  
   Mark Elliott, International Seed  

✯✯✯✯ Hand Shearing, Pruning, and Setting Tops  
   Allan Harper, NC State Extension  

✯✯✯✯ Tree Grading and Harvesting  
   Clarke Geronin, Shady Pond Tree Farm  

✯✯✯ Soul Testing and Fertilization  
   Rich Christ, A & L Labs, Memphis  

✯✯✯✯ Wreath and Garland Making  
   Carolyn Swedenburg and Helen Kohl  

12:00 p.m.  **LUNCH** at Milton Farm and **ADJOURN**