

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 Pollet; 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 Gernon
- 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 Traugott
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 Gernon
Chairman – George Stone
- ☆☆☆☆ = Sessions run continuously
★★★★ = Sessions repeated at 9:30, 10:15, 11:00, and 11:45
Look for signs with session name
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| ★★★★ | Tree Planting and Early Cultural Practices
Jim Geisler, AR Extension and
Mark Elliott, International Seed | ☆☆☆☆ | Herbicide Demonstrations |
| ★★★★ | Hand Shearing, Pruning, and Setting Tops
Allan Harper, NC State Extension | ☆☆☆☆ | Machine Shearing Demonstrations |
| ★★★★ | Tree Grading and Harvesting
Clarke Gernon, Shady Pond Tree Farm | ☆☆☆☆ | Flocking, Mounting, and Retailing Trees |
| ★★★★ | Soil Testing and Fertilization
Rich Christ, A & L Labs, Memphis | ☆☆☆☆ | Applying Colorants |
| ★★★★ | Wreath and Garland Making
Carolyn Swedenburg and Helen Kohl | ☆☆☆☆ | Equipment and Supplies Exhibits |
- 12:00 p.m. **LUNCH** at Milton Farm and **ADJOURN**