

Three Important Workshops in Mississippi

Exciting news! Dr. James DelPrince, Associate Professor & Horticulture Specialist for the Mississippi State University Coastal Research and Extension Center informed the executive secretary of three (different) upcoming value-added training workshops in Mississippi workshops scheduled Tuesday, March 15, 2022, Wednesday, June 15, 2022, and Thursday, September 22, 2022. In a cooperative funding effort, MSU and the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce will keep participate registration to a very affordable rate of \$20/person/workshop. The registration also includes refreshments and lunch.

Official announcements have not yet been made nor has registration opened. Please understand registration will be conducted online. Dr. DelPrince will inform the executive secretary when registration is available who in turn will post on SCTA's website and social media. If you are interested, it is important you monitor SCTA's website. Visit www.SouthernChristmasTrees.org for updates. A mail out is planned for January – February but stay tuned to SCTA's website.

The workshops are open to a broad audience of which SCTA members are a significant component. There will be plenty of opportunity to visit with others in the "greenery" industry.

Please note these are three different workshops and understand that there will be a 2022 reporting requirement to track training effectiveness.

If additional information is required, contact:
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Workshop #1

Title: **Wreath Workshop for Farmers and Producers**

Date & Time: Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Presenters: Jim DelPrince & Jeff Wilson

Location: MSU Coastal Research and Extension Center
1815 Popp's Ferry Road, Biloxi, Mississippi

Registration: Online, \$20 per person

Description: This training program is offered for Christmas tree growers, farmers, farmer florists, or anyone with interest in learning how to create and retail evergreen wreaths for a profit. We will discuss suitable plant materials, cold storage, and design of wreaths. Registration fee covers the cost of refreshments and lunch. Participants will learn how to create an evergreen foliage base using a clamping-type wreath machine *and agree to provide reports to the researchers on the number of wreaths sold in 2022 so that Extension can track training effectiveness for state and federal reports.* The training and supplies are funded by a grant from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

Workshop #2

Title: **Garland and Swag Workshop for Farmers and Producers**

Date & Time: Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Presenters: Jim DelPrince, Tricia Knight & Jeff Wilson

Location: North MS Research and Extension Center
5421 MS-145, Verona, Mississippi

Registration: Online, \$20 per person

Description: This training program is offered for Christmas tree growers, farmers, farmer florists, or anyone with interest in learning how to create and retail evergreen garlands and swags for a profit. We will discuss suitable plant materials, cold storage, and design of garlands and swags. Registration fee covers the cost of refreshments and lunch. Participants will learn how to create garlands and swags using an electric garland maker *and agree to provide reports to the researchers on the number of garland and swags sold in 2022 so that Extension can track training effectiveness.* The training and supplies are funded by a grant from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

Workshop #3

Title: **Evergreen Arrangements Workshop for Farmers and Producers**

Date & Time: Thursday, September 22, 2022, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Presenters: Jim DelPrince & Lauren Nickles

Location: Central MS Research and Extension Center
1320 Seven Springs Road, Raymond, Mississippi

Registration: Online, \$20 per person

Description: This training program is offered for Christmas tree growers, farmers, farmer florists, or anyone with interest in learning how to create and retail evergreen arrangements for a profit. We will discuss social media marketing, suitable plant materials, cold storage, and design of arrangements and centerpieces. Registration fee covers the cost of refreshments and lunch. Participants will learn how to create arrangements *and agree to provide reports to the researchers on the number of arrangements sold in 2022 so that Extension can track training effectiveness.* The training and supplies are funded by a grant from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce.