

2026 Southern Branch ASA Annual Meeting

Program



ASA

American Society of Agronomy



Table of Contents

Click on the event name to jump to section

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
Saturday, Jan. 31	<u>Student Mixer & Industry Panel</u>	4:00-6:30 PM
Sunday, Feb. 1	<u>POSTER SESSION</u>	1:00-4:00 PM
	<u>SAAS GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING</u>	4:00-5:00 PM
	<u>SAAS OPENING NETWORK SOCIAL</u>	6:00-9:00 PM
Monday, Feb. 2	<u>COFFEE & KEYNOTE</u>	8:00-8:40 AM
	<u>M.S. STUDENT ORAL COMPETITION</u>	8:55 AM – 12:00 PM
	<u>Ph.D. STUDENT ORAL COMPETITION</u>	1:25-4:00 PM
	<u>STUDENT QUIZ BOWL & SOCIAL</u>	5:00 PM - UNTIL
Tuesday, Feb. 3	<u>'MISTAKES WERE MADE'</u>	7:55-8:25 AM
	<u>PROFESSIONAL ORALS</u>	8:25-9:30 AM
	<u>AGRONOMY BUSINESS MEETING, AWARDS</u>	10:00-11:00 AM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026

Student Mixer & INDUSTRY PANEL: 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Free to all Grad Students!!!

Mix and Mingle with fellow students and Industry Reps from Drexel Chemical Company, Valent, Seiler GeoDrones, and more!

Sponsored by Drexel Chemical Company

LOCATION: Distiller's Foyer, 3rd Floor, OMNI

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

REGISTRATION: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

LOCATION: OMNI Louisville, Second Street Prefunction, Level Two

POSTER SESSION: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

LOCATION: Prefunction, Level Two, OMNI

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT POSTER COMPETITION

1. Evaluating Nitrogen-Sulfur Ratio as a Strategy for Improving Wheat Fertility Efficiency. **Clara Damman**, Chad Grote, and Justin Geis; Murray State University, Murray, KY
2. Source Sink Manipulation in Soybean to Understand Its Final Seed Size Determination Stage. **Pascal Niyomugabo**, Sudip Poudel, and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY
3. The Interaction of Planting Date and Tillage on Corn Grain Yield in South Georgia. **Stormie Rackley**, Alyssa Grace Salinas, and Michael J.W. Maw; Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton, GA
4. Evaluating How Management Practices and Environmental Variables Influence Soybean Grain Yield. **Alyssa Grace Salinas**, Stormie Rackley, and Michael J.W. Maw; Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton, GA
5. The Interaction of Nitrogen Rate and Seeding Rate on Fall-Planted Corn Yields. **Cedric Montgomery**, Stormie Rackley, Alyssa Grace Salinas, and Michael J.W. Maw; Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton, GA
6. Seasonal Assessment of Tall Fescue Pasture Condition during Fall Transition Period. **Eden Myers**, Bethany Sobek, Isaac Lepcha, and Rachna Tewari; The University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, TN.
7. Relationship between Lime and Phosphorus Management on Soil Phosphorus Availability. **Harper Ritchey**, John H. Grove, and Edwin L. Ritchey; University of Kentucky, Princeton, KY.
8. A Geospatial Inventory of Center Pivots and on-Farm Water Storage Systems in the Black Prairie Region of Northeast Mississippi. **Marlee Theobald**, Sam Theobald, Mary Love Tagert, and Elliott Butler; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER COMPETITION – M.S. STUDENTS

9. Yield Response of Different Corn Hybrids to Limited Irrigation in the Central High Plains. **Macie McPeak**, Sumit Sharma, Harsanjam Singh, and Mark Anthony Manatad Barbadillo; Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK
10. Evaluating the Impacts of Strip Tillage and Cover Crop Seeding Rate on Corn Emergence and Weed Suppression. **Eli Robb**, H. Pegram, J. Shutt, and J.I. Morrison; Mississippi State University, Tillatoba, MS
11. Assessing How Biochar Can Affect Soil Fertility and Sorghum Biomass in the Deep South. **Jacob Shutt**, E. E. Robb, H. B. Pegram, J. I. Morrison; Mississippi State University, MS
12. Evaluating Pre Emergence Herbicide Programs in Response to Soybean Planting Date. **Maddie Douglas**, Justin Calhoun, Gene Dave Spencer, Brittany Rhea, W. Paul O'Neal, Garrett Oswalt, Jason Bond, and Michael J. Mulvaney; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS.
13. Determination of Critical Nitrogen Dilution Curve in Soybean. **Prakriti Paudel** and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY
14. Identifying Optimal Planting Date for Different Maturity Groups of Soybean Cultivars in Kentucky. **Anjan Timilsina** and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY
15. Evaluation of Soil Properties with a Spectroradiometer. **Srijana Kandel** and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY
16. Soil Health and Carbon Storage in Livestock-Managed Pastures for Regenerative and Climate-Positive Agriculture. **Chandralekha Joga** and Iin P. Handayani; Murray State University, Murray, KY
17. Does Corn Production Benefit from Biological Products. **Mallie Rivenbark** and Amee Bumguardner; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
18. Assessing Seed Priming Strategies to Enhance Water Uptake in Plants Exposed to Salt Stress. **Mahima Gumadala**, Saoli Chanda, Sanku Datta Mudi, and Shad D. Nelson; Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX
19. Understanding the Genetic Variations for Yield and Its Related Components and Other Agronomic Traits in Sorghum Association Panel Under Southeastern U.S. Growing Conditions. **Janak Adhikari**, Manoj Kumar Reddy Sangireddy and Somashekhar M. Punnuri; Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, GA
20. Effects of Nitrogen Source on Vegetable Growth and Soil Water Properties. **Belinda Arnero**, Sanku Datta Mudi, Shad D. Nelson, Consuelo Donato, Agriculture, Agribusiness & Environmental Sciences, and Saoli Chanda; Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX
21. Growing Under Cover: NRCS Cover Crop Mix Influence on Cotton Productivity. **Amie Jones**, Lance Wortman, Marshall Corkern, John Snider, Phillip Roberts, Camp Hand, and Taylor Randell Singleton; University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
22. Quantify the Influence of Poultry Litter Application and Nutrient Management on Pre-Emergence Herbicide Efficacy in Southeastern Cotton Production. **Gurwinder Singh**, Nisith Nishank Purohit, Rakesh Kumar Ghosh, Rishi Prasad, and Aniruddha Maity; Auburn University, Auburn, AL
23. Effect of Cover Crop Management on Nutrient Availability in No-till Corn. **Emily Marsh** and Chad D. Lee, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

2026 Southern Branch ASA Annual Meeting

24. Understanding Head Counts Effect on Yield in Winter Wheat. **Allie Mutter** and Chad D Lee; University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
25. Influence of Sampling Distance from the Crop Row on Select Soil Health Indicators in a Cotton Field. **Stephane Jean-Noël** and Dedrick D. Davis; Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL
26. Soil Responses as Affected by Tillage Practices: Soil Structure and Hydraulic Properties. **Durga Bastola** and Lin Handayani; Murray State University, Murray, KY
27. Influence of a Rhizobium Tropici-Derived Biopolymer on in-Situ Soil Water Retention. **Chidinma Njoku**, Emmanuel Oko, Stephane Jean-Noël, and Dedrick D. Davis; Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL
28. Kentucky Wheat Response to Sulfur Fertilizer Addition. **Matthew Fowler**, and John H. Grove; University of Kentucky, Princeton, KY
29. On-Farm Assessment of Soil Health in Annual Crop Fields and Perennial Hay Fields in Tennessee. **Mukesh Chaudhary**, Pooja Chaudhari, Jianwei Li, Resham Thapa, Philip Hinson and Krishna Bhandari; Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
30. Cropping System Impacts on Soil Health in Tennessee: Evidence from Producer-Managed Fields. **Pooja Chaudhari**, Mukesh Chaudhary, Jianwei Li, Resham Thapa, Philip Hinson, and Krishna Bhandari; Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
31. Field Evaluation of a Microbial Biopolymer for Enhancing Soil Aggregate Stability. **Owoola Oladokun**, Emmanuel Oko, and Dedrick D. Davis; Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL
32. Potassium Fertilizer Source and Split Application Efficacy in Cotton. **James Tuberville**; Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS

GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER COMPETITION – Ph.D. STUDENTS

33. Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Blackbelt Soils of Mississippi. **Oluwafemi Oyedele**, Michael J. Mulvaney, Prakash Kumar Jha, Oluwaseyi E. Olomitusu, and John Wallace; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
34. Comparing Two Chamber Methods for Soil Gas Flux Quantification. **Nicholas Boogades**, Terry Gentry, and Katie L. Lewis; Texas A&M University, Lubbock, TX
35. Bacillus-Based PGPR Consortium Enhanced Soil Microbial Activity and Function in Soil Amended with Different Poultry Litters. **Felix Satognon**, Dexter B. Watts, Anthony Adesemoye, H. Allen Torbert, Rishi Prasad, Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, and Kim Mullenix; Auburn University, Auburn, AL
36. Effects of Potassium Application Timing and Seeding Rate on Soybean Growth and Development. **W. Paul O'Neal**, Justin Calhoun, J. Trenton Irby, William Maples, Vaughn Reed, Brendan A Zurweller, Garrett Oswalt, Brittany Rhea, and Maddie Douglas; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
37. Hybrid Bluegrass Breeding: Enhancing Forage Quality and Climate Resilience for Sustainable Grazing Systems. **Eric Luteyn** and Tim Phillips; University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
38. Can Soil Amendment with Biochar Alleviate Cotton Injury from Pre-Emergence Herbicides? **Nisith Nishank Purohit**, Rakesh Kumar Ghosh, and Aniruddha Maity; Auburn University, Auburn, AL
39. Deer on the Menu: How Simulated White-Tailed Deer Browsing Impacts Georgia Soybeans. **Venkata Lakshmi Siripurapu** and Nick J. Shay; University of Georgia, Tifton, GA

2026 Southern Branch ASA Annual Meeting

40. Field Evaluation of a Rhizobium Tropici-Derived Biopolymer on Soil Microclimate and Water Storage. **Emmanuel Oko** and Dedrick D. Davis; Alabama A&M University, Huntsville, AL
41. Soil Enzyme Responses to Xanthan Gum Biopolymers in Green Bean Grown Alabama Soils. Erneste Havugimana, Jonathan Metuge, **Noella Rutayisire**, Jean Rugandirababisha, and Zachary Senwo; Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL
42. Row Orientation, Plant Density, and Mulch Effects on Weed Pressure and Cotton Yield in Alabama. **Mahboobeh Mollaee** and Aniruddha Maity; Auburn University, Auburn, AL
43. Quantitative Trait Loci (QTL) Mapping for Protein Content, and Amino Acids in a Cowpea MAGIC Population. **Jean Paul Iyakaremye**; Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

PROFESSIONAL POSTER – CROPS

44. Understanding Soybean Pod Dimension Under Varying Assimilate Supply Conditions. **Sudip Poudel** and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY
45. Effect of Biochar and Nitrogen Fertilization on Fatty Acid and Amino Acid Profiles of Soybean Seeds. **Deepak Khatri** and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY
46. Optimizing Soybean Plant Architecture for Higher Yield in Newly Developed Isolines for Stem Termination in Mississippi. **Amee Bumguardner**, Nacer Bellaloui, Michael J. Mulvaney, James R. Smith, Mallie Rivenbark, Dillon Horn, Doug Messer, and Oluwaseyi E. Olomitusu; Mississippi State University, Aberdeen, MS
47. Heat and Drought Responses of Glyphosate-Resistant and Susceptible Palmer Amaranth Lines. **Akanksha Sehgal**, Christopher Saski, and Sruthi Narayanan; Clemson University, Clemson, SC
48. Double-crop soybean response to simulated carryover from HPPD herbicides. **Nicholas Shay** and Venkata Lakshmi Siripurapu; University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
49. On-Farm Cotton Demonstration and Variety Performance in Mississippi. **Reece L. Oliver**, Brian K Pieralisi, William J. Rutland, Luke C. Noah, Grace Gough; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

PROFESSIONAL POSTER – SOILS

50. Neutralizing Soil Acidity: Product Evaluation. **Edwin L. Ritchey**, John H. Grove, and Christopher D. Teutsch; University of Kentucky, Princeton, KY
51. Influence of Biochar and Nutrient Inputs on Vegetable Yield and Soil Quality. **Sanku Datta Mudi**, Saoli Chanda, and Francisco J Trevino; Texas A&M University - Kingsville, Kingsville, TX
52. Depth-Dependent Soil Water Status Dynamics during Soybean Canopy Development. **Dedrick D. Davis**; Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL
53. Soil Health Practicum for Undergraduate and Graduate Research Competitions: Students Promote Sustainability in Agriculture. **Iin P. Handayani**, Oliver Freeman, and Brian Parr; Murray State University, Murray, KY

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

2026 Southern Branch ASA Annual Meeting
SAAS GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING: 4:00 – 5:00 PM

Guest Speaker: Brent Elrod, Chief of Staff at USDA-NIFA. He will discuss funding opportunities.

LOCATION: Commonwealth 3, OMNI

SAAS OPENING NETWORK SOCIAL: 6:00 – 9:00 PM

LOCATION: Tavern on Fourth – 427 S. 4th St.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026
REGISTRATION: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

LOCATION: Second Street Prefunction, Level Two, OMNI

COFFEE & KEYNOTE: 8:00 – 8:40 AM

“Industrial Hemp Production in Kentucky”

R.C. ‘Bob’ Pearce, State Tobacco and Hemp Specialist, University of Kentucky

Followed by Door Prizes drawings for those present!!

LOCATION: Olmsted 2, Level Two, OMNI

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

GRADUATE STUDENT ORAL COMPETITION – SECTION 1 – M.S. STUDENTS

LOCATION: Olmsted 2, Level Two

Moderator: Oluwafemi Oyedele, oo174@msstate.edu

8.55 AM	Opening Remarks
9.00 AM	Best Management Practices for Assessing Nitrogen Fate and Leaching Losses in Corn Under Variable EC Zones. Vikash Verma , Lydia Bolton, Joel C. Love, Robert C Hochmuth, Shivendra Kumar and Sudeep Singh Sidhu; University of Florida, Quincy, FL
9.15 AM	Evaluating the F19 Hydric Soil Indicator in the Southern Piedmont Using Morphology, Hydrology, and Redox Potential. Jason Wheatley , Matthew R. Levi, Nandita Gaur, Aaron Thompson, Rhett Jackson, and Todd Rasmussen; University of Georgia, Athens, GA
9.30 AM	On-Farm Assessment of Soil Health in Dominant Annual Cropping Systems and Perennial Forage Systems in Tennessee. Mukesh Chaudhary , Pooja Chaudhari, Jianwei Li, Resham Thapa, Philip O. Hinson, Krishna Bhandari; Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
9.45 AM	Comparing the Performance of a Seed Tube Optical Sensor and a Vision-Based Software Measurement System for Laboratory Evaluation of Corn Seed Singulation. Matteo Listuzzi , Wesley M. Porter, and Manuel Blaser; University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
10.00 AM	Soybean Performance across Maturity Groups and Planting Dates in Kentucky. Anjan Timilsina and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY

2026 Southern Branch ASA Annual Meeting

10.15 AM	Break
10.30 AM	Comparative Assessment of Soil Health between Conventional and Conservational Cropping Systems in Tennessee. Pooja Chaudhari , Mukesh Chaudhary, Jianwei Li, Resham Thapa, Philip Hinson, Krishna Bhandari; Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
10.45 AM	Unlocked Potential: Genotype By Environment Impacts on 5-Lock Boll Production. Lance Wortman , Amie Jones, Marshall Corkern, John Snider, and Camp Hand; University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
11.00 AM	The Potential for Variable Rate Irrigation in Northeast Mississippi. Sam Theobald , Mary Love Tagert, and Tsz Him Lo; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
11.15 AM	Identifying the Optimal Timing for Supplemental Nitrogen Application to Enhance Soybean Seed Composition. Manish Pandit and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY
11.30 AM	UAV-Based Estimation of Nitrogen Content in Soybean Using Multispectral Vegetation Indices. Susma Adhikari and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY
11:45 PM	Adjourn

GRADUATE STUDENT ORAL COMPETITION – SECTION 2 – M.S. STUDENTS

 LOCATION: Olmsted 3, Level Two

 Moderator: Oluwaseyi E. Olomitusu, oeo20@msstate.edu

8.55 AM	Opening Remarks
9.00 AM	Determining the Optimal Growth Stage of Overhead Irrigation Termination of Soybeans in Mississippi. Jason L. Arena and Gene Dave Spencer; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
9.15 AM	Battle of the Bolls: Comparing Upland Cotton, Pima Cotton, and Their Hybrid in South Georgia. Amie Jones , Lance Wortman, Marshall Corkern, John Snider, Phillip Roberts, Camp Hand; University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
9.30 AM	MC Hammer: Optimizing Growth Management of Thryvon Cotton in the Lower Southeast. Marshall Corkern , Amie Jones, Lance Wortman, Camp Hand, Philip M. Roberts, John Snider; University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
9.45 AM	Enhancing Compatibility of Cover Crops in Corn Production Systems. Johnathan Caleb Bridges , Erick J. Larson, Gene Dave Spencer, William Maples, Brendan A. Zurweller, Jason Bond, and L. Jason Krutz; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
10.00 AM	Estimating Leaf Area Index of Cotton (<i>Gossypium hirsutum</i> L.) Canopy Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Multispectral Imagery. Anmoldeep Singh , Joseph Iboyi, Kulpreet Singh, Diego Jarquin, Hardev Sandhu, and Hardeep Singh; University of Florida, Jay, FL
10.15 AM	Break
10.30 AM	Does Biochar Application in Soil Affect Soil Micronutrient Dynamics? Srijana Kandel and Anuj Chiluwal; Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY

2026 Southern Branch ASA Annual Meeting

10.45 AM	Cotton Pre-Emergent Herbicide Carryover: Evaluating Soybean Response Following a Failed Cotton Stand. Grace Gough , Corey J. Bryant, Brian K. Pieralisi, and William Joseph Rutland; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
11.00 AM	Evaluating the Performance of UAS Seeded Cover Crop Mixtures for Seeding in Cotton before and after Defoliation. Chance Warren , Wesley M. Porter, Nicholas Tuschak Basinger, and Jodi L. Johnson-Maynard; University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
11.15 AM	Assessing Spatial Effects on the Performance of Cotton Seeding Rate in Georgia. Brendan Wood , Wesley M. Porter, Leonardo M. Bastos, Camp Hand, and John Snider; University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
11.30 AM	Influence of Roller-Crimper Designs and Operating Speeds on Cover Crop Termination and Early-Season Weed Suppression in Cotton. Gurwinder Singh , Akashdeep Singh, Corey M Kichler, Ted S. Kornecki, Aniruddha Maity; Auburn University, Auburn, AL
11.45 AM	Evaluation of Soybean (<i>Glycine max</i>) Yield Potential Following Simulated Deer Damage. Brittany Rhea , J. Trenton Irby, Justin Calhoun, Brian K. Pieralisi, William Maples, and Jacob Dykes; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
12.00 PM	Adjourn

GRADUATE STUDENT ORAL COMPETITION – SECTION 1 – Ph.D. STUDENTS

 LOCATION: Olmsted 2, Level Two

 Moderator: Sudip Poudel, sudip.poudel@kysu.edu

1.25 PM	Opening Remarks
1.30 PM	Efficacy of Spray/Spreading Drones in a Soybean (<i>Glycine max</i> L.) Production System. William Joseph Rutland , Brian K. Pieralisi, Darrin M. Dodds, Justin Calhoun, and Grace Gough; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
1.45 PM	Furrow-Irrigated Rice Productivity and Water Use Responses to Reusing Tailwater. Morgan Hutton and Gene Dave Spencer; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
2.00 PM	Maximizing Profitability: How Planting Date and Seeding Rate Interact in Soybean Production. William Paul O'Neal , Justin Calhoun, J. Trenton Irby, William Maples, Vaughn Reed, Brendan A. Zurweller, Garrett Oswalt, Brittany Rhea, and Maddie Douglas; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
2.15 PM	Exhausting Soil Seedbank at Pre-Planting Stage Using Dormancy-Breaking Chemicals to Restrict Season-Long Weed Emergence. Nisith Nishank Purohit and Aniruddha Maity; Auburn University, Auburn, AL
2.30 PM	Cover Crops Providing an Opportunity to Extend Grazing Periods in the Texas High Plains: Biomass Production and Forage Quality for Livestock Integration. Amberly Zaragoza , Katie L. Lewis, and Joseph A. Burke; Texas A&M University, Lubbock, TX
2.45 PM	Break
3.00 PM	Nitrogen Credits after Soybean: Science Vs Extension. Oluwafemi Oyedele , Michael J. Mulvaney, Michael Plumlee, Rachel A. Atwell Vann, Andre Borja Reis, Shaun Casteel, Nicolas Cafaro La Menza, Jake McNeal, Laura E Lindsey, Shawn P. Conley, Maninder Pal Singh, Jeremy Ross, David O. Moseley, Carrie Ortel, Daniela Carrijo, Nicole M. Fiorellino, Oluwaseyi E. Olomitutu, and John Wallace; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

2026 Southern Branch ASA Annual Meeting

3.15 PM	The Impacts of Solarization and Bio-Fumigation on Burkholderia Population in Soil. Racheal Omoboyejo , Mussie Y. Habteselassie, and Henry Sintim; University of Georgia, Griffin, GA
3.30 PM	Strategies for Optimizing Seeding Rate, Nitrogen Management, and Assessing Billbug (<i>Sphenophorus</i> spp.) Distribution in Furrow-Irrigated Rice Production Systems. Ali Ablao and Justin L Chlapecka; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR
3.45 PM	Adjourn

GRADUATE STUDENT ORAL COMPETITION – SECTION 2 – Ph.D. STUDENTS

LOCATION: Olmsted 3, Level Two

Moderator: Peters Egbedi, PEgbedi@agcenter.lsu.edu

1.25 PM	Opening Remarks
1.30 PM	Carbon and Nutrient Dynamics in Texas Plains Regenerative Cotton. Nicholas Boogades , Christopher Cobos, Joseph A. Burke, Wayne Keeling, Paul B. DeLaune, Terry Gentry, and Katie L. Lewis; Texas A&M University, Lubbock, TX
1.45 PM	Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria As a Supplement to Urea and Poultry Litter in Bahiagrass and Bermudagrass Systems. Felix Satognon , Dexter B. Watts, Anthony Adesemoye, H. Allen Torbert, Rishi Prasad, and Kim Mullenix; Auburn University, Auburn, AL
2.00 PM	Can Downforce Control Fix High-Speed Planting Problems? Oluwaseyi E. Olomitutu , Jagmandeep Singh Dhillon, Wes J. Lowe, Corey J. Bryant, Erick J. Larson, Jialin Zhang, John Wallace, Jacob Meadows, Grant M. Shavers, Tucker Hilyer, Oluwafemi Oyedele, and Michael J. Mulvaney; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
2.15 PM	Field Screening of 117 Cotton Lines for Allelopathic Potential Against Major Weeds in the Southern U.S. Mahboobeh Mollaee , Sebastian Guaycha Coello, Alvaro Sanz-Saez, Muthukumar Bagavathiannan, and Aniruddha Maity; Auburn University, Auburn, AL
2.30 PM	Evaluation of Nitrogen Fertilizer on Nutrient Loads in Surface Runoff. Lane Galloway , Gene Dave Spencer, and Zach Reynolds; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
2.45 PM	Break
3.00 PM	Evaluating Nitrogen Management at Different Planting Dates to Manage Earliness in Full Season Cotton. Tucker Hilyer , Corey J. Bryant, Brian K. Pieralisi, Vaughn Reed, Steve W. Martin, and Raju Bheemanahalli; Mississippi State University, Stoneville, MS
3.15 PM	Evapotranspiration and Methane Emissions in Row Rice with Tailwater Recirculation. Oluwadamilare Oloyede , Pankaj Prashad Joshi, Gene Dave Spencer, L. Jason Krutz, Pradeep Wagle, and Madhav Dhakal; Mississippi State University, Stoneville, MS
3.30 PM	Disrupting Rice Farming By Integrating Automated, Iot-Irrigation Technologies into a Low-Water-Use Production System. Graham Oakley , Gene Dave Spencer, Drew M. Gholson, and Jason Krutz; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

2026 Southern Branch ASA Annual Meeting

3.45 PM	Corn Response to Planting Geometry in the Black Belt Prairie of Mississippi. Jason Hampshire , Gene Dave Spencer, Larry Jason Krutz, Martin Locke, and Lindsey Witthaus; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
4.00 PM	Adjourn

NEW! STUDENT QUIZ BOWL & SOCIAL: 5:00 PM - UNTIL

Open To All Students To Participate with Free Pizza & Drinks (& any non-students to watch)

LOCATION: Parlour Pizza, Stage Room

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026

'MISTAKES WERE MADE': 7:55 – 8:25 AM

Our Professional Members - Bring your best story and/or evidence of your biggest research mistakes to win! Coffee & Danish provided.

LOCATION: Olmsted 2, Level Two

PROFESSIONAL ORAL – SECTION 1

LOCATION: Olmsted 2, Level Two

Moderator: Mary Love Tagert, mltagert@abe.msstate.edu

8.25 AM	Opening Remarks
8.30 AM	Managing Iron Deficiency Chlorosis in Soybean through a Cropping System Approach. Mary Love Tagert and John Little; Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
8.45 AM	Advancing Sustainability and Global Engagement through Collaborative Embedded Courses in Agriculture. Rachna Tewari , Bethany Sobek, Isaac Lepcha, Elsa Sanchez, Melanie Miller Foster, Daniel Foster, Eric Pelren, Stan Dunagan, Bethany Wolters, and Joey Mehlhorn; The University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, TN
9.00 AM	Enhancing Soil Health through Cover Crops in South Florida. Maruthi Sridhar Balaji Bhaskar , Pride Abongwa, Xiangping Liu, and Krishnaswamy Jayachandran; Florida International University, Miami, FL
9.15 AM	Prohexadione Calcium As a Tool to Enhance Fungicide Coverage in Peanut Production. Hardeep Singh , Satinderpal Singh, Kulpreet Singh, Akash Shah, and Nkem Nwosu. University of Florida, Jay, FL
9.30 AM	Adjourn

PROFESSIONAL ORAL – SECTION 2

LOCATION: Olmsted 3, Level Two

Moderator: Daniel Fleming; def18@msstate.edu

8.25 AM	Opening Remarks
---------	-----------------

2026 Southern Branch ASA Annual Meeting

8.30 AM	Cover Crop Effects on Soybean Yield and Organic Carbon in the USA. Daniel Fleming , Madhav Dhakal, Jason Krutz, and Gene Dave Spencer. Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
8.45 AM	Planting Date Considerations in the Rice/Soybean Rotation. Justin L Chlapecka , Jarrod T Hardke, Jeremy Ross, and Kenton Bradley Watkins; University of Arkansas, Harrisburg, AR
9.00 AM	Evaluating Controlled-Release Potassium Fertilization As a BMP for Peanut Production in North-Central Florida Sandy Soils. Sudeep Singh Sidhu, Vikash Verma , Gabrielle Alves Comitre, Lydia Bolton, and Shivendra Kumar; University of Florida, Quincy, FL
9.15 AM	Adjourn

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

AGRONOMY BUSINESS MEETING AND AWARDS

Includes:

- Student & Professional Awards
- Southern Branch updates
- Nominations taken for Secretary/Treasurer & Graduate Student Representative
- Door Prize Drawing

Time: 10:00 – 11:00 AM

LOCATION: Olmsted 2, Level Two