



2020 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International virtual annual meeting highlights

January 6, 2021

Translating Visionary Science to Practice

2020 VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING | November 9-13

American Society of Agronomy

Crop Science Society of America

Soil Science Society of America

Our first ever virtual annual meeting was a success! We were able to translate a content-rich in-person meeting to a content-rich virtual meeting in three months. Attendees and presenters showed resilience in learning a new way to disseminate science and build collaborations virtually. And we

were able to continue advancing our strategic priorities, including diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and fostering external engagements.



Representatives from Bayer CropScience, MANRRS (Ebony Webber highlighted), and the Societies hosted two discussion sessions on career opportunities for recipients of the Bayer Diversity Fund scholarships.

Sylvie	Brouder	ASA	President
Gary	Pierzynski	ASA	Past President
Jeffrey	Volenec	ASA	President-Elect
David	Clay	ASA	Incoming President-Elect
Shawn	Kaeppler	CSSA	President
Elizabeth	Guertal	CSSA	Past President
P.V. Vara	Prasad	CSSA	President-Elect
Marilyn	Warburton	CSSA	Incoming President-Elect
Ole	Wendroth	SSSA	President
William	Pan	SSSA	Past President
April	Ulery	SSSA	President-Elect
Ron	Turco	SSSA	Incoming President-Elect
Marjorie	Hanneman	SASES	President
Seth	Murray	ASF	Chair

Board members listen to Town Hall attendees' needs to keep working to meet members' needs.

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The great news is that if you are already registered for the Annual Meeting, you can continue to access the recorded content through 13 Feb. 2021. And if you have not registered yet, there's still time to do so! Simply click on "Register" at acsmeetings.org.

2020 Virtual Annual Meeting by the numbers:

- Total registration: 3,471 (as of 7 Dec. 2020)
- 89% from USA, 11% international
- 44% undergraduate, graduate, or early career
- 52 countries represented
- 2,382 oral and poster presentations

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- 506 prescheduled roundtables and interactive sessions
- 51 exhibitors and sponsors
- 27 universities in the Grad School Expo

Here's a highlight of just some of the content-rich offerings that are available as recordings through the 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting.

Article Share

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Agronomy Journal

ARTICLE | Full Access
Chemical priming to improve annual bluegrass survival of ice encasement
Sven Lepšekovič, Emily Mervin
First published: 23 August 2020 | https://doi.org/10.1002/agj.2040

Abstract
Broadly applicable management strategies to prepare for landscaping. This research aimed to investigate whether chemical priming the seed of the perennating form of annual bluegrass (Agrostis capillaris L.) with a mixture of citric acid (CA) and 2018 with salicylic acid (SA), jasmonic acid (JA), trypsin inhibitor (TI), and combinations of asen chitosan (AS) and CA, and CA + TI, resulted in the highest live survival rates. The highest live survival rates were observed for CA + TI and CA + AS, but no significant differences were found between CA + TI and CA + AS. The CA + TI index (DCGI) indicated that JA + TI and Cytokin + TE had the greatest control on many sites. Plant plugs were transferred from the field to the glasshouse at 10°C for 40 d, 15°C for 40 d, or 20°C for 40 d. All treatments except for TI alone showed some significant improvements in annual bluegrass recovery. Treatment of annual bluegrass in the summer and fall with treatments that improve recovery from dormancy may improve recovery from dormancy and reduce the need for treatment that improved recovery.

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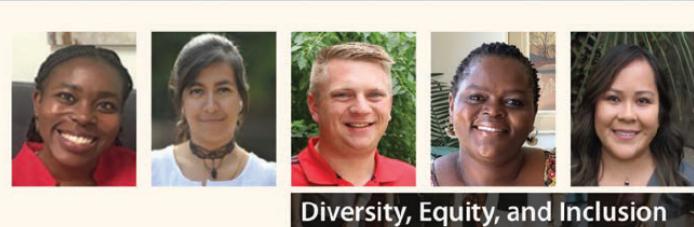
Author Workshop

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WILEY

In an all-digital and virtual age, how can researchers make sure their science is heard? Fiona Sarne, Executive Editor at Wiley, presented to about 100 researchers and authors on creating a search engine optimization (SEO)-friendly manuscript. Attendees walked away with clear guidelines for crafting a message that is sure to stand out in the digital space. If you missed it, be sure to check out the session: "Maximize the Impact for Your Published Work."

Publications



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



Diversity

Diversity in our Sciences: Stories of Success and Strategies for the Future

The ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Diversity in Agronomy, Crops, Soils, and Environmental Sciences Committee moderated a panel discussion featuring speakers active in diversity efforts in our sciences. Current successful programs were highlighted, and the session concluded with open discussion and breakout time with the speakers.



Science Policy

More than 60 people attended the Science Policy Luncheon to hear from panelists engaged in different aspects of science policy. Lunch vouchers were generously provided by Bayer Crop Science.

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Society-Wide Graduate Student Competitions

Going virtual with the 2020 Annual Meeting included the SSSA and CSSA Society-Wide Graduate Student Competitions!

These unique virtual competitions gave students the opportunity to showcase their research. The top student





Winners of SSSA's Society-Wide Student Competition were: 1st place—Chelsea Duball, University of Wyoming (SSSA Wetland Soils Division), "FeS Concentrations Indicate the Presence of Hydric Soils: A Case Study on Riparian Soils in Western Nebraska"; 2nd place—Lauren Breza, University of New Hampshire (SSSA Soil Biology and Biochemistry Division), "Complex Crop Rotations Improve Organic N Cycling"; and 3rd place (tie)—Stephanie Duston, Virginia Tech (SSSA Forest, Range, and Wildland Soils Division), "Characterizing Soluble Organic Matter Along Spatial Patterns of Podzolization," and Alison Tune, University of Texas—Austin (SSSA Soil Chemistry Division), "Hydrogen and Carbon Monoxide Cycling in Unsaturated, Weathered Bedrock in a Montane Forest"

“It was so fun to participate this year and make the most out of a virtual meeting! I am honored to have been selected by my division and able to compete alongside some amazing peers.”

— Stephanie Duston

SSSA Society-Wide Student Competition

Thank You to the Judges

- Bill Pan, Washington State University, SSSA Past President
- Leo Rivera, Meter Group, SSSA Corporate Member
- Matt Yost, Utah State University, Early Career Committee Chair
- Cristine Morgan, Soil Health Institute, SSSA Fellow
- Sara Vero, Waterford Institute of Technology, International Early Career Member

Organizing Committee

- Rob Michitsch (Chair), University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
- Jason Ackerson, Purdue University
- Sarah Shawver, Virginia Tech and 2019 Competition Winner
- Elizabeth Gillispie, Badger Mountain Vineyard



Finalists in SSSA's Society-Wide Student Competition were: Patricia Cordero Irizarry, Ohio State University (SSSA Soil Education and Outreach Division); Jayvee Cruz, Louisiana State University (SSSA Nutrient Management and Soil and Plant Analysis Division); Anne McGraw, University of Kentucky (SSSA Soil Mineralogy Division); Rajneesh Sharma, University of Georgia, Athens (SSSA Pedology Division); Maria Teresa Tancredi, University of Georgia, Athens (SSSA Soil Physics and Hydrology Division); Jessica Wayment, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (SSSA Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition Division); and Nan Xu, University of Florida (SSSA Soil and Water Management and Conservation Division)

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Undergraduate Students, the Virtual Meeting, and Contest Winners

The 2020 Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences (SASES) undergraduate student program presented a full slate of programs during the virtual Annual Meeting. In addition to the contests



1st—Jocelyn Prieto-Garcia, California State University—Chico
2nd—Elisa Hanks, Brigham Young University—Rexburg
3rd—Reid Barker, South Dakota State University

1st—Hazzel Ramos, Texas Tech University
2nd—Rachael Kral, University of Kentucky
3rd—Benjamin Lehman, Cornell University

Undergraduate Student Internship Poster Contest

Sponsored by the ASA Advancing Agronomy via Public-Private Partnerships Community

1st—Riley Garner, Purdue University, “Agronomy and Sales Internship with Helena Agri-Enterprises”

2nd—Jasmine Strickland, University of Tennessee-Martin, “Research and Extension Experiences for Undergraduates at the West TN AgResearch and Education Center”

3rd—Melissa Preston, University of Wisconsin, River Falls, “Line Maintenance (Corn) Internship at Syngenta”

SASES Undergraduate Research Oral Contest

1st—Tad Trimarco, Colorado State University
2nd—Josefina Lacasa, Kansas State University
3rd—Bryanna Edwards, Texas Tech University

Speech Contest

- 1st—Chris Barron, Texas A&M University
- 2nd—Kristy Kohlhagen, Purdue University
- 3rd—Stephanie Reiter, Western Illinois University

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Crops Judging Contest— Individuals

1st—Luke Ryan, Kansas State University
2nd—Blake Kirchhoff, Kansas State University
3rd—Jenna Cowan, Iowa State University
4th—Conner Geurts, University of Wisconsin–River Falls
5th—Madison Tunnell, Kansas State University
6th—Austin Schleich, Iowa State University

Networking



The screenshot shows a user interface for a professional networking platform. At the top, a banner reads "All Roundtables and Boardrooms" with the sub-instruction "This action displays public roundtables. Click "Edit" to save your seat." Below this, a "sponsored" badge is visible. The main content area features a search bar with placeholder text "Filter by areas of interest" and a "Search" button. To the right of the search bar are "Prev" and "Next" navigation buttons. The main area displays a grid of 12 cards, each representing a different roundtable or boardroom. Each card includes a small profile picture, the name of the group, and a brief description. For example, the first card is for "Topic: Developing a Global Network..." and the last card is for "Topic: Agribusiness Finance Foundation...". The cards are arranged in three rows of four.



CEO Nick Goeser and our presidents-elect closed the first ever Virtual Annual Meeting.

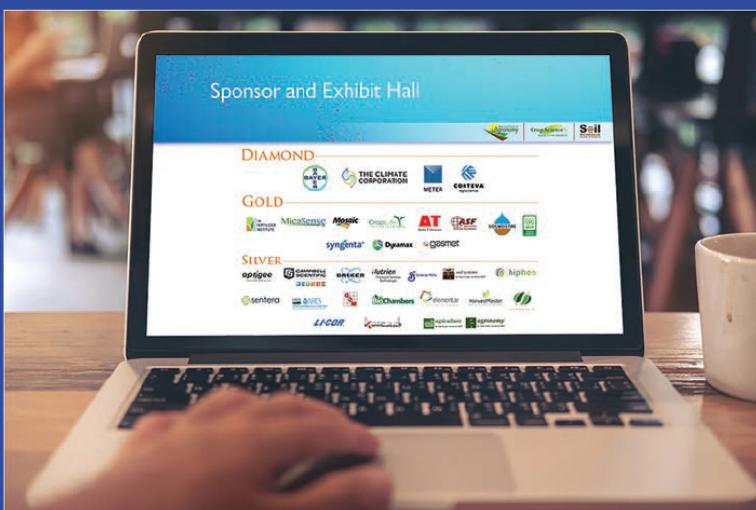
Closing Remarks

On behalf of ASA, CSSA, SSSA, and their members, we want to extend a heart-

felt thank you to our 51 sponsors and exhibitors. It has been the continued vision of our governing bodies, corporate members, and the planning committee to inform, entertain, and provide a network-

ing forum for our members in a safe and comfortable environment during these uncertain times. Your generous support helped make our vision and unified shift to a virtual platform a reality!

Don't forget that you can still interact with all of our virtual exhibitors through 13 Feb. 2021, by registering for and logging into the 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting at acsmeetings.org.



Attendees were able to actively engage more than 50 exhibitors through our virtual exhibit hall.

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