

The 45th Annual Meeting of the
**NATIONAL SWEETPOTATO
COLLABORATORS GROUP**

January 24 - 25, 2020

Nashville, TN

**2020 TECHNICAL PROGRAM
&
2019 PROGRESS REPORT**

The State Experiment Stations
The Cooperative Extension Service
The United States Department of Agriculture

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Dr. Lina Quesada-Ocampo
Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC

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Senior Research Scientist
Lamb Weston
Richland, WA

Secretary-Treasurer and Editor

Ms. Theresa F. Arnold
Sweet Potato Research Station
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center
Chase, LA

SERA Advisor

Dr. David W. Monks, Assistant Director
NC Agricultural Research Service
Raleigh, NC

AGENDA AND TECHNICAL PROGRAM
National Sweetpotato Collaborators Group

Chairperson: Dr. Lina Quesada-Ocampo, North Carolina State University

Friday January 24, 2020

7:30 Registration and continental breakfast

8:10 Opening Remarks

8:20 Changing the paradigm for breeding improved potato varieties: the power of genomic approaches, Dr. C. Robin Buell

Disease, insect, and weed management I:

Presiding: Madison Stahr

- 9:20 Developing Tools to Manage Guava Root Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne enterolobii*) on Sweetpotato.** William B. Rutter¹, John Mueller², Paula Agudelo³, and Phillip Wadl¹. ¹United States Vegetable Laboratory, Charleston, SC 29449, william.rutter@usda.gov, ²Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, Edisto Research and Education Center, Clemson University, 64 Research Road, Blackville, SC 29817, ³Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634.
- 9:40 Evaluation of High Density Polyethylene Cloth Row Coverings to Simulate Palmer Amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) Competition in Sweetpotato.** Levi D. Moore¹, Katherine M. Jennings¹, David W. Monks¹, Michael D. Boyette², David L. Jordan³, Ramon G. Leon³. ¹Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, ²Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, ³Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695.
- 10:20 Assessment of LSU AgCenter sweetpotato lines for resistance/susceptibility to *Meloidogyne incognita* and *M. enterolobii*.** Chris Clark, Josielle Rezende, and Cathy DeRobertis. Department of Plant Pathology & Crop Physiology, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge 70803.
- 10:40 Characterizing Black Rot Resistance in Sweetpotato (*Ipomoea batatas*) and Wild Relatives.** Camilo H. Parada-Rojas¹, Kenneth Pecota², G. Craig Yench², Lina M. Quesada-Ocampo¹. ¹Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7616, ²Department of Horticulture, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7616.
- 11:00 MPRU Update: New activities in the Production of Sweetpotato Clean Stock in North Carolina.** Christie Almeyda, Tamara Abernethy and Lawrence Talton.

Micropropagation and Repository Unit (MPRU), Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695

11:20 Resistance of Sweetpotato Genotypes to a North Carolina Isolate of *Meloidogyne enterolobii*. Tanner R. Schwarz¹, Craig C. Yencho², Kenneth V. Pecota², Chris R. Heim², Adrienne M. Gorny¹, and Eric L. Davis¹. ¹ Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, ² Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695.

11:40 Yellow nutsedge interference in simulated sweetpotato plant beds. Stephen L. Meyers¹, T. Casey Barickman², and Jeffrey L. Main³. ¹ Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, ² Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, Mississippi State University, Verona, MS 38879, ³ Pontotoc Ridge-Flatwoods Branch Experiment Station, Mississippi State University, Pontotoc, MS 38863.

12:00 Lunch

Disease, insect, and weed management I:

Presiding: Jeff Standish

1:00 Identifying insect vectors of *Ceratoystis fimbriata*, causal agent of black rot, within North Carolina sweetpotato storage and packing systems. Madison Stahr*, Anders Huseth, Matt Bertone, and Lina Quesada-Ocampo. 100 Derieux Pl, Campus Box 7613, Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh NC, 27695.

1:20 An update of using biotechnological approaches to improve sweetpotato viral disease resistance. Chunquan Zhang, Victor Njiti and Yan Meng. Department of Agriculture, Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS, 39096-7500.

1:40 Preliminary Studies on Rhizopus Soft Rot Relative to Wound Healing and Effects of Selected Postharvest Control Treatments on Healing Processes in Sweetpotato. Waana Kaluwasha and Christopher Clark. Department Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70801.

2:00 Evaluation of nematicides for control of Guava and Southern root knot nematodes in sweetpotato. Hunter Collins* and Lina Quesada-Ocampo. Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7616, shcollin@ncsu.edu.

2:20 Host-Plant Resistance to the W/D/S complex in Sweetpotatoes. T.J. Douglas¹, Daniel Fleming², Fred Musser¹. ¹ Department of Biochemistry, Entomology, and Plant Pathology, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS 39759, ²Provivi, Inc., Starkville, MS 39759.

2:40 Evaluation of a Reduced-Tillage Production System in Sweetpotato. Stephen C. Smith^{1*}, KM Jennings¹, DW Monks¹, SC Reberg-Horton², DL Jordan², MR Schwarz³.
¹Department of Horticultural Science, ² Department of Crop and Soil Sciences North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27607, ³Bayer CropScience LP, 2 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, scsmith7@ncsu.edu.

3:00 Break

Breeding and Genomics

Presiding: Camilo Parada

3:20 Genome Wide Association Study in Sugar Profile of Sweetpotato. Tara E. Rickman¹, Alison K. Adams^{1,2}, Phil A. Wadl³, G. Craig Yencho⁴, Bode A. Olukolu^{1,2,4}. ¹ Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, ² Genome Science and Technology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, ³ United States Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service, U.S. Vegetable Research, Charleston, SC 29414, ⁴ Department of Horticultural Science, NC State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7609.

3:40 Characterization of genetic diversity for the USDA sweetpotato (*Ipomoea batatas*) germplasm collection. Phillip A. Wadl¹, Bode A. Olukolu², Sandra Branham³, Robert L. Jarret⁴, D. Michael Jackson¹, G. Craig Yencho⁵. ¹ USDA, ARS, United States Vegetable Laboratory, Charleston, SC 29414, ² Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, ³ Coastal Research and Education Center, Clemson University, Charleston, SC 29414, ⁴ USDA, ARS, Plant Genetic Resources Conservation Unit, Griffin, GA 30223, ⁵ Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7609.

4:00 Multipartite Interactions involving Sweetpotato and its Leaf Microbiome. Alison K. Adams^{1,2}, Tara E. Rickman¹, Phillip A. Wadl³, G. Craig Yencho⁴, and Bode A. Olukolu^{1,2,4}. ¹ Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, ² Genome Science and Technology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, ³ United States Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service, U.S. Vegetable Research, Charleston, SC 29414, ⁴ Department of Horticultural Science, NC State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7609.

4:20 Red Yams Rule! Screening for red-skinned sweetpotato cultivars in California. C. S. Stoddard^{*1} and D. R. LaBonte². ^{*1}UC Cooperative Extension, 2145 Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA, csstoddard@ucan.edu; ²LSU AgCenter School of Plant, Environment, and Soil Sciences, Baton Rouge, LA, 70803, dlabonte@agcenter.lsu.edu.

4:40 QTL Mapping for Sugar components and α - and β -amylase Activity in Sweetpotato at Harvest and during Post-Harvest Storage. Victor Acheampong

Amankwaah^{1,2}, Bonny Michael Oloka¹, Guilherme da Silva Pereira^{1,3}, Bode A. Olukolu⁵, Ragy Ibrahim¹, Kenneth Pecota¹, Marcelo Mollinari^{1,3}, Sharon Williamson¹, Xiaofei Zhang¹, Edward Carey⁴, Van-Den Truong⁶, Zhao-Bang Zeng³, *G. Craig Yencho¹. ¹Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, 214 Kilgore Hall, Box 7609, Raleigh, NC 27695-7609, USA, ²Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) – Crops Research Institute (CRI), Fumesua, P.O. Box 3785, Kumasi, Ghana, ³Bioinformatics Research Center, Department of Statistics, North Carolina State University, ⁴CIP-Ghana, P.O. Box 3785, Kumasi, Ghana, ⁵University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA, ⁶USDA-ARS, Food Science Research Unit, NC State University, Raleigh NC 27695, Craig_Yencho@NCSU.edu.

5:00-7:00: Poster Session

Presiding: Lina Quesada

Development of an International Sensory Lexicon for Sweetpotato: Phase 1 – Uganda, Africa. Suzanne D. Johanningsmeier¹, Mariam Nakitto², Elizabeth Khakasa³, and Tawanda Muzhinghi⁴. ¹ USDA Agricultural Research Service, Southeast Area, Food Science Research Unit, Raleigh, NC, 27695, USA, ² International Potato Center (CIP-SAA), Namulonge, Uganda, ³ National Agricultural Research Laboratory, National Agricultural Research Organization (NARL-NARO), Kawanda, Uganda, ⁴ International Potato Center (CIP-SAA), Nairobi, Kenya.

A Metagenomic Approach to the Identification of Pathogens and their Biological Antagonists within the Sweetpotato Leaf Microbiome. Brandon D. Kristy, Myranda S. Gorman, and Bode A. Olukolu. Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996.

Utility of linuron and fomesafen for managing weeds in sweet potato. D.K. Miller and M.S. Mathews, LSU AgCenter, St. Joseph, LA.

No roots left behind: sweetpotato slip priming for uniform root emergence and rapid establishment. Arthur Villordon*, Jeffrey C. Gregorie, LSU AgCenter Sweet Potato Research Station, Chase, LA 71324, avillordon@agcenter.lsu.edu.

Development of a DNA isolation method and microsatellites from the sweetpotato weevil (*Cylas formicarius elegantulus*) and characterization of genetic diversity. Phillip A. Wadl¹, Livy H. Williams¹, Robert N. Trigiano², Karen Harris-Shultz³, Sarah L. Boggess², and Grant T. McQuate⁴. ¹ USDA, ARS, United States Vegetable Laboratory, Charleston, SC 29414, ² Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, ³ USDA, ARS, Crop Genetics and Breeding Research, Tifton, GA 31793, ⁴ USDA, ARS, Daniel K. Inouye U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center, Hilo, HI 96720.

Sensory evaluation of baked sweetpotatoes in the Sweetpotato Breeding and Genetics Program at North Carolina State University. Sharon Williamson¹, Ken Pecota¹, Xiaofei Zhang², Ragy Ibrahim¹, Chris Heim¹, and Craig Yencho¹.

¹Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, ²International Center for Tropical Agriculture, Cali, Columbia.

Saturday January 24

7:30 Continental Breakfast

Plant Biology and Crop Production:

Presiding: Hunter Collins

- 8:00 Slip root architectural traits and canopy growth associated with yield and yield components in sweetpotato: *potential for designing an ideal architectural sweetpotato ideotype?*** Luis O. Duque, Department of Plant Science, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802.
- 8:20 Sweetpotato Fertility Trial Utilizing Variable Rate Combinations of Nitrogen and Phosphorus.** Jeffrey C. Gregorie* and Arthur Q Villordon, LSU AgCenter Sweet Potato Research Station, Chase, LA 71324, CGregorie@agcenter.lsu.edu.
- 8:40 The long and short of it: principal component analysis of sweetpotato storage root 3D shape attributes.** Arthur Villordon^{1*}, Jeffrey C. Gregorie¹, and Don LaBonte². ¹LSU AgCenter Sweet Potato Research Station, Chase, LA 71324, ²LSU AgCenter School of Plant, Environmental, and Soil Sciences, Sturgis Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-2120, avillordon@agcenter.lsu.edu.
- 9:00 Sweetpotato roots 50-70 mm in diameter optimise production of premium planting sprouts from high-precision plant beds in Australia.** Craig Henderson¹ and Phil Brown². ¹ Henderson RDE, Mount Beauty, VIC 3699, Australia, ² School of Health, Medical and Applied Sciences, Central Queensland University, Bundaberg, QLD 4701, Australia.
- 9:20 Evaluating Sweetpotato Fertilizer Recommendations.** Callie J Morris, Trevor F. Garrett, Mark W. Shankle, Richard C. Sloan III. Pontotoc Ridge-Flatwoods Branch Experiment Station, Mississippi State University, Pontotoc, MS 38863.
- 9:40 In-Row Plant Spacing Effects on Various Sweetpotato Clones Harvested Early and Late Season.** Keith D. Starke*, Jonathan R. Schultheis, Craig Yencho and Kenneth V. Pecota. North Carolina State University, Department of Horticultural Science, Kilgore, Box 7609, Raleigh 27695.
- 10:00 Storage Root Yield and Elemental Leaf Concentration of Three Sweetpotato Varieties in Response to Mighty Grow Organic Fertilizer.** Andreka Wills¹, Desmond Mortley¹, Sonu Koirala, Kokoasse Kpomblekou', and Franklyn Quarcoo. ¹ Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL 36088

10:20 Break

Phenotyping, Processing, and Marketing

Presiding: Lina Quesada

10:40 Internal Defect Scanning of Sweetpotatoes using Elastic Light Scattering

Spectroscopy. Michael W. Kudenov and Grant Scarboro. Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27606.

11:00 Value-Added Sweetpotato Product Developments and Marketing Opportunities.

David H. Picha, School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, dpicha@agcenter.lsu.edu.

11:20 Sweetpotato Shape Classification using Computer Vision and Supervised

Machine Learning. Samiul Haque¹, Sarah Bell², Edgar Lobaton¹, Natalie Nelson³, Michael Kudenov¹, and Mike Boyette³, and Cranos Williams¹. ¹ Dept. of Electrical & Computer Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, ² Dept. of Statistics, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, ³ Dept. of Biological & Agricultural Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695.

11:40 2019 Sweetpotato Nitrogen Shape Study. M.D. Boyette¹, J.R. Schultheis² and K.D.

Starke². ¹ Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, ² Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695.

12:00 Lunch

Industry Updates, Awards, and Closing:

Presiding: Lina Quesada

1:00 Syngenta sweetpotato MRLs; where are we? and why can't we get there faster?

Heidi Irrig

1:20 Insect, disease, and weed control in sweetpotatoes John Cranmer, Carlos

Granadino, John Pawlak, and Ken Seebold

1:30 Innovations from AgBiome for control of nematodes and fungi Bond McInnes

1:40 Evaluations of heat-killed *Burkholderia rinojensis* [Majestene] for management of wireworms and nematodes in root vegetables Karla Medina

2:00 State reports

2:20 Awards

2:40 Business and planning meeting

3:00 Adjourn

RESOLUTIONS

National Sweetpotato Collaborators Group January 24-25, 2020 Nashville, TN

Whereas, for the first time the National Sweetpotato Collaborators Group (NSCG) was graced with a keynote speaker in the person of Dr. Robin Buell, who presented a fascinating and thought-provoking presentation on “Changing the paradigm for breeding improved potato varieties: the power of genomic approaches”; and

Whereas, Dr. David Monks was presented the fourth annual National Research Impact Award in honor of his numerous contributions to weed science and production practices that have benefitted the national industries for sweetpotato and other specialty crops; and

Whereas, the Student Competition, which included 13 presentations, was chaired by Michelle McHargue, and was greatly facilitated by the assistance of judges Christie Almeyda, Steve Myers, Jeff Standish, and Phil Wadl; and

Whereas, the 2020 winners of the NSCG Student Competition were first place, Madison Stahr for her presentation “Identifying insect vectors of *Ceratocystis fimbriata*, causal agent of black rot, within North Carolina sweetpotato storage and packing systems”, second place Cole Smith for his presentation “Evaluation of reduced-tillage production system in sweetpotato”, and third place, Levi Moore for his presentation “Evaluation of high density polyethylene cloth row coverings to simulate palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) competition in sweetpotato”; and

Whereas, the 2020 meeting of NSCG was supported by generous contributions from NC State Extension, NC State Agricultural Research Service, Lamb Weston, AgBiome, Valent, Marrone Bio Innovations, Corteva Agriscience, Bayer Crop Science, Syngenta, AMVAC, Louisiana Sweet Potato Commission, Black Gold Farms, J. R. Simplot Company, and with support from the Mississippi Sweet Potato Commission and Sylvia Clark and Mark Shankle; and

Whereas, the 2020 meeting of the National Sweetpotato Collaborators Group proceed smoothly and efficiently under the leadership of Lina Quesada and efforts of secretary-treasurer Theresa Arnold with able help from moderators Hunter Collins, Camilo Parada, Madison Stahr, and Jeff Standish; and

Whereas, Lina Quesada developed a website that greatly facilitated all aspects of preparation for the 2020 NSCG meeting and has agreed to manage the website for the next year; and

Whereas, Michele McHargue is the new Chair, Katie Jennings was elected as Chair-elect, Theresa Arnold will remain as Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor of the program and minutes, Lina Quesada will manage the website, and David Monks will remain as SERA advisor.

Whereas, Dr. David Monks, Administrative Advisor to NSCG provided thoughtful comments and advice for our group; and

Whereas, during 2019 we lost Dr. Charles Averre and Dr. William Mulkey, both long-time, highly esteemed members of the NSCG;

Now therefore be it resolved, that the NSCG and its members express our sincere gratitude for all of the above-mentioned contributions, which serve the greater good for the national sweetpotato community and international collaborators.

Respectfully prepared and submitted by Chris Clark, Tara Smith, Scott Stoddard, and Craig Yencho

**2019 Minutes of the National Sweetpotato Collaborators Meeting
February 1-2, 2019
Birmingham, AL**

Saturday, February 2, 2019

Called to order by Mike Boyette at 12:15 PM.

Steve Myers gave report of the nominating committee: Theresa Arnold was nominated for secretary/treasurer/proceedings editor, and Michelle McHargue as chair-elect. The floor was then opened for debate or additional nominations. Craig Yencho moved to close the floor to nominations and accept proposed candidates. Dave Picha seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mike Boyette reviewed the minutes from the 2018 meeting. Chris Clark made a motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Dave Picha and passed unanimously.

Mike Boyette ask Tara Smith to share the National Stakeholder report with the group. Tara listed issues/concerns by the growers as: 1. Guava root knot nematode, 2. Lack of certified seed, 3. Potential loss of pesticides including Lorsban, and herbicides for nutsedge, 4. Skinning and the need for advanced skinning resistance, 5. Storability (shelf life and quality), 6. Markets available. 7. Labor issues. Craig Yencho ask if SCRI was discussed at the meeting to which Tara replied that it was mentioned but not discussed. She went on to say that they had a lot of discussion about clean seed programs that led in to the NCPN meeting.

Craig ask about funds for the extension publication. He said Jonathan Schultheis was the lead and that some have submitted. Tara Smith stated that it was not together yet. Craig ask if the funding for it had been lost. David Monks said that he would check with his director for a reallocation of the funds that were not spent. But he will need specific expenses and a time line. Tara stated that she did not have a timeline at this time but that they had a few conference calls last year. David said he needed a time line and a goal before going to his director.

Mike Boyette ask Mark Shankle to present the National Impact Award, Mark went over the committee of himself, Tara Smith, Raja Reddy, Jonathan Schultheis, and Michelle McHargue. He then ask Michelle to accompany him. The National Impact Award was presented to Chris Clark. All applauded. Chris thanked the group.

Michelle McHargue, Chair of the Graduate Student Contest, stated that the scores were close, and she thanked the judges. Then she said that she would email out score sheets, and announced the winners:

MS Level

1st Place

Efficacy of Tank Mixes Containing Linuron for Palmer Amaranth Control in Sweetpotato.

Levi D. Moore*, Katherine M. Jennings, David W. Monks, Stephen C. Smith, Matthew D. Waldschmidt, Kira C. Sims, Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7609. (ldmoore8@ncsu.edu

PhD Level



1st Place

Response of Sweetpotato and Yield Components to Indaziflam. Stephen C. Smith^{1*}, KM Jennings¹, DW Monks¹, MR Schwarz², ¹Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27607, ²Bayer CropScience LP, 2 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709. (scsmith7@ncsu.edu)

2nd Place

Characterizing Factors that Impact Water Dispersal of *Ceratocystis fimbriata*, Causal Agent of Black Rot. Madison Stahr^{*}, and Lina Quesada-Ocampo, 2319 Gardner Hall, 100 Derieux Pl, Campus Box 7613, Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh NC, 27695 (mnstahr@ncsu.edu)

Mike Boyette stated that we received support for the meeting from Helena and raised the registration fee. He also brought up the pre-meeting session where the need for a governing board was brought up. He ask who would make it up. And said that it would be for smaller decisions not larger decisions that would come before the whole group. An example stated was that Mike wanted to ask industry to support the meeting so he just made a few calls to select members. Tara Smith added that other examples would include making and upkeep on a website, following up on decisions made at the meeting, Things get lost in minutes until the next year's meeting, Keep forward communication, possible quarterly meetings, and also passing of responsibilities to chair-elect.. Mike proposed that the group be composed of past, present, and chair-elect, secretary/treasurer, and 1 representative of each state that gives state reports, industry, and USDA. Scott Stoddard thought that would be too large of a group. Craig Yencho stated that our function is to encourage collaboration and that the function of the governing board should be more for business. And proposed to call it an operating committee. Scott Stoddard made a motion that the governing board consist of past, present, and Chair-elect, secretary/treasurer, 1 USDA representative, 1 industry representative, and 1 member at large. David Picha stated that he thought we needed a smaller number, consisting of past, present, and Chair-elect, secretary/treasurer. Tara Smith ask about by laws. Mike Boyette ask if we should make a bylaws committee. Chris Clark said we may have bylaws already no one knows. Craig Yencho said we should go back and check for bylaws, and added that we need a renewal for the multistate project. And see how, we fit under the multi state umbrella and build by laws up from there as they were approved by the Southern region. Dave Monks said we have had the input of people wanting to change the multi-state project. Craig said that would be an excellent task for the governing board and they could reach out to stakeholders when needed. Mike Boyette ask Scott to repeat his motion. Scott repeated his motion that the governing board consist of past, present, and Chair-elect, secretary/treasurer, 1 USDA representative, 1 industry representative, and 1 member at large. Tara said she agreed with Dave Picha's suggestion of past, present, and Chair-elect, secretary/treasurer. And they could reach out to other members if needed. Scott amended his motion to state that the governing board consist of past, present, and Chair-elect, secretary/treasurer, and they can pull together an ad-hock committee as needed. Dave Picha seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mike Boyette brought up that with sponsors and higher registration fees it would be nice to have coffee at breaks, and possibly an opening reception or catered meal the first night. And he thought we needed a committee to make those decisions.

Mike Boyette brought up changing the format of the meeting. Michelle said that people were not back at 1 for the graduate student talks so maybe a longer lunch break was needed there.

Craig Yencho said that we need 2 full days for the meeting. Michelle ash about having a provided lunch the first day so that no one had to leave. Tara said that she agreed with Craig that anything we can do to enhance communication and collaboration I think that is the primary functions of this group. Whether it is 2 full days or 2.5 days. Dave Monks said that discussion is important and if we could do an internet or conference call for the people who could not travel to the meeting it would help keep them involved.. Jonathan Schultheis stated that we travel on Thursday anyway so we could do afternoon meetings to talk about grants, projects, and etc. then. Scott Stoddard proposed half day, full day, and half day. Dave Picha said not long ago this meeting was 2 full days. Mike Boyette ask are we going to stay with SAAS? Jonathan Schultheis said that we may lose the opportunity to publish abstracts if we go with the national convention. Tara said Mike or Lena will need to check. Mark Legendre said that if we give SAAS about 1 year notice it is fine for us to drop off. Craig Yencho made a motion moving forward we stay with SAAS but occasionally break off and go with the National Council if we inform SAAS before we leave. Tara Smith seconded and it passed unanimously. Chris Clark presented the resolutions proposed by the resolutions committee consisting of Chris Clark, Craig Yencho, and Mark Shankle. Jonathan moves to accept the resolutions and Victor Nijiti seconded.

Steve Meyers took entries for the Variety Trials. Louisiana dropped 13-84 and Burgundy, and kept 14-31, and 13-81. Louisiana checks are Bellevue and Orleans. North Carolina dropped 04-541 and Avery, and kept 09-122, and added 11-0234. North Carolina checks are Covington and Beauregard.

Mike Boyette ask if there was anything else to discuss. Tara Smith said "Good job, Dr. Boyette" and all applauded. Chris moved to adjourn as Lina was not present for the traditional passing of the gavel. Sarah Jane Posey seconded and it passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM