

The 35th Southern Forest Tree Improvement Conference (SFTIC 2019)

June 3-6, 2019, Lexington, KY, Downtown Hilton

SFTIC-- <http://sftic2019.ca.uky.edu/>

Hilton-- [Hilton Lexington Downtown](#)

Co-Hosts-- University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture, Food and the Environment (CAFE), Department of Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) and the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station, Forest Health Research and Education Center (FHC)

Preliminary Full Program (5/20/19); Presenters and Topics

Meeting Agenda

(TC= Triple Crown, BG=Bluegrass, CC=Crimson Clover, A&B ballroom)

Monday, June 3, 2019 (morning)

Optional SFTIC golf, 6:30-11:30 am, Kearney Hills (<https://www.lexingtonky.gov/kearney-hill-golf-links>), Steve McKeand (steve_mckeand@ncsu.edu), coordinator

Monday, June 3, 2019 (afternoon, Pre-SFTIC Workshops and Meetings)

North American Quantitative Forest Genetics Workshop (NAQFGW), 1:00-4:00 pm in TC; Fiket Isik (Fikret_Isik@ncsu.edu), NC State University, coordinator, SAF CEUs available. Click on the [workshop](#) tab for details.

Tree Improvement 101 - with emphasis on hardwoods, 1:00-4:00 pm in BG; Carrie Pike (CPike@fs.fed.us), USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, coordinator, SAF CEUs available. Click on the [workshop](#) tab for details.

Resistance Screening Center, Executive Committee Meeting and open discussion, 1:30-2:30 pm in CC; Chris Rosier (CLRosie@Arborgen.com) ArborGen, Inc., and Katie McKeever (KMckeever@fs.fed.us), USDA Forest Service, co-coordinators. Click on the [workshop](#) tab for details.

State Forestry Agency Tree Improvement Discussion Group, 2:30-4:30 pm in CC; Dana Nelson (dananelson@fs.fed.us), USDA Forest Service, coordinator. Click on the [workshop](#) tab for details.

SFTIC committee meeting, 4:30-5:30 pm in CC; Fred Raley (FRaley@tfs.tamu.edu), SFTIC Secretary/Treasurer

Poster set-up 4:00-6:00 pm in Magnolia - NEW THIS YEAR! Interactive poster session during a regular conference session where authors have the opportunity to give a short presentation to

the attendees in a moderated session! Posters will also be displayed throughout the conference for traditional viewing.

Opening Reception and Poster Viewing 6:00-8:00 pm in Magnolia (cash bar)

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

Breakfast, 7:00-8:00 am, Magnolia

Welcome, 8:15-8:30 am, Ballroom A&B

Dr. Robert Houtz, Associate Dean for Research, College of Agriculture, Food and the Environment, University of Kentucky and Dr. Seth DeBolt, Director, Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits

Plenary 1 (Opening session), 8:30-10:00 am, Ballroom A&B

45 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Jared Westbrook, The American Chestnut Foundation; Bringing back the American chestnut: Advances in disease resistance prediction and selection

Chris Dardick, USDA ARS, Appalachian Fruit Research Station; Genetic regulation of branch orientation and gravitropic potential in trees

Break, 10:00-10:30 am

Concurrent sessions 1A, 10:25 am-12:05 pm, BG

25 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Kevin Potter, "Prioritizing species for restoration/conservation..."

Mary Mason, "Screening/breeding for EAB resistance in ash..."

Kevin Potter, "Hemlock genetic diversity/conservation..."

Ben Smith, "Screening/breeding for HWA resistance in hemlock..."

Concurrent sessions 1B, 10:25 am-12:05 pm, TC

25 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Edwin Lauer, "Loblolly pine GXE..."

Priscila Someda Dias, "Slash pine G&Y genetics..."

Nasir Shalizi, "Loblolly pine BVs— clones vs. half-sibs..."

Khushi Goda, "Pinebreed—mate selection in loblolly pine..."

Lunch, 12:10-1:20 pm, Magnolia

Poster presentations and Poster judging, 1:30-3:00 pm, Magnolia

Interactive poster session, guidelines TBD, organizer Laura DeWald

First authors/Presenters:

Crocker
Ding
Dreaden
Faridi/Nelson
Goodfellow
House
Huff
Ibarra
Ma
Matallana
McKeever
Smith, K
Warren/Woeste
Woeste
Yu

Break, 3:00-3:25 pm

General session, 3:25-5:05 pm, BG and TC

25 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Andre Nel, “Breeding for *Fusarium circinatum* resistance in South Africa...

Tatyana Zhebentyayeva, “Dissecting *Phytophthora cinnamomi* resistance in chestnut...

Patrick Lenz, “Genomic selection for weevil resistance in Norway spruce...

Lynne Rieske-Kinney, “RNAi in ash for EAB control...

Career Panel Workshop, 5:15-6:15 pm, Magnolia

Description: A Q&A for students and young professionals to ask career development questions. Panel members will be from academia and the public and private forestry sectors.

Contact: David Barker, Rayonier, david.barker@rayonier.com

Dinner on your own (several local options available within walking or short driving distance)

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Optional SFTIC 5K run/optional walks, 6:00-7:00 am, Hotel Lobby (dananelson@fs.fed.us)

Breakfast, 7:00-8:00 am, Magnolia

Plenary 2, 8:30-10:00 am, A&B

45 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Jill Wegrzyn, University of Connecticut; Pine genome and implications for pine genetics and improvement

Meg Staton, University of Tennessee and Bert Abbott, University of Kentucky, Forest Health Center; Chestnut genome and implications for chestnut genetics and restoration

Break, 10:00-10:30 am

Concurrent sessions 2A, 10:25 am-12:05 pm, BG

25 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Jinjia Li, “Loblolly pine drought-induced gene expression...”

Tania Quesada, “Association mapping validation in loblolly pine...”

Colin Jackson, “SNP discovery using RNA-seq in sub-tropical/tropical pines...”

Patrick Cumbie, “Genomic prediction in loblolly pine...”

Concurrent sessions 2B, 10:25 am-12:05 pm, TC

25 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Carolyn Pike, “New seed collection zones...”

Austin Heine, “Pollination bag effects in loblolly pine...”

Shaik Hossain, “Shortleaf pine progeny testing—digging back in...”

Barbara Crane, “DNA fingerprinting in southern pine orchards...”

Lunch, 12:10-1:15 pm, Magnolia

Concurrent sessions 3A, 1:25-3:05, BG

25 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Tania Quesada, “Disease resistance screening in pine—long-term implications...”

Shenghua Fan, “Mapping blight resistance QTLs in chestnut...”

Daniel Ence, “Candidate resistance and avirulence genes in fusiform rust...”

Scott Merkle, “Methods and status on developing EAB resistant ash...”

Concurrent sessions 3B, 1:25-3:05, TC

25 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Randy Rousseau, “Breeding fast-growth hardwoods...”

Laura DeWald, “White oak genetic improvement...”

Joshua Adams, “Sweetgum variety performance on upland sites...”

Ron Schmidting, “Slash pine seed sources for barrier island restoration...”

Break, 3:00-3:30 pm

Plenary 3 (Closing session), 3:30-5:00 pm, Ballroom A&B

45 mins per talk, including Intro by moderator and Q&A (Moderator: TBD)

Vern Coffey, SUNY-ESF; Bringing back the American chestnut: Advances in genetic modification-- navigating federal regulation

Steve McKeand, NC State University; Notes from the mountain top-- Where we go from here is up to us

Banquet Dinner, 6:00-8:00 pm, Magnolia (cash bar)

Thursday, June 6, 2019 — (optional post-SFTIC field tour)

White Oak research field trip and industry tour

7 - 8 a.m.	Breakfast – Magnolia Room, Hilton Hotel
8 - 8:30 a.m.	Load bus at Hilton, Broadway entrance
10 - 11 a.m.	White oak research tour on Berea Forest, John Lhotka, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Kentucky and Clint Patterson, Department of Forestry, Berea College
11:30 - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch at Berea Forest Seth DeBolt, Department of Horticulture, University of Kentucky, “White oak impacts on spirits’ flavor”
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Load bus for Loretto, Ky.
3 - 4:30 p.m.	White oak tour of Maker’s Mark
4:30 - 5:00 p.m.	Load bus to return to Lexington
6:30 p.m.	Arrive at Hilton Hotel