97TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHEASTERN BRANCH ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

MARCH, 9-12, 2025

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

JC Chong, President, 2024-2025

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
SOUTHEASTERN BRANCH

Baton Rouge, LA
Photo credit: Stephen Hardy

SPONSORS OF THE 2025 SEB MEETING

Our sponsors provide support for the mixers, breakfast, and various other functions of the meeting. In so doing, they help reduce the registration costs and provide a much more enjoyable environment for our meeting. Please be sure to express your appreciation to our sponsors:

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ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
SOUTHEASTERN BRANCH

DATE: 17 February 2025
FROM: JC Chong, ESA-SEB President
TO: Members and Attendees of the 97th Annual Meeting of ESA-SEB

Greetings and a warm welcome to the 97th annual meeting of the Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

This meeting is not possible without the hard work, time and energy MANY have dedicated. ESA staff (in particular Becky Anthony), SEB Executive Committee (in particular Secretary-Treasurer Brett Blaauw), the Program Committee (chaired by Midhula Gireesh and Cheri Abraham) and the Local Arrangements Committee (chaired by Jeff Davis) have planned an excellent program. Meeting planning is also support by other committees, such as the Student Awards Committee (chaired by Santos Portugal, James Villegas and Estelle Martin) and the Entomology Games Committee (chaired by Kelly Carruthers and Morgan Pinkerton). I will share a full roster of our committees during the Preliminary Business Meeting scheduled for Monday morning; join me in showing our appreciation to our volunteer leaders who make SEB a truly exciting organization.

I would like to encourage all SEB members to attend the ESA Governance Town Hall, which follows the Preliminary Business Meeting. Joined by ESA President, Lina Bernaola and Executive Director, Chris Stelzig, we will discuss a set of proposals on simplifying the structure of ESA Governing Board and other issues. This is an important discussion that will impact every member of ESA. Come and let your voice be heard.

SEB continues its commitment to support our Students and Early Career Professionals. In addition to organizing a workshop on writing and publishing and providing registration scholarships to our student members, we continue to support the Lightning Interview and Networking session originally organized by our Past President, Kevin Chase, during the 96th annual meeting in Augusta, GA. Come join us at various activities the Student Affairs Committee (chaired by Alexis Alsdorf, Jessica Ayala and Kelly Tims) has organized.

Enjoy our annual meeting and the historic state capitol, Baton Rouge. I hope you will enjoy the scientific program and planned activities, have a chance to network, catch up with friends and colleagues, or simply make some pleasant memories while at this meeting.

JC Chong
SEB President, 2024-2025
SePRO Corporation

Meeting Information and Policies

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:
The 2025 SEB-ESA Meeting will be in-person only. All activities will be at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Sessions must adhere to the printed schedule. It is the moderators' responsibility to keep speakers on schedule. If a scheduled presentation is not given, the moderator should ensure that the next speaker does not begin until his/her scheduled time.

AUDIOVISUAL PRESENTATIONS:
For All Presenters: Please design your material so that it can be read easily by the audience when it is projected. Presentations should be created in a format compatible with PowerPoint (.pptx) and formatted in a 4:3 aspect ratio. All meeting room computers are PCs, so presenters who create a presentation using a Mac should test the file on a PC prior to the meeting. All meeting rooms will be equipped with an LCD projector, projector screen, computer, and microphone.

Presenters are expected to **upload their presentation(s) *at least* two hours prior to their scheduled session**. Laptops with presentations uploaded will be moved to the respective rooms 30 minutes before the start of the sessions. The Presentation Preview and Upload AV room will have computers for presenters to load and preview presentations located in the **University Room** at the following times:
Sunday, March 9, 2025: 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Monday, March 10, 2025: 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tuesday, March 11, 2025: 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Wednesday, March 12, 2025: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Please upload your talk in the appropriate folder. Your presentation should be named with your presentation number, last name, first name: "PresentationNumber_Last Name_First Name". Presenters who fail to upload more than two hours prior to their session may upload in the session room as long as it does not impact the timing of the session or any other presentations.

For Moderators: 20 minutes before the start of your session, you must come to the Presentation Preview and Upload AV (**University Room)** to copy your session's folder onto a flash drive. There will be a laptop in each presentation room where you can transfer the session folder containing the presentations.

DISPLAY PRESENTATIONS:
Poster boards measuring 4 ft. x 8 ft. will be provided for each display presentation on the Balcony. So that we can fit 2 posters per board, posters should be no larger than 46 x 46 inches (117 x 117 cm). **Displays should be mounted on the boards (assigned by the number of the presentation) ONLY using velcro that will be provided by local arrangements committee**.

For Student Competition Poster Presenters:
Displays for Monday, March 10 should be set up on Sunday, March 9 evening from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the Heidelberg Ballroom. Student competitors should be present at their posters on Monday, March 10, 2025 between
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (odd numbers) and 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM (even numbers). Students are encouraged to keep their posters up until 6:00 PM, and posters should be removed by 7:00 PM on Monday.

For Regular Poster Presenters: Displays for regular poster should be set up from 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM, Tuesday, March 11, at the Heidelberg Ballroom. Q & A session with the poster presenters will be taking place between 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (odd numbers) and 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM (even numbers) Tuesday, March 11. Presenters are encouraged to keep their posters up until 6:00 PM, and posters should be removed by 7:00 PM on Tuesday.

REGISTRATION: Registration is mandatory to attend the meeting. On-site registration fees include a luncheon ticket and are: ESA Active Members – $450; ESA ECP Members – $400; ESA Student Members – $245; ESA Emeritus and Honorary Members – $245; Guests – $100; and Non-members – $650. One-day registration fee is $350.

Registration Desk is located in Foyer and will be open for check-in (pre-registered attendees) and for on-site registration at the following times:
Sunday, March 9, 2025: 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Monday, March 10, 2025: 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Tuesday, March 11, 2025: 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Wednesday, March 12, 2025: 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

FUNCTIONS/EVENTS:
We have several activities that should be of interest to participants.

Sunday:

4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Entomology Games, Preliminary Rounds (Riverview B)
6:30 PM -10:30 PM Tour: Light Trapping with the Louisiana State Arthropod Museum (Hotel Lobby)
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting (University Room)

Monday:

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM Preliminary Business Meeting (Riverview B)
8:45 AM - 9:30 AM Governance Upgrade Town Hall with ESA President, Lina Bernaola (Riverview B)
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM Q&A with Student Poster Presenters (Heidelberg Ballroom)
3:30 PM - 4:00 PM Q&A with Student Poster Presenters (Heidelberg Ballroom)
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Entomology Games, Finals (Riverview B)
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Welcome Reception & Crawfish Boil (Pool Deck)

Tuesday:

6:30 AM - 8:30 AM 5K Levee Run/Walk
(Meet at the hotel lobby at 6:15 AM or at the “Sing the River Sculpture" at 6:30 AM.")
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Past Presidents Breakfast
(Hotel Restaurant)
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM Q&A with Contributed Poster Presenters (Heidelberg Ballroom)
12:15 PM - 1:45 PM Awards Luncheon
(Riverview A & B)
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM Q&A with Contributed Poster Presenters (Heidelberg Ballroom)
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Business Meeting
(King Room)
6:45 PM - 8:00 PM Student and Early Career Professional Lightning Interviews and Networking
(Riverview A &B)

As a registered accompanying guest at this meeting, you will be eligible for all of the above. In addition, you are welcome to attend any of the other meeting events including: Business meetings and Town Hall, Entomology Games, etc.

JOB POSTINGS/MESSAGE BOARD:
There will be a Job Postings/Messages Board labeled as such and available near the registration area for all interested employers and prospective employees from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Monday and Tuesday. If you have either a job vacancy or are seeking employment, please post an announcement or short résumé here.

RESTROOMS
Men's and women's restrooms are located next to the Governor Room. Gender neutral restrooms can be found outside the Heidelberg Ballroom.

CODE OF CONDUCT:
By attending the 2025 Southeastern Branch Meeting, you agree voluntarily to abide by our ethics policy. The full policy may be found online at entsoc.org/conduct. If you need to file a complaint, please contact Stacie East, ESA's Director of Equity and Grants, at +1 (301) 731-4535 x3030 or seast@entsoc.org.

Wifi: Complimentary internet access is available in the hotel meeting space. Password login is required.
Network(s): Hilton Honors or Hilton Honors Meeting
Click on “I have a promotional code”
Password: hiltonnet20

SOCIAL MEDIA:
We are excited you could join us this year and would love for you to share your experiences! Please use #ESASEB for social media and visit our Instagram page (@esa_seb), and LinkedIn page (Entomological Society of America – Southeastern Branch) to share your pictures, thoughts, and opinions with us! Let’s make this an unforgettable event!

SEB Instagram page

SEB LinkedIn page

ESA Sections

Medical, Urban & Veterinary Entomology (MUVE) deals with insect interactions with other animals, including humans, including medical entomology, urban entomology, veterinary entomology, forensic entomology, epidemiology, integrated disease management, human and veterinary parasitology, public health pest management, mosquito control, management of structural pests (e.g., termites, ants), and others.

Plant-Insect Ecosystems (P-IE) deals with insect interactions with plants, including behavioral, ecological, and evolutionary relationships in natural landscapes, as well as integrated pest management (IPM) in agriculture, horticulture, forests, and lawn and garden. Aspects of crop protection, host-plant response, plant pathology/ vectors, pollination, biological control, microbial control, and others are relevant.

Physiology, Biochemistry, and Toxicology (PBT), formerly Integrative Physiological and Molecular Insect Systems or IPMIS, is for people who study insects at the cellular or molecular levels, and it includes topics such as biochemistry, microbiology, toxicology, endocrinology, cytology, molecular biology, allelochemicals, pheromones, hormones, metabolism, and others.

Systematics, Evolution, and Biodiversity (SyEB) is for people who study insect anatomy, classification, and history. As the name implies, it focuses on systematics, evolution, and biodiversity, but it could also include morphology, ecology, population dynamics, genetics, phylogeny, nomenclature, biogeography, zoology, and other specialties.

Formal and Informal Teaching (FIT) Pilot Section is for people who teach entomology—either formally in classrooms (K-12, university, and college) or informally through Extension, outreach, and science communication, as well as researchers who focus on pedagogical methods that integrate entomology. Members are dedicated to broadening inclusive excellence for all learners and educators and facilitating collaborations across ESA and beyond to promote entomological education. Join us as we share entomological expertise and knowledge, instructional techniques, educational research, and networking opportunities.

Officers and Committees

Executive Committee

President: JC Chong, SePRO Corporation
Vice President: Ash Sial, University of Georgia
Past President: Kevin Chase, Bartlett Tree Experts
Secretary-Treasurer: Brett Blaauw, University of Georgia
Member-at-Large:
Kaushalya Amarasekare, Tennessee State Univ.
Carey Minteer, University of Florida
Emilie Demard, University of Florida
Governing Board Representative: Karla Addesso, Tennessee State University

Program Committee

Chair: Midhula Gireesh, University of Tennessee
Vice Chair: Cheri Abraham, Syngenta
Member:
Md Tafsir Nur Nabi Rashed, University of Florida,
Bita Valizadeh Gever, Mississippi State University

Local Arrangements Committee

Chair: Jeff Davis, Louisiana State University
Vice Chair: Sharon Andreason, USDA-ARS (SC)
Past Chair: Apurba Barman, University of Georgia
Member:
Mike Stout, Louisiana State University
Aaron Ashbrook, Louisiana State University
Mark Janowiecki, New Orleans Mosquito Control
Liz Walsh, USDA-ARS (LA)
Schyler Lee, Louisiana State University

Student Awards Committee

Chair: Santos Portugal, Mississippi State University
Vice Chair: James Villegas, Louisiana State University
Past Chair: Estelle Martin, University of Florida
Member:
Aaron Cato, University of Arkansas
Muhammad Haseeb, Florida A&M University
Ting Li, Alabama Southern University
Nicole Quinn, University of Florida

Member Awards Committee

Chair: Justin George, USDA-ARS (MS)
Vice Chair: Sandra Woolfolk, USDA-ARS (MS)
Past Chair: Ted Cottrell, USDA-ARS (GA)
Members:
Tom Sheehan, University of Georgia
Sydney Crawley, Terminix
Estelle Martin, University of Florida
Kelly Carruthers, University of Georgia

Entomology Games Committee

Co-Chair: Kelly Carruthers, University of Georgia
Co-Chair: Morgan Pinkerton, University of Florida
Member:
Kaydie McCormick, University of Florida
Lauren Diepenbrock, University of Florida

Nominations Committee

Chair: Nicole Benda, University of Florida
Vice Chair: Rebecca Trout Fryxell, University of Tennessee
Past Chair: Rob Meagher, USDA-ARS (FL)
Member:
Cheri Abraham, Syngenta
Esmaeil Amiri, Mississippi State University
Cathy Du, USDA-ARS (MS)
Mandeep Tayal, Clemson University

2026 Site Selection Committee (ad hoc)

Chair: Sharon Andreason, USDA-ARS (SC)
Member:
Tom Bilbo, Clemson University
Alvin Simmons, USDA-ARS (SC)

Rules Committee

Chair: Kevin Chase, Bartlett Tree Experts
Member:
Alvin Simmons, USDA-ARS (SC)
Amanda Hodges, University of Florida

Student Affairs Committee

Chair: Alexis Middleton Alsdorf, NC State University
Vice Chair: Jessica Ayala, University of Arkansas
Past Chair: Kelly Tims, University of Georgia
Member:
Lovely Adhikary, University of Florida
Pragya Kiju, Clemson University
Abdulsalam Adegoke, Univ. Southern Mississippi
Kristin Hilborn, North Carolina State University
Binita Sigdel, Tennessee State University
Anjana Duwal, Louisiana State University

Archives Committee

Chair: James Harper, North Carolina State University
Member: JC Chong, SePRO Corporation

SEB Representatives to ESA (national) Committees

Awards and Honors Committee: Justin George, USDA-ARS
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee: Vacant
Entomology Games Committee: Octavio Menocal, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Early Career Professionals Committee: Pierre Lau, USDA-ARS
Education and Outreach Committee: Pat Wooden, Mississippi State University
Science Policy Committee: Caydee Savinelli, Syngenta
Student Affairs Committee: Alexis Alsdorf, North Carolina State University

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Special Thanks To the Following:

- ESA Central Staff: Becky Anthony and Daniel Tempesta
- Confex Staff: Michelle Garman for program assistance
- ConferenceDirect Staff: Morgan Basham, Ashleigh Krist, Kristin House
- All our moderators, Student Competition judges, and student volunteers
- All of our meeting sponsors

Award for Excellence in Integrated Pest Management

Dr. Xavier Martini

Dr. Xavier Martini is an Associate Professor of Entomology at the University of Florida located at the North Florida Research and Education Center. Over the past eight years, Dr. Martini's programs have focused on providing alternative solutions to conventional insecticides for the management of critical horticultural pests.

Recent breakthroughs from his laboratory include the use of kaolin clay as a carrier for essential oils, the use of repellents to control ambrosia beetles in avocado groves and U.S. forests, and the investigation of the chemical cues involved in the aggregation of the air potato beetle. Dr. Martini also has a 30% Extension appointment that provides support to tomato and citrus growers for pest management.

Since being appointed a faculty member at UF in 2016, Dr. Martini has published 66 articles (88 over his whole career) and co-authored three book chapters, three patents, and one book. Dr. Martini has also directly mentored 11 students during his career, some receiving prestigious honors such as the Outstanding MS Student Award by the *International Organization for Biological Control*. Since his appointment, Dr. Martini has attracted over $2.6 million for his research activities and is currently the PI of three different USDA-NIFA grants. He has recently been elected vice president of the Florida Entomological Society and nominated Assistant director of the North Florida Research and Education Center.

Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching

Dr. Neelendra Joshi

Dr. Neelendra Joshi is an Associate Professor of Entomology at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR. He earned a dual Ph.D. in Entomology and Comparative and International Education from Pennsylvania State University, USA, where he also completed his postdoctoral training in entomology.

Dr. Joshi is passionate about teaching entomology and is actively involved in curriculum development and pedagogy, focusing on courses like Insect Ecology, Pesticide Toxicology, Insect Morphology, Pesticide Ecotoxicology and Risk Assessment, and Professional Development in Entomology. Additionally, Dr. Joshi guest lectures in courses like Insect Pest Management (IPM) and Apiculture. His teaching approach combines lectures, assignments, and hands-on experiences to accommodate diverse learning styles. Dr. Joshi is committed to mentoring both graduate and undergraduate students and has successfully guided four Ph.D. and two M.S. Entomology students to degree completion and currently advises six Ph.D. and one M.S. student.

Dr. Joshi's research focuses on Pollinator Health, Pesticide Toxicology, and IPM in agricultural systems addressing critical issues through interdisciplinary approaches in Insect Ecology, Toxicology, and Environmental Risk Assessment. Dr. Joshi has authored/coauthored over 150 publications, including research articles, book chapters and extension articles and over 250 presentations at professional meetings in various countries. He is a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society and currently serves as an Associate Editor for the Journal of Economic Entomology, Environmental Entomology, and Ecological Entomology.

Recognition Award in Insect Physiology, Biochemistry and Toxicology

Dr. Adam Wong

Dr. Adam Chun Nin Wong is an Associate Professor in the Department of Entomology and Nematology at the University of Florida, where he leads a research program investigating the roles of gut microbiomes in shaping insect physiology, behavior, and insecticide resistance. His work spans a wide range of insect species, including the model organism *Drosophila melanogaster* and various agricultural pests.

Dr Wong's work has revealed how the gut microbiome supports insect development through B vitamin provision, how gut pathogens disrupt host metabolism leading to diseases, and how environmental factors like temperature modulate insecticide resistance by altering microbial communities. He is also recognized for discovering the microbiome's impact on insect foraging behavior and food preferences.

Since joining UF in 2017, Dr. Wong's research has been published in leading journals, such as *ISME Journal, Current Research in Insect Science, Current Biology,* and *Nature Microbiology*, with over 2,000 citations in the past five years. He actively contributes to the scientific community as an editorial board member for five journals and regularly serves on NIH, NSF, and USDA grant panels. As a committed mentor, Dr. Wong has mentored 59 undergraduates and several graduate students, many of whom have gone on to successful careers in STEM fields.

Originally from Hong Kong, Dr. Wong earned his BSc from the University of York, UK, an MPhil from the University of Hong Kong, and a Ph.D. in Entomology and Microbiology from Cornell University. He completed postdoctoral training at the University of Sydney and Harvard Medical School.

Distinguished Achievement Award in Horticultural Entomology

Dr. Lauren Diepenbrock

Lauren Diepenbrock, Assistant Professor of Entomology and Nematology and Entomology Extension Specialist is located at the Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred, FL. Her research is focused on citrus invertebrate pest ecology and development/evaluation of integrated pest management (IPM) programs for invertebrate pests in citrus. Dr. Diepenbrock's lab currently works on several field-based invertebrate management projects including research on Asian citrus psyllid, Diaprepes root weevil, hibiscus mealybug, chilli thrips, and Bulimulus snail applied ecology. Previous research includes spotted wing drosophila management (postdoc with Hannah Burrack), coccinellid community ecology (Ph.D. with Debbie Finke), and trap-jaw ant natural history (MS with Walter Tschinkel). Her extension program delivers information on invertebrate pests of citrus and their management. Lauren has been an active member of the Entomological Society of America since 2008. She has served on the Science Policy Committee, Leadership Development Committee, co-hosted the 2024 Invasive Species Tour, and is the current Vice President of the Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section. She has received the Early Career Professional Extension Award from the Entomological Society of America (2014), the Friends of IPM Future Leaders Award from the Southern IPM Center (2020), and the Friends of IPM Educator Award as one of the organizers of the UF IPM Academy (2021), and The Florida Entomological Society Extension Entomologist of the Year Award (2023).

Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension

Dr. Hugh Smith

Hugh Smith is an associate professor in the Department of Entomology and Nematology at the University of Florida (UF), based since 2011 at the IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center near Tampa, where he is the Vegetable Entomologist. Hugh's program focuses on addressing arthropod pests of specialty crops including tomato, watermelon, brassicas, pepper and snap bean, with an emphasis on management of whiteflies (*Bemisia tabaci* MEAM1), diamondback moth (*Plutella xylostella*) and various thrips species. Hugh specializes in evaluations of insecticide efficacy and development of insecticide susceptibility profiles for key pests across the state of Florida using serial dilution and maximum dose bioassays. This information is used to help growers, crop consultants and other stakeholders to optimize insecticide use within the context of season-long IPM programs. In addition, Hugh has developed pest management programs for alternative crops in Florida including hops, pomegranate and artichoke. His overseas work presently focuses on assisting agronomists and bean breeders in Central America and the Caribbean respond to the establishment of *Megalurothrips usitatus*, the twice banded bean thrips, a new invasive pest of legumes. Hugh's work with UF IFAS Extension agents includes leading the creation of a seven-module in-service training for agents entitled Fundamentals of Managing Arthropod Pests, an online learning tool produced by UF Entomology faculty.

Excellence in Early Career Award

Kaydie McCormick

Kaydie McCormick is the Residential Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator for UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County. She earned her Master of Science in Entomology and Nematology from the University of Florida in 2021 and has been with Extension since 2016. Kaydie combines her expertise in entomology, horticulture, and education to empower residents and volunteers to create sustainable landscapes and conserve natural resources.

Since joining Extension, Kaydie has hosted over 488 educational events for 14,844 participants, facilitated the conversion of 202,348 square feet of turf to sustainable landscapes, and helped save 3.15 million gallons of water annually. She has also developed 515 educational resources and conducted 2,089 consultations, saving residents an estimated $574,840 in diagnostic fees. Under her leadership, Master Gardener Volunteers have contributed 43,990 hours of service, valued at $1.2 million, significantly amplifying the reach of Extension programs.

Kaydie’s signature programs, such as "Get Your Grove On" and "4-H Butterfly Explorers," have addressed local needs for sustainable fruit production, IPM practices, and youth STEM education. Her efforts have been recognized with numerous awards, including seven from the American Society for Horticultural Sciences in 2024 for outstanding educational materials and programs.

Through innovative programming, mentorship, and partnerships, Kaydie remains dedicated to advancing Extension’s mission, empowering her community, and promoting environmental stewardship.

Student awards

John Henry Comstock Award

Dr. Mandeep Tayal

Dr. Mandeep Tayal is a Postdoctoral Research Scholar at North Carolina State University, working under the mentorship of Dr. Jim Walgenbach. His research focuses on insecticide resistance management in thrips species affecting tomato and peppers crops. Mandeep earned his Ph.D. from Clemson University in December 2024. He was a recipient of the Carl and Ruby Nettles Fellowship and conducted research under the guidance of Dr. Elizabeth Cieniewicz. His doctoral dissertation explored the interactions between peach trees, viruses, and pollinators, bridging the fields of plant pathology and entomology. Mandeep received his M.S. in Biology from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, where he worked under the mentorship of Dr. Rupesh Kariyat.

Mandeep has published eight peer-reviewed articles as a lead author, with five additional articles co-authored in prestigious journals, including *Science, PhytoFrontiers,* and *Journal of Economic Entomology*. He has received several research and travel awards both at university and regional levels. In 2024, Mandeep was honored with the university-wide **'**Outstanding Graduate Researcher Award' by Clemson University. Additionally, Mandeep served as the President of the PES Graduate Student Association in 2022 and mentored 15 undergraduate students, many of whom are successfully pursuing careers in academia and industry. Mandeep is dedicated to his research, academics, and professional development and is an exemplary scholar and asset to the scientific community and the broader academic environment.

Kirby Hays Memorial Award

Emily J. Le Falchier

Emily J. Le Falchier is a dedicated entomologist and researcher specializing in invasive plant management and biological control. She recently completed her Master of Science in Entomology and Nematology at the University of Florida. Her thesis research focused on understanding how abiotic factors influence the establishment of biocontrol agents like *Pseudophilothrips ichini* on invasive plant species such as Brazilian peppertree and how that information can be used to model their distribution potential in Florida. Her work provides biocontrol practitioners with information to help select effective release sites, potentially increasing the agent's impact and conserving limited resources such as time and money. In addition to her research, Emily has demonstrated a passion for education and outreach. She created the 4-H Insect-a-thon Workshop Series in 2020. The workshop has grown each year and now spans multiple counties in eastern Florida. Through this program, she has taught over 100 youths and their families about insect science, collection, and curation. This program gave many participants the tools and knowledge needed to achieve recognition in statewide competitions. Her extension efforts also include organizing outreach events that combine community involvement with education about invasive species and biological control. Emily’s professional experience spans over a decade, which is marked by her current role as Laboratory Manager of the Minteer Biological Control of Weeds Lab at the University of Florida/IFAS Indian River Research and Education Center. There, she designs and conducts field and laboratory experiments, manages insect colonies, and actively contributes to scientific literature with senior and junior authorship on numerous peer-reviewed publications.

Student Awards – 2024

ROBERT T. GAST AWARDS
Outstanding Ph.D. Oral Presentations

Session I
First Place, Johnson Brynn
University of Florida

Second Place, Sudeep Pandey
University of Georgia

Session II
First Place, Dayvion Adams
North Carolina State University

Second Place, Sabrina Elgar
University of Georgia

Session III
First Place, Tim Bryant
Clemson University

Second Place, Dylan Brown
Auburn University

Session IV
First Place, Julian Cosner
University of Tennessee

Second Place, Mary Jane Lytle
Mississippi State University

Session V

First Place, Paige Caine
Georgia Institute of Technology

Second Place, Taynara Possebom
North Carolina State University

Session VI

First Place, Brittany F Barnes
University of Georgia

Second Place, Brett Farmer
Mississippi State University

Outstanding Ph.D. Poster Presentations

Session I

First Place, Supraja Rajagopal
University of Georgia

Second Place, Kristin Hilborn
North Carolina State University

Session II

First Place, Mandeep Tayal
Clemson University

Second Place, Miriam Edelkind-Vealey
University of Georgia

Outstanding M.S. Oral Presentations

Session I

First Place, Makhali Voss
University of Tennessee

Second Place, Christine Gambino
Louisiana State University

Session II

First Place, Kaylin Lewandowski
North Carolina State University

Second Place, Yuna Gaire
Tennessee State University

Session III

First Place, Alexis Alsdorf
North Carolina State University

Second Place, Joel DuBois
Louisiana State University

Session IV

First Place, Claire Cooke
Auburn University

Second Place, Igor Schardong
North Carolina State University

Outstanding M.S Poster Presentations

Session I

First Place, Lindsey Stone
Clemson University

Second Place, Michael Huoni
University of Tennessee

Session II

First Place, My Ly
University of Arkansas

Second Place, Yasmin Ortiz
University of Florida

Outstanding Undergraduate Oral Presentations

First Place, Sacha Glynn
University of Florida

Second Place, Ella Kellner
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Outstanding Undergraduate Poster Presentations

First Place, Julia Hanson
The University of Southern Mississippi

Second Place, Jacqueline Bowling
University of Central Arkansas

Outstanding Extension, Outreach and Teaching Presentations

First Place, Latoyla Downs
The University of Southern Mississippi

Second Place, Sara Tafel
University of Florida

2024 Travel Awards

Jamilatu Issah – Fort Valley State University
Laissa Cavallini – North Carolina State University
Taynara Possebom – North Carolina State University
Sankara Ganesh – University of Florida
Binita Sigdel – Tennessee State University

2024 Entomology Games

Last year's winners were:

1st Place

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dayvion Adams (Captain)
Regan Daniels
Zachary Everson
Ariel Tarrand
Kaylin Lewandowski (Alternate)
COACH: Dr. Matt Bertone

2nd place

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Dylan Brown (Captain)
Kyle Oswalt
Theresa Wolff
Chelsea Smith
Isabella Owens (Alternate)
COACH: Dr. Blake Wilson

2025 Entomology Games

Catch this year's Entomology Games in Riverview B:
Preliminary Rounds: Sunday, March 9, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Final Rounds: Monday, March 10, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Program Summary Schedule by Date

SUNDAY, MARCH 9		
Time	**Session/Function**	**Location**
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Presentation Uploads	University Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Biological Control of Invasive Species in the Southeastern US	Capitol Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Registration	Foyer, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Entomology Games, Preliminary Rounds	Riverview B, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
6:30 PM - 10:30 PM	Tour: Light Trapping with the Louisiana State Arthropod Museum	Hotel Lobby, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Student Poster Setup	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Executive Committee Meeting	University Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
MONDAY, MARCH 10		
Time	**Session/Function**	**Location**
8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	Preliminary Business Meeting	Riverview B, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Masters Posters	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	PhD Posters	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Undergraduate Posters	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:45 AM - 9:30 AM	Governance Upgrade Town Hall with ESA President, Lina Bernaola	Riverview B, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Break	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Q&A with Student Poster Presenters	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Masters 10-Minute Paper Competition 1	Governor Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Masters 10-Minute Paper Competition 2	King Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Masters 10-Minute Paper Competition 3	Louisiana Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Masters 10-Minute Paper Competition 4	Paramount Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Student 10-Minute Extension, Outreach, and Teaching Competition	Victory Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 1	Governor Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 2	King Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 3	Louisiana Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 4	Paramount Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 5	Victory Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Entomology Games, Finals	Riverview B, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Student Poster Removal	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Welcome Reception & Crawfish Boil	Pool Deck, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
TUESDAY, MARCH 11		
Time	**Session/Function**	**Location**
6:30 AM - 8:30 AM	5K Levee Run/Walk	Sing the River Sculpture (6:15 AM in the hotel lobby)
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Past Presidents Breakfast	Hotel Restaurant, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Regular Poster Setup	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	A Multi-State Update on Stink Bug Invasions and Addressing the Growing Threat to Southeastern Agriculture	King Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Connecting the Dots of Honey Bee Biology with Collaboration	Louisiana Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Tick-Borne Diseases in the Age of Artificial Intelligence	Victory Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	FIT Poster Session	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	MUVE Poster Session	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	P-IE Poster Session	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	SysEB and PBT Poster Session	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Master the Art of Macro-Photography: Field Techniques for Insect Enthusiasts!	Capitol Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM	The Endemic Status Sweetpotato Whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci*, and Chronic Incidences of Whitefly-Transmited Viruses in the Southeast: Implications for Research and Management	Governor Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Tips for Successful Writing and Publishing	Paramount Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Q&A with Contributed Poster Presenters	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
12:15 PM - 1:45 PM	Awards Luncheon	Riverview A, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Data Analysis in R	Capitol Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Fundamental Approaches In Ecology And Molecular Biology For Understanding Plant-Insect Interactions	King Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Research and Extension Updates in Turfgrass and Ornamental Entomology	Louisiana Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Ten-Minute Paper Oral 1	Paramount Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Updates in Innovative Research and Collaborations in Urban Entomology in the Southeastern US	Governor Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Business Meeting	King Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Regular Poster Removal	Heidelberg Ballroom, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
6:45 PM - 8:00 PM	Student and Early Career Professional Lightning Interviews and Networking	Riverview A, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12		
Time	**Session/Function**	**Location**
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Challenges and Future Directions for Species Distribution Modeling and Remote Sensing in Insects and Plants	Governor Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Reviewer Recruitment Workshop: Review, Publish, or Perish	Capitol Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Ten-Minute Paper Oral 2	King Room, Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center

Sunday, March 9, 2025, Afternoon

Biological Control of Invasive Species in the Southeastern US

Capitol Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Nicole Quinn[1], Sriyanka Lahiri[2], [1]Univ. of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida - Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Wimauma, FL

1:00 Welcoming remarks

1:02 1 Updates of biological control projects of non-native insects and weeds in Louisiana. **Rodrigo Diaz** (rdiaz@agcenter.lsu.edu), Tanner Sparks, Brandi Misiaszek, Flaminia Mariani and Victoria Ayala, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

1:17 2 Procedures for assuring the effectiveness of hosts for mass-reared biological control agents. **Norman Leppla** (ncleppla@ufl.edu)[1] and Cleveland Ivey[2], [1]Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida-Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Wimauma, FL

1:32 3 Identifying opportunities and building conservation into agricultural landscapes. **Jason Schmidt** (jschmid2@uga.edu)[1], Joshua Grant[1] and Bodie Pennisi[2], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA, [2]Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

1:47 Break

2:02 4 Advancing biocontrol in conventional and organic systems for invasive Brassica insect pests. **Tom Bilbo** (tbilbo@clemson.edu), Amna Ghani and Pragya Kiju, Clemson Univ., Charleston, SC

2:17 5 Air potato vs. its beetles: The role of plant defenses on the performance of classical biological control agents. **Philip Hahn** (hahnp@ufl.edu)[1], Jasleen Kaur[1], Lucia Navia[1], Emma Hair[1] and Octavio Menocal[2], [1]Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL, [2]Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL

2:32 6 Biological control of earleaf acacia. **Sara Salgado** (sara.salgadoast@ufl.edu)[1], Emily Le Falchier[1], Lindsay Campbell[2], Melissa Smith[3], Ryan Zonneveld[4] and Carey Minteer[1], [1]Univ. of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida, Vero Beach, FL, [3]USDA-ARS, Davie, FL, [4]CSIRO, Brisbane, Australia

2:47 7 Biological control of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood in strawberry using predatory mite and *Orius insidiosus*. **Sriyanka Lahiri** (lahiris@ufl.edu)[1], Allan Busuulwa[1] and Lovely Adhikary[2], [1]Univ. of Florida - Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Wimauma, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida, Wimauma, FL

3:02 Concluding remarks

3:04 Discussion and networking

Monday, March 10, 2025, Morning

Undergraduate Posters

Heidelberg Ballroom (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

P-1 Effects of ACE Inhibitors, Lisinopril and Captopril on *Aedes aegypti*, *Aedes albopictus* and *Culex tarsalis* female mosquito survival. **Efe Martins** (efemartins10@gmail.com)[1,2], Danilo De Carvalho Leandro[2], Aritra Bhattacharya[2] and Tereza Magalhaes[2], [1]Univ. of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, TX, [2]Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX

P-2 Herbivory variability in Florida plants: Rare species show higher mean but less skewed distributions of damage. **Emma Hair** (emmahair123@yahoo.com), Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

P-3 Observing aquatic macroinvertebrate ability to survive desiccation. **Lillian Blanchard** (leb050@email.latech.edu), Madeline De Vries and Julia Earl, Louisiana Tech Univ., Ruston, LA

P-4 Internship program for undergraduate students: Using honey bees as an entry to entomology. **Jada Latore** (Jada.latore@sus.edu)[1,2], Elizabeth Walsh[2] and Veronica Manrique[1], [1]Southern Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]USDA-ARS, Baton Rouge, LA

P-5 Evaluation of pre-harvest interval for pyrethrin against corn earworm *Helicoverpa zea* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) in hemp *Cannabis sativa*. **Favour Nwanekezi** (fnwanekezi@alasu.edu)[1], Mercy Adesanmi[2], Ivy Thweatt[2], Junhuan Xu[3] and Olufemi Ajayi[2], [1]The Industrial Hemp Program, Alabama State Univ., Montgomery, AL, [2]Alabama State Univ., Montgomery, AL, [3]Dept. of Biological Sciences, Alabama State Univ., Montgomery, AL

P-6 Emerging from the sand: Aquatic invertebrate response to rehydration. **Madeline de Vries** (mdd032@latech.edu)[1], Lillian Blanchard[2] and Julia Earl[2], [1]Louisiana Tech Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana Tech Univ., Ruston, LA

Masters Posters

Heidelberg Ballroom (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

P-7 The succession of forensically important terrestrial and aquatic arthropods in north Florida. **Maya Mancle** (maya1.mancle@famu.edu)[1] and Lee Bushong[2], [1]Student, Tallahassee, FL, [2]Member, Tallahassee, FL

P-8 Toxicity of insecticidal gel baits against several developmental stages of American cockroach *Periplaneta americana* (Blattodea: Blattidae). **Ashmita Sapkota** (azs0457@auburn.edu) and Arthur Appel, Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL

P-9 Long-term monitoring of insect scale (*Nipponaclerda biwakoensis*) and Common reed in inner and outer stands of the Mississippi River Delta. **Zoie Harris** (zoie.harris@sus.edu)[1], Derrick Boast[1], Logan Herbert[2], Karina Nolasco[2], Tanner Sparks[2], Joshua Snook[2], Rodrigo Diaz[2], Yadong Qi[1] and Veronica Manrique[1], [1]Southern Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

P-10 Pollinator community response to urban development in central Arkansas. **Mary McSpadden** (mmcspadden7@cub.uca.edu) and Opeyemi Adedoja, Univ. of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR

P-11 Biocontrol of *Plodia interpunctella* through parasitoid-nematode interactions. **Jamilatu Issah** (ijamilat@wildcat.fvsu.edu)[1], Sanower Warsi[1], James Danso[1], David Shapiro-Ilan[2] and George Mbata[1], [1]Fort Valley State Univ., Fort Valley, GA, [2]USDA - ARS, Byron, GA

P-12 Synergistic potential of *Xylocoris flavipes* (Reuter) (Hemiptera: Anthocoridae) and entomopathogenic nematodes in managing stored-product insect pests. **Emediong Enobong** (eenobong@wildcat.fvsu.edu)[1], George Mbata[1], James Danso[1] and David Shapiro-Ilan[2], [1]Fort Valley State Univ., Fort Valley, GA, [2]USDA-Agricultural Research Service, Byron, GA

P-13 Sequencing of a novel DNA filamentous virus in the biocontrol agent *Diachasmimorpha longicaudata*. **Charles Dawe** (cdawe@vols.utk.edu)[1], Tyler Simmonds[2], Renee Corpuz[2], Angela Kauwe[2], Scott Geib[3] and Kelsey Coffman[4], [1]Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, Knoxville, TN, [2]USDA-ARS, Hilo, HI, [3]USDA - ARS, Hilo, HI, [4]Univ. of Tennessee Knoxville, Knoxville, TN

P-14 Enhancing entomopathogenic nematode efficacy in managing small hive beetles through ultraviolet radiation mitigation. **Bibechana Paudel** (bibechana.paudel@fvsu.edu)[1], Sanower Warsi[1], David Shapiro-Ilan[2] and George Mbata[1], [1]Fort Valley State Univ., Fort Valley, GA, [2]USDA - ARS, Byron, GA

P-15 Evaluation of *Ganaspis kimorum* on *Drosophila suzukii* in commercial berries and wild host fruits in Florida. **Stella Ruber** (sruber@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

PhD Posters

Heidelberg Ballroom (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

P-16 Molecular regulation of age polytheism in the Formosan subterranean termite, *Coptotermes formosanus*. **Arjun Khadka** (AKhadka@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], Hasim Hakanoglu[1], Sang-Bin Lee[2] and Qian Sun[1], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Univ. of Florida, Davie, FL

P-17 Decoding the dynamics of thrips and TSWV spread in peanut fields across the Florida Panhandle. **Manisha Yadav** (manishayadav@ufl.edu) and Isaac Esquivel, Univ. of Florida, Quincy, FL

P-18 Developing a pollen nutrition database for all bees in North America. **Lauren Baugus** (Lnj113@msstate.edu)[1], Max Simon[2], Ramesh Sagili[2] and Priyadarshini Chakrabarti Basu[1], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [2]Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR

P-19 Effect of industrial air pollution on pollinator health in Louisiana: Using honey bees as bioindicators. **Cynthia Ogbu** (cynthia.ogbu@sus.edu)[1], Veronica Manrique[1], Kate Ihle[2] and Lanie Bilodeau[2], [1]Southern Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]USDA ARS Honey bee breeding and genetics, BATON ROUGE, LA

P-20 Performance of four fall armyworm populations on three host plants. **Jyoti Sharma** (jsharma@lsu.edu) and Michael J. Stout, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

P-21 Functional characterization of acetyl-CoA carboxylase in physiology and development of the green peach aphid, *Myzus persicae*. **Srabani Saha** (ssaha9@lsu.edu) and Honglin Feng, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

P-22 Functions of transcription factors in bacteriocyte specification during aphid embryonic development. **Yaping Ding** (yding21@lsu.edu)[1] and Honglin Feng[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ. AgCenter, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

P-23 Exploring the impact of landscape diversity on bee microbiomes: Implications for conservation and sustainability. **Abaranjitha Muniyasamy** (amuniyas@uark.edu) and Neelendra Joshi, Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

P-24 Role of probiotics and micronutrients in protecting bees (Hymenoptera: Apoidea: Anthophila) from pathogens and pesticide exposure. **Duy Trinh** (duyt@uark.edu) and Neelendra Joshi, Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

P-25 Insecticidal activities of plant essential oils and biorational insecticides against the harlequin bug *Murgantia histrionica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) under laboratory conditions. **Gurveer Singh** (gurveers@uark.edu), Duy Trinh, Ngoc Phan and Neelendra Joshi, Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

Masters 10-Minute Paper Competition 1

Governor Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Mandeep Tayal, Clemson Univ., Clemson, SC

10:00 **8** Exploring population trends and potential chemical control of invasive *Bulimulus* snails in Florida citrus. **Sankara Ganesh** (sankaraganesh2001@gmail.com) and Lauren Diepenbrock, Univ. of Florida, Lake Alfred, FL

10:12 **9** Herbivore communities of invasive Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) in Louisiana's forests. **Brandi Misiaszek** (bmisia1@lsu.edu)[1], Rodrigo Diaz[1] and Amy Roda[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Miami, FL

10:24 **10** Egg parasitoid complex of *Leptoglossus zonatus* Dallas (Hemiptera: Coreidae) in North and Central Florida. **Md Tafsir Nur Nabi Rashed** (rashed.md@ufl.edu)[1], Elijah Talamas[2], Adam Dale[1], Nicole Benda[3] and Amanda Hodges[1], [1]Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL, [2]Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL, [3]Florida Dept. of Agriculture, Division of Plant Industry, Gainesville, FL

10:36 **11** The effects of host plant species on monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) development time. **Sheri Holmes** (sheri.holmes@ufl.edu)[1], Jaret Daniels[2], Carey Minteer[3] and Adam Dale[2], [1]Univ. of FLorida, Fort Pierce, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL, [3]Univ. of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL

10:48 **12** Efficacy of soil-applied insecticides for the control of wireworms (*Melanotus communis*). **Carlos Rivera** (CRiveraOliver@agcenter.lsu.edu), Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

11:00 **13** Developing management strategies for the invasive snail *Bulimulus bonariensis* using behavioral traits. **Kathi Malfa** (m.kathi428@ufl.edu), Xavier Martini and Isaac Esquivel, Univ. of Florida, Quincy, FL

11:12 **14** Spatial placement of insectary plants for arthropod pest management in vegetable production. **Manju Yogi** (manjuyogi036@gmail.com), Kaushalya Amarasekare and Binita Sigdel, Tennessee State Univ., Nashville, TN

11:24 **15** Impacts of simulated three cornered alfalfa hopper damage on cotton yield. **Reece Butler** (rsb323@msstate.edu)[1], Whitney Crow[2], Tyler Towles[3], Don Cook[3], Angus Catchot[4] and Fred Musser[4], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Starkville, MS, [2]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi, MS, [3]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS, [4]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS

Masters 10-Minute Paper Competition 2

King Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Conor Fair, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

10:00 **16** Efficacy of sprayer drones in insect pest management of soybean. **Saurav Ranabhat** (sranabhat@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], James Michael Villegas[1,2], Randy Price[2], Jayvee Bruno[1], Leroy Lopez[2] and O'Neal Edward[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Dean Lee Research Station, Alexandria, LA

10:12 **17** The efficacy of commercially available materials as deterrents against *Bulimulus bonariensis* (Rafinesque, 1833). **Noah Barguez-arias** (nbarguezarias@ufl.edu)[1], Nicholas Larson[2] and Nicole Quinn[1], [1]Univ. of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL, [2]USDA, ARS, Fort Pierce, FL

10:24 **18** Visually estimating soybean defoliation in eastern North Carolina. **Igor Sulzbacher Schardong** (isulzba@ncsu.edu) and Dominic Reisig, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

10:36 **19** The value of insecticide seed treatments in conventional and cover crop systems. **Evan Watts** (etw108@msstate.edu)[1], Whitney Crow[2], Don Cook[3], Tyler Towles[3] and Jason Bond[3], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Starkville, MS, [2]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi, MS, [3]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS

10:48 **20** Using semiochemicals, trap crop and visual cues in a push-pull strategy to control whiteflies in tomato. **Hellenah Khunga** (khungahellenah@ufl.edu), Student, Quincy, FL

11:00 **21** Impact of planting date on insect pressure in Alabama soybeans. **Megan Woodall** (mlw0100@auburn.edu) and Scott Graham, Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL

11:12 **22** Integrated pest management of potyviruses: Evaluating the effects of border crops and alternative controls in sweet potato fields. **Reuel Pablo** (rpablo@agcenter.lsu.edu), Berenice Romero and Jeffrey Davis, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

11:24 **23** Susceptibility of current commercial soybean cultivars to red banded stink bug (*Piezodorus guildinii*). **Cristofer Martinez** (cmartinez@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1] and Jeffrey Davis[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ. Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

Masters 10-Minute Paper Competition 3

Louisiana Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Shimat Joseph, Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

10:00 **24** Using stable isotope analysis to clarify the trophic ecology of pond insects. **Shelby Medlock** (shelbyannmedlock@gmail.com) and Julia Earl, Louisiana Tech Univ., Ruston, LA

10:12 **25** Secrets of the *Xylosandrus crassiusculus* mycangium: Using transcriptomics to study the ambrosia beetle-fungus symbiosis. **Miranda Barnes** (mirandabarnes@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

10:24 **26** How real-time satellite monitoring can enhance the biological control of giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*) in Louisiana? **Victoria Ayala** (vmoreno@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], David Kinsler[2], Iván Grijalva[1] and

Rodrigo Diaz[1], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Rhodes Univ., Grahamstown, South Africa

10:36 **27** Evaluating the impacts of lignin grafted PLGA copper sulfide nanoparticles (CuS LNPs) on plant defenses. **Poorna Munagala** (pmunagala@agcenter.lsu.edu), Carlos Astete, Cristina Sabliov and Jeffrey Davis, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

10:48 **28** Bacterial pesticidal proteins active against first instar nymphs of the Asian citrus psyllid, *Diaphorina citri*. **Morgana De Souza Miranda** (mdesouzamiranda@ufl.edu), Clebson Dos Santos Tavares, Ruchir Mishra and Bryony Bonning, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

11:00 **29** Characterizing rootworm feeding and its impact on peanut pod yield. **Jeret Royston** (jtr10839@uga.edu), Graduate Student, Royston, GA

11:12 **30** Utilizing resistant rootstocks for the management of peachtree borer (*Synanthedon exitiosa*) in peach. **Adam Schacherer** (als67974@uga.edu)[1], Ted Cottrell[2], Dario Chavez[3] and Brett Blaauw[1], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA, [2]USDA-ARS, Byron, GA, [3]Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

11:24 **31** Elucidating the key volatiles involved in rice-rice stink bug interactions. **Laila Araujo Santos** (LailaSantos@agcenter.lsu.edu), Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

Masters 10-Minute Paper Competition 4

Paramount Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Lovely Adhikary, Univ. of Florida, Wimauma, FL

10:00 **32** Identification and characterization of heat-shock-protein-70 (HSP70) genes in *Tribolium castaneum* (red flour beetle) under different climatic conditions. **Arsalan Ahmad** (arsalanahmad6446@gmail.com), Univ. of the Punjab, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan

10:12 **33** Exploring sand excavation potential in dark southern drywood termite *Kalotermes approximatus*. **Rebecca Valentine** (rav0025@auburn.edu) and Nobuaki Mizumoto, Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL

10:24 **34** Bait acceptance and seasonal activity of the Asian needle ant *Brachyponera* (*Pachycondyla*) *chinensis* (Emery), an emerging medically important species in central Georgia. **Karen Corsetti** (corsettikaren@gmail.com), Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

10:36 **35** Can nano-delivered azadirachtin repel and deter *Myzus persicae*? **Celeste Mejia Gonzalez** (CGonzalez@agcenter.lsu.edu), Carlos Astete, Cristina Sabliov and Jeffrey Davis, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

10:48 **36** Automatic detection of roseau cane scale using machine learning approaches. **Joshua Broussard** (jwbroussard@agcenter.lsu.edu), Rodrigo Diaz and Ivan Grijalva, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

11:00 **37** Does insect physiology predict the behavioral response of two biological control agents of the emerald ash borer? **Vanshika Jindal** (Vjindal@agcenter.lsu.edu) and Todd Johnson, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

11:12 **38** Assessing the impacts of bottom-up effect on larval development and reproductive ecology of two species of longhorn beetles, *Neoaclytus acuminatus* and *Xylotrechus colonus*. **Chiranjivi Sharma** (csharma@agcenter.lsu.edu), Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

11:24 **39** Screening of various industrial grade amorphous silicas (SAS) and combination of menadione (vitamin K3) to determine the additive effects at different relative humidity for management of German cockroach (*Blattella germanica. L*). **Mohamed Shaik** (Mshaik@agcenter.lsu.edu), James A. Ottea, Qian Sun and Aaron Ashbrook, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

Student 10-Minute Extension, Outreach, and Teaching Competition

Victory Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Jyoti Sharma, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

10:00 **40** Eight legged freaks...friends? Correcting misconceptions about brown recluses with video learning **Lauren Osborn** (Lauren.e.osborn@okstate.edu), Haley Hahn, W. Hoback and Andrine A. Shufran, Oklahoma State Univ., Stillwater, OK

10:12 **41** Impact of *Phragmites australis* genetic diversity on coastal restoration in the Mississippi River Delta. **Karina Nolasco** (knolasco@agcenter.lsu.edu), Joshua Snook, Jonathan Richards and Rodrigo Diaz, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

10:24 **42** Managing pyrethroid resistant rice stink bug in the mid-south: Where do we go from here? **Mary Jane Lytle** (mjl449@msstate.edu)[1], Don Cook[1], Whitney Crow[2], Tyler Towles[1], Jeff Gore[1], Jason Bond[1], Angus Catchot[3], Nick Bateman[4], Chase Floyd[5] and Lina Bernaola[6], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS, [2]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi, MS, [3]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [4]Univ. of Arkansas, Stuttgart, AR, [5]Univ. of Missouri, Portageville, MO, [6]Texas A&M Univ. AgriLife Research, Beaumont, TX

10:36 **43** Well, that didn't work! Controlling *Alphitobius diaperinus* in built-up poultry litter operations. **Raymond Fitzpatrick** (rg@uga.edu) and Nancy C. Hinkle, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

Monday, March 10, 2025, Afternoon

PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 1

Governor Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Kaushalya Amarasekare, Tennessee State Univ., Nashville, TN

1:30 **44** Exploring the role of wildflowers in conservation biological control for hemp: Effects on natural enemy populations. **Ivy Thweatt** (ithweatt4787@myasu.alasu.edu)[1], Junhuan Xu[2], Muhammad Saleem[1] and Olufemi Ajayi[1], [1]Alabama State Univ., Montgomery, AL, [2]Dept. of Biological Sciences, Alabama State Univ., Montgomery, AL

1:42 **45** Evaluating tarnished plant bug management strategies based on newly emerging technologies in Mississippi cotton. **Brett Farmer** (wbf44@msstate.edu)[1], Whitney Crow[2], Tyler Towles[3], Don Cook[3], Brian Pieralisi[4] and Brian Mills[1], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [2]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi, MS, [3]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS, [4]Mississippi State Univ., Starkville, MS

1:54 **46** Non-backcrossed populations result in a considerable underestimation of fitness costs and overestimation of dominance levels of Bt resistance in *Helicoverpa zea*. **Shucong Lin** (SLin@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], Graham Head[2], Tiago Silva[3], Bhavana Patla[4] and Fangneng Huang[3], [1]Louisiana State Univ. Agricultural Center, Banton Rouge, LA, [2]Monsanto Company, St. Louis, MO, [3]Louisiana State Univ. Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA, [4]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

2:06 **47** Evaluating the efficacy of insecticide-treated seed for managing rice water weevil (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) in alternate wetting and drying rice systems. **Jared Linn** (linn@uark.edu)[1], Nick Bateman[2], Benjamin Thrash[3], Camila Nicolli[2], Rupesh Kariyat[1], Stephen Felts[2] and Patrick Maris[2], [1]Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, [2]Univ. of Arkansas, Stuttgart, AR, [3]Univ. of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, Lonoke, AR

2:18 **48** Evaluation of plant growth regulator rates on tarnished plant bug density in ThryvOn cotton. **Hunter Lipsey** (hl866@msstate.edu)[1], Tyler Towles[1], Don Cook[1], Whitney Crow[2], Fred Musser[3], Brian Pieralisi[4], Corey Bryant[1] and Mary Jane Lytle[1], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS, [2]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi, MS, [3]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [4]Mississippi State Univ., Starkville, MS

2:30 **49** Rearing *Neoseiulus cucumeris* and *Amblyseius swirskii* (Mesostigmata: Phytoseiidae) on non-target species reduces their predation efficacy on target species. **Allan Busuulwa** (abusuulwa@ufl.edu) and Sriyanka Lahiri, Univ. of Florida - Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Wimauma, FL

2:42 **50** Determining the impact of resistant cultivars against the rice billbug (*Sphenophorus pertinax* Olivier) in furrow-irrigated rice (*Oryza sativa* L.). **Tyler Musgrove** (tmusgr1@lsu.edu)[1], James Michael Villegas[2], Kim Landry[3], Michael Stout[2], Blake Wilson[1], Chase Floyd[4], Nick Bateman[5] and Don Cook[6], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [3]LSU AgCenter, Jennings, LA, [4]Univ. of Missouri, Portageville, MO, [5]Univ. of Arkansas, Stuttgart, AR, [6]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS

2:54 **51** Feeding preferences of *Podisus maculiventris*: Predation on eggs of three stink bug species. **Anjana Duwal** (aduwal1@lsu.edu) and Jeffrey Davis, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 2

King Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Karla Addesso, Tennessee State Univ., McMinnville, TN

1:30 **52** Effects of fall and spring defoliation on plant cane growth. **Schyler Lee** (SLee@agcenter.lsu.edu) and Blake Wilson, Louisiana State Univ., Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA

1:42 **53** Soybean leaf trichomes have cascading effects on soybean looper under drought and herbivory. **Manish Gautam** (mgautam@uark.edu)[1], Karen Alanis[2] and Rupesh Kariyat[1], [1]Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, [2]Univ. of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, TX

1:54 **54** Feasting under stress: How invasive species and environmental factors shape biocontrol of *Orius insidiosus*. **Malcolm Peavy** (peavy@uga.edu), Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

2:06 **55** Exploring bee diversity and phenology in Georgia turfgrass production farms. **Zia Williamson** (zvw40648@uga.edu) and Shimat Joseph, Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

2:18 **56** Managing insect pests in ultra-late soybeans. **Susanne Deeb** (smd74447@uga.edu)[1], G. David Buntin[1] and Phillip Roberts[2], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA, [2]Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA

2:30 **57** Fine-scale distributions of *Amblyomma americanum* (Acari: Ixodidae) in differing habitats of the southeastern United States. **Dayvion Adams** (dradams4@ncsu.edu) and Michael Reiskind, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

2:42 **58** Refining treatment thresholds of insect pests in South Carolina soybeans using simulated injury and natural populations. **Adam Whitfield**

(aywhitf@g.clemson.edu)[1], Jeremy Greene[1], Francis Reay-Jones[2], Michael Plumblee[1] and Kendall Kirk[1], [1]Clemson Univ., Blackville, SC, [2]Clemson Univ., Florence, SC

2:54 **59** Consequences of constitutive and fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) feeding induced rice (*Oryza sativa*) foliar volatiles on arthropod community. **Devi Balakrishnan** (devib@uark.edu)[1], Nick Bateman[2] and Rupesh Kariyat[1], [1]Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, [2]Univ. of Arkansas, Stuttgart, AR

PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 3

Louisiana Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Alfred Daniel Johnson, Tennessee State Univ., McMinneville, TN

1:30 **60** Decoding the generations: Phenology of *Systena frontalis* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) in ornamental container nurseries in Georgia. **Rajesh Vavilapalli** (rajesh4ento@gmail.com) and Shimat Villanassery Joseph, Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

1:42 **61** Investigating the damage potential of clouded plant bugs (*Neurocolpus nubilus* (Say)) in ThryvOn cotton. **Nathan Arey** (narey@vols.utk.edu) and Sebe Brown, Univ. of Tennessee, Jackson, TN

1:54 **62** A factitious sentinel host and yellow pan trap survey of potential parasitoids of hibiscus mealybug (*Nipaecoccus viridis* Newstead, Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae) in South Florida. **Hyojin Jeong** (hyojin.jeong@ufl.edu)[1], Robert Kresslein[2], Michael Gates[3] and Nicole Quinn[4], [1]Univ. of Florida, Fort pierce, FL, [2]USDA-ARS, Washington, DC, [3]USDA - ARS, Washington, DC, [4]Univ. of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL

2:06 **63** Compatibility of insecticidal seed treatment and host plant resistance in management of stem borers in rice. **Muhammad Khan** (mkhan56@lsu.edu)[1], Michael Stout[2] and Blake Wilson[3], [1]Louisiana state university, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [3]Louisiana State Univ., Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA

2:18 **64** Plinazolin technology fit in ThryvOn and non- ThryvOn cotton systems. **Caleb Rice** (Crr315@msstate.edu)[1], Whitney Crow[2], Tyler Towles[3], Don Cook[3], Fred Musser[4], Brian Pieralisi[5], Brett Farmer[4], Reece Butler[5] and Evan Watts[5], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Indianola, MS, [2]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi, MS, [3]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS, [4]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [5]Mississippi State Univ., Starkville, MS

2:30 **65** Population dynamics and reproductive success of the redbanded stink bug (*Piezodorus guildinii*) on six soybean breeding lines. **Chancy Sibakwe** (csibakwe@agcenter.lsu.edu) and Jeffrey Davis, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

2:42 **66** An understudied frontier: Canopy beetle communities in an imperiled ecosystem. **Thomas Sheehan** (thomas.sheehan@uga.edu)[1,2], Lindsey Grimes[2], Thomas Ohmen[2], Sydney Pleak[3], Christine Favorito[2], Joseph McHugh[1] and Kier Klepzig[2], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA, [2]The Jones Center at Ichauway, Newton, GA, [3]Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy, Tallahassee, FL

2:54 **67** Do sweet alyssum flowers (*Lobularia maritima*) enhance the biological control of diamondback moth (*Plutella xylostella*) in commercial Brassica farms? **Amna Ghani** (aghani@clemson.edu) and Tom Bilbo, Clemson Univ., Charleston, SC

PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 4

Paramount Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Kripa Dhakal, Tennessee State Univ., McMinnville, TN

1:30 **68** Entomopathogenic nematodes for mealybug management. **Zachary Everson** (zaeverso@ncsu.edu)[1] and Steven D. Frank[2], [1]North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC, [2]Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD

1:42 **69** Influence of forest duff manipulation on *Euschistus servus* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) overwintering survival. **Kevin Orta** (korta@ncsu.edu) and Dominic Reisig, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

1:54 **70** Analyses of thrips vector and plant viromes in peanut pathosystem reveal orthotospovirus transmission networks. **Vamsidhar Reddy Netla** (vn98101@uga.edu)[1], Mark Abney[2], Sudeep Bag[3], Sudeep Pandey[1], Michael Catto[4] and Rajagopalbabu Srinivasan[1], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA, [2]Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA, [3]Univ. of Georgia, Tifton Campus, Tifton, GA, [4]Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

2:06 **71** Understanding pheromone traps for monitoring stink bug populations in varied soybean stages. **Taynara Possebom** (tposseb@ncsu.edu) and Dominic Reisig, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

2:18 **72** Sequential and intermittent herbivory by fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*, FAW) and the soybean looper (*Chrysodeixis includens*, SL) has transgenerational effects on Soybean. **Insha Shafi** (i002@uark.edu) and Rupesh Kariyat, Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

2:30 **73** Impact of seed-blend and structured refuges on *Helicoverpa zea* mating success and fecundity in Bt and non-Bt corn. **Alexis Alsdorf** (amiddle@ncsu.edu)[1], Charles Kwadha[1], Coby Schal[1], Francis Reay-Jones[2], Anders Huseth[1] and Dominic Reisig[1], [1]North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC, [2]Clemson Univ., Florence, SC

2:42 **74** Longevity of insecticide residue in blueberries: Implications for pest management and pollinator

safety. **Rosan Adhikari** (ra84320@uga.edu) and Ashfaq Sial, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

PhD Student 10-min Paper Competition 5

Victory Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Md Tafsir Nur Nabi Rashed, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

1:30 **75** Oviposition behavior of *Scirtothrips dorsalis*: A comparative study among strawberry cultivars. **Lovely Adhikary** (l.adhikary@ufl.edu)[1] and Sriyanka Lahiri[2], [1]Univ. of Florida, Wimauma, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida - Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Wimauma, FL

1:42 **76** Role of brown midrib (BMR), herbivory, and phenology on attractant and repellent qualities of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). **Alejandro Vasquez** (arv006@uark.edu)[1], Joe Louis[2] and Rupesh Kariyat[1], [1]Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, [2]Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

1:54 **77** Testing strategies to slow down the development of insecticide resistance in the yellow fever mosquito *Aedes aegypti*. **Dylan Brown** (djb0094@auburn.edu), Michael Dub, Josh Manganaris and Nannan Liu, Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL

2:06 **78** *Wolbachia* influences blood meal diuresis, erythrocyte lysis, and hemoglobin digestion in the common bed bug, *Cimex lectularius*. **Elizabeth Wiles** (elwiles@ncsu.edu), Madhavi Kakumanu and Coby Schal, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

2:18 **79** Role of ant population on aphids and beneficial insects in pecan production system. **Shivakumar Veerlapati** (Shivakumar.Veerlapati@uga.edu), Rajendra Acharya and Apurba Barman, Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA

2:30 **80** Developing gene drives for the suppression of pest *Drosophila*. **Ariel Tarrand** (aetarran@ncsu.edu), Amarish Yadav, Akihiko Yamamoto and Maxwell Scott, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

2:42 **81** The impact of border type on insect diversity in peach orchards of Georgia, USA. **Jamal Hunter** (jhunter7stallions@gmail.com)[1], Paul Severns[2], Dr. Angelita Acebes-Doria[3], Glen Rains[4] and Brett Blaauw[1], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA, [2]Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR, [3]USDA ARS, Hilo, HI, [4]Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA

2:54 **82** Evaluation of insectary plant spatial arrangements on biological control in cabbage. **Pragya Kiju** (pragyakiju4488@gmail.com)[1] and Tom Bilbo[2], [1]Clemson, Charleston, SC, [2]Clemson Univ., Charleston, SC

Tuesday, March 11, 2025, Morning

FIT Poster Session

Heidelberg Ballroom (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

P-26 How Can ESA Help You Succeed? **Stacie East** (seast@entsoc.org) and Chris Stelzig, Entomological Society of America, Annapolis, MD

P-27 Reviving Bug and Plant Camp at Mississippi State University. Beverly Keasler, Jennifer Seltzer and **JoVonn Hill** (jgh4@msstate.edu), Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS

MUVE Poster Session

Heidelberg Ballroom (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

P-28 Nonviremic Co-Feeding Transmission of Tick-borne Flavivirus: Investigating the Role of Cutaneous Innate Immune Cells in Virus Transmission Between Co-Feeding Ticks. **Sarah Macon-Foley** (sm2338@jagmail.southalabama.edu) and Meghan Hermance, Univ. of South Alabama, Mobile, AL

P-29 The Affect of Abiotic Factors on the Off-host Survivability of *Amblyomma maculatum* in Mobile and Baldwin counties, Alabama. **Emily Ward** (emw2322@jagmail.southalabama.edu) and Meghan Hermance, Univ. of South Alabama, Mobile, AL

P-30 A programmatic overview of the Gulf South Vector Educational Centers for Training, Outreach, and Resources (VECTOR) Group. **Mark Janowiecki** (janowiecki.12@osu.edu)[1], Janet Hurley[2] and Claudia Riegel[3], [1]City of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA, [2]Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Dallas, TX, [3]City of New Orleans Mosquito, Termite & Rodent Control Board, New Orleans, LA

P-31 Coleoptera Species Diversity. Lee Bushong[1], **Keniya Thompson** (Keniya1.thompson@famu.edu)[2] and Qiara King[2], [1]Member, Tallahassee, FL, [2]Student, Tallahasse, FL

P-32 Exploring the isoxazolines as potential late-life acting insecticides against the common malaria mosquito, *Anopheles quadrimaculatus*. **Lillie Rooney** (rooney.lillie@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

P-33 How Do We Protect People from Alpha-Gal Syndrome in the Southeast? **Nancy C. Hinkle** (nhinkle@uga.edu)[1], Greg Pittman[2] and Raymond Fitzpatrick[1], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA, [2]Univ. of Georgia, Jefferson, GA

P-34 The Effect of Hybridization on the Chemistry of Fire Ant Dufour's Gland. **Jian Chen** (jian.chen@usda.gov), USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS

P-IE Poster Session

Heidelberg Ballroom (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

P-35 'Trap Solution' for the Management of the Harlequin Bug on Crucifers. **Beatrice Dingha** (bndingha@ncat.edu), Ikponmwosa Egbon and Louis Jackai, North Carolina A&T State Univ., Greensboro, NC

P-36 Sustainable and eco-friendly management of silverleaf whitefly populations in Georgia grown winter squash. **Saumik Basu** (sb13024@uga.edu), Theodore McAvoy and Juan C. Diaz-Perez, Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA

P-37 Abundance of arthropod natural enemies in sweet pepper. **Kaushalya Amarasekare** (kamarase@tnstate.edu), Tennessee State Univ., Nashville, TN

P-38 Association of cold tolerance and stem borer resistance in sugarcane cultivars. **Hannah Penn** (hannah.penn@usda.gov), Anna Hale and James Todd, USDA ARS, Houma, LA

P-39 Changes in arthropod communities following forest management: Restoring longleaf pine ecosystems in Louisiana. **Veronica Manrique** (veronica_manrique@subr.edu)[1], Lidya Chala[1], Gerald Attamah[1], Virginia McDaniel[2], Eric Baka[3], Chris Doffitt[3], William Reid[4], James T. Vogt[5] and Mohammad Bataineh[4], [1]Southern Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]USDA Forest Service, Hot Springs, AR, [3]Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, Pineville, LA, [4]USDA Forest Service, Pineville, LA, [5]USDA Forest Service, Athens, GA

P-40 Evaluating the effectiveness of dual herbivore interactions for enhanced invasive weed biocontrol. **Jasleen Kaur** (jasleenkaur@ufl.edu), Lucia Navia and Philip Hahn, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

P-41 Evaluation of formulations of *Lespedeza cuneata* as a botanical pesticide against stored product pests. **Aftab Siddique** (aftab.siddique@fvsu.edu), Kas Howard, Sanower Warsi, George Mbata and Thomas Terrill, Fort Valley State Univ., Fort Valley, GA

P-42 Identification of candidate plant-manipulating effector genes in the cotton aphid, *Aphis gossypii*. **Chaoyang Zhao** (chaoyang.zhao@usda.gov)[1] and Issabella Owens[2], [1]USDA-ARS, Auburn, AL, [2]Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL

P-43 Integrating entomopathogens and synthetic insecticides for the management of whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci*) on vegetable. **Sanower Warsi** (Sanower.Warsi@fvsu.edu)[1], Jermaine Perier[2], Alvin Simmons[3], David Shapiro-Ilan[4] and George Mbata[1], [1]Fort Valley State Univ., Fort Valley, GA, [2]USDA-ARS, Byron, GA, [3]USDA, Charleston, SC, [4]USDA - ARS, Byron, GA

P-44 Non-target impact of commonly used insecticides on beneficial insects in blueberry production systems. **Ashfaq Sial** (ashsial@uga.edu)[1,2], Subin Neupane[2] and Cera Jones[2], [1]Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA, [2]Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

P-45 Phenology mediates plant-herbivore interactions in row crops against the polyphagous herbivore fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*). **Rupesh Kariyat** (rkariyat@uark.edu)[1], Devi Balakrishnan[1], Insha Shafi[1], Alejandro Vasquez[1], Manish Gautam[1], KrishnaRao Gandham[1], Jessica Ayala[1], Justin George[2] and Joe Louis[3], [1]Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, [2]USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS, [3]Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

P-46 Population Trends of the Lesser Cornstalk Borer, *Elasmopalpus lignosellus*, in Florida Sugarcane. **Matthew VanWeelden** (mvanweel1@ufl.edu)[1] and Christian Kammerer[2], [1]Univ. of Florida, Belle Glade, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida, LaBelle, FL

P-47 Regulation of G-Protein-Coupled Receptor (GPCR) Genes in Two Pests of Hemp. **Junhuan Xu** (jxu@alasu.edu)[1,2], Andy-Maxence Tadjuidje[1,2], Favour Nwanekezi[2], Mercy Adesanmi[2], Victory Obele[2], Ivy Thweatt[1,2], Adam Ajisere[2], Ibrahim Iddrisu[1,2], Joseph Ayariga[1], Ting Li[1] and Olufemi Ajayi[1,2], [1]Dept. of Biological Sciences, Alabama State Univ., Montgomery, AL, [2]The Industrial Hemp Program, Alabama State Univ., Montgomery, AL

P-48 Role of endophytic entomopathogenic fungi in mediating host selection, biology, behavior, and management of tarnished plant bug, *Lygus lineolaris*, (Hemiptera:Miridae).. **Justin George** (Justin.George@usda.gov)[1] and Gadi Reddy[2], [1]USDA - ARS, Stoneville, MS, [2]USDA ARS, Stoneville, MS

P-49 Rolling the Dice on Spice: How Might a Decline in Northern Spicebush Impact the Diversity and Community Composition of its Associated Insects? **Matthew Longmire** (mlongmir@vols.utk.edu)[1], Jerome Grant[1] and Albert Mayfield[2], [1]Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, [2]USDA - Forest Service, Asheville, NC

P-50 Soil Microbe Diversity and Whiteflies in changing Cotton Conditions. **Matthew Gillis** (mtg94503@uga.edu), Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

P-51 Susceptibility of *Helicoverpa zea* populations in the southeastern United States to eight common insecticides. **Bhavana Patla** (bhavanapatla1243@gmail.com)[1], Tiago Silva[2], Shucong Lin[2], Jeffrey Davis[3], Graham Head[4], Xinzhi Ni[5], Don Cook[6], Francis Jones[7], Sebe Brown[2], Lina Bernaola[8] and Fangneng Huang[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ., baton rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ. Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA, [3]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [4]Monsanto Company, St. Louis, MO, [5]USDA - ARS, Tifton, GA, [6]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS, [7]Clemson Univ., Florence, SC, [8]Texas A&M Univ. AgriLife Research, Beaumont, TX

P-52 The efficacy of *Steinernema carpocapsae* with three adjuvant treatments on *Chrysodeixis includens* in laboratory. **Nathan Spaulding** (Nathan.Spaulding@usda.gov)[1], Minling Zhang[1], Gadi V.P. Reddy[2] and David Shapiro-Ilan[3],

[1]USDA ARS, Stoneville, MS, [2]USDA-ARS-SIMRU, Stoneville, MS, [3]USDA ARS, Byron, GA

P-53 The efficacy of *Steinernema carpocapsae* with three adjuvant treatments on *Chrysodeixis includens* larvae in greenhouse conditions. **Minling Zhang** (minling.zhang@usda.gov)[1], Nathan Spaulding[1], Gadi V.P. Reddy[2] and David Shapiro-Ilan[3], [1]USDA ARS, Stoneville, MS, [2]USDA-ARS-SIMRU, Stoneville, MS, [3]USDA ARS, Byron, GA

P-54 The efficacy of *Steinernema riobrave* and *S. carpocapsae* with two adjuvant treatments on *Helicoverpa zea* larvae in field conditions. **Gadi V.P. Reddy** (gadi.reddy@usda.gov)[1], Minling Zhang[2], Nathan Spaulding[2] and David Shapiro-Ilan[3], [1]USDA-ARS-SIMRU, Stoneville, MS, [2]USDA ARS, Stoneville, MS, [3]USDA ARS, Byron, GA

SysEB and PBT Poster Session

Heidelberg Ballroom (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

P-55 Baseline Susceptibility of the Spotted-Wing Drosophila (SWD) to Three Classes of Insecticides Using the Adult Vial Technique (AVT). **John Adamczyk** (John.Adamczyk@usda.gov), Blair Sampson and Michael Goblirsch, USDA - ARS, Poplarville, MS

P-56 Controlling *Drosophila* agricultural pest species with gene drives. **Ariel Tarrand** (aetarran@ncsu.edu), Amarish Yadav, Akihiko Yamamoto and Maxwell Scott, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

P-57 Insecticidal activity of *Jatropha* extracts against the azalea lace bug, *Stephanitis pyrioides* (Hemiptera: Tingidae). **Blair Sampson** (blair.sampson@usda.gov)[1], Nurhayat Tabanca[2], Christopher Werle[3], Stephen Stringer[1], Rita Moraes[4] and David Wedge[5], [1]USDA - ARS, Poplarville, MS, [2]USDA-ARS, Miami, FL, [3]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [4]Santa Martha Agro, Ribeirão Preto, Sao Paulo, Brazil, [5]USDA-ARS, Univ., MS

P-58 Parasitism of *Celithemis amanda* Hagen (Odonata: Libellulidae) by Larvae of *Arrenurus* sp. (Trombiculiformes: Arrenuridae) in Northwest Florida. **Grant De Jong** (gdejong@faculty.pcci.edu), Pensacola Christian College, Pensacola, FL

P-59 The Impact of Leaf Richness on Aquatic Insect Larvae. **Cassie Wingate** (cew060@latech.edu), Julia Earl, Shelby Medlock, Daniel Edwards and Joseph Aubert, Louisiana Tech Univ., Ruston, LA

A Multi-State Update on Stink Bug Invasions and Addressing the Growing Threat to Southeastern Agriculture

King Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Md Tafsir Nur Nabi Rashed, Amanda Hodges, Jasleen Kaur, Jacob Herschberger, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

8:00 Introductory remarks

8:05 **83** The stink bug complex in North Carolina field crops. **Dominic Reisig** (ddreisig@ncsu.edu), Anders Huseth, Kevin Orta, Sujan Panta and Taynara Possebom, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

8:20 **84** Stink bug complex and associated parasitoid species in agricultural systems in Georgia and Alabama. **Glynn Tillman** (glynn.tillman@usda.gov)[1], Erin Grabarzcyk[2], Ted Cottrell[3] and Brett Blaauw[4], [1]USDA - ARS, Tifton, GA, [2]Valdosta State Univ., Valdosta, GA, [3]USDA-ARS, Byron, GA, [4]Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

8:35 **85** Peach perfect: Battling stink bugs in southeastern peach orchards. **Brett Blaauw** (bblaauw@uga.edu), Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

8:50 **86** The emergency of brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB), *Halyomorpha halys*, within the complex of Heteropteran pests for tomato, peach, and small organic growers in Florida. **Amanda Hodges** (achodges@ufl.edu) and Gideon Alake, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

9:05 **87** Rice stink bugs in Florida: Current management status of a multi-species complex and potential for biological control. **Julien Beuzelin** (jbeuzelin@ufl.edu)[1], Carolina Tieppo Camarozano[1], Matthew VanWeelden[1], Norman Leppla[2] and Elijah Talamas[3], [1]Univ. of Florida, Belle Glade, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL, [3]Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL

9:20 **88** Impact of stink bugs in Arkansas row crops. **Nick Bateman** (nbateman@uark.edu)[1], Benjamin Thrash[2] and Glenn Studebaker[3], [1]Univ. of Arkansas, Stuttgart, AR, [2]Univ. of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, Lonoke, AR, [3]Univ. of Arkansas, Keiser, AR

9:35 **89** Addressing the growing threat of stink bugs in agriculture in South Carolina. **Jeremy Greene** (greene4@clemson.edu), Clemson Univ., Blackville, SC

9:50 **90** Spatial dynamics of stink bugs in corn. **Francis Reay-Jones** (freayjo@clemson.edu)[1], Tim Bryant[2] and Jeremy Greene[3], [1]Clemson Univ., Florence, SC, [2]Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State Univ., Suffolk, VA, [3]Clemson Univ., Blackville, SC

10:05 Break

10:30 **91** Stink bugs of importance in Mississippi row crops. **Don Cook** (dcook@drec.msstate.edu)[1], Tyler Towles[1] and Whitney Crow[2], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS, [2]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi, MS

10:45 **92** Sustainable management strategies for stink bugs in midsouth soybeans. **Jeffrey Davis** (jeffdavis@agcenter.lsu.edu), Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

11:00 **93** Harnessing chemical ecology to improve management of the rice stink bug in rice. **Michael Stout** (Mstout@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], Blake Wilson[2], Laila Araujo Santos[1] and Santhi Bhavanam[3], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA, [3]New Mexico State Univ., Las Cruces, NM

11:15 **94** Refining rice stink bug thresholds in the mid-south. **Blake Wilson** (bwilson@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1] and Michael Stout[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

11:30 **95** Threat of redbanded stink bug and other stink bug pests to Louisiana row crops. **Dawson Kerns** (ddkerns@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], James Michael Villegas[2], Jeffrey Davis[2] and Tyler Towles[3], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Winnsboro, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [3]Mississippi State Univ., Stoneville, MS

11:45 Concluding remarks

Tick-Borne Diseases in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Victory Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Shahid Karim[1], Deepak Kumar[2], [1]Principal Investigator, Hattiesburg, MS, [2]The Univ. of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS,

8:00 **96** Epidemiology of Alpha-Gal Syndrome in the United States. **Gilbert Kersh** (hws7@cdc.gov), Centers for Disease Prevention and Control, Atlanta, GA

8:20 **97** Understanding the role of sugar-coated tick bite in Alpha-Gal Syndrome. **Shahid Karim** (shahid.karim@usm.edu), Principal Investigator, Hattiesburg, MS

8:40 **98** Tick-virus host interactions: Insights from laboratory modeling of a dynamic trio. **Meghan Hermance** (mhermance@southalabama.edu), Univ. of South Alabama, Mobile, AL

9:00 **99** Antibodies contribute to vaccine-conferred protection against tick-borne rickettsiosis involving neutralizing rickettsiae. **Fang Rong** (rofang@utmb.edu), Univ. of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX

9:20 **100** Spotted fever group *Rickettsia*-mammalian target cell interactions: How an obligate intracellular bacteria survives and flourishes in a hostile world. **Juan Martinez** (jmartinez@lsu.edu), LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, Baton Rouge, LA

9:40 Break

10:00 **101** Spotted fever group *Rickettsia* transmission and dissemination kinetics during single infected tick feeding. **Chanakan Suwanbongkot** (cs2025@jagmail.southalabama.edu), Univ. of South Alabama, Mobile, AL

10:20 **102** Volcanic Rock: from Mosquito to Tick Control and from Africa to the US and Galapagos Islands. **Michael Roe** (mroe@ncsu.edu), North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

10:40 **103** *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* infection induces differentially expressed microRNAs in the lone star tick (*Amblyomma americanum*). **Deepak Kumar** (Deepak.Kumar@usm.edu), Univ. of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS

11:00 **104** Decoding miRNA landscapes of *Amblyomma maculatum* saliva infected with *Rickettsia parkeri*. **Shovon Sarkar** (ss2244@jagmail.southalabama.edu), Univ. of South Alabama, Mobile, AL

11:20 **105** Exploiting tick salivary chemoattractants for Lyme Disease Theranostics. **Monica Embers** (members@tulane.edu), Tulane National Primate Research Center, Covington, LA

11:40 **106** Chemical modulation of potassium ion channels alters secreted proteome and inhibits blood feeding in Amblyomma ticks. **Daniel Swale** (dswale@epi.ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Connecting the Dots of Honey Bee Biology with Collaboration

Louisiana Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Michael Simone-Finstrom[1], Elizabeth Walsh[1] and Arian Avalos[2], [1]USDA-ARS, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Univ. of Illinois, Champaign, IL

8:00 Introductory remarks

8:05 **107** Exploring vitellogenin variants in U.S. commercial honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) stocks. **Hasim Hakanoglu** (hhakanoglu@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], Garett Slater[2], Qian Sun[1], Kate Ihle[3] and Arian Avalos[4], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Purdue Univ., West Lafayette, IN, [3]USDA ARS Honey bee breeding and genetics, BATON ROUGE, LA, [4]USDA-ARS, Baton Rouge, LA

8:20 **108** Genome wide analysis of control resistance in US *Varroa* populations. **Arian Avalos** (arian.avalos@usda.gov)[1] and Frank Rinkevich[2], [1]USDA-ARS, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]USDA - ARS, Baton Rouge, LA

8:35 **109** The effect of climate on the performance of Pol-line honey bees. **Alexandria Payne** (alexandria.payne@usda.gov)[1], Melissa Fontaine[1], Trevor Bawden[2], Arian Avalos[1], Chelsea Cook[2] and Elizabeth Walsh[1], [1]USDA-ARS, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Marquette Univ., Milwaukee, WI

8:50 **110** Common garden evaluation of three different honey bee stocks. **Elizabeth Walsh** (elizabeth.m.walsh@usda.gov), Melissa Fontaine, Jada Latore and Arian Avalos, USDA-ARS, Baton Rouge, LA

9:05 **111** Deformed Wing Virus-A replication across honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) life stages. **Sofia Sanchez** (ferhat.ozturk@utsa.edu)[1], Ferhat Ozturk[2] and Michael Simone-Finstrom[3], [1]Univ. of Texas San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, [2]Univ. of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, [3]USDA-ARS, Baton Rouge, LA

9:20 **112** Love it or hate it? How honey bees *(Apis mellifera*) respond to virus in food **Michael Simone-Finstrom** (michael.simonefinstrom@usda.gov)[1], Joseph McCarthy[2], Alexandria Payne[3] and Elizabeth Walsh[3], [1]USDA-ARS, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [3]Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX

9:35 **113** Developing a pollen nutrition database for all bees in North America. **Lauren Baugus** (Lnj113@msstate.edu)[1], Max Simon[2], Ramesh Sagili[2] and Priyadarshini Chakrabarti Basu[1], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [2]Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR

9:50 **114** The impact of pollinator interactions and floral traits on honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) pollination in blueberry. **John Ternest** (John.Ternest@usda.gov)[1] and Rachel Mallinger[2], [1]USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS, [2]Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

10:05 Break

10:25 **115** Untangling the pollination puzzle: Native bees and honey bees in soybean production. **Katherine Parys** (katherine.parys@usda.gov)[1], K. Clint Allen[1], Esmaeil Amiri[2], Blake Elkins[1], James Glover[1], Jeffrey Harris[3], Kimberly Huntzinger[4], Pierre Lau[5], Nathan Little[1] and Justin George[1], [1]USDA - ARS, Stoneville, MS, [2]Delta Research and Extension Center, Mississippi State Univ.,, Stoneville, MS, [3]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [4]USDA - ARS, STONEVILLE, MS, [5]USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS

10:40 **116** Flupyradifurone and the gut microbial symbiont *Bombella apis* synergistically reduce larval honey bee survival. **Edward Hsieh** (emhsieh2@illinois.edu)[1], Audrey Parish[2], Irene Newton[3] and Adam Dolezal[4], [1]USDA-ARS Honey Bee Breeding Laboratory, Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Baylor Univ., Waco, TX, [3]Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN, [4]Univ. of Illinois, Champaign, IL

10:55 **117** Behavioral responses of honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) to annular and total solar eclipses. **Oceanna Escribano** (ferhat.ozturk@utsa.edu)[1], Ahmad Hassan[1] and Ferhat Ozturk[2], [1]Univ. of Texas San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, [2]Univ. of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX

11:10 **118** Exploring the antimicrobial properties of honey against *C. difficile*. **Andrea Lozano** (elizabeth@usda.gov)[1], Ferhat Ozturk[2] and Jesus Romo[1], [1]Univ. of Texas San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, [2]Univ. of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX

11:25 **119** A systematic review of honey's benefits for burn wound treatment. **Christina Ndayisenga** (lizziw30@gmail.com)[1], Andrea Lozano[1] and Ferhat Ozturk[2], [1]Univ. of Texas San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, [2]Univ. of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX

11:40 **120** Enhancing honey bee (*Apis mellifera* L.) immunity and longevity with microalgal feed additives. **Allyson Martin Ewert** (amar365@lsu.edu)[1], Alexander McMenamin[2], Daniela Adjaye[2], Victor Rainey[2] and Vincent Ricigliano[3], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]USDA-ARS, Baton Rouge, LA, [3]USDA-ARS, Davis, CA

11:55 Concluding remarks

Master the Art of Macro-Photography: Field Techniques for Insect Enthusiasts!

Capitol Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator and Organizer: Alfred Daniel Johnson[1], [1]Tennessee State Univ., McMinneville, TN

8:30 **121** Master the art of macro-photography: Field techniques for insect enthusiasts! **Alfred Daniel Johnson** (danieljalfred@gmail.com), Tennessee State Univ., McMinneville, TN

The Endemic Status Sweetpotato Whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci*, and Chronic Incidences of Whitefly-Transmitted Viruses in the Southeast: Implications for Research and Management

Governor Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Rajagopalbabu Srinivasan[1], Alvin Simmons[2], Michael Toews[3], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA, [2]USDA, Charleston, SC, [3]Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA

8:30 **122** Geographical distribution and genetic analysis reveal recent global invasion of whitefly, *Bemisia*

tabaci, primarily associated with only three haplotypes. **Muhammad Ahmed** (MAHMED2@clemson.edu), Clemson Univ., Florence, SC

8:45 **123** USDA-ARS whitefly research update. **Alvin Simmons** (alvin.simmons@ars.usda.gov), USDA, Charleston, SC

9:00 **124** Role of secondary metabolites on tomato resistance against sweetpotato whitefly. **Camila Rodrigues** (crodrigues@auburn.edu)[1], Thiago Rutz[1], Jessica Pizzo[1], Paulo Cremonez[1], Alvin Simmons[2] and Andre da Silva[1], [1]Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL, [2]USDA, Charleston, SC

9:15 **125** Pheromones in the field: Enhancing entomopathogenic nematode efficacy against *Bemisia tabaci*. **Jermaine Perier** (jermaine.perier@usda.gov)[1], Fatma Kaplan[2], Michael Toews[3] and David Shapiro-Ilan[4], [1]USDA-ARS, Byron, GA, [2]Pheronym Inc, Woodland, CA, [3]Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA, [4]USDA - ARS, Byron, GA

9:30 **126** Determining flight parameters for whitefly management using spraying drones. **Andre da Silva** (azb0207@auburn.edu)[1], Thiago Caputti[1], Lucas Barion[1], Camila Rodrigues[1], Paulo Cremonez[1] and Alvin Simmons[2], [1]Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL, [2]USDA, Charleston, SC

9:45 **127** New approaches to control *Bemisia tabaci* with nanoclays and visual lures. **Paris Thomson** (thomsonparis@ufl.edu) and Xavier Martini, Univ. of Florida, Quincy, FL

10:00 Break

10:20 **128** Push-pull strategies for managing whiteflies in field-grown organic squash. **Joseph Gonsiorek** (jgonsiorek@ufl.edu)[1], Xavier Martini[2], Rajagopalbabu Srinivasan[3] and Oscar Liburd[1], [1]Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida, Quincy, FL, [3]Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

10:35 **129** The interactive effects of selective insecticides and plant leaf traits on *Bemisia tabaci* and its predator. **Albertha Parkins** (Albertha.parkins@uga.edu)[1], Arash Kheirodin[2], Jermaine Perier[3], Paulo Cremonez[4], David Riley[1], Alvin Simmons[5] and Jason Schmidt[1], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA, [2]Texas A & M, Dallas, TX, [3]USDA-ARS, Byron, GA, [4]Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL, [5]USDA, Charleston, SC

10:50 **130** Capturing differential gene expression from a different angle: *Bemisia tabaci* response to acquisition of tomato yellow leaf curl virus. **Sharon Andreason** (sharon.andreason@usda.gov)[1], Zachary Lahey[2] and Alvin Simmons[3], [1]USDA-ARS U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, Charleston, SC, [2]The Ohio State Univ., Columbus, OH, [3]USDA, Charleston, SC

11:05 **131** Impact of host resistance on whitefly-mediated transmission of tomato yellow leaf curl virus. **Rajagopalbabu Srinivasan** (babusri@uga.edu), Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

11:20 **132** Whitefly suppression and TYLCV incidence in chemically treated tomatoes. **Jawwad Qureshi** (jawwadq@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Immokalee, FL

11:35 **133** Applied IRM tactics for *Bemisia tabaci* in Alabama: A multi-level approach. **Paulo Cremonez** (cremonez@auburn.edu)[1], Laura Ribeiro[1], Camila Rodrigues[1], Alvin Simmons[2] and Andre da Silva[1], [1]Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL, [2]USDA, Charleston, SC

11:50 Discussion

Tips for Successful Writing and Publishing

Paramount Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Juang Horng Chong[1], Alexis Alsdorf[2] and Jessica Ayala[3], [1]SePRO Corporation, Carmel, IN, [2]North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC, [3]Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

8:30 **134** Introduction. **Juang Horng Chong** (jc.chong@sepro.com), SePRO Corporation, Carmel, IN

8:35 **135** Tips and Tricks for Literature Search. **Larissa Elliott** (lellio3@lsu.edu) and Randa Morgan, Louisiana State Univ. Library, Baton Rouge, LA

8:55 **136** Avoiding Predatory Journals. **Randa Morgan** (rlope12@lsu.edu) and Larissa Elliott, Louisiana State Univ. Library, Baton Rouge, LA

9:15 **137** Master your dissertation/thesis: Essential tips for success. **Whitney Crow** (wdc165@msstate.edu), Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi, MS

9:35 **138** What worked for me: Strategies for writing and revising a thesis. **Allan Busuulwa** (abusuulwa@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida - Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Wimauma, FL

9:55 **139** Tips for publishing: Write. Fail. Learn. Repeat. **Emilie Demard** (edemard@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Lake Alfred, FL

10:15 Break

10:35 **140** Navigating manuscript preparation for ESA journals and beyond. **Dominic Reisig** (ddreisig@ncsu.edu), North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

10:55 **141** Navigating the publication process: Tips from an editor. **Francis Reay-Jones** (freayjo@clemson.edu), Clemson Univ., Florence, SC

11:15 **142** Translating science: The art of writing for extension. **Morgan Pinkerton** (morgan0402@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida/IFAS, Sanford, FL

11:35 **143** Buzzing online: Lessons and experiences in creating a social media hive for the SEB-ESA. **Alexis Alsdorf** (amiddle@ncsu.edu), North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

Tuesday, March 11, 2025, Afternoon

Data Analysis in R

Capitol Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator and Organizer: Conor Fair, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

2:00 **144** Data manipulation and visualization in R. **Conor Fair** (cfair13@uga.edu), Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

3:30 **145** Linear models in R. **Conor Fair** (cfair13@uga.edu), Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

Fundamental Approaches In Ecology And Molecular Biology For Understanding Plant-Insect Interactions

King Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Jyoti Sharma[1], Mandeep Tayal[2], Vanshika Jindal[1], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Clemson Univ., Clemson, SC

2:00 Introductory remarks

2:05 **146** Population genetics for pests: using sequence data to track the invasion of hibiscus mealybug (*Nipaecoccus viridis*) in Florida. **Andrew Mongue** (andrew.mongue@ufl.edu)[1], Tracy Liesenfelt[1] and Erin Powell[2], [1]Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL, [2]Division of Plant Industry, Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL

2:25 **147** Phenology mediates plant-herbivore interactions in row crops against the polyphagous herbivore fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*). **Rupesh Kariyat** (rkariyat@uark.edu)[1], Devi Balakrishnan[1], Insha Shafi[1], Alejandro Vasquez[1], Manish Gautam[1], KrishnaRao Gandham[1], Justin George[2] and Joe Louis[3], [1]Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, [2]USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS, [3]Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

2:45 **148** Investigating multitrophic interactions in agroecosystems for seeking novel pest management strategies. **Saumik Basu** (saumik.basu@uga.edu), Univ. of Georgia, Tifton, GA

3:05 Break

3:20 **149** Frass induced plant responses in maize. **Swayamjit Ray** (sray@ualr.edu)[1], Ebony Murrell[2], Jared Ali[3], Gary Felton[4] and Dawn Luthe[4], [1]Univ. of Arkansas at Little Rock, AR, AR, [2]Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, [3]The Pennsylvania State Univ., State College, PA, [4]Pennsylvania State Univ., Univ. Park, PA

3:40 **150** Investigating the potential role of bees in dispersal of pollen-borne viruses in peach orchards. **Mandeep Tayal** (mtayal@clemson.edu)[1,2], Elise Schnabel[1] and Elizabeth Cieniewicz[1], [1]Clemson Univ., Clemson, SC, [2]North Carolina State Univ., Mills River, NC

4:00 **151** The use of geographic information systems and remote sensing to understand crop, pest, and pollinator interactions in agroecosystems. **Isaac Esquivel** (isaac.esquivel@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Quincy, FL

4:20 Concluding remarks

Research and Extension Updates in Turfgrass and Ornamental Entomology

Louisiana Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Midhula Gireesh[1], Muhammad Ahmed[2], Shimat Joseph[3], [1]Univ. of Tennessee, Nashville, TN, [2]Clemson Univ., Florence, SC, [3]Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

2:00 Introductory remarks

2:05 **152** Implementation and improvement of microbial control strategies using entomopathogenic nematodes and fungi. **David Shapiro-Ilan** (david.shapiro@usda.gov), USDA-Agricultural Research Service, Byron, GA

2:20 **153** Life history of striped mealybug on three ornamental plant species. **Juang Horng Chong** (jc.chong@sepro.com), Clemson Univ., Florence, SC

2:35 **154** A taxonomic key to mealybugs (Hemiptera: Coccomorpha: Pseudococcidae) of Florida. **Muhammad Ahmed** (mahmed2@clemson.edu), United States Dept. of Agriculture, Fort Pierce, FL

2:50 **155** Development and implementation of action thresholds for scale insect pests in landscape trees. **Caleb Wilson** (c.wilson@uky.edu), Univ. of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

3:05 **156** Effects of lower rates and longevity of pyrethroids on ambrosia beetles in ornamental nurseries. **Shimat Joseph** (svjoseph@uga.edu), Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

3:20 **157** Can cover crops and irrigation deter flat-headed borers in red maple nurseries? **Alfred Johnson** (ajohn462@tnstate.edu), Anthony Witcher, Jason Oliver and Karla Addesso, Tennessee State Univ., McMinnville, TN

3:35 **158** Extension efforts to create awareness about spotted lanternfly in Tennessee. **Midhula Gireesh**

(mgireesh@utk.edu)[1] and Cindy Bilbrey[2], [1]Univ. of Tennessee, Nashville, TN, [2]Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture, Nashville, TN

3:50 Break

4:05 **159** Detector dogs help locate spotted lanternfly populations in Tennessee. **Cindy Bilbrey** (cindy.bilbrey@tn.gov), Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture, Nashville, TN

4:20 **160** Monitoring crapemyrtle aphid and natural enemy populations in field and container-grown crapemyrtle cultivars. **Kripa Dhakal** (dhakalkripa2015@gmail.com), Tennessee State Univ., McMinnville, TN

4:35 Concluding remarks

Updates in Innovative Research and Collaborations in Urban Entomology in the Southeastern US

Governor Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Anamika Sharma[1], Aaron Ashbrook[2], and José Portugal[3], [1]Florida A & M Univ., Tallahassee, FL, [2]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [3]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS

2:00 **161** Hybridization between two invasive termites: an update from Florida. **Thomas Chouvenc** (tomchouv@ufl.edu) and Johnalyn Gordon, Univ. of Florida, Davie, FL

2:20 **162** The Asian needle ant, *Brachyponera chinensis*, is a medically important pest. **Daniel Suiter** (dsuiter@uga.edu) and Karen Corsetti, Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA

2:40 **163** Video tracking reveals behavioral mechanisms of movement coordination in mating termite pairs. **Nobuaki Mizumoto** (nobuaki.mzmt@gmail.com), Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL

3:00 **164** Updates from the North American Termite Survey Working Group. **Anamika Sharma** (Anamika.sharma@famu.edu)[1], José Portugal[2] and Aaron Ashbrook[3], [1]Montana State Univ., Conrad, MT, [2]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [3]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

3:20 **165** The economic contribution of the pest control industry in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee. **Gerardo Guevara-Milla** (gguevara@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], Matthew Fannin[1], Jerrod Penn[1], Aaron Ashbrook[1], José Portugal[2], Karen Vail[3], David Hughes[3] and Alan Barefield[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [3]Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

3:40 Break

3:55 **166** The Southern Region Delusional Infestation Working Group increases extension agents' and pest management professionals' confidence in working with suspected delusional infestation. **Nancy C. Hinkle** (nhinkle@uga.edu)[1] and Karen Vail[2], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA, [2]Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

4:15 **167** Bed bugs & bed nets: The role of pest management in achieving malaria elimination. **Christopher Hayes** (cchayes@ncsu.edu), North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

4:35 **168** Indoor contaminants from bed bugs. **Johnalyn Gordon** (johnalynmgordon@ufl.edu)[1] and Zachary DeVries[2], [1]Univ. of Florida, Davie, FL, [2]Univ. of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

Ten-Minute Paper Oral 1

Paramount Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Octavio Menocal, Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL

2:00 **169** Breaking language barriers for sustainable integrated pest management of Florida landscapes. **Morgan Pinkerton** (morgan0402@ufl.edu)[1], Hannah Eason[2], Tatiana Sanchez-Jones[3] and Tina McIntyre[4], [1]Univ. of Florida/IFAS, Sanford, FL, [2]UF/IFAS Extension Orange County, Orlando, FL, [3]UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County, Newberry, FL, [4]UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County, Sanford, FL

2:12 **170** Developing a dry trap for *Phthorimaea (Tuta) absoluta* monitoring**. James Snyder** (james.snyder@fdacs.gov), Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL

2:24 **171** Development of pollinator-friendly pesticide adjuvants: Using a two-level system to study their toxicity on honey bees (*Apis mellifera*). **Weiqiang Zhang** (weiqiang.zhang@usda.gov), Narayanan Kannan and Yu Cheng Zhu, USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS

2:36 **172** Effect of leaf litter diversity on adult aquatic insect colonizers (primarily Coleoptera: Dytiscidae and Hydrophilidae). **Julia Earl** (jearl@latech.edu), Shelby Medlock, Daniel Edwards and Joseph Aubert, Louisiana Tech Univ., Ruston, LA

2:48 **173** Effects of kaolin clay on the probing behavior of *Aphis gossypii* Glover (Hemiptera: Aphididae). **Berenice Romero** (bromero@agcenter.lsu.edu) and Jeffrey Davis, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

3:00 **174** Engaging residents in Asian citrus psyllid and citrus greening management across Florida's residential landscapes. **Romain Exilien** (romainexilien@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Quincy, FL

3:12 **175** Evaluation of two adventive parasitoids, *Paratelenomus saccharalis* and *Ooencyrtus nezarae*, for the potential augmentative biological control of black bean bug (*Brachyplatys subaeneus*) using choice and no-choice bioassays. **Alyssa Lucas** (Alyssa.Lucas@FDACS.gov), Katrina Dickens, Kate Fairbanks and Jason Stanley, Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL

3:24 Break

3:36 **176** Field-based residual efficacy of insecticides in Citrus Under Protective Screen (CUPS) compared to open citrus orchards against the hibiscus mealybug, *Nipaecoccus viridis* (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae). **Emilie Demard** (edemard@ufl.edu)[1], Rhonda Schumann[2] and Lauren Diepenbrock[1], [1]Univ. of Florida, Lake Alfred, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center, Lake Alfred, FL

3:48 **177** Impact of tarnished plant bug adults on ThryvOn cotton. **Anderson Fletcher** (afletcher@uada.edu)[1], Benjamin Thrash[2], Nick Bateman[3], Andrew Plummer[4], Stephen Felts[3], Patrick Maris[3] and Taylor Harris[4], [1]Graduate Student, Scott, AR, [2]Univ. of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, Lonoke, AR, [3]Univ. of Arkansas, Stuttgart, AR, [4]Univ. of Arkansas, Lonoke, AR

4:00 **178** Investigation of *Beauveria bassiana* as a fungal endophyte in peach (*Prunus persica*) seedlings and the role of the insecticidal mycotoxin Beauvericin in fungal toxicity to the model insect, *Tenebrio molitor*. **Sabrina Elgar** (sab99204@uga.edu) and Brett Blaauw, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA

4:12 **179** Mexican rice borer (*Eoreuma loftini*) expands range into central California. **Emily Kraus** (ekraus@ucanr.edu), Univ. of California ANR, Fresno, CA

4:24 **180** Natural enemies of the invasive duckweed *Lemna minuta*: Host specificity, impact, and potential for biological control in Europe. **Flaminia Mariani** (fmariani@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], Paul Pratt[2] and Rodrigo Diaz[1], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]USDA ARS Western Regional Research Center, Albany, CA

4:36 **181** Rearing optimization of *Apanteles opuntiarum,* the biological control agent of cactus moth, *Cactoblastis cactorum,* and impact on the host plant, *Opuntia* species. **Nicole Benda** (nicole.benda@fdacs.gov)[1], Kate Fairbanks[2], Ashley Pappas[3] and Al Jones[3], [1]Florida Dept. of Agriculture, Division of Plant Industry, Gainesville, FL, [2]Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL, [3]FDACS-DPI, Gainesville, FL

4:48 **182** Rice water weevil (*Lissorhoptrus oryzophilus*: Kuschel) scouting methods and the efficacy of foliar insecticide applications applied pre and post flood for control of rice water weevils. **Patrick Maris** (pgmaris@uark.edu)[1], Nick Bateman[1], Benjamin Thrash[2], Jarrod T. Hardke[1], Rupesh Kariyat[3], Andrew Plummer[4], Stephen Felts[1], Taylor Harris[4], William Fletcher[4] and Jared Linn[3], [1]Univ. of Arkansas, Stuttgart, AR, [2]Univ. of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, Lonoke, AR, [3]Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, [4]Univ. of Arkansas, Lonoke, AR

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, Morning

Challenges and Future Directions for Species Distribution Modeling and Remote Sensing in Insects and Plants

Governor Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderators and Organizers: Sara Salgado, Emily Le Falchier, Univ. of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL

8:00 Introductory remarks

8:05 **183** Integrating remote sensing and biological control for aquatic weed management in Lake Ossa, Cameroon. **Logan Herbert** (lherbert@agcenter.lsu.edu), Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

8:25 **184** Work smarter not harder: Ecological niche modeling as a tool to inform biocontrol release strategies. **Emily Le Falchier** (gaskine@ufl.edu)[1], Lindsay Campbell[2], Dale Halbritter[3], Gregory Wheeler[3], Jorge Leidi[3], Dean A. Williams[4], Manoj Pandey[5], Gregory Kiker[6] and Carey Minteer[1], [1]Univ. of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida, Vero Beach, FL, [3]USDA - ARS, Fort Lauderdale, FL, [4]Texas Christian Univ., Ft Worth, TX, [5]Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL, [6]Univ. of Florida IFAS, Gainesville, FL

8:45 **185** Utilizing environmental niche overlap to improve predictive modeling in biological control. **Jasleen Kaur** (jasleenkaur@ufl.edu)[1], Lindsay Campbell[2] and Philip Hahn[1], [1]Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida, Vero Beach, FL

9:05 **186** The role of species distribution models in medical entomology. **Lindsay Campbell** (lcampbell2@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Vero Beach, FL

9:25 **187** Automated insect detection and its potential for advanced spatial distribution. **Ivan Grijalva** (igrijalva@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], Brian Spiesman[2], Rodrigo Diaz[1] and Brian McCornack[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Kansas State Univ., Manhattan, KS

9:45 **188** Remote sensing of herbivorous insects: progress, challenges, and opportunities. **Carey Minteer** (c.minteerkillian@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL

10:05 Break

10:15 Panel discussion

10:55 Concluding remarks

Reviewer Recruitment Workshop: Review, Publish, or Perish

Capitol Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator and Organizer: Nan-Yao Su, Univ. of Florida, Davie, FL

8:00 **189** Introduction. Reviewing and writing a scientific article are identical twins. **Nan-Yao Su** (nysu@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Davie, FL

8:15 **190** ESA publication. **Chris Stelzig** (cstelzig@entsoc.org), Entomological Society of America, Annapolis, MD

8:30 **191** Role of editor-in-chief. **Nan-Yao Su** (nysu@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Davie, FL

8:45 **192** Role of subject editor. **Dominic Reisig** (ddreisig@ncsu.edu), North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

9:00 **193** Role of reviewer. **Sriyanka Lahiri** (lahiris@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida - Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Wimauma, FL

9:15 **194** Reviewing and writing. **Johnalyn Gordon** (johnalynmgordon@ufl.edu), Univ. of Florida, Davie, FL

9:30 **195** Q & A.

Ten-Minute Paper Oral 2

King Room (Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center)

Moderator: Charles Kwadha, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

8:00 **196** Patterns of entry and exit in the Louisiana pest control industry: a multi-decade analysis. **Gerardo Milla** (ggueva5@lsu.edu), Matthew Fannin, Jerrod Penn and Aaron Ashbrook, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

8:12 **197** A Bayesian approach to probit analysis: An efficient alternative to Abbott's correction. **Michael Caprio** (mcaprio@entomology.msstate.edu)[1], José Malaquias[2] and Dominic Reisig[3], [1]Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS, [2]Federal Univ. of Paraiba, Areia, Paraiba, Brazil, [3]North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC

8:24 **198** Functional characterization of GABA-gated chloride channel as targets of broflanilide, fluvalaner and fluxametamide in *Heliothis virescens* and *Helicoverpa Zea* using Xenopus Oocytes expression. **Yuzhe Du** (yuzhe.du@usda.gov)[1], Shane Scheibener[1], Y.C. Zhu[2], K. Clint Allen[3] and Gadi V.P. Reddy[1], [1]USDA-ARS-SIMRU, Stoneville, MS, [2]USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS, [3]USDA - ARS, Stoneville, MS

8:36 **199** Field trials of combined applications of entomopathogenic nematodes and chemical insecticides for the management of *Pangaeus bilineatus* in peanuts. **James Danso** (james.danso@fvsu.edu)[1], Emediong Enobong[1], Raegan Holton[2], David Shapiro-Ilan[3] and George Mbata[1], [1]Fort Valley State Univ., Fort Valley, GA, [2]Premium Peanut, Douglas, GA, [3]USDA-Agricultural Research Service, Byron, GA

8:48 **200** Evaluating the role of silicon soil amendments in soybean insect pest management. **Jayvee Bruno** (jayveebruno@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], James Michael Villegas[1], Saurav Ranabhat[1], Leroy Lopez[2] and O'Neal Edward[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Dean Lee Research Station, Alexandria, LA

9:00 **201** Status and management of Bt corn in Georgia. **G. David Buntin** (gbuntin@uga.edu)[1], Susanne Deeb[1] and Francis Reay-Jones[2], [1]Univ. of Georgia, Griffin, GA, [2]Clemson Univ., Florence, SC

9:12 **202** Possible impacts of irrigation and fertilizer regime on herbivore pest population dynamics in soybean. **Rahul Debnath** (rdebnath@uark.edu)[1], Justin George[2], Rupesh Kariyat[1] and Gadi V.P. Reddy[3], [1]Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, [2]USDA - ARS, Stoneville, MS, [3]USDA-ARS-SIMRU, Stoneville, MS

9:24 **203** Bringing cockroaches into your classroom. **Chelsea Smith** (csmith101919@troy.edu), Troy Univ., TROY, AL

9:36 Break

9:48 **204** Quantifying eriophyid mites on three hybrid elderberry varieties at two North Central Florida farms. **Lillie Rooney** (rooney.lillie@ufl.edu) and Norman Leppla, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL

10:00 **205** Impact of fortuitous biocontrol by parasitoid wasps on roseau cane scale in Louisiana. **Tanner Sparks** (tspark3@lsu.edu)[1], Ilgoo Kang[2], Rodrigo Diaz[1] and Hannah Broadley[3], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Louisiana State Univ. Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, LA, [3]USDA-APHIS-PPQ-S&T, Buzzards Bay, MA

10:12 **206** Impact of trap type and lure on the collection of longhorned beetles (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) in two forest ecosystems in southeastern Louisiana. **Todd Johnson** (ToddJohnson@agcenter.lsu.edu)[1], Elise Grossman[1], Winter Sheline[1], Chiranjivi Sharma[1], Jorge Macias[2] and Bob Setter[2], [1]Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, [2]Synergy Semiochemicals Corporation, Delta, BC, Canada

10:24 **207** Honey bee immune response to trace concentrations of clothianidin goes beyond the macronutrients found in artificial diets. Pierre Lau, Joel Caren, Weiqiang Zhang, Y.C. Zhu and **Giovanni Tundo** (Giovanni.Tundo@usda.gov), USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS-

(Presentation Withdrawn)

10:36 **208** First on-farm insecticide trials to control *Thrips parvispinus* in Florida pepper and cucumber. **Anna**

Meszaros (ameszaros@ufl.edu)[1], Julien Beuzelin[2] and De-Fen Mou[2], [1]Univ. of Florida, West Palm Beach, FL, [2]Univ. of Florida, Belle Glade, FL

10:48 **209** Visual cues: Does it matter for the monitoring of the corn earworm moths, *Helicoverpa zea* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)? **Charles Kwadha** (ckwadha@ncsu.edu)[1], Gabriel Hughes[2,3], Ahmed Saveer[1,4], Ayako Katsumata[1], Dominic Reisig[1], Ring Cardé[2] and Coby Schal[1], [1]North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC, [2]Univ. of California, Riverside, CA, [3]United States Dept. of Agriculture, Riverdale, MD, [4]United States Dept. of Agriculture, Beltsville, MD

11:00 **210** Characterizing true bug (Hemiptera) diversity associated with three species of ash (Oleaceae: *Fraxinus*) in Southeastern Louisiana. **Ridley Graugnard** (Rgraugnard1@gmail.com), Andrew Sanford and Todd Johnson, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA

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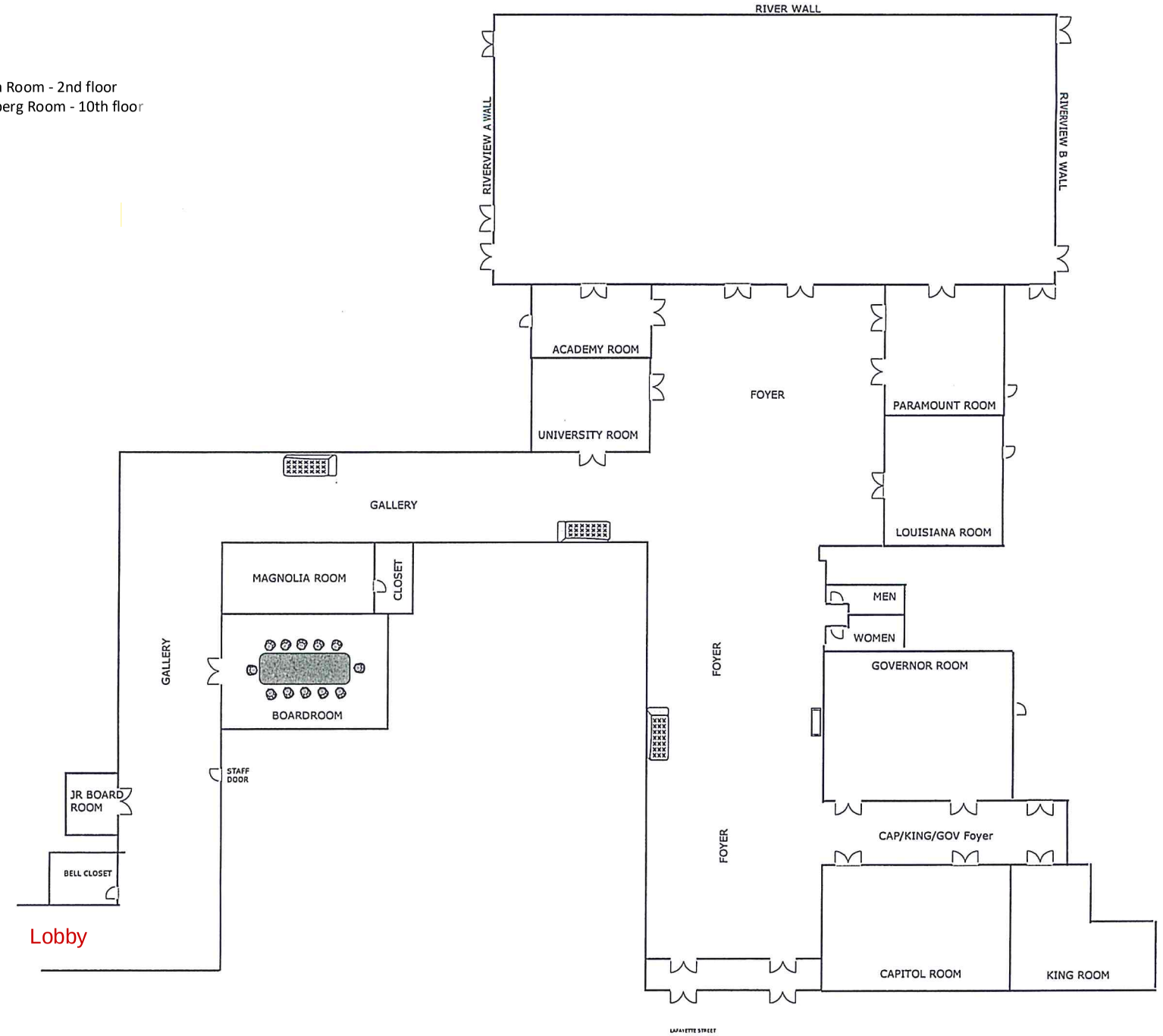

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2026 Southeastern Branch Meeting

Meeting theme for the centennial celebration of SEB

"A Century of Innovations Addressing Global Challenges in a Hyperconnected World"

Omni Hilton Head Oceanfront Resort

Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

March 8-11, 2026