

Newsflash!

2011 Convention Site Selected

Happy New Year!

Kimberlie and I are excited to invite you and your family to attend the 2011 NC Seedsmen's Annual Convention July 24-26 at the Kingsmill Resort and Conference Center in Williamsburg, Va. This private resort is located on the picturesque James River in the heart of Historic Williamsburg. With three championship golf courses, Spa, Marina, Tennis club, Bike Rentals, Sports club, and several restaurants all located within the private resort, everyone will find plenty to do without even leaving the resort. Busch Gardens, voted the worlds "Most Beautiful Theme Park" for 15 consecutive years, is located on the same grounds as the Kingsmill Resort. Water Country USA and Colonial Williamsburg are just minutes from the resort.

Don't miss this opportunity to have fun with your family, associate with others in the seed industry and attend a very educational meeting on Monday.

More information will be sent to you soon regarding reservations, activities and program details.

Berry & Kimberlie Lewis

Kingsmill Resort & Conference Center
Site of 2011 Convention



NCSA ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

During the last convention at the Myrtle Beach Marriott, Myrtle Beach, SC, new officers were elected to serve the Association for 2010-2011.

President:

Berry Lewis
Bayer CropScience
PO Box 6718
Rocky Mount, NC 27802-6718
Tel: 252-972-3840
Fax: 252-972-2696

1st Vice President:

Chris Hege
Coastal Agrobusiness
PO Box 856
Greenville, NC 27835
Tel: 252-317-3625
Fax: 252-756-3282

2nd Vice President:

Kim Foster
Cardinal Chemicals, Inc.
PO Box 1686
Wilson, NC 27894-1686
Tel: 252-291-6007
Fax: 252-291-8356

Secretary-Treasurer:

Dianne Coats
4335 Hwy. 42W
Garner, NC 27529
Tel: 919-513-3443 or
919-553-3813
Fax: 919-553-7100

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Scholarship Recipients

The 2010-2011 recipients of NCSA scholarships are:

Delta & Pine Land Company Scholarship

\$2,000 – Wesley Hancock, Apex, NC,
Junior, Plant & Soil Science,
Crop Sciences concentration

George & Gladys Spain Scholarship

\$2,000 – Ryan Chene Van Cleave, Raleigh, NC, Sophomore, Plant & Soil Science, Crop Sciences concentration

James & Lois Jeffreys Scholarship

\$2,000 – David Horne, Waxhaw, NC, Sophomore, Plant & Soil Science, Agronomic Sciences concentration

Marian & Jane Dilday Scholarship

\$2,000 – Steven Griffin, Washington, NC Sophomore, Agronomy, Crop Production concentration

Severn Peanut/Hampton Farms Scholarship

\$2,000 - Christopher Hayden Eure, Hertford, NC, Senior, Agronomy major, Crop Production concentration

SSA/NCSA Scholarship

\$2,000 – Carl Shipp, Sugar Grove, NC Junior, Turfgrass Science

NCSA Scholarship

\$2,000 – Benjamin Averitt, Havelock, NC Sophomore, Agronomy major, Agronomic Sciences concentration

Foil W. McLaughlin Fellowship

\$2,000 – Peter Maloney, Brownsburg, IN Crop Science

Gold Leaf Seed Company Tobacco Fellowship

\$1,000 – Katherine Drake, Pinetops, NC Crop Science

Gold Leaf Seed Company Tobacco Fellowship

\$1,000 – Kestrel Lannon, Camden, NC Plant Pathology

Out of the \$1.3 trillion (US dollar equivalent) annual food production capacity worldwide, biotic stresses from insects, diseases, and weeds causes 31 to 42 % loss (\$500 billion)

NCSA NEWS & UPDATES (continued)

2010-2011 NCSA COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP

Kim Foster
Eddie Price
Mark Smith
Pieter Westerbeek

NECROLOGY

Rick Strecker
Dianne Coats
Elbert Long
Dave Sawyer

SEEDSMAN OF THE YEAR

Chris Hege
Jerry Small
Will Tankard

LEGISLATIVE AND LIAISON

Phil Farmer
Sam Lee
Eddie Price

SHORT COURSE

Chris Hege
Daryl Bowman
Phil Farmer
Jerry Small
Jan Spears
Will Tankard

PR GOOD SEED PROMOTION

Berry Lewis
Dustin Auman
Kim Foster
Mark Smith
Jan Spears

SCHOLARSHIP

Pieter Westerbeek
Marian Keech
Sam Lee
Elbert Long

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

Dave Sawyer
Chris Hege
Marian Keech
Eddie Price
A. O. Roberts

AUDIT

A. O. Roberts
Berry Lewis
Doug Register

NOMINATIONS

Jerry Small
Kim Foster
Chris Hege
Pieter Westerbeek

BULLETIN

Dianne Coats
Phil Farmer
Jan Spears
Rick Strecker
Will Tankard

ADVISORY

Phil Farmer
Marian Keech
Sam Lee
Elbert Long
A. O. Roberts

Committee chair names are **BOLD**

Bad seed is a robbery of the worst kind: for your pocket-book not only suffers by it, but your preparations are lost and a season passes away unimproved.

George Washington

Association Home Office

North Carolina Seedsmen's Association
4335 NC Hwy. 42W
Garner, NC 27529
Tel: 919-513-3443 or 919-553-3813
Fax: 919-553-7100
Email: ncsahome@embarqmail.com or dianne_coats@ncsu.edu

"No race can prosper till it learns there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem." - *Booker T. Washington*

2010 CONVENTION SPONSORS

We would like to salute the following companies for their generous contributions for the 2010 convention. Without their support, we would not be able to have the wonderful conventions we've become known for.

AB Seed Laboratory, LLC, Norcross, GA
AgCarolina Financial, Raleigh, NC
AgriPro Coker Wheat, Wilmington, NC
Bank of America, Norfolk, VA
Bayer CropScience, Rocky Mount, NC
Birdsong Peanut, Suffolk, VA
Cardinal Chemicals, Wilson, NC
Carolina Eastern, Scranton, SC
Lewis M Carter Mfg. Co., Donalsonville, GA
Chem-Nut, Glen Alpine, NC
Cherry Farms Seed Co., Columbia, NC
Circle Grove Seeds, Belhaven, NC
Coastal Agrobusiness, Greenville, NC
Crop Production Services, Washington, NC
JP Davenport & Son, Greenville, NC
Eure Seed Farms, Hertford, NC
Garner Seed Company, Denton, NC
Gerard Seed Company, Washington, NC
Gold Leaf Seed Company, Hartsville, SC
Golden Peanut Company, Suffolk, VA
Harvey Fertilizer & Gas Co., Kinston, NC
Helena Chemical Co., Columbia, SC
Hulsey Seed Laboratory, Decatur, GA
Kansas City Bag Company, Overland Park, KS
Langston Companies, Inc., West Memphis, AR
AR McKay Processing, Hickory, NC
Mead Seed Brokerage, LLC, Jonesboro, AR
Meherrin Ag & Chemical, Severn, NC
Mixon Seed Company, Orangeburg, SC
Monsanto, Cary, NC
NC Crop Improvement, Raleigh, NC
NC Farm Bureau, Raleigh, NC
NC Foundation Seed Prod., Zebulon, NC
NC Peanut Growers Assoc., Nashville, NC
NC Small Grain Growers, Lumberton, NC
NC Soybean Producers, Raleigh, NC
Patten Seed Company, Lakeland, GA
Perdue Agribusiness, Greenville, NC
Pennington Seed, Columbia, SC
CA Perry & Son, Hobbsville, NC
Pioneer Hi-Bred Int'l, Edenton, NC
Precision Pallet, LLC, Pantego, NC
Progeny Ag Products, Wynne, AR
Seminis Vegetable Seed, Cary, NC
Severn Peanut Company, Severn, NC
Sweetwater Creek Seeds, Williamston, NC
Syngenta Seed Care, Midlothian, VA
UniSouth Genetics, Nashville, TN
Valent USA, Winterville, NC
VA Fork Produce Co., Edenton, NC
White Hat Seed Farms, Hertford, NC
Wyatt-Quarles Seed Co., Garner, NC



"Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil, and you're a thousand miles from the corn field." - Dwight D. Eisenhower



Silent Auction

The 5th annual silent auction was held at this year's convention and it was a huge success! A number of people secured some excellent prizes:

| Item | Winning Bid |
|--|--------------------|
| Balloon Boat | Walt Gerard |
| Biffen I/T | Berry Lewis |
| Biffen I/T | Berry Lewis |
| Biffen I/T | Berry Lewis |
| Biffen I/T | Billy Barrow |
| Biffen I/T | Chris Hege |
| Biffen I/T | Chris Hege |
| Biffen I/T | Dustin Auman |
| Biffen I/T | Elbert Long |
| Black/white Jacket | Berry Lewis |
| Blue Barrette | Walt Gerard |
| Blue Barrette | Warwick Arden |
| Blue Jewelry Set | Sam Lee |
| Camo Hats | Kim Foster |
| Case Tractor | Chris Hege |
| Chain Saw | Berry Lewis |
| Chip & Dip Set | Phil Farmer |
| Clear Barrette | Doug Register |
| Clear Barrette | Walt Gerard |
| Comfort Inn RBC Center-one night stay | Marian Keech |
| Country Ham | Doug Register |
| Country Ham | Rick Strecker |
| Dirt Pudding Kit | Walt Gerard |
| Doll | Rick Strecker |
| Flash Light | Doug Register |
| Friendship Bracelets kit | Eddie Price |
| Garmin GPS | Bill Pritchett |
| General Hugh Shelton shirt & Book | Billy Barrow |
| Glyfos | A.O. Roberts |
| Glyfos X-tra | Dustin Auman |
| Golf Bag | Chris Hege |
| Green & Brown Handbag | Stacy Burwick |
| Green Striped Canvas Tote | Burt Eure |
| Green Vest | Dan Weathington |
| Hampton Farm Peanut Bag | Marian Keech |
| Hampton Farm Peanut Basket | Robert Wright |
| Hampton Farms Gift Bag | Marian Keech |
| Hilton Garden Inn, Kitty Hawk stay | Kevin Roberts |
| John Deere 9330 Tractor | A.O. Roberts |
| John Deere Bicycle | Bill Pritchett |
| John Deere Picker Sheller | Bill Pritchett |
| Kingston Plantation | Burt Eure |
| Myrtle Beach Marriott stay | Berry Lewis |
| Nautical Plates | David Davenport |
| Necklace | Stacy Burwick |
| Necklace & Earring Set | Reid McKay |
| Orange Ladies Vest | Lawrence Davenport |
| Pearl Earrings & Bracelet | Dianne Coats |
| Pink Necklace | Lawrence Davenport |
| Pink Vest | Berry Lewis |
| Radio Control Tractor | A.O. Roberts |
| Roundup | Berry Lewis |
| Roundup | Mark Jones |
| Roundup Power Max | Mark Jones |
| Rush Hour Game | David Brickhouse |
| Sheraton Atlantic Beach-two night stay | Berry Lewis |
| Silver Necklace | Owen Wallace |
| Sliced Country Ham | Rick Strecker |
| Wind Shirt | Elbert Long |

Thanks to all our lucky winners and contributors, \$3,115 was raised for the Scholarship Fund.

NCSA NEWS & UPDATES (continued)

Scenes from the 2010 North Carolina Seedsmen's Association



Jane & Marion Dilday – 2010's convention was dedicated to them



Even the younger attendees found what they wanted at the Scholarship Silent Auction. Jay Roberts liked the John Deere vehicles his size.



President Doug Register had the attention of those attending the business session.



Melinda Pritchett applies makeup to Erica Hege during the ladies' program



Kim Lewis & Dee Register practice makeup techniques learned at the ladies' program

Early Registration Convention 2011

Want to make plans to attend the 2011 North Carolina Seedsmen's Association Annual Convention? Registration packets will be sent to all members in May. If you want a head start on planning, you can call the Kingsmill Resort at 1-800-832-5665 and reference **RESERVATION ID # 6aq6up** or through the Kingsmill website using this link:

https://reservations.ihotelier.com/crs/g_reservation.cfm?groupID=537117&hotelID=15459

to receive the group rate of \$179.00 per night per room or \$229 for a 1 bedroom suite and must be booked no later than June 10, 2011 to receive this rate. All group reservations are subject to a seven-day prior to arrival cancellation policy.

"If we estimate dignity by immediate usefulness, agriculture is undoubtedly the first and noblest science." - Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)

NC Seed Board

Eddie Martin, NCDA&CS

The scope of the NC Seed Board is to review complaints from individuals who may have suffered damage from the failure of agricultural or vegetable seed to perform as labeled or warranted, or as a result of negligence. Such performance issues related to seed purity, seed germination, and varietal purity, lot number or other lot identification, percent weeds, inert material, other crop seed and test date. For this period, there were three complaints raised; however, resolution was obtained prior to NC Seed Board consideration. To date there are three to be reviewed.

Seed Count

Eddie Martin, NCDA&CS

The national Conference on Weights and Measures passed a vote July 14, 2010 to standardize testing methods and procedures for seed count labeling. The ASTA filed a petition to amend Handbook 133 of the National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST). The petition requested that the handbook match the standards of the Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA) for testing seed. Tolerance for soybeans (4%), wheat (3%), and corn (2%) and testing procedures will be the same for Weights and Measures as well as Seed Regulatory. The Amendment will start January 2011. When the handbook is published it will be up to the individual states to adopt the most recent edition and enforce the rule.

Martin to Retire

Eddie Martin's retirement date will be April 1, 2011. Martin started with the NCDA&CS in 2000 as Seed Administrator, later to take on the task of Seed and Fertilizer Administrator. His career included NC Crop Improvement Association, 1973-76; FCX, 1976-79; and NC Crop Improvement again, 1979-2000; and NCDA&CS, 2000-11.

NCSA NEWS & UPDATES (continued)

Where is Kingsmill Resort?

AREA & RESORT MAP

TO RICHMOND (30 minutes)
TO YORKTOWN (30 minutes)
TO COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG (15 minutes)
TO JAMESTOWN & PLANTATIONS (45 minutes)
TO NEWPORT NEWS & NORFOLK (45 minutes)

Water Country USA
Kingsmill Resort & Spa
Busch Gardens of Europe

TO WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

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TO WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

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TO WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

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Seed Industry Evolution

JF Spears

Early Farming Began with a Seed

If you look at the history of civilization and the history of farming, I think you might find the two have a connection. Farming started when someone discovered that the grain they gathered for food was also responsible for creating new plants that produced more grain. They took this discovery one step further and realized that if they intentionally gathered the seeds, and spread them out across a field, they could rely on a steady source of grain in that location. You might say they could put down roots. I would speculate there were several failures along the way. However, these simple realizations allowed these early humans to transition from hunters/gathers to community dwellers.

- They could build permanent shelters and live in one location, if they had a steady food source close by
- They could have that food source, if they gathered and sowed seeds

This concept almost certainly developed over thousands of years. However, the idea of tying food supply to the ability to settle in one place is well established. Numerous archeological expeditions have uncovered ancient farming tools among the debris of the earliest community homes.

Early U. S. Seed Industry

The earliest established U. S. seed company on record was **D. Landreth Seed Company** established in 1784 and located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The company sold mostly vegetable and flower seeds and their customers included many of our founding fathers. David Landreth were very active in introducing new crops and concepts to our country.

- In 1798, introduced the **Zinnia into the United States from Mexico.**
- In 1811, introduced the **first truly white potato.** Prior to this introduction, **potatoes had been yellow.**
- In 1820, introduced the **tomato, known then as the Love Apple, and later perfected the first variety of yellow tomato.**
- In 1826, the Company introduced a new kind of **spinach.**
- They **Founded the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society in 1828**
- **Were the sponsor of the Philadelphia Flower Show, the oldest flower show in the country**

At about this same time, the Shakers were establishing communities throughout New England. The Shakers were well-respected for their agricultural skills, which included evaluating the potential of new crops and varieties for food and feed sources. The Shaker communities soon began to package seeds of many different crops in small and large quantities for sale and trade with other communities of their faith. They soon allowed those outside the faith to purchase their

seeds (*Shaker Seed Industry* by Margret Frisbee Somer).

The seed industry continued to grow through the 1800's. Some companies engaged in breeding efforts to improve plants, but for the most part, because agricultural production was still largely community based, the seed trade itself was not regulated or well organized.

The dramatic changes in U. S. agriculture that fills our history books really began in 1862 with the passage of the Morrill Land-Grant College Act and were enhanced by the Hatch Act in 1887. These two pieces of legislation made possible the establishment of plant breeding faculty positions. Not only did these research efforts generate improved crop varieties for farmer use, the plant breeders also significantly increased our understanding of plant genetics, plant growth and plant yield characteristics.

In the early 1900's variety development within Land-Grant Colleges was taking place, but there was little information about the characteristics of these varieties. While yields of our major crops were increasing, there were some problems.

- One of the biggest issues farmers and plant breeders faced during this time was keeping the genetics of the new varieties pure.
- Farmers would purchase the seed of a new variety or in some cases the seed was given to them.
- The farmers would then save seed of the resulting crop to plant back the following year without any efforts to prevent mixing those seed with other seed on their farm.
- The genetic advantage of the new was lost within two seasons.
- Another problem was one of seed sales
- A farmer could purchase seed from the college and save seed from the resulting crop.
- Some would then sell that saved seed claiming the seed as a variety of their own.
- Distribution of seed for new varieties was also a big concern for the colleges.
- Several approaches were tried including having congressmen offer small packets to their constituents and having former students grow seed for the college and selling the seed to farmers in their area.

The problem of maintaining a new variety's genetic composition, and therefore its improved characteristics, became a real dilemma for colleges across the U.S. Canada and several U.S. state agencies began an inspection service for seed growers to ensure the varieties were not mixed or contaminated.

This organized inspection service led to the formation of state crop improvement associations and ultimately the International Crop Improvement Association – currently know as the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA) which is still a major organization in the U.S.