



2025 Preliminary Program

Louisiana
Agricultural Technology & Management
Conference
February 12-14, 2025

Paragon Casino Resort
711 Paragon Place
Marksville, LA 71353



*Sponsored by the
Louisiana Agricultural Consultants Association
www.laca1.org*

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Exhibit Set-up

Mari Center Exhibit Area

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration

Arsene-Belzair Ballroom Foyer

9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Pre-Conference Workshop

Chiqui Ballroom

- **Commercial Applicator Recertification Requirements: New Regulations and Recertification Criteria**
Joe Ingrao, LDAF
- **Pesticide Safety, Pesticide Labeling, and WPS**
Bryan Gueltig, LSU AgCenter

10:30 - 10:50 a.m.

Coffee Break *sponsored by TBA*

Chiqui Ballroom Foyer

10:50 - 11:30 a.m.

Pre-Conference Workshop

Chiqui Ballroom

- **Federal and State Regulatory Update: LA Pesticide Law and How It Affects Agricultural Consultants**
Joe Ingrao / Lyndon Leonards, LDAF

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Luncheon *sponsored by BASF*

Technical Presentation(s)

Albre Brown

Mari Center Stage Side



1:00 - 1:05 p.m.

Opening General Session

Arsene-Belzair Ballroom

Moderator: Chris Ward, 2024 LACA President

Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance



1:05 - 1:35 p.m.

ESA Workplan and Implementation of the Strategies: Background, Current Status, Timelines

Ashlea Frank, Compliance Services International (CSI)

1:35 - 2:05 p.m.

ESA Workplan and Implementation of the Strategies: In Practice as a Consultant, Applicator - Field Level

Leah Duzy, Compliance Services International (CSI)

2:05 - 2:15 p.m.

Q/A ESA Speakers

2:15 - 2:25 p.m.

Emerging Technologies

BAYER - Davy Mize

2:25 - 2:35 p.m.

Emerging Technologies (Platinum or Gold)

CORTEVA AGRISCIENCE - Hunter Bowman

2:35 - 3:15 p.m.

LA Farm Bureau: Policy and Regulations Updates

Richard Fontenot, President / Andy Brown, Managing Director of Commodity and Public Policy

3:15 - 3:25 p.m.

Q/A LA Farm Bureau Speaker

Wednesday, February 12, 2025



Opening General Session (cont'd)

Arsene-Belzaire Ballroom

3:25 - 3:45 p.m.

LSU AgCenter/LSU College of Agriculture Updates
Matt Lee, LSU AgCenter Vice President and Dean of COA
(Invited)

3:45 - 4:15 p.m.

AWARDS

Ashley Peters, LACA Scholarship Committee Chair
LACA Scholarships
Hall of Fame
(Recipients, please stay for photo ops following presentations)

4:15 - 4:25 p.m.

Ray and Dorothy Young Endowment Graduate Student Award
Schyler Lee, Recipient

4:25 - 4:55 p.m.

Refreshment Break sponsored by FMC
Mari Center Exhibit Area



4:55 - 5:00 p.m.

Emerging Technologies
KOCH AGRONOMIC SERVICES - Cullen Minter

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

LACA Business Meeting

Arsene-Belzaire Ballroom
(All member categories are invited to attend)

Evening on your own...Paragon restaurants will be open for your convenience. It is recommended that reservations be made ahead of time if dining at Legends.

The Broken Wheel Brewery, Stephen's Heads or Tails, Habibi's Lebanese Cuisine, La Petite Affaire Café are just a few of the restaurants within one mile of Paragon.

Thursday, February 13, 2025

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.



Breakfast sponsored by CORTEVA AGRISCIENCE

Technical Presentation(s)
Hunter Bowman / Derek Scroggs
Mari Center Stage Side



7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration

Arsene-Belzaire Ballroom Foyer

Multi-Crop Session

Arsene-Belzaire Ballroom
Moderator: TBA

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.

Fertilizer Use Strategies for Louisiana Field Crops
Brenda Tubana, LSU AgCenter

8:30 - 8:35 a.m.

Emerging Technologies
SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION - Trevor Newkirk

Thursday, February 13, 2025

Multi-Crop Session (cont'd)

Arsene-Belzaire Ballroom



8:35 - 9:05 a.m.

Sprayer Drones: Drift Management and Efficacy

Randy Price, LSU AgCenter
James Villegas, LSU AgCenter

9:05 - 9:15 a.m.

Emerging Technologies

FMC - Lawson Priess

9:15 - 9:45 a.m.

Survey of Nematode Species by Crop and Parish

Tristan Watson, LSU AgCenter

9:45 - 10:05 a.m.

Wheat Double-Cropping and Variety Selection for Yield and Disease Resistance

Noah DeWitt, LSU AgCenter

10:05 - 10:10 a.m.

Emerging Technologies

NUTRIEN - Wade Walker

10:10 - 10:40 a.m.

Refreshment Break sponsored by

SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION

Mari Center Exhibit Area



10:40 - 11:00 a.m.

Double Dipping: Conservation Compliance in Herbicide Strategies

James Hendrix, LSU AgCenter

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

PANEL: What Does Weed Control Look Like without Dicamba?

Donnie Miller, LSU AgCenter
Daniel Stephenson, LSU AgCenter
Industry Representatives, TBA
Consultants (north/south), TBA

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Luncheon sponsored by SIMPLOT

Technical Presentation(s)

Bruce Jones / Ben Lawrence

Mari Center Stage Side



Soybean Session

Arsene-Belzaire Ballroom

Moderator: TBA

1:00 - 1:20 p.m.

**Stink Bug Control in Soybean in the Absence of Acephate/
Stink Bug Insecticide Resistance Test Kits**

Jeff Davis, LSU AgCenter

1:20 - 1:30 p.m.

Emerging Technologies

BAYER - Davy Mize

1:30 - 1:50 p.m.

**Addressing the Many Challenges of Cercospora Leaf Blight
Management Through Collaborative Research**

Sara Thomas-Sharma, LSU AgCenter

Thursday, February 13, 2025

Soybean Session (cont'd)

Arsene-Belzaire Ballroom



- 1:50 - 2:10 p.m. **The Effect of Cover Crop Biomass on Residual Herbicides**
Jha Prashant, LSU AgCenter
- 2:10 - 2:30 p.m. **Evaluating Repellents to Mitigate Deer Damage in Soybean: A Collaborative On-farm Effort**
David Moseley, LSU AgCenter
- 2:30 - 2:35 p.m. **Emerging Technologies**
BELCHIM USA - Dennis Long
- 2:35 - - 2:55 p.m. **Insect Weed Map and ID/Precision Weed ID and Control**
Ivan Grijalvalab, LSU AgCenter
(Invited)
- 2:55 - 3:05 p.m. **Emerging Technologies**
BASF - TBD
- 3:05 - 3:30 p.m. **Development of Biological and Chemical Materials that Enhance Soybean Tolerance to Biotic and Abiotic Stresses**
Jong Ham, LSU AgCenter
- 3:30 - 4:00 p.m. **Refreshment Break** sponsored by VALENT USA
Mari Center Exhibit Area
- Rice Breakout Session I**
Chiqui Ballroom
Moderator: TBA
- 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. **Rice Stem Borer Ecology and Management: What We've Learned in 25 Years of Research**
Blake Wilson, LSU AgCenter
- 4:30 - 5:00 p.m. **Challenges in Rice Water Weevil Management with Insecticidal Seed Treatments**
Tyler Musgrove, LSU AgCenter
- 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. **Current Weed Management Topics in Rice**
Connor Webster, LSU AgCenter
- 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. **Industry Technical Updates**
FMC - Lawson Priess
GOWAN - Craig Sandoski
HORIZON AG - TBA
RICETEC - Joe Pankey
SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION - Trevor Newkirk



Thursday, February 13, 2025



Sugarcane Breakout Session I

Arsene/Belzair Ballroom

Moderator: Blaine Viator

4:00 - 4:20 p.m.

Sugarcane Herbicide and Weed Control Research

Matt Foster, LSU AgCenter

4:20 - 4:40 p.m.

Billet Planting Research

Andre Gama, LSU AgCenter

Paul White, USDA-ARS (collaborator)

4:40- 5:00 p.m.

Optimizing Detection of Sugarcane Diseases, Brown Stripe, Damping-off Syndrome, and Rust

Andre Gama, LSU AgCenter

5:00 - 5:20 p.m.

Application of Vantacor as a Systemic Treatment with Spring Fertilizer, Diaprepes Root Weevil, IPM Strategic Plan Workshop

Hannah Penn, USDA-ARS

5:20 - 5:40 p.m.

Mexican Rice Borer Scouting and In-furrow Insecticides

Blake Wilson, LSU AgCenter

5:40 - 5:50 p.m.

Introduction of New Sugarcane Pathologist, USDA-ARS

Rich Johnson, USDA-ARS

5:50 - 6:00 p.m.

Industry Technical Updates

FMC - Lawson Priess



Cotton Breakout Session

Hall of Chiefs

Moderator:

4:00 - 4:20 p.m.

Incorporating Plinazolin into Cotton Insect Management Systems

Dawson Kerns, LSU AgCenter

4:20 - 4:40 p.m.

Cotton Variety Performance

Shelly Kerns, LSU AgCenter

4:40 - 5:00 p.m.

Beltwide Study on Biologicals

Shelly Kerns, LSU AgCenter

5:00 - 5:20 p.m.

Cotton Incorporated: What Projects Are Being Funded?

Speaker TBA

5:20 - 5:50 p.m.

A New Look at Cotton Varieties, PGRs, Technology and Breeding Advances: 1996-2024

Jay Mahaffey, BAYER

5:50 - 6:00 p.m.

Industry Technical Updates

BAYER - Kyle Fontenot / John Hand



Friday, February 14, 2025

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.



Breakfast sponsored by BAYER
Technical Presentation(s)
Kyle Fontenot / Sammy Soignier
Mari Center Stage Side



Corn Breakout Session

Hall of Chiefs
Moderator:

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.

Intrusion of the Corn Leafhopper into the US
Dawson Kerns, LSU AgCenter

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

PANEL: Foliar Disease in Field Corn
Tom Allen, MSU
Travis Faske U of A
Trey Price, LSU AgCenter

9:00 - 9:20 a.m.

Tissue Testing in Corn
Leo Vieira, LSU AgCenter

9:20 - 9:40 a.m.

Understanding and Overcoming Nutrient Deficiencies in Corn
Leo Vieira, LSU AgCenter
Saulo Castro, LSU AgCenter (collaborator)

9:40 - 10:00 a.m.

Industry Technical Updates
SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION - Trevor Newkirk

10:00 - 10:30 a.m.



Refreshment Break sponsored by
BELCHIM USA
Mari Center Exhibit Area



Belchim USA
GROWING TOGETHER

Sugarcane Breakout Session II

Arsene/Belzaire Ballroom
Moderator: Kenneth Gravois

8:00 - 8:20 a.m.

USDA-ARS Weed and Herbicide Research
Alice Wright, USDA-ARS

8:20 - 8:50 a.m.

Update on USDA Soil Fertility Research; Utrisha-N in Sugarcane
Rich Johnson, USDA-ARS

8:50 - 9:10 a.m.

Current Ripener Research
Al Orgeron, LSU AgCenter



9:10 - 9:35 a.m.

Commercial Yield Data on Newer Varieties
Atticus Finger / Wilson Judice, American Sugar Cane League

9:35 - 9:55 a.m.

Sugarcane Nematode Research
Tristan Watson, LSU AgCenter

9:55 - 10:00 a.m.

Introduction of New LSU AgCenter Scientist (Sugarcane/Soybean)
Saulo Castro, LSU AgCenter

Friday, February 14, 2025

10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Refreshment Break (see above)

Rice Breakout Session II

Chiqui Ballroom

Moderator:



8:00 - 8:20 a.m.

Disease Management

Felipe Dalla Lana, LSU AgCenter

8:20 - 8:40 a.m.

Industry Technical Updates

BELCHIM USA - Dennis Long

CORTEVA AGRISCIENCE - Hunter Bowman

KOCH AGRONOMIC SERVICES - Cullen Minter

NUTRIEN - Scott Greenwalt

8:40 - 9:00 a.m.

Advances in Understanding Host Resistance, Pathogen Races, and the Disease Cycle for Rice Diseases Caused by *Cercospora janseana*

Jonathan Richards, LSU AgCenter

9:00 - 9:20 a.m.

Cercospora Management

Felipe Dalla Lana, LSU AgCenter

9:20 - 9:40 a.m.

Comparison of Breeding Strategies for Simple and Complex Traits

Adam Famoso, LSU AgCenter

9:40 - 10:00 a.m.

Nitrogen Losses, Timings, and Management

Ronnie Levy, LSU AgCenter

10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Refreshment Break (see above)

General Session

Arsene-Belazaire Ballroom

Moderator: Scooter LaCoste, 2025 LACA President

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Louisiana Agriculture Update

Commissioner Mike Strain, DVM (*invited*)



11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Legislative Update from Governor Landry's Office

Millard Mulé, Director of Policy



11:30 - 11:35 a.m.

Emerging Technologies

TBA

11:35 - 11:40 a.m.

Emerging Technologies

TBA

11:40 - 11:50 a.m.

Introduction of New LSU AgCenter Professionals

Mike Salassi, Executive Associate Vice President, LSU AgCenter

11:50 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Adjournment

Scooter LaCoste, 2025 LACA President

Recertification



Audio/Visual Equipment and Facilitators provided by



2025 LATMC Program Planning Committee

Scooter LaCoste, Chair
Dennis Burns
Stacia Davis Conger
Richard Costello
Justin Dufour
Rusty Elston
BD Fontenot
Kyle Fontenot
Matt Foster
Kenneth Gravois
Bryan Gueltig
Joe Ingrao
Rich Johnson

Hank Jones
Harold Lambert
Rogers Leonard
Boyd Padgett
Rasel Parvej
Carol Pinnell-Alison
Trey Price
Johnny Saichuk
Derek Scroggs
Mark Smith
Tara Smith
Blaine Viator
Calvin Viator

James Villegas
Herman Waguespack
Tristan Watson
Tim White
Denise Wright

Special Thanks to our 2025 Sustaining Members

All Sustaining Members and Sponsors/Sponsorships will be listed here in the FINAL program to be distributed at the conference.



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