

Tentative Program and Schedule
2007 RCAS Winter Meeting
January 28 – 31, 2007

Registration:

The Registration Desk will be located outside the Blue Marlin Room. It will be staffed from noon to 1:00 and from 4:00 to 5:00 on Sunday afternoon, January 28. It will also be staffed from 7:00 to 8:00 on Monday morning, January 29.

All sessions will be held in the Blue Marlin Room.

Program:

Sunday, January 28, 2007

1:00 – 4:00 Board Meeting

5:00 – 7:00 Welcoming Reception – Blue Marlin Room

Monday, January 29, 2007

8:00 Welcoming remarks

8:15 – 8:45 An Overview of the USDA Agricultural Research Service Southern Plains Area. Dr. Dan Upchurch, Area Director, USDA ARS Southern Plains Area, College Station, TX

8:45 – 9:15 An Overview of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Dr. Elsa Murano, Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and Life Sciences, and Director, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

9:15 – 9:45 Water and Agriculture in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Wayne Halbert, General Manager, Harlingen Irrigation District, Harlingen, TX

9:45 – 10:15 The Rio Grande Valley Citrus and Vegetable Industries. Mr. Ray Prewett, President, Texas Citrus Mutual and Executive Vice President, Texas Vegetable Association, Mission, TX

10:15 – 10:45 Refreshment Break

- 10:45 – 11:15 Wildlife and Land Management in South Texas: Research at the TAMU-Kingsville Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute. Dr. Fidel Hernandez, Research Scientist and Associate Professor (Northern Bobwhite Ecology), Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX
- 11:15 – 11:45 Presentation about INIFAP (Title to be determined). Dr. Francisco Javier Padilla, Area Director
- 11:45 – 12:15 Presentation about INIFAP's Rio Bravo Research Center (Title to be determined). M.C. Miguel Angel Garcia, Center Director
- 12:15 – 1:30 Luncheon with Speaker
Social Security and You: Protecting Yourself Against Identity Theft and What to Do When it Happens to You.
Ms. Anna Lopez, Public Information Officer, Social Security Administration, Brownsville, TX
- 1:30 – 2:00 "Controlling Snowmold in Dryland Wheat.
Dr. Ray Cartee, Director of Research Farms, Utah State University, Logan, UT
- 2:00 – 2:30 The Growing Hispanic Population - What They Buy Will Influence What is Produced. Dr. Merritt Taylor, Professor and Director, Wes Watkins Research and Extension Center, Lane, OK
- 2:30 – 3:00 Development and Management of Large Scale Field Studies: The SOYFACE Project. Dr. Robert Dunker, Agronomist and Superintendent, University of Illinois Crop Sciences Research and Education Center, Urbana, IL
- 3:00 – 3:30 Refreshment Break
- 3:30 – 4:00 The APHIS Pest Detection, Diagnostic and Management Lab
Dr. Paul Parker, Laboratory Director, PDDML, Mission, TX
- 4:00 – 4:30 Citrus Research in Texas
Dr. John da Graca, Deputy Center Director, Texas A&M-Kingsville Citrus Center, Weslaco, TX
- 4:30 – 5:00 Remote Sensing Research: Tools, and Applications.
Mr. Jim Everitt, Remote Sensing Research Project Leader, USDA ARS Kika de la Garza Subtropical Research Center, Weslaco, TX
- 5:00 Adjourn

Tuesday, January 30, 2007:

8:30 Meet in the hotel lobby to depart for tour.

The tour will include several stops of interest within the Rio Grande Valley. It will conclude with a banquet at the USDA/ARS Kika de la Garza Subtropical Agricultural Research Center. Busses will return to the hotel at about 9:30 pm.

Wednesday, January 31, 2007:

8:00 – 8:30 Alternate Swine Production and Value Added Marketing.
Mr. Eddie Pitzer, Superintendent, Cherry Research Farm,
Goldsboro, North Carolina

8:30 – 9:00 Angus Cattle Drive: A Commodity Based Endowment.
Mr. Joe Hampton, Superintendent, Upper Mountain Piedmont
Research Station, Salisbury, North Carolina

9:00 – 9:30 Water Quality Research in Forestry: A Joint Project in Oklahoma
and Louisiana. Mr. Bob Heinemann, Superintendent, Kiamichi
Forestry Research Station, Idabel, Oklahoma

9:30 – 10:00 Workshop: Research Center Financing and Cost Recovery
Methods at Your Station. Mr. Jim Beatty, Superintendent,
Agronomy Research Center, West Lafayette, Indiana

10:00 – 10:30 Refreshment Break

10:30 – 12:00 Business Meeting

12:00: Adjourn

Spouses' Tour:

On Monday morning, January 29 the spouses will depart the hotel at about 9:00 am for a guided trip to Matamoras, Mexico where they will spend the day at Garcia's shopping, experiencing Mexican cuisine (lunch will be on your own) and enjoying the ambience of Mexico. They will return to the hotel at about 2:30 pm.

NOTE: A government-issued ID such as a driver's license or passport will be required for entrance back into the US from Mexico.

Optional, Post-Meeting Tours:

While the 2007 Winter Meeting will conclude at noon on Wednesday, January 31, post-meeting tours are planned for Thursday, February 1 and Friday, February 2 for those wishing to spend the entire week in the Valley.

Thursday, February 1, 2007:

On Thursday a tour of INIFAP's Rio Bravo Research Center at Rio Bravo, Mexico has been arranged. Vehicles will depart the hotel at 8:30 am for the hour and a half trip to Rio Bravo, Mexico. After the tour of the research center we will stop at Nuevo Progreso, Mexico (about mid afternoon) for shopping and an early dinner (on your own) prior to returning to the hotel at about 6:00 pm.

NOTE: A government-issued ID such as a driver's license or passport will be required for entrance back into the US from Mexico.

Friday, February 2, 2007:

For those wishing to stay through Friday, February 2, a tour of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Center for Plant Health Science and Technology's Pest Detection, Diagnostic, and Management Lab in Mission, Texas has been arranged. Vehicles will depart the hotel around 8:30 am and return at approximately 2:00 pm. We will stop for lunch (on your own) on the way back to the hotel.