

# Consultant News

The Official Voice of Mississippi's Crop Professionals

December, 2016

## President's Corner

*Winston Earnheart, PhD, 2016 President*

Fellow MACA members,

Christmas greetings to all of the members of the Association and your families. This year has been a blessed year for most of our farmers, and probably the best harvest conditions I can remember. I want to take this time to urge all of you to plan to attend the 44th Annual Conference at the Bost Conference Center at Mississippi State University on February 6, 7, and 8, 2017. Carol will inform you about acquiring hotel rooms, and Trey Bullock will be relating more about the program soon. Some of the new topics of concern this year include: new worker protection guidelines; new labeling requirements of Banvel products for Extend varieties; possible new labeling of 2, 4, D products on Enlist varieties; drift prevention issues; machinery clean-out issues; effects of increase in cotton acreages; red banded stink bug problems in soybeans; looper efficacy issues with diamides; thrips control with imidicloprid; controlling escapes of worms in Bt cotton; and increased regulation of prospective pesticides and review of older pesticides. These are just a few.

This year has been busy. The Public Relations Committee, chaired by Trent LaMastus, was successful in running ads in the Delta Farm Press for the MACA. In addition, an article was published by Patrick Shepherd in the Delta Farm Press explaining what we do as independent agricultural consultants and the benefits to the farmer from employing one. Dr. Angus Catchot gave us a good recommendation, and your president was interviewed to explain what we do. I also represented the association at the Mississippi Agricultural Organization Policy Roundtable held at the Ag & Forestry Museum in Jackson, MS, June 21 of this year. This was a gathering of Mississippi agricultural association heads and politicians that affect agriculture in our state. Problems in agriculture were discussed, and an increased unity of purpose was achieved. I also represented the association in a meeting this fall of the patrons of the Farm Families of America campaign, led by the Mississippi Farm Bureau. We as an association have been supporting this effort, which tries to let the American public have a better knowledge of who farmers are and what they do.

Attend as many meetings as you can, have a Happy New Year, and I hope to see you at the 44th MACA Annual Conference.

*Winston*

## PayPal Accepted for Pre-Registration Fee!!

For those wishing to pay by credit card, MACA will accept your payment on the MACA website through **PayPal** and at the Conference. To Pre-Register for the 2017 Annual Conference please complete the appropriate Pre-Registration Form and submit your payment.

**[www.msagconsultants.com](http://www.msagconsultants.com)**

If you have any questions, contact Carol Bullard - 662-561-2348 or [carol.m.bullard@gmail.com](mailto:carol.m.bullard@gmail.com)

# MACA 44th Annual MACA Conference - February 7 - 8, 2017

## Conference Program Overview:

By Trey Bullock

President-Elect and Program Planning Committee Chairman

I hope this letter finds everyone doing well. I hope everyone is enjoying a much deserved slower pace, as well as getting a chance to spend time with family and doing some of the things you enjoy. This has always been my favorite time of the year. I also hope everyone has had enough rain to help offset such a long drought.

The purpose of this letter is to encourage each of you to attend the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual MACA conference on February 7th and 8th at Bost Extension Center. It seems every year brings a new set of challenges and we are usually left with new questions. This year was no exception. From red banded stink bugs to target spot to bollworms in *Bt* cotton, and many others. We also have new regulations on the horizon and it seems every week another product is in jeopardy of being taken from us. We also have new technologies that will be available for use in 2017 as well as all the regulations that come with them.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. Don Parker, will discuss the regulatory environment today. Dr. Parker deals with regulatory agencies on a daily basis and will share the latest news that will directly affect each and every one of our businesses.

During this two-day conference, we will have 13 of our Mississippi specialists speaking on some of the issues mentioned previously that we as consultants dealt with in 2016. Also we have, as special guest, Dr. Bob Kemereit from the University of Georgia, speaking on his vast experiences with target spot in cotton.

We will also have several speakers dealing with our newest herbicide technologies including Dr. Dan Reynolds, MSU, and Michael Ledlow with the Mississippi Bureau of Plant Industry. This information will be dealing with management of off target movement and the regulations associated with these technologies.

As always, this will also be a time to fellowship and listen to our sponsors giving us updates on their products and their use. As well as a time to let them know how important they are to this organization. Also, I feel this state is blessed with some wonderful specialists that strive hard to come up with solutions to our row crop issues and this will be a time to let them know how much we appreciate them.

I hope to see all of you there and may God bless all of you and your families during this Holiday Season.

Sincerely,  
Trey Bullock  
MACA President-Elect

### Congratulations to the 2017 MACA Officer Nominees

President	Trey Bullock
President-Elect	Jim Arrington
Secretary/Treasurer	Bert Falkner
Director (1 yr)	Lauren Green
Director (1 yr)	Jeff North
Director (2 yrs)	Joseph Dean
Director (2 yrs)	Tucker Miller

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