

# Consultant News

The Official Voice of Mississippi's Crop Professionals

December, 2017

President's Corner

Trey Bullock, 2017 President

Fellow MACA members,

I hope this letter finds everyone doing well. I also hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving break and took the time to realize all of the many things we have to be thankful for. I know I take a lot for granted. I also want to take this time to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This is by far my favorite time of the year. I also hope everyone is getting to kick back and relax a little from another difficult, challenging year.

I know I am not alone when I say how pleased I am to have this one in the books and to be able to say that it worked out okay. After 2017, I seem to have a lot more questions than I do answers. New challenges; including red banded stink bugs, diseases in crops, new varieties, and new technologies are just a few of the topics we still need answers to. Planting season went from April 1<sup>st</sup> to July 10<sup>th</sup> and harvest season was just as long. My growers finished picking cotton November 28<sup>th</sup>. The "off season" doesn't seem to be as long as it used to be but it seems like I need a longer break than I used to.

After a year like this it does make me realize the importance of what we do and how vital a role we play in production agriculture. I also think it reinforces our importance to our growers and the value and importance of this organization. We, as an organization, have lots of knowledge and experience as members and I think that makes us all stronger because we share experiences with one another.

It is important for us as an association to continue to look for new, young members to bring on board to continue to grow and share information. If anyone has any prospects for this year please be in contact with them. We can get them in touch with the right person and get them involved.

I think we are blessed with the best specialists in the country and we all need to be sure to let them know how much we appreciate them. I am looking forward to getting to fellowship with everyone as well as listen and learn from all of our speakers. I am very thankful and extremely honored for the opportunity to serve as president of this organization. If I can ever be of any assistance to anyone please don't hesitate to call. Again, I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. God Bless!!!  
Philippians 4:13

Trey

## PayPal Accepted for 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 2018 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 45th Annual MACA Conference - February 6 - 7, 2018

## Conference Program Overview:

By Jim Arrington

MACA President-Elect and Program Planning Committee Chairman

I hope that you all are doing well, and have finally had a chance to catch your breath after a long, long year. Maybe the weather will cooperate to make the deer and duck hunting good this year. Speaking of weather, hopefully it will turn cold enough to kill some redbanded stinkbugs.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you about and encourage you to attend the 45th MACA Annual Conference on February 6th and 7th at the Bost Center on the MSU campus. The program planning committee put together what we hope to be an informative and entertaining program this year. We have the usual suspects with MSU Extension as some of the headliners. Trust me when I say, I do not mean that in any way as a slight to them but as an appreciation for their numerous and continuous years of being on the program. Their dedication and hard work helps to make our job easier.

With that being said, we have Dr. Jason Sarver and Dr. Alan Henn discussing early season peanut varieties and late leaf spot, respectively. Dr. Erick Larson will speak on stands variability and the effects of yield potential and Dr. Don Cook on early season insect control in corn. Dr. Tom Allen will share research on stem canker in soybeans. We also have Dr. Bobby Golden to discuss general fertility, Dr. Trent Irby on soybean irrigation, and Dr. Jason Bond on weed control in Xtend soybeans.

Other presentations will include Dr. Darrin Dodds on cotton management and Dr. Jeff Gore on the 2017 issues with bollworm control in cotton. Dr. Angus Catchot will share the latest research on the hot topic of RBSB along with guest consultant, Hank Jones. I'm glad to welcome other out-of-state speakers, Dr. Jarrod Hardke on rice production, Dr. Tom Barber on the dicamba issues in 2017 and where we go from here, and finally, Joseph Cupples, with Mid-south Grain Inspection Service to discuss the soybean grading system. Scattered throughout the Conference will be product update presentations from our valued xxxxSustaining Members. Without their support, our conference would not be possible. There will also be time during breaks to visit with them individually in the Exhibit Hall.

Last, but certainly not least, Dr. Mark Keenum, MSU President, will kick things off on Tuesday morning. He is a valuable friend to agriculture and excited to be with us.

I am so grateful to everyone who has helped me put together this program. The guidance and input I received is most appreciated. I am truly thankful to be associated with the fine people of this organization.

I hope that the meeting this year will benefit you, your business, and ultimately your growers. I look forward to seeing you all in February. Until then, happy hunting and a very Merry Christmas to you and your family.

*Jim*

### Congratulations to the 2018 MACA Officer Nominees

President	Jim Arrington
President-Elect	Jeff North
Secretary/Treasurer	Bert Falkner
Director (1 yr.)	Joseph Dean
Director (1 yr.)	Tucker Miller
Director (2 yrs.)	Dee Boykin
Director (2 yrs.)	Josh Westling