

2014
Texas Fruit
Conference



TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

October 6th & 7th,
Hilton Garden Inn, College Station, Texas

Make plans to attend the 3rd annual Texas Fruit Conference, October 6th & 7th, Hilton Garden Inn, College Station, Texas

What is it? The Texas Fruit Conference is an educational program by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, aimed at bringing together commercial and recreational fruit growers from around the state to hear and discuss the challenges and successes of fruit growing in Texas.

This program offers valuable information updates to seasoned fruit growers while providing persons with no experiences in orchard management a place to learn how to get started.

This 3rd Fall Fruit Conference in Aggieland features exciting topics:

- ◆ New grower session, Monday afternoon—site prep., soil diseases, water quality, bare-root nursery stock, peach varieties, & marketing considerations
- ◆ Networking reception, Monday evening, Hilton Garden Inn
- ◆ General session—olives, pears, citrus, blackberries, pomegranates, cotton root rot management, muscadines
- ◆ Pomegranate fruit variety tasting! Sample some of the newest pomegranate varieties in Texas trials.

Featured Speakers:

- Dr. Arlie Powell, Retired Auburn University Extension Specialist and fruit grower with Petals from the Past Nursery, Jemison, Alabama—will discuss alternative blackberry training and locally grown fruit
- Dr. George Ray McEachern will discuss history & potential of pear production in Texas
- Dr. David Byrne—peach varieties for Texas
- Gary Marburger, Marburger Farms-Fredericksburg—Experiences in fruit growing and marketing
- Larry Don Womack—How to be successful with bare-root nursery stock

AgriLife Extension Speakers:

Larry Stein, Jim Kamas, Monte Nesbitt, David Appel, Sheila McBride, Erfan Vafaie, Justin Scheiner, Marco Palma

When is it? Registration begins 12 Noon, Monday, October 6th, presentations 1:00 pm-5:00 pm; Tuesday October 7th; presentations 8:30 am-5:00 pm.

Where is it? Hilton Garden Inn Conference Center; 3081 University Dr E, Bryan, TX 77802; **Phone:(979) 703-7919; <http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/texas/hilton-garden-inn-college-station-CLLGIGI/index.html>**

Guest Room Rates: \$129; **Deadline to reserve rooms –September 8th**

Alternate Hotel: Ramada Inn, College Station, 506 Earl Rudder Freeway South, College Station, TX 77840 (Hwy 6 & University behind Olive Garden & Home Depot on the feeder road); Reservation by phone only (979)-846-0300
The group name is: "Fruit Conference"

How do I register? Online Registration is at <http://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/>
Cost \$80.00/person online before 9/25/14. On-site registration \$90.00

Or Combine registration with Texas High Tunnel Conference (\$55/person), Wednesday October 8th, for \$125/person for both events



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New Growers

Commercial Producers

Home Gardeners

Fruit Enthusiasts

Educational Program Schedule

DAY 1-Program

Monday Afternoon	October 6th, 2014	Hilton Garden Inn
12:00-1:00 pm	On-Site Registration	
1:00-4:30	<i>New Grower Session</i>	
1:00	Soil drainage and water management in fruit orchards	Jim Kamas, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Fredericksburg
1:30	Soil-borne diseases in fruit orchards	David Appel, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station
2:00	Fruit marketing basic considerations	Marco Palma, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
2:30	<i>Break-Visit with Exhibitors</i>	
3:00	<i>Successful orchard establishment with bare-root container stock</i>	Larry Don Womack, Womack's Nursery
3:30	Evaluating water quality for fruit orchard irrigation	TBD
4:00	Peach varieties and peach fruit problems in Texas	Dave Byrne, Texas A&M University
4:30	Question/Answer Session	
5:00 pm	<i>Adjourn</i>	
6:00-7:30 pm	<i>Welcome Reception for Everyone</i>	
Program continued next page		

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DAY 2-Program

Tuesday	October 7th	Hilton Garden Inn
Morning		
8:00am-8:45 am	On-Site Registration	
8:30am-12:00	General Session 1	
8:30	<i>Olives in Texas—Growth of Texas’ newest fruit industry</i>	Monte Nesbitt, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station
9:00	<i>Preliminary study of flutriafol for Cotton Root Rot control in orchards and vineyards</i>	Sheila McBride, Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic, College Station,
9:30	<i>Maximizing efficiency with macronutrient fertilizers</i>	Larry Stein, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Uvalde
10:00	Break	
10:30	Use of soil and foliar chelates—when am I wasting money and time?	Jim Kamas, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Fredericksburg, Texas
11:00	<i>Muscadine Grapes—what you’ve been missing and need to know</i>	Justin Scheiner, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station, Texas
11:30	<i>History and Potential of Pear Production in Texas</i>	George Ray McEachern, Texas A&M University, Department of Horticultural Sciences
12:00-1:00 pm	Lunch Provided	
1:00pm	<i>Experiences in the Fruit Business</i>	Gary Marburger, Marburger Farms, Fredericksburg, Texas
1:30 pm	<i>Blackberry Training Revisited & Expanding Interest in Locally Grown Fruit</i>	Dr. Arlie Powell, Extension Fruit Specialist -retired, Auburn University
2:30 pm	<i>Break—Visit with Exhibitors</i>	
3:00 pm	<i>Emerging Insect threats for Texas fruit</i>	Erfan Vafaie, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Overton
3:30 pm	<i>Commercial Citrus & Citrus greening in Texas Gulf Coast</i>	Monte Nesbitt, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station
4:00 pm	<i>Pomegranate production and challenges</i>	Larry Stein, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Uvalde
4:30 pm	<i>Pomegranate variety tasting</i>	Larry Stein and Jim Kamas
5:00 pm	<i>Conference Adjourns</i>	