

Proceedings

30th Southern Tree Improvement Conference



Sponsored by
The Southern Forest Tree Improvement Committee
Department of Forest Resources & Environmental Conservation, Virginia Tech
Virginia Tech Continuing & Professional Education

Blacksburg, VA
May 31-June 3, 2009

Proceedings of the 30th Southern Forest Tree Improvement Conference

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Improvement Conference



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Sponsored Publication No. 52 of the
Southern Forest Tree Improvement Committee

Foreword

The 30th Southern Forest Tree Improvement Conference was held in Blacksburg, VA in cooperation with the Southern Forest Tree Improvement Committee, the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation in the College of Natural Resources and Environment at Virginia Tech and the Virginia Tech Continuing and Professional Education Program. For three days, foresters, tree breeders, scientists, and practitioners met and listened to the excellent presentations that are summarized in these proceedings.

Three awards were presented for outstanding contributions to the conference:

The **Tony Squillace Award** is given for the best oral presentation based on content, style and use of visual aids and includes a \$200 award. The winner was Mike Cunningham for his talk “Freeze Tolerant Eucalyptus: A biotech solution for purpose-grown hardwoods”

The **Bruce Zobel Award** includes a \$200 award and is given for the best oral presentation by a student. The winner was Jeremy Stovall for his talk “Growth of clonal *Pinus taeda* following fertilization in the Virginia piedmont”

The **Belle Baruch Foundation Award** includes a \$100 award and is given for the best poster. Yanyan Liu won for her poster “Genes associated with dormancy release of shortleaf pine axillary buds after topkill”

The SFTIC Committee thanks these three individuals as well as all the presenters for their contributions.

The Conference was a success primarily due to the efforts of Dave Waterman and Sam Linkous of Virginia Tech’s Continuing & Professional Education (CPE) program. Our sincere gratitude goes to them. The SFTIC Committee also thanks all the staff, graduate students, and faculty in the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation who contributed to the success of the conference.

The 30th SFTIC Planning Committee:

Amy Brunner (Conference Chair), Tom Byram, Barbara Crane, Jeff Dean, Ulrika Egertsdotter, Barry Flinn, Fikret Isik, Steve McKeand, Scott Merkle, Greg Powell, Jerry Pullman, Fred Raley, Cetin Yuceer

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