

**SAAESD Fall Meeting
September 26, 2017
Philadelphia, PA**

Agenda

Participants: Bill Brown, TN, Jackie Burns, FL, John Davis, FL, Susan Duncan, VA, Henry Fadamiro, AL, Bob Godfrey, VI, Tom Hanna, KY, George Hopper, MS, Rogers Leonard, LA, Nathan McKinney, AR, David Monks, NC, Allen Moore, GA, Saied Mostaghimi, VA, Craig Nessler, TX, Lesley Oliver, KY, Keith Owens, OK, Randy Raper, OK, Chris Ray, SC, Tim Rials, TN, Richard Roeder, AR, Bob Shulstad, GA, Clarence Watson, AR, and David White, AR

Executive Director's Office: Eric Young, SAAESD

Action Items:

Agenda #	Actions Taken
1	Agenda – Approved (Rick Roeder/Keith Owens) Fall Meeting Minutes – Approved (Saied Mostaghimi/ Bill Brown) Interim Actions – Approved (Saied Mostaghimi/Rick Roeder)
2	SERA Review Requests All recommendations from the SERA Review Committee were approved (Craig Nessler/Saied Mostaghimi)
4	NRSP Review Committee Recommendations and Ballot Preview Recommendation to approve proposal and budget, one vote per AES
6	Cotton Winter Nursery Assessment Increase CWN support assessment to \$25,000 – Approved (Craig Nessler/George Hopper)
9	Nominating Committee Report Steve Lommel as chair-elect – Approved (George Hopper/Rick Roeder)

Agenda

Time	Item Number	Agenda Item – Presenter
8:00	1	Welcome and Introductions – Bob Godfrey, SAAESD Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Agenda • Minutes • Interim Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appointed Susan Duncan, VA, as the Southern Region Representative on the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee ○ Appointed Rick Roeder, AR, as Administrative Advisor for S_temp1053 "Ecological and genetic diversity of soilborne pathogens and indigenous microflora" ○ Appointed Sherry Larkin, FL, as Administrative Advisor for SERA27 "Nursery Crop and Landscape Systems,"

		<p>Action taken: Agenda – Approved (Rick Roeder/Keith Owens) Fall meeting minutes – Approved (Saied Mostaghimi/ Bill Brown) Interim Actions – Approved (Saied Mostaghimi/Rick Roeder)</p>
8:05	2	<p>SERA Review Committee Report, Recommendations, and Approval – David Monks</p> <p>Action taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All recommendations from the SERA Review Committee were approved (Craig Nessler/Saied Mostaghimi)
8:15	3	<p>Multistate Research Committee Report – Clarence Watson</p> <p>In meeting report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AA’s need to push for annual reports with more substance, particularly accomplishments and impacts for the impact writer Need to be sure peer reviewers are willing to give a good detailed review
8:25	4	<p>NRSP Review Committee Recommendations and Ballot Preview – Clarence Watson and Eric Young</p> <p>Action taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to approve proposal and budget, one vote per AES
8:35	5	<p>Southern Region Water Coordinator Proposal – Keith Owens, Eric Young, and Wes Burger</p> <p>In meeting report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal recommends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> coordinator – .5 to .75 FTE communications person - .1 to .16 FTE evaluations specialist - .1 to .19 FTE need more info on how this is unique from other SERA’s how will this person interact with water resources institutes defer making decision until spring and ask Keith and Wes to work with ASRED reps to get more information how would personnel be selected and hired
9:05	6	<p>Cotton Winter Nursery Assessment – Eric Young</p> <p>Action taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved increase to \$25,000 for CWN support, including AZ & CA – Passed (Craig Nessler/George Hopper)
9:20	7	<p>Status Reports: (AFRI grant proposals submitted)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Local Foods (SERA 47) – Eric Young Unmanned Aerial Systems (S 1069) – Eric Young <p>In meeting report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> local foods doing very well, lots of activity, particularly extension related <ul style="list-style-type: none"> some social science research activity UAS project moving forward, currently trying to fund common protocols to conduct collaborative research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider asking one of them to present at spring meeting on industry status and project activities

9:30	8	<p>Spring 2018 SAAESD Meeting – Keith Owens</p> <p>In meeting report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Tulsa, OK • April 2-5, 2018
9:40	9	<p>Nominating Committee Report – George Hopper</p> <p>Action taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Lommel nominated as chair-elect – Approved (George Hopper/Rick Roeder)
9:45	10	Resolutions Committee Report – Rick Roeder
9:50	11	Passing of the Gavel – Bob Godfrey
9:55	12	Closing Remarks – Jackie Burns
10:00		Adjourn

Agenda Item #2

SERA Review Committee Recommendations August 7, 2017

The SERA Review Committee: Reuben Moore, Chair, David Monks, Eric Young, Nick Place, Doug Steele, and Ron Brown

S_tempSERA3 (SERA3) "Southern Region Information Exchange Group for IPM" - AA's: David Monks, NC (Research) and Tom Melton, NC (Extension)

- Recommend approval for 5 years with the following suggestions to be considered
 - Title needs to be change from IEG to SERA.
 - Develop/strengthen proposed activities that will help accomplish research and extension outcomes
 - Need more participation, or indicate if there is more than appears from Appendix E

S_tempSERA6 (SERA06) "Methodology, Interpretation, and Implementation of Soil, Plant, Byproduct, and Water Analyses" - AA's: Nathan McKinney, AR (Research) and Thomas Obreza, FL (Extension)

- Recommend approval for 5 years with the following suggestions to be considered
 - Remove IEG verbiage from proposal
 - Develop measurable objectives and procedures related to research
 - Need more participation, or indicate if there is more than appears from Appendix E

S_tempSERA27 (SERA27) - "Nursery Crop and Landscape Systems" - AA's: Sherry Larkin, FL (Research) and Pat Knight, MS (Extension)

- Recommend approval for 5 years with the following suggestions to be considered
 - Remove IEG verbiage from proposal
 - Objective 4 needs a better description on how material information is transferred to users
 - Need more participation, or indicate if there is more than appears from Appendix E

S_tempSERA37 (SERA37) - "Latinos in the New South" - AA's: Reuben Moore, MS (Research) and Ed Jones, VA (Extension)

- Recommend that SERA 37 proposal not be approved since it does not include a balanced portfolio of research and extension and participation has waned. However, recognizing the significant need for identifying opportunities and collaborating across state lines to share resources in support of Latino audiences, it is recommended that Latinos in the New South continue as an interest group within the Community Development Committee of the Southern Region Program Leadership Network. At such time that a balanced research and extension program is in order and participation levels warrant, the group may consider submitting a request for a new SERA.

Agenda Item #3

Multistate Research Committee Report Fall 2017

Presenter: Clarence Watson

Background:

The Southern MRC is composed of Clarence Watson (Chair), Craig Nessler, Rick Bennett, Nathan McKinney and Deborah Brennan (ARS Rep).

The following is a current status report, prepared by Donna Pearce, of MRF activities sorted by termination date. This information is also available on the southern directors' web site.

Multistate Activities' Status

Projects/Activities Terminating 9/30/2017

- **S1052** – “The Working Group on Improving Microbial Control of Arthropod Pests” - Rogers Leonard, LA
- **S1053** – “Ecological and genetic diversity of soilborne pathogens and indigenous microflora” - Harald Scherm, GA
- **S1058** – “Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds” - Saied Mostaghimi, VA
- **SCC81** – “Sustainable Small Ruminant Production in the Southeastern U.S.” – Bob Godfrey, VI
- **SERA003** – “Southern Region Information Exchange Group for IPM” – David Monks, NC
- **SERA006** – “Methodology, Interpretation, and Implementation of Soil, Plant, Byproduct, and Water Analyses” - Nathan McKinney, AR
- **SERA27** – “Nursery Crop and Landscape Systems” - Regina Bracy, LA
- **SERA37** – “Latinos in the New South” - Reuben Moore, MS

Replacement Projects/Activities Approved

- **1071 (S_temp1075 replacement)** – “A framework for secondary schools agriscience education programs that emphasizes the STEM content in agriculture” – Lesley Oliver, KY
- **SDC1053 (S1053 replacement)** – “Ecological and genetic diversity of soilborne pathogens and indigenous microflora” – Rick Roeder, AR
- **S294 (S_temp294 replacement)** – “Quality and Safety of Fresh-cut Vegetables and Fruits” – Reuben Moore, MS
- **S_temp2017 (NEW)** – “Exploring the Psychological and Sociological Dimensions of Decision Making Related to Critical Agricultural and Natural Resource Issues.” – Sherry Larkin, FL
- **1070 (S_temp2018 replacement)** - “The Working Group on Improving Microbial Control of Arthropod Pests” - Rogers Leonard, LA
- **SCC81 (SCC_temp81 replacement)** – “Sustainable Small Ruminant Production in the Southeastern U.S.” – Bob Godfrey, VI
- **SERA3 (S_tempSERA3)** – “Southern Region Information Exchange Group for IPM” - AA's: David Monks, NC (Research) and Tom Melton, NC (Extension)
- **SERA6 (S_tempSERA6)** – “Methodology, Interpretation, and Implementation of Soil, Plant, Byproduct, and Water Analyses” - AA's: Nathan McKinney, AR (Research) and Thomas Obreza, FL (Extension)
- **SERA27 (S_tempSERA27)** - “Nursery Crop and Landscape Systems” - AA's: Sherry Larkin, FL (Research) and Pat Knight, MS (Extension)

Terminating without Replacement 9/30/2017

- **S1058** – “Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds” - Saied Mostaghimi, VA
- **SERA37** – “Latinos in the New South” - Reuben Moore, MS
- **S_temp2017 (NEW)** – “Exploring the Psychological and Sociological Dimensions of Decision Making Related to Critical Agricultural and Natural Resource Issues.” – Sherry Larkin, FL

Projects/Activities Terminating 9/30/2018

- **S-009** – “Plant Genetic Resource Conservation and Utilization” – Clarence Watson, AR
- **S-1032** – “Animal Production Systems: Synthesis of Methods to Determine Triple Bottom Line Sustainability from Findings of Reductionist Research” – Ron Lacewell, TX
- **S-1041** – “The Science and Engineering for a Biobased Industry and Economy” – Bill Brown, TN
- **S-1054** – “Biobased Fibrous Materials and Cleaner Technologies for a Sustainable and Environmentally Responsible Textile Industry” – Bob Shulstad, GA
- **S-1055** – “Biology, impact, and management of soybean insect pests in soybean production systems” – Rogers Leonard, LA
- **S-1056** – “Enhancing Microbial Food Safety by Risk Analysis” – Steve Lommel, NC
- **S-1057** – “A framework for secondary schools agriscience education programs that emphasizes the STEM content in agriculture” – Lesley Oliver, KY
- **S-1059** – “Peanut Variety and Quality Evaluation Program for Development of Virginia-type Cultivars with High Oleic Trait” – David monks, NC
- **S-1060** – “Fly Management in Animal Agriculture Systems and Impacts on Animal Health and Food Safety” – Rick Roeder, AR
- **S-1061** – “Nutritional Systems for Swine to Increase Reproductive Efficiency” – Phil Elzer, LA
- **S-1062** – “The importance of U.S. food and agricultural trade in a new global market environment” – Eric Young, NC
- **SCC-13** – “Statisticians Group” – Clarence Watson, AR
- **SCC-84** – “Genetic selection and mating strategies to improve the well-being and efficiency of dairy cattle” – Joe West, GA
- **SERA017** – “Organization to Minimize Nutrient Loss from the Landscape” – Nathan McKinney, AR
- **SERA018** – “Rice Technical Workers Group” – John Russin, LA
- **SERA025** – “Turf” – John Russin, LA
- **SERA039** – “Public Policy Issues Education” – Lesley Oliver, KY

Action Requested: For information

Request for Support for a Southern Extension and Research Activity (SERA) 43 Regional Coordinator Position

Ad hoc Recommendation Committee: Wes Burger (SERA-43 AA), L. Washington Lyons (NC), Mark McCann (GA), Tom Obreza (FL), Keith Owens (OK), Alton Thompson (NC)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background: SERA 43 regional collaborations stimulate development of innovations transforming understanding and management of water resources in the face of changing climate, land use, and demographics by engaging the research, extension, and teaching capacities of the Land Grant University (LGU) system in the Southern US region (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, PR and VI).

A multi-state approach makes sense for water

Water is an issue that inherently cuts across disciplines, geographies and political boundaries, requiring purposeful efforts to bring researchers and educators from different institutions and disciplines together. Water issues transcend state boundaries and states often have similar needs for research and education regarding water issues. A few examples of water-related challenges that do not end at state boundaries include nutrient management within river basins; flooding, drought and aquifer depletion that crosses state lines; water rights/basin transfers; drinking water quality; climate change mitigation and adaptation; and urban water infrastructure.

The Land Grant Institutions (LGIs) are uniquely positioned to bring producers, communities, youth and family resources, policymakers, and others together to address these important water-related issues. A strategic investment in resources, while regional water networks remain functional following 12 years of federal investment in the networks, has the potential to leverage external investments from partners and result in powerful positive impacts across the Southern Region.

To this end, the Southern Region Extension and Experiment Station Directors charged an ad hoc subcommittee to further explore potential benefits of a regional coordinator position and to provide options and recommendations regarding the present request to Southern Region Extension and Experiment Station Directors. This request and the recommendations in it are the result of teleconference discussion with and suggestions from the ad hoc committee reporting to ASRED and SAAESD.

Regional collaborations would be supported by a Regional Coordinator; State Points of Contact designated by Directors; ad hoc initiatives supported with seed funding; and an Administrative Council to guide funding decisions. Minimum, preferred and recommended funding tiers are included in this request for consideration by the Directors.

The proposed model is intended as an organizational structure that serves the needs of all 15 states and territories in the Southern Region. The timing is opportune as the USDA-NIFA National Integrated Water Program regional water resource projects, including the Southern Region Water Resource Program and the Mid-Atlantic Water Program, were concluded in 2013.

Those previous projects have built regional capacity and collaborative relationships that can and are being leveraged as we consider adopting a new model and transition into a fully regional water network congruent with the Land Grant University System's Southern Region.

Potential Outcomes of a Regional Network for Water

To effectively address critical water issues and leverage limited resources, the SERA-43 organizational model will enhance existing capacity and expand it by:

- Engaging and increasing connectivity among university professionals and partners working across a diversity of water-related disciplines.
- Maintaining and strengthening networking and communication among university professionals with Extension appointments and those with exclusively research appointments.
- Maintaining flexibility in developing collaborations that increase effectiveness of water research and extension programming.
- Generating extramural funding that addresses multistate issues and opportunities.
- Generating measurable impacts in the short and long-term.

SERA-43 Approved Work Plan Objectives Include:

Foster multi-state, multi-disciplinary collaboration addressing priority water issues:

1. Establish and strengthen transdisciplinary and transgeographic LGU relationships to address critical water quality, water quantity, and ecosystem services issues
2. Expand the knowledge base for discovery of new tools and practices as well as for the continual validation of recommended practices.
3. Improve coordination and delivery of educational programming and increase implementation effectiveness of water resource management strategies for agricultural and non-agricultural audiences.
4. Co-sponsor re-establishment of a National Water Conference in concert with the Soil and Water Conservation Society, and conduct a biennial, regional water conference to share research, extension, and education resources, and to facilitate broader interaction among faculties and with external partners.

The SERA-43 website will serve as a clearinghouse for water resources information and tools that can be accessed, adapted, and employed by member institutions, partner entities, and citizen stakeholders throughout the region (<https://sera43.wordpress.ncsu.edu>). Listservs created for the membership and workgroups and will be utilized for routine communication. The annual meeting serves as a venue for sharing information and resources among members, which is then communicated and/or distributed by members to all participating states, territories, and partner entities as appropriate. The biennial conference will serve as a broader opportunity to provide training and share information, resources, and lessons learned.

Recommendations

Proposed Southern Region Water Network Organizational Model

As ASRED and SAAESD, through the ad hoc recommendation committee, are exploring funding a regional water coordinator position, three “start-up” funding options are shown below for this model. The “recommended” option most strongly reflects the consensus of SERA-43 members. The “preferred” option supports personnel investment with initiative funding. The “minimum” option is SERA-43’s view of the minimum resources necessary to provide the Directors and partners with a strong return on their investment. Directors will have the opportunity to provide input throughout the funded period. If results are not satisfactory, Directors could recommend a change in course or terminate funding.

The next sections describe the proposed Southern Region Water Network organizational model in more detail.

Network Staffing

Regional Coordinator

As reported in a presentation by Drs. Henning and Moore during an ASRED, SAAESD Session at the Joint Spring Meeting in 2016, SERA Administrative Advisors responded that the most important predictor of SERA productivity is strong, committed leadership (http://asred.msstate.edu/files/2016_aug_meet/J10_SERA_Presentation_2016_Virgin_Islands.pdf).

A tested model for effective regional water resource leadership capitalizing upon the 12-year, USDA-funded National Integrated Water Resource Program, which invested in the development of regional networks is available through the North Central Region Water Network (<http://northcentralwater.org/>). In 2013, the North Central Region Extension Directors recognized that an effective multi-state partnership needs a strong champion responsible for day-to-day operations including regional activities and opportunities, and the Directors provided pilot support for a regional coordinator for the region. The final report documenting the efficiency of investing in such a position is at <http://northcentralwater.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/11/files/2015/10/North-Central-Region-Water-Network-Prospectus.pdf>.

Similar to the key role of the regional coordinator for the highly successful North Central Region Water Network, the regional coordinator for the Southern Region Water Network would have two overarching roles: 1) leadership, energy and focus for the regional effort, and 2) practical logistics of a highly visible, coordinated effort among faculty and staff within 15 states and territories.

We propose that the Southern Region Directors provide pilot support for a Southern Region Water Network regional coordinator who would:

- Facilitate communication and network development among LGI educators, researchers, and partners. A regional website, expansion of virtual learning opportunities, social media, and one-on-one communications are examples of potential communication and network development activities.
- Organize resources around regional priorities, including supporting the development of new grants, contracts, and gifts.

- Convene a regional Administrative Council and ad hoc initiative teams to set and take action on regional priorities.
- Serve as a resource on water-related issues to administration and partners, including partners at the national level as appropriate.
- Maintain focus and accountability by guiding program planning and evaluation at the network and initiative levels.
- Maintain communication and provide project status updates to the Directors.

This position is considered essential for the success of a multi-state programming effort.

The Regional Coordination position should be at least .75 FTE, although significant benefits would occur with a .50 FTE (minimum tier). SERA-43 has considered the possibility of spreading “support functions,” such as evaluation support, for multi-state work across states and believes it would add to the strength of the network and diversity of perspective.

Proposed operating expenses for this position are listed in Table 1 (p. 6-7).

Communication Support

SERA-43 also proposes a .10 to .16 FTE for communication support for the Southern Region Water Network. Communication support to highlight impact and summarize regional network accomplishments and leveraging will make more efficient use of a Regional Coordinator’s time and more effectively support the other elements of the network. While there are advantages to spreading human capital and resources across institutions in the Southern Region, the communication support position is thought to be more effective if co-located with the Regional Coordinator.

Evaluation Support

Measuring and communicating impact is an essential part of any LGI program, but is particularly critical when resources are shared and a high level of accountability is required. SERA-43 proposes a .10 to .19 FTE for evaluation support. This position would assist the Regional Coordinator, Administrative Council, and ad hoc initiative teams (as they develop grants and programs) in planning and implementing evaluation, as well as assessing outcomes and impacts. The position, along with the Regional Coordinator, will also assist evaluators of water programs in states to develop/refine a set of consistent evaluation indicators to allow for common impact reporting. Furthermore, evaluation support will ensure that the Directors and other partners can determine whether the return on their investment justifies funding for a regional water network. This position, as previously discussed, could be housed at a location different than the Regional Coordinator position.

Extension and Research State Points of Contact Designated by Directors

Networks are more effective when they include members who serve as connectors and bridges to other networks. It is important that each state has at least one boundary-spanning individual responsible for explicitly connecting people and ensuring scientific and programmatic exchanges occur on a systematic basis. Each state would designate at least one State Point of Contact to facilitate communication within their own state, with administration, and across Southern Region states. State Points of Contact will provide a pathway for the Regional

Coordinator to communicate information about multi-state issues, activities, and funding opportunities to educators and researchers in each state. They will also help communicate state issues and needs to the Regional Coordinator and Administrative Council. Additional faculty and staff are invited and encouraged to participate in the multi-state water network. Those with appropriate expertise will be contacted for specific projects

Regional Initiatives and Ad Hoc Initiative Teams

The heart of any multi-state collaboration must be meaningful work with a high return on investment. Initiative teams would be ad hoc and would convene cross-disciplinary, multi-state, and multi-sector interests. They would utilize Southern Region funding opportunities to:

- Address high priority water-related issues at the regional or sub-regional level
- Provide a results-oriented forum for professional communication and networking
- Produce measurable impact benefiting team members, LGIs, partners, and stakeholders
- Enhance capacity to provide water-related education and facilitation
- Include university and non-university members as appropriate

Regional initiatives would complement and coordinate with related multi-state committees funded through the Hatch Act. In applying for funding, initiative teams would be required to articulate measurable outcomes and impacts and a plan for leveraging the SERA-43 investment in ways that expand initiative impacts.

Funding to “seed” multi-state initiatives is the most critical direct funding need. Experience in previous Regional Water Programs and other similar collaborations has demonstrated that start-up money brings teams together. SERA-43 proposes \$20,000 - \$30,000 per initiative, depending on funding availability. Initiative funding allows substantial participation from across the region and support for operating expenses, such as editing and graphic design for report publications. A Regional Administrative Council would make final funding decisions.

Regional Administrative Council

The engagement of administration and partners at the Director level is essential to assure regional priorities are being addressed, programming impacts and outcomes are communicated, funding commitments are sustained, barriers in working together among LGIs and partners are lowered, and there is continued strong support for the work of the network. The strongest Council model would be one that includes “resource-raising” as part of a Council Member’s job description. Council Members’ institutions would be expected to contribute financially, in an in-kind fashion, or in some way be able to bring resources to support initiatives.

A Regional Administrative Council would include representatives from groups that have an interest in water as a leverage point for positive change. While the specific composition of an Administrative Council is not yet developed, a group of up to 15 people would represent the following general sectors:

- Extension and/or Experiment Station Directors (2-3)
- Representatives from federal and state agencies

- Business and industry
- Non-governmental organizations
- Researchers and/or educators with water-related expertise

While some Council Members’ responsibilities and interests may be closely related to water, others may focus on agriculture, economic development, community vitality, public health, energy, or environmental sustainability.

An Administrative Council would guide network policy, issue calls for proposals, and make funding decisions. They would meet once per year in person and by phone/web as needed. They may choose to engage technical reviewers to assist in make funding decisions.

It is expected that operating expenses for an Administrative Council, beyond staffing the Council, would be approximately \$10,000 per year.

Convening Event

An inaugural convening event would expand communication exchanges among people that are interested in water-related issues, but have not yet been engaged. It would also provide opportunities for university professionals to discuss their interest in water-related research and extension education and outreach.

SERA-43 recommends that \$15,000 be budgeted for one convening event to be held early in the funded period. This cost does not include travel, which would be managed and funded on a state-by-state basis.

Summary of Proposed Investment Options

Table 1. Summary of funding options for a Southern Region Water Network

COMPONENT	RECOMMENDED ¹	PREFERRED ²	MINIMUM ³
Regional Coordinator	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$50,000
Regional Coordinator operating (supplies, travel, etc.)	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Communication Support	\$10,000	\$6,000	\$0
Evaluation Support	\$15,000	\$8,000	\$0
State Point of Contact	\$0	\$0	\$0
Regional Initiatives and Ad Hoc Initiative Teams	\$120,000	\$50,000	\$20,000
Regional Administrative Council	\$10,000	\$6,000	\$0
Convening Event	\$15,000	\$0	\$0
Total	\$250,000	\$150,000	\$75,000

¹**Recommended:** base of \$10,000 per each of the fifteen 1862 LGUs in the Southern Region with a combination of 1890s also contributing at \$10,000 each and/or several 1862s providing \$10,000 from both Extension and \$10,000 from their Experiment Station to total \$250,000; .75 FTE Regional Coordinator; .16 FTE Communications Support; .19 FTE

Evaluation Support; 4-5 initiative team projects (\$30,000 cap); Support for Regional Administrative Council activities; Support for Convening Event

²**Preferred:** \$10,000 per each of the fifteen 1862 LGUs in the Southern Region to total \$150,000; .75 FTE Regional Coordinator; .10 FTE Communications Support; .10 FTE Evaluation Support; 2 initiative team projects (\$25,000 cap); partial support for Regional Administrative Council activities; no support for Convening Event

³**Minimum:** \$5,000 per each of the fifteen 1862 LGUs in the Southern Region to total \$75,000; .50 FTE Regional Coordinator; 1 initiative team project (\$20,000 cap); communications, evaluation, Regional Administrative Council activities and Convening Event not supported

Potential to attract external resources

Given the critical nature of water to all aspects of human life, water as an organizing theme has the potential to attract significant extramural funding. Funding may be from competitive grants, contracts for services or specific deliverables, or gifts from private sector donors.

The proposed organizational model provides strong lines of communication with each state's LGI water experts and administration to ensure effective generation of *new* resources. Southern Region water initiative teams may choose to focus on preparation for competitive funding or developing relationships with partners that lead to grants, contracts, or gifts. The Regional Coordinator can provide additional support for relationship development with potential funders and work with State Points of Contact and initiative leaders so that researchers and educators can focus more time on effective programming. Evaluation resources will ensure that funders will have evidence of impact their investment has made and will help strengthen funding partnerships.

The LGIs are unique in their ability to connect farms, communities, youth and family resources, policy makers, and others within states. We can serve as an objective convener around complex issues such as water. We can conduct or facilitate new research related to water, to help communities and businesses take full advantage of emerging opportunities and avoid or mitigate potential problems. We can access and utilize the extensive research base of our universities, including the Experiment Stations, the state water resource institutes and state Sea Grants. No other organization or collaborative partnership of organizations can match the LGIs' abilities to address water if we effectively leverage our existing position and capacity by adding greater resource coordination across states.

	Acres Harvested (1,000's) ¹				Acreage Category	2016 - 2020 Assessments			New Nursery Assessment	New Total Assessment	Increase from 2016
	2013	2014	2015	Average		Database Assessment	Nursery Assessment	Total Assessment			
Texas	3100	4616	4515	4077	6	\$3,846	\$2,308	\$6,154	\$3,261	\$7,107	\$953
Georgia	1340	1370	1110	1273	5	\$3,205	\$1,923	\$5,128	\$2,718	\$5,923	\$795
Mississippi	287	420	315	341	4	\$2,564	\$1,538	\$4,102	\$2,174	\$4,738	\$636
North Carolina	460	460	380	433	4	\$2,564	\$1,538	\$4,102	\$2,174	\$4,738	\$636
Alabama	359	348	312	340	4	\$2,564	\$1,538	\$4,102	\$2,174	\$4,738	\$636
Arizona	358	339	243	313	4				\$2,174	\$2,174	\$2,174
Arkansas	305	330	205	280	3	\$1,923	\$1,154	\$3,077	\$1,631	\$3,554	\$477
California	278	210	162	217	3				\$1,631	\$1,631	\$1,631
Tennessee	233	270	140	214	3	\$1,923	\$1,154	\$3,077	\$1,631	\$3,554	\$477
South Carolina	250	278	232	253	3	\$1,923	\$1,154	\$3,077	\$1,631	\$3,554	\$477
Louisiana	128	168	107	134	2	\$1,282	\$769	\$2,051	\$1,087	\$2,369	\$318
Oklahoma	125	210	195	177	2	\$1,282	\$769	\$2,051	\$1,087	\$2,369	\$318
Florida	127	105	83	105	2	\$1,282	\$769	\$2,051	\$1,087	\$2,369	\$318
Virginia	77	86	84	82	1	\$641	\$385	\$1,026	\$544	\$1,185	\$159
Kentucky	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Puerto Rico	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Virgin Islands	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

¹ Based on NASS statistics.

Actual Assessment	\$24,999	\$14,999	\$39,998	\$25,001	\$50,000	\$10,002
Approved Assessment	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$40,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$10,000

Agenda Item: #8

AFRI Grant Proposals

From S-1069 Members

The Spatial, Temporal, and Spectral Parameters Required for UAV Agricultural Applications

Rob Freeland, Univ of TN
Ning Wang, OK State

Rob Richardson, NC State
Randy Price, LSU

USDA AFRI Foundational Agriculture Systems and Technology

Enhancing Accessibility, Reliability, And Validation Of Actionable Information From Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Image Data

Joby Czarnecki, MS State
Girish Chowdhary, Univ of IL
Alex Thomasson, TX A&M

Brian Smith, MS State
Brien Henry, MS State

USDA AFRI Foundational Agriculture Systems and Technology, Agricultural Engineering Section

Unmanned Aerial Systems in Natural Resources, Toy or Tool? An Objective Approach

(Requested to submit based on Letter of Intent, due Aug 9)

Louis Wasson, MS State
Joby Czarnecki, MS State
Randy Price, LSU Michael
Lori Duncan, Univ of TN

Christian Brodbeck, Auburn
Terry Spurlock, Univ of AR
Buschermohle, Univ of TN

USDA AFRI – A1701, Critical Agricultural Research and Extension

From SERA 47 members –

Southern Region Food Systems Collaborative

North, Elizabeth, MS State Univ
Liz Felter, Univ of FL
Dave Lamie, Clemson
Rachel Welborn, MS State
Iris Crosby, Univ of AR Pine Bluff

Jennifer Taylor, FL A&M Univ
Joseph Donaldson, Univ of TN
Kenrett Jefferson, NC A&T Univ
Leslie Hossfeld, MS State
Wu Ying, TN State

USDA AFRI – A1701, Critical Agricultural Research and Extension

**RESOLUTION HONORING
ROBERT N. SHULSTAD**

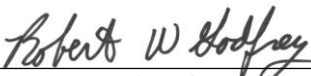
Whereas, Dr. Robert N. Shulstad, Associate Dean of Research for the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station, at the University of Georgia, will no longer participate directly in the activities of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors; and

Whereas, Dr. Shulstad has, during his years of service, contributed significantly to the activities of the association by serving as its chair, serving as a representative and chair to ESCOP, and providing leadership as an administrative advisor to advisory committees, development committees and multi-state projects; and

Whereas, Dr. Shulstad has served the Land-Grant mission of the State of Georgia, the Southern Region, and the U.S. with dedication and vision toward maintaining competitive, safe, profitable, efficient and sustainable agriculture;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved That The Southern Association Of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, assembled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on September 26, 2017 expresses sincere appreciation to Dr. Robert N. Shulstad for his dedication and outstanding service to the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors and wishes him every success in his professional endeavors.

Be It Further Resolved that the Chairperson of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors be authorized and directed to transmit to Dr. Shulstad an appropriate copy of this resolution in honor of his leadership and contributions.



Robert W. Godfrey, Chair



Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

**RESOLUTION HONORING
HARALD SCHERM**

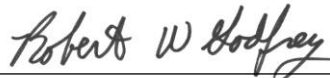
Whereas, Dr. Harald Scherm, Assistant Dean for Research for the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station, at the University of Georgia, will no longer participate directly in the activities of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors; and

Whereas, Dr. Scherm has, during his years of service, contributed significantly to the activities of the association by serving as a administrative advisor to development committees and multi-state projects; and

Whereas, Dr. Scherm has served the Land-Grant mission of the State of Georgia, the Southern Region, and the U.S. with dedication and vision toward maintaining competitive, safe, profitable, efficient and sustainable agriculture;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved That The Southern Association Of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, assembled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on September 26, 2017 expresses sincere appreciation to Dr. Harald Scherm for his dedication and outstanding service to the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors and wishes him every success in his professional endeavors.

Be It Further Resolved that the Chairperson of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors be authorized and directed to transmit to Dr. Scherm an appropriate copy of this resolution in honor of his leadership and contributions.



Robert W. Godfrey, Chair



Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

**RESOLUTION HONORING
ESBAL JIMÉNEZ-CABÁN**

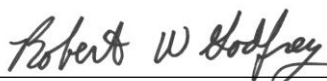
Whereas, Dr. Esbal Jiménez-Cabán, Associate Dean and Subdirector of the Puerto Rico-Mayaguez Agricultural Experiment Station, at the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez, will no longer participate directly in the activities of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors; and

Whereas, Dr. Esbal Jiménez-Cabán has, during his years of service, contributed significantly to the activities of the association; and

Whereas, Dr. Esbal Jiménez-Cabán has served the Land-Grant mission of the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez, the Southern Region, and the U.S. with dedication and vision toward maintaining competitive, safe, profitable, efficient and sustainable agriculture;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved That The Southern Association Of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, assembled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on September 26, 2017 expresses sincere appreciation to Dr. Esbal Jiménez-Cabán and wishes him every success in his professional endeavors.

Be It Further Resolved that the Chairperson of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors be authorized and directed to transmit to Dr. Esbal Jiménez-Cabán an appropriate copy of this resolution in honor of his leadership and contributions.



Robert W. Godfrey, Chair



Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

**RESOLUTION HONORING
ROBERT W. GODFREY**

Whereas, Dr. Robert W. Godfrey, Chairman of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, has provided selfless and committed leadership and keen oversight to enhance the system this past year; and

Whereas, under Dr. Godfrey's leadership and support, the activities of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors have been greatly enhanced and the association has achieved significant accomplishments; and

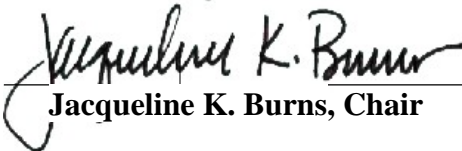
Whereas, Dr. Godfrey has been efficient and timely in the conduct of Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors business; and

Whereas, Dr. Godfrey has served the Land-Grant mission of the Southern Region and the U.S. with dedication and vision toward maintaining competitive, safe, profitable, efficient, and sustainable agriculture;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved That The Southern Association Of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, assembled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on September 26, 2017 expresses sincere appreciation to Dr. Robert W. Godfrey for his commitment, service, and leadership in making the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors more effective in addressing current and future needs, challenges and opportunities in agricultural research, and

Be It Further Resolved that the Chairperson of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors be authorized and directed to transmit to Dr. Godfrey an appropriate copy of this resolution in honor of his leadership and contributions.





Jacqueline K. Burns, Chair

Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors