

HighLights

Trial Gardens and HortResearch at the South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station

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Published by Dr. Gene Blythe



The 41st Annual Ornamental Horticulture Field Day will be held at the South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station in Poplarville on **Thursday, October 2, 2014**. Tours of the trial gardens and research updates from scientists at Mississippi State University and the USDA-ARS Southern Horticultural Laboratory will be featured in the morning and conclude with door prizes in the early afternoon. Registration begins at 9:00 AM and the program begins at 9:30 AM. A \$10.00 registration fee (\$6.50 for students) includes lunch and refreshments. (Address and directions are at the bottom of this newsletter.)

Topics Scheduled for Presentation at the Ornamental Horticulture Field Day on Thursday, October 2, 2014

- **Top Performers from the 2014 Variety Trials at the South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station** – Dr. Gene Blythe, MSU-CREC
- **Kaolin Clay Application as a Deterrent for Ambrosia Beetle Attack at Ornamental Nurseries** - Christopher Werle, USDA-ARS
- **Elephant Ears (*Colocasia* and *Alocasia*) for the Landscape** - Mike Anderson, MSU-CREC
- **Measuring the Effect of Hand Protection on Worker Effort When Moving Small Container Plants** - Scott Langlois, MSU-CREC
- **Southern Bunch Grapes** - Dr. Eric Stafne, MSU-CREC
- **Evaluation of Sabal Palm Species for Trunking and Hardiness** - Dr. Cecil Pounders, USDA-ARS
- **To Kill a Crapemyrtle** - Dr. Anthony Witcher, USDA-ARS
- **Native Plants for Landscaping Wet Areas in the Home Landscape** - Patricia Drackett, MSU-Crosby Arboretum
- **Spotted-Wing Drosophila: A New Invasive Pest in Mississippi** - Dr. Blair Sampson, USDA-ARS
- **All-America Selections Winners for 2014** - Dr. Gene Blythe, MSU-CREC
- **Propagation of Blueberries for the Home Gardener** - Melinda Butler, USDA-ARS
- **The Effect of Pest Management Strategies on Small Scale Tomato Production in Mississippi** - Christian Stephenson, MSU-ES
- **Impact of Chromosome Doubling on Traits of Scarlet Eggplant** - Dr. Hamidou Sakhanokho, USDA-ARS
- **Essential Oil of *Caryopteris* Pink Chablis™: Chemical Composition and Activity Against the Yellow Fever Mosquito** - Dr. Gene Blythe, MSU-CREC



With safety always a priority at commercial nurseries, Scott Langlois will discuss hand protection for nursery employees at the 2014 Field Day.



Crapemyrtles are popular, colorful landscape plants in the Southeast, but when it's time to remove an old plant, mechanical removal can be difficult and expensive. If cut to a stump, plants can easily grow back (as at left). Dr. Anthony Witcher will discuss options for preventing plant regrowth at the 2014 Field Day in a presentation titled "To Kill a Crapemyrtle".

[Photo by Ned Edwards.]



Individuals holding a Mississippi Bureau of Plant Industry commercial applicator's certification (category III or X) that expires within 12 months after the Field Day can earn recertification credit by attending the Field Day. Please bring your certification number with you to the Field Day.



The South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station is located at 711 W. North St., Poplarville, MS 39470 (across from Pearl River Community College). From the intersection of Highways 11 and 26, go ½ mile north on Hwy. 11 and one block west on W. North Street. The Trial Gardens are open daily during daylight hours. Removal of plant materials is prohibited. For questions about the gardens, call 601-795-4525.

