



2026 IPPS Southern Region Education Schedule

Tuesday 20 September 2026

8:15 AM	Chris Marble	LEAP: New technologies, automation, and advancements in nursery herbicide application equipment.	University of Florida
8:35 AM	Anthony LeBude	LEAP: Automation solutions that save labor	North Carolina State University
8:55 AM	Matt Nagle	Vapor Pressure Deficit. Defining a different way to mist in propagation	Lancaster Farms
9:15 AM	Q & A Session 1 speakers		
9:25 AM	Brie Arthur, Membership Chair	Recognition of New Members	
9:35 AM	Dr. Sandy Wilson & Dr. Kris Criscione	Poster presentation by students	University of Florida
9:55 AM	Break	Refreshment Break: Visit with Sponsors, Silent Auction, View Posters	
10:15 AM	Session 2 Moderator: Drs. Wilson & Criscione	The Charles SR-IPPS Student Research Competition	University of Florida
10:25- 11:45 AM	Student Research Competition		
11:45 AM	Q & A Student presenters		
11:50 AM	Kevin Parris, Sponsorship Chair	Sponsor Recognition	
11:55 AM	Announcements		
12:00 PM	Lunch on your own		
1:30 PM	Session 3 Moderator: Devin Stage		SFASU

1:35 PM	Jordan Cunningham	Lumberjacks Make Great Plant Producers: Propagation Practices at SFA Gardens	SFASU
1:55 PM	Dr. "Raj" Raghuwinder Singh	Boxwood Dieback Disease	LSU
2:15 PM	Dr. Tom Yeager	Pour-through Refurbished - Lessons Learned	Nursery Plant Production
2:35 PM	Q & A Session 3 Speakers		
2:45 PM	Break	Refreshment Break: Visit with Sponsors, Silent Auction, View Posters	
3:00 PM	Session 4 Moderator: Flint Johnson		
3:05 PM	Brie Arthur, International Delegate	IPPS International update	
3:20 PM	Didier Hermans	Breeding Better Buxus	Better Boxwood
3:40 PM	Suzanne Wainwright-Evans	Starting Clean: Pest Management in Propagation	Bug Lady Consulting
4:00 PM	Bill Turk	"I wish you knew now the things that I know now." Handing off to the next generation	Martin's Nursery
4:20 PM	Q & A Session 4 Speakers		



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Thursday 22 September 2026

7:55 AM	Dr. Anthony Witcher	Welcome	
8:00 AM	Session 5 Moderator:		
8:05 AM	Seth Peed	Fertigation/Chemigation - Principles and Techniques	The Peed Company
8:25 AM	Mauricio Manotas & Matt Bonavita	All the Plant wants to tell us: Biosignals	Vivent
8:45 AM	Dr. Brian Jackson	History of Substrates in US Nursery Industry	NCSU
9:05 AM	Q & A Session 5 Speakers		
9:15 AM	Annual Business Meeting		
10:15 AM	Break	Refreshment Break: Visit with Sponsors, View Posters	
10:30 AM	Session 6 Moderator:		
10:35 AM	Dr. David Creech	Forty Years of Woody Ornamental Evaluation	SFAU
10:55 AM	Kristopher S. Criscione	"Integrated Container Rootzone Management for Improved Root Growth and Development"	Virginia Tech
11:15 AM	Preston Sherwood	IPPS Early Career Exchange Program: 2025 Eastern Region	Magnolia Plantation
11:35 AM	Tom Saunders, Site Chair	Looking ahead to Charlottesville, VA, in 2027	Saunders Brothers Nursery
11:55 AM	Q & A Session 6 Speakers		
12:00 PM	Closing remarks		