

50th Annual Meeting

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WELCOME TO HOUSTON:

A UNIQUE BLEND OF SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY
AND WESTERN GRIT

50th Annual Meeting

International Plant Production Society
Southern Region of North America

DoubleTree by Hilton
Houston Intercontinental Airport
15747 JFK Blvd. • Houston, TX 77032
October 18-22, 2026

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, October 18

4:00 PM	Hotel Registration Begins
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Conference Registration Open, Ballroom Foyer
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Auction Plants accepted, Dallas & Houston
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Board Meeting, Scottsdale & Tucson

Monday, October 19

6:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Conference Registration, Ballroom Foyer
Noon - 9:00 PM	Auction Plants accepted, Dallas and Houston
Noon - 7:00 PM	Exhibit set up, Ballroom Foyer
7:30 AM	Load Buses, backside of hotel, near Conference Center entrance
7:45 AM	Buses Depart hotel
9:15 AM	Two buses arrive at Everde Growers & Tour
9:30 AM	Two buses arrive at Greenleaf Nursery & Tour
10:45 AM	Everde Growers buses depart for Greenleaf Nursery
11:30 AM	Lunch sponsored by Greenleaf Nursery
12:45 PM	Greenleaf Nursery buses depart for Everde Growers
1:15 PM	Tours at Greenleaf Nursery & Everde Growers
2:30 PM	Load all buses to Houston Botanic Garden (HBG)
4:00 PM	Arrive at HBG
5:30 PM	Dinner HBG
7:00 PM	Depart for DoubleTree Hotel

Tuesday, October 20

6:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Conference Registration, Ballroom Foyer
6:30 - 7:30 AM	Fellows Breakfast, Scottsdale & Tucson
7:30 - 8:00 AM	Visit with Sponsors, Ballroom Foyer
8:00 AM	Auction Open, Dallas & Houston
8:00 AM	General Session, Monterey Seattle I & II
8:00 AM	Opening Remarks, Dr. Anthony Witcher, 2025-26 IPPS-SR President, Introduction of Vivian Munday
	Scholarship Recipients, Margie Jenkins
	Scholarship Recipient, Coach Vince
	Dooley Scholarship Recipient, and Exchange Program Participants

Be sure to introduce yourself to our student speakers, student attendees, and scholarship recipients.

8:10 AM
8:15 AM

Session 1, Moderator, Jim Crockett
LEAP: New Technologies, Automation, and Advancements in Nursery Herbicide Application Equipment, Dr. Chris Marble, University of Florida
LEAP: Automation Solutions that Save Labor, Dr. Anthony LeBude, North Carolina State University
Vapor Pressure Deficit, Defining a different way to mist in propagation, Matt Nagle, Lancaster Farms

9:15 AM
9:25 AM
Question and Answer for Session 1 Speakers
Recognition of New Members, Brie Arthur, Membership Chair

9:35 AM
Poster Pitch, Students, Dr. Kris Criscione, Virginia Tech
9:55 AM
Refreshment Break, Visit with Sponsors, Visit Silent Auction, View Posters
10:15 AM
Session 2, Moderator, Dr. Sandy Wilson, University of Florida, Dr. Kris Criscione, Virginia Tech

10:20 AM
The Charles SR-IPPS Student Research Competition
10:25 AM
First Student Presenter
10:45 AM
Second Student Presenter
11:05 AM
Third Student Presenter
11:25 AM
Fourth Student Presenter
11:45 AM
Question and Answer for Session 2 Speakers
11:50 AM
Sponsor Recognition, Dr. KeVin Parris, Sponsor Chair

11:55 AM
12:00 PM
1:30 PM
Announcements
Lunch on your own
Session 3, Moderator Devin Stage, Stephen F. Austin State University

1:35 PM
Lumberjacks Make Great Plant Producers: Propagation Practices at SFA Gardens, Jordan Cunningham, Stephen F. Austin State University

1:55 PM
Boxwood Dieback Disease, Dr. "Raj" Raghuwinder Singh, Louisiana State University

2:15 PM
Pour-through Refurbished - Lessons Learned, Dr. Tom Yeager, Nursery Plant Production

2:35 PM
2:45 PM
Question and Answer for Session 3 Speakers
Refreshment Break, Visit with Sponsors, Visit Silent Auction, View Posters

3:00 PM
3:05 PM
Session 4, Moderator, Flint Johnson
IPPS International Update, Brie Arthur, SR International Delegate

3:20 PM
"I wish you knew now the things that I know now." Handing Off to the Next Generation, Bill Turk, Martin's Nursery

3:40 PM
"Starting Clean: Pest Management in

Propagation" Suzanne Wainwright-Evans, Bug Lady Consulting
Question and Answer for Session 4 Speakers
4:00 PM
Visit Poster Display
4:15 PM
5:30 PM
6:00 PM
7:00 PM
Auction Closes, Dallas & Houston
Social (cash bar) Ballroom Foyer
Awards Banquet and Live Auction, Monterey Seattle I & II
9:00 - 11:00 PM
Auction Checkout, Ballroom Foyer

Wednesday, October 21

6:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Conference Registration, Ballroom Foyer
7:30 AM	Load Buses, backside of hotel, near Conference Center entrance
7:45 AM	Buses Depart Hotel
7:45 AM	Two buses to Magnolia Garden Nursery
7:45 AM	One bus arrives at Magnolia Garden Nursery
7:45 AM	One bus arrives at Magnolia Tissue Culture Lab
10:00 AM	Buses leave to travel to switch sites
10:30 AM	Each bus tours Magnolia sites
11:45 AM	Travel to Creekside Nursery for Lunch
12:15 - 12:30 PM	Busses from Magnolia arrive at Creekside Nursery
12:30 PM	Lunch Sponsored by Creekside Nursery and Harrell's
1:30 PM	Group tours Creekside Nursery
2:45 PM	Depart for Twinwood Farms
3:15 PM	Arrive at Twinwood Farms
4:30 PM	Depart Twinwood Farms for Double Tree Hotel
8:45 AM	Two buses travel to Twinwood Farms (Simonton, TX)
10:15 AM	Depart Twinwood Farms
10:45 AM	Arrive at Creekside Nursery & Tour
12:00 Noon	Lunch Sponsored by Creekside Nursery and Harrell's
1:00 PM	One bus departs and travels to Magnolia Gardens Nursery
1:30 PM	Arrives at Nursery & Tours
2:45 PM	Departs Magnolia Gardens Nursery
3:15 PM	Arrives at Magnolia Tissue Culture Lab and Tours
4:30 PM	Departs for Double Tree Hotel
1:00 PM	One bus departs and travels to Magnolia Tissue Culture Lab
1:40 PM	Arrives at Magnolia Tissue Culture Lab & Tours
2:55 PM	Departs Magnolia Tissue Culture Lab
3:25 PM	Arrives at Magnolia Gardens Nursery and Tours (1.25 hours)

Please bring along a few dollars in cash to tip the bus drivers on Monday and Wednesday.

4:40 PM
Depart for Double Tree Hotel
Dinner on your own
8:15 PM
9:00 - 10:00 PM
Ice Cream Social, Monterey, Seattle, I & II
Question Box, Monterey, Seattle I & I

Thursday, October 22

7:00 - 9:30 AM	Registration open , Ballroom Foyer
8:00 AM	General Session , Monterey, Seattle, I & II
8:00 AM	Welcome , Dr. Anthony Witcher, 2025-26 IPPS-SR President
	Session 5 , Moderator, Brad Abrameit, Magnolia Gardens Nursery
8:05 AM	Fertigation/Chemigation - Principles and Techniques , Seth Peed, The Peed Company
8:25 AM	All the Plant Wants to Tell Us: Biosignals , Mauricio Manotas/ Matt Bonavita, Vivent
8:45 AM	History of Substrates in US Nursery Industry , Dr. Brian Jackson, NC State University
9:05 AM	Question and Answer for Session 5 Speakers
9:15 AM	Annual Meeting, Elections and Passing the Gavel
10:15 AM	Refreshment Break, Visit with Sponsors, View Posters
10:30 AM	Session 6 , Moderator, Dennis Niemeyer
10:35 AM	Forty Years of Woody Ornamental Evaluation , Dr. David Creech, Stephen F. Austin State University
10:55 AM	Integrated Container Rootzone Management for Improved Root Growth and Development , Dr. Kristopher S. Criscione, Louisiana State University
11:15 AM	IPPS Early Career Exchange Program: 2025 Eastern Region , Preston Sherwood, Magnolia Plantation
11:35 AM	Looking Ahead to Charlottesville, VA in 2027 , Tom Saunders, Saunders Brothers Nursery
11:55 AM	Question and Answer for Session 6 Speakers
12:00	Conference ends.

Thank you for attending! We will look forward to seeing you in Charlottesville, VA October 24-28, 2027.

12:30 - 2:00 PM
Board Meeting & Lunch, Scottsdale & Tucson