

J. A. MERKLE

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
TWENTY-FIRST SOUTHERN FOREST TREE
IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE**

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PREFACE

The 21st Southern Forest Tree Improvement Conference was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Knoxville, Tennessee. The conference was sponsored by the Southern Forest Tree Improvement Committee, in cooperation with the University of Tennessee and the Tennessee Division of Forestry. There were 161 attendees representing 26 states and four foreign countries.

A total of 42 presentations, nine invited and 31 voluntary, were given. The voluntary papers were evaluated by the Southern Forest Tree Improvement Committee and three referees to receive the \$200 Tony Squillace Award for the best oral presentation/written paper. The paper "Tree Size Influences Flowering Response in Juvenile Loblolly Pine" by Leon Burris, Claire Williams and Susan Douglass, was selected to receive the Squillace Award. Congratulations to these authors for an outstanding contribution.

Thirteen posters were exhibited during the poster session. The Baruch Foundation of Georgetown, South Carolina again sponsored a \$100 dollar award for the best poster. Roger J. Arnold was selected as the recipient of this Baruch Forest Science Institute Award for his poster "Genetic Improvement of *Pinus radiata* Combined with Integrated Nursery and Outplanting Systems Lower Plantation Establishment Costs."

Two night sessions were held that involving group discussions on selected topics. The Seed Orchard Managers Meeting was chaired by Tom Tibbs. Ron Dinus organized the discussion on the inclusion of Forest Biotechnology subject matter into undergraduate and graduate curriculums.

21st SFTIC Conference Committee:

R. A. Cox - Tennessee Division of Forestry
R. J. Dinus - Institute of Paper Science & Technology
J. L. McConnell - U.S. Forest Service
R. Rousseau - Westvaco Corporation
S. E. Schlarbaum - University of Tennessee
G. A. Tuskan - Oak Ridge National Laboratory
D. B. Wagner - University of Kentucky
R. J. Weir - North Carolina State University
T. L. White - University of Florida

The papers in these Proceedings have been published as submitted by the authors, in camera-ready form. Responsibility for the technical content remains with the respective authors.

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WELCOME FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

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