

Proceedings of the 24th Biennial Southern Forest Tree Improvement Conference
Compiled by Tim White, Dudley Huber and Greg Powell

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24th **Biennial**

Southern Forest Tree Improvement Conference



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PROCEEDINGS

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Foreword

The University of Florida, School of Forest Resources and Conservation was proud to sponsor the 24th Biennial Southern Forest Tree Improvement Conference (SFTIC), the North American Quantitative Forest Genetics Group (NAQFGG) and the Technical Association of Pulp and Paper Industries (TAPPI) meetings. These meetings took place June 9-12, 1997 in Orlando, Florida at the Holiday Inn International Drive Resort.

There were a total of 8 presentations at NAQFGG, 3 presentations at TAPPI and 52 presentations: 10 invited and 42 voluntary, at the SFTIC conference. The conference had 200 registered attendees. Forty two were international participants from eighteen different countries. The employment makeup was approximately one third from private industry, one third from state or federal government and one third from universities.

Three awards were presented at the SFTIC conference. The Tony Squillace Award, given for the best oral presentation based on content, style and use of visual aids, was awarded to Scott Merkle for his presentation *Development of Transgenic Yellow Poplar for Remediation of Mercury Pollution*. Congratulations to Scott Merkle for an outstanding presentation. The Bruce Zobel Award, given in recognition of the best oral presentation by a student, was awarded to Xin-Yu Li for his presentation *Somatic Embryogenesis in Loblolly Pine*. Congratulations to Xin-Yu Li. In addition to the paper presentations, 22 posters were exhibited during the conference. The Belle Baruch Foundation Award, given for best poster, was awarded to H.V. Amerson and A.P. Jordan for their poster entitled: *Genetic Basis of Fusiform Rust Disease Resistance in Loblolly Pine*. Congratulations to H.V. Amerson and A.P. Jordan.

This year for the first time participants contributing voluntary papers to the SFTIC conference were given the option of submitting a full, ten page manuscript with citations and data or an extended abstract with citations (up to three pages). Of the 42 voluntary papers, 17 chose to submit an extended abstract. Extra copies of this proceedings can be ordered by writing or calling the National Technical Information Services, U.S. Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161, Tel #703-487-4650. Ask for publication # **PB** 97-186217.

The 24th Biennial Southern Forest Tree Improvement Conference committee would like to thank all participants, speakers, and moderators for their contribution to a successful conference.

24' SFTIC Conference Committee:

John Davis

Kim Gilmore

Dudley Huber

Bailian Li

Greg Powell

Don Rockwood

Bob Schmidt

Steve Wann

Tim White