



59th Annual Conference & Trade Show

March 19-21, 2024 | Georgia National Fairgrounds, 401 Larry Walker Pkwy, Perry, Georgia 31069

Greetings!

We are looking forward to another great conference and all the amazing opportunities for you to network with your peers, learn about new ideas and practices, and get an update from the pecan industry's national organizations all in one place! For 2024, the Conference returns to **Perry to the Georgia National Fairgrounds, March 19-21, 2024**, a week earlier than last year due to the Easter Holiday the following week. Please read the below and attached information carefully as there are some **new changes** for this year's program.

This year, the GPGA Conference kick-off activities will be held on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024. GPGA's 14th Annual Golf Tournament will again take place at Houston Lake Country Club in Perry.** If golf is not your forte, be sure to sign up for **GPGA's 3rd Annual Skeet Shoot Tournament held in Forsyth at Meadows Gun Club.** Following the first day's activities, all Conference goers (whether you participated in an activity or not) will come together back at the Conference's home base at the Georgia National Fairgrounds Miller-Murphy-Howard Building, Main Exhibit Hall for the **Welcome Reception.** The Welcome Reception will offer fun for all with heavy hors d'oeuvres, beverages, silent auction, and reverse raffle drawing. Winning teams from the afternoon tournaments will also be recognized and receive their awards at the reception.

On **Wednesday, March 20th**, a full day of Conference educational sessions will take place, with a slight change in the itinerary for 2024. In addition to the regular educational and industry focused learning sessions, the UGA Pecan Extension team will be hosting the **Beginners in Pecan Production** course in tandem to the traditional Conference educational sessions. Attendees will be presented with the option of attending either/or both throughout the day, depending on the topics being discussed. The Annual Awards luncheon will take place at noon as usual, with educational sessions to resume after lunch and will be scheduled to conclude by 4 PM.

Concluding Conference activities on **Thursday, March 21st**, all are invited to attend an **orchard tour.** More information will be provided closer to Conference.

We hope you will capitalize on these extended opportunities for you to enjoy some time away from the farm and will consider participating or sponsoring an event to enhance your overall Conference experience. We offer many packages and ways in which you can show support to the Association outside of membership and attendance. As a non-profit organization that exists solely to support Georgia's pecan growers, we depend on your support and involvement to advance the industry together. This three-day Conference event is held for the benefit of the industry and as a fundraiser for the Association.

We look forward to seeing you in March!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samantha McLeod".

Samantha McLeod, Executive Director



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REGISTRATION:

This packet provides information on the 2024 GPGA Conference. Attendee registration forms are included in this packet. Registration can also be completed online at georgiapecan.org or by calling the GPGA office (229) 382-2187. On-site registration will be available on the day of the Conference, however, there will be an additional charge for same day registration. *(Please consider pre-registering as it helps the Association better plan and prepare for meals throughout the conference).*

MEMBERSHIP:

Please renew membership separately from the Conference registration, in order to receive your member discount. **Membership DOES NOT cover Conference admission.** Renew online at georgiapecan.org or by calling the office.

14th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT:

This year's golf tournament will be held at **Houston Lake Country Club in Perry, GA on Tuesday, March 19th with a shotgun start at 10:00 AM.** Lunch and beverages will be provided throughout the tournament thanks to generous sponsors. Register as a 4-man team or as an individual *(individuals will be placed on teams by the Association).*

3rd ANNUAL SKEET SHOOT TOURNAMENT:

This year's skeet shoot will be held at **Meadows Gun Club in Forsyth, GA on Tuesday, March 19th with registration and lunch at 11:30 AM and shooting to start at 12:30 PM.** Register as a 4-man team or as an individual *(individuals will be placed on teams by the Association).* Rental guns and equipment are available but must be requested in advance. Shotgun shells *(both 12 gauge & 20 gauge)* and golf carts will be provided. This is a shotgun-only facility.

WELCOME RECEPTION:

Join us for a Welcome Reception following the first day's events for sponsored cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres at the Georgia National Fairgrounds, Miller-Murphy-Howard building, on **Tuesday, March 19th from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM.** The Welcome Reception will feature networking among growers and exhibitors, a Silent Auction and the Reverse Raffle drawing! All are welcome!

RAFFLE:

As the key component to our annual fundraising efforts, the Reverse Raffle Draw Down is ready for your support in 2024! The draw-down will take place at the Welcome Reception, **Tuesday, March 19th.** All tickets will be sold. No tickets will be auctioned off. Only 500 tickets in circulation. Enter for a chance to win \$10,000 in cash & prizes! Winners do not need to be present to win. Winnings can be split between the final 4. Contact one of the GPGA Board Members or GPGA office staff to get your ticket before they're gone!

SILENT AUCTION:

As a non-profit organization, GPGA depends on fundraising efforts at Conference to help us offset costs of hosting this grand event. The Silent Auction will aid in these efforts and will only be available for bidding during the **Welcome Reception on Tuesday night, March 19th**, with a variety of price ranges and gift options for everyone. Please consider bidding on these unique items and/or donating items for this special event.

ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON:

GPGA's Annual Awards Luncheon will be held at the **Georgia National Fairgrounds on Wednesday, March 20th at 12:00 PM** which is included in your Conference registration fee. GPGA's annual awards and scholarship recipients will be announced and recognized during the luncheon.

ORCHARD TOUR: Thursday, March 21st -Location TBD

BEGINNERS IN PECAN PRODUCTION COURSE:

Calling all new pecan growers (or anyone who is looking for a refresher course)! Dr. Lenny Wells, UGA Horticulturalist & Pecan Expert, and the UGA Pecan Extension Team, will be hosting a Beginners in Pecan Production Course on **Wednesday, March 20th, in the Miller-Murphy-Howard Building.** The course will run in tandem with the other educational sessions presented on the main day of the conference. The course will be hosted in one of the two conference rooms, while the traditional Conference educational sessions will be hosted in the other conference room. No additional registration required. Conference registration will now cover all conference educational sessions offered.



CONFERENCE AGENDA

Monday, March 18th:

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM **Exhibitor Registration & Set-Up**
Miller-Murphy-Howard Building,
GA National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA

Tuesday, March 19th:

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM **Exhibitor Registration & Set-Up**
Miller-Murphy-Howard Building,
GA National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM **14th Annual Golf Tournament**
Houston Lake Country Club
100 Champions Way, Perry, GA

11:30 AM - 4:00 PM **3rd Annual Skeet Shoot Tournament**
Meadows Gun Club
1064 Rumble Road, Forysth, GA

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM **Welcome Reception**
Miller-Murphy-Howard Building,
GA National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA

Wednesday, March 20th:

7:30 AM - 4:00 PM **All Attendees Registration Open**
Trade Show Floor Open
Miller-Murphy-Howard Building,
GA National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA

8:45 AM - 4:00 PM **Educational Sessions**
(full agenda coming soon)
Miller-Murphy-Howard Building,
GA National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA

12:00 AM - 1:30 PM **Annual Awards Luncheon**

4:00 PM **Conference Wrap-up for the day**

4:00 PM **Exhibitor Move-Out**

Thursday, March 21st:

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM **Orchard Tour- LOCATION TBD**

11:00 AM **Conference Concludes**

SUPPORT THE PAC

The National Pecan Federation's 'Political Action Committee'

What does NPF do?

The NPF advocates for the pecan industry using the services of The Redding Firm. Advocacy can take various forms and often begins with the education of key policymakers about the industry's concerns, and, depending on the issue, might involve partnering with other specialty crop organizations, working with state departments of agriculture, or with other industry participants. A well-funded PAC is essential to ensuring that the voice of the Pecan Industry is heard in Washington, D.C.

What has NPF/PECAN PAC accomplished?

1. \$146 per acre tariff mitigation paid to growers
2. Millions paid to growers to offset hurricane damage
3. Research and Promotion authority to assess imported pecans expected to generate \$4,000,000 in additional marketing and research funding.
4. \$8,500,000 funding for cracking and pasteurization research
5. \$8,500,000 funding for pecan breeding research
6. Pecan Crop Insurance reforms
7. Pecan Participation in COVID-19 economic stimulus programs
8. USDA pecan purchases for feeding programs
9. Lowered India tariffs on U.S. Pecan exports

What are NPF/PECAN PAC's current priorities?

1. Improvements to Federal Pecan Crop Insurance & Tree Loss Insurance
2. Processing and breeding research continued funding
3. Positioning the industry to benefit from the Biden Administration's carbon sequestration initiatives

To have a successful advocacy program, the pecan industry must have a political action committee. The Pecan PAC can accept contributions from individuals, partnerships, or LLCs. Contributions are limited to \$5000 per year. Please send contributions to:

PECAN PAC
313 Massachusetts Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20002

PECAN PAC

**Earn your badge to wear at conference by
supporting the PAC in 2024!**



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

	DIAMOND \$5,000	GOLD \$3,000	SILVER \$2,000	BRONZE \$1,000
Color Ad in <i>The Pecan Grower</i> Magazine (Page Size)	FULL	1/2	1/4	1/8
Golf OR Skeet Shoots Teams	2 teams	1 team	1 team	1 team
Banner Recognition (All Events)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Meal Sponsorship Recognition (Awards luncheon & Welcome Reception)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Full Logo Recognition in Program	✓	✓	✓	✓
Table Tent Display at Awards Luncheon	✓	✓	✓	✓
Awards Luncheon Meal Tickets	6 tickets	4 tickets	2 tickets	2 tickets
Web Advertising Scroll Bar on georgiapecan.org	✓	✓	✓	
Premium Exhibitor Booth Location	✓	✓		
Ultimate Beverage Sponsorship	✓			
Lanyard Representation	✓			

*Golf or Skeet Shoot teams can be traded for a hole or target sponsorship, upon request.

*Banner Recognition included at welcome reception, golf tournament, skeet shoot tournament, presentation rooms, awards luncheon & orchard tour.

*Color ad can select preferred month to run between June, August, October, or December 2024 issues.

*No sponsorships listed are exclusive packages.

ULTIMATE BEVERAGE SPONSOR \$1,500

- Recognition in Program, Banners and Magazine: (Includes ALL Conference Beverages, Session Breaks, Golf Beverage Carts, Skeet Shoot Lunch, Golf Tournament Lunch, & Welcome Reception)

MEAL SPONSOR

- Premier - \$500
 - Logo Displayed at Lunch
 - Name Listed in Program and Magazine
 - Table Tent Display at Awards Luncheon
- Supporting - \$250
 - Name Listed in Program and Magazine
 - Table Tent Display at Awards Luncheon

Extra Opportunities

- Golf or Skeet Tournament
 - Hole and/or Target Sponsor - \$500
 - Only 17 Sponsorship Spots Available Per Event

Donate to GPGA's Silent Auction Fundraiser

- Contact Mary Bruorton via email:
mary@georgiapecan.org

ALL SPONSORS: SEND LOGO TO MARY@GEORGIAPECAN.ORG UPON REGISTRATION



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
GPGA MEMBER ADMISSION		x \$75	=
<i>- Early Registration Discount (Prior to February 15, 2024)</i> <i>- Admission to conference is separate from membership. Admission fee does NOT cover or include membership. Membership forms can be found online to print and mail in or can be completed online at georgiapecan.org. Members get free admission to FALL FIELD DAY only.</i>			
GPGA MEMBER ADMISSION (LATE OR ON-SITE REGISTRATION)		x \$100	=
<i>- Registration is considered "Late" after February 15, 2024</i>			
GPGA NON-MEMBER ADMISSION		x \$125	=
2024 PAC CONTRIBUTION (min. \$100, max \$5,000).....		\$	
<i>-Receive a Designated Ribbon on Name Badge at Conference</i>			
RAFFLE TICKET (GPGA'S MAIN ANNUAL FUNDRAISER)		x \$100	=
<i>-GPGA receives its funding from loyal membership support, sponsorships at Conference and Fall Field Day, and from this Annual Raffle. GPGA is a non-profit that solely works for the members of the organization. Please consider supporting this annual fundraiser by taking a little gamble to win \$10,000.00 in cash & prizes! Do not have to be present to win!</i>			
SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE SELECTION:			
DIAMOND.....		X \$5,000	=
GOLD.....		X \$3,000	=
SILVER.....		X \$2,000	=
BRONZE.....		X \$1,000	=
ULTIMATE BEVERAGE.....		X \$1,500	=
PREMIER MEAL SPONSOR.....		X \$500	=
SUPPORTING MEAL SPONSOR.....		X \$250	=
HOLE SPONSOR (GOLF TOURNAMENT).....		X \$500	=
TARGET SPONSOR (SKEET SHOOT TOURNAMENT).....		X \$500	=
ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:			
GOLF TEAM.....		\$500	=
GOLF INDIVIDUAL.....		\$125	=
SKEET SHOOT TEAM.....		\$500	=
SKEET SHOOT INDIVIDUAL.....		\$125	=
WELCOME RECEPTION (Tuesday, March 19th).....		x FREE	=
ORCHARD TOUR (Thursday, March 21st).....		x FREE	=
BEGINNERS IN PECAN PRODUCTION COURSE		x FREE	=
JACK THOMPSON SCHOLARSHIP DONATION		\$	



CONFERENCE CHECK-OUT FORM

ATTENDEE NAME: _____

SPOUSE NAME (FREE): _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEE NAME(S): _____

GOLF TOURNAMENT: (If Applicable)

NAME

Handicap

Email

Player One: _____

Player Two: _____

Player Three: _____

Player Four: _____

SKEET SHOOT TOURNAMENT: (If Applicable)

NAME

Email

Player One: _____

Player Two: _____

Player Three: _____

Player Four: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS (Please select one from the below)

☐

PLEASE INVOICE ME:

NAME: _____

BILLING ADDRESS (STREET): _____

(CITY): _____ (STATE): _____ (ZIPCODE): _____

☐

PAY BY CARD:

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD: _____

BILLING ADDRESS (STREET): _____

(CITY): _____ (STATE): _____ (ZIPCODE): _____

CARD NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____ / _____ SECURITY CODE: _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE: ☐ VISA ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER

☐

CHECK ENCLOSED

TOTAL: \$ _____

Georgia Pecan Growers Association

georgiapecan.org | PO Box 1367, Tifton, GA 31793 | Phone: 229-382-2187 | info@georgiapecan.org



HOTELS

Make sure to tell hotels you are going to be there for the Georgia Pecan Growers Association for special rates.

Quality Inn National Fairgrounds: (478)-987-7710
1-75 Exit 136, 1603 Sam Nunn Blvd
Perry, GA 31069
Rate: \$72 + Tax

Best Western Bradbury Inn & Suites: (478)-218-5200
1-75 Exit 135, 205 Lect Drive
Perry, GA 31069
Rate: \$91.99 + Tax

Hampton Inn Perry: (478)-987-7681
1-75 Exit 136, 102 Hampton Ct.
Perry, GA 31069
Rate: \$120 + Tax

Comfort Inn & Suites: (478)-987-8777
1-75 Exit 135, 201 Lect Drive
Perry, GA 31069
Rate: \$124 + Tax

Avid Hotel Perry: (478)-224-1199
1-75 Exit 136, 209 Hampton Ct.,
Perry, GA 31069
Rate: \$130+ Tax

Holiday Inn Express & Suites: (478)-224-3000
1-75 Exit 136, 1502 Sam Nunn Blvd
Perry, GA 31069
Rate: King- \$127.49 + Tax, 2 Queens: \$135.99 + Tax

Other hotels in Perry with no exclusive rates:

Microtel Inn & Suites: (478)-287-4399
1-75 Exit 134, 110 Fairview Drive, Perry GA 31069

La Quinta Inn & Suites: (478)-287-4431
I-75 Exit 136, 102 Plaza Drive, Perry, GA 31069

RESTAURANTS

Looking for a place to eat, check out our restaurant recommendations.

The Swanson: (478)-987-1938
1-75 Exit 135, 933 Carroll Street
Perry, GA 31069

Oil Lamp Restaurant: (478)-988-2643
1-75 Exit 135, 401 General Courtney Hodges Blvd
Perry, GA 31069

Georgia Bob's BBQ: (478)-224-1227
1-75 Exit 136, 107 Perimeter Rd
Perry, GA 31069

Hazard's on the Green: (478)-224-3742
1-75 Exit 135, 901 Carroll St
Perry, GA 31069

Props Steakhouse & Seafood: (478)-224-7767
1-75 Exit 142, 1289 Houston Lake Rd S
Warner Robins, GA 31088

Bodega Brew: (478)-224-3499
1-75 Exit 135, 1025 Ball St
Perry, GA 31069

Jalisco Grill Mexican Restaurant: (478)-987-1978
I-75 Exit 138, 273-C Perry Pkwy
Perry, GA 31069

The Steak House Restaurants: (478)-892-3383
341 Bypass
Hawkinsville, GA 31036

Shane's Rib Shack: (478) 224-7427
1365 Sam Nunn Blvd H
Perry, GA 31069

Bodega Brew: (478)-224-3499
1025 Ball Street
Perry, GA 31069