

Minutes of the 2004 Annual Meeting

Southern Region Information Exchange Group 33 (SRIEG 33)

The 2004 Annual Meeting of SRIEG 33 was held Tuesday and Wednesday, July 20-21 at the Memphis Radisson Downtown Hotel in Memphis, TN. Thirty people attended the 2004 meeting (list of attendees attached). Brent Sanders, Terral Seed Company and Fred Allen, University of Tennessee, Department of Plant Sciences served as co-chairs for the 2004 meeting. Brent Sanders made all the arrangements for housing and meeting room accommodation, registration fee collection (budget report attached), refreshments, and the group tour on Wednesday, July 21. Fred Allen surveyed the membership for the program topics and made arrangement for speakers for the program on Tuesday and recorded the minutes of the meeting.

Program: Brent Sanders served as moderator for the Tuesday session, which included seven topics and nine speakers (copy of program attached). The topics were: Overview of TN Agriculture & Agronomic Variety Testing in TN (Fred Allen), On-farm Variety Testing - Standardized County Variety Testing in TN (Mr. Bob Williams, TN Extension Service), Precision Planters for Plot Work (Mr. Todd Vincent, ALMACO; Mr. Doug Blank, Wintersteiger/Hege), Soybean Rust Update (Dr. Pat Donald, USDA-ARS), Wildlife Control in Research Plots (Dr. David Lingo, USDA Wildlife Service), Insecticide and Fungicide Seed Treatments (Dr. Tony Lourens, Syngenta; Dr. Chip Graham, Gustafson), and Building and Sustaining Cooperation and Support with Commodity Organizations (Dr. Clarence Watson, Assoc. Director, MS Agric. & Forestry Exp. Station, and Administrative Advisor, SRIEG 33).

Fred Allen moderated the annual business meeting following the Tuesday program. Dr. Daryl Bowman, 2003 co-chair, presented the minutes of the 2003 meeting, which he hosted at Raleigh, NC. The minutes were approved as presented.

Much discussion was held regarding the best time of the year to hold the annual SRIEG 33 meetings. Fred Allen reported that he had received some emails and phone calls from members who stated their dissatisfaction with a summer meeting because of numerous conflicts that occur. The general consensus of the group in attendance was that a winter or early spring meeting time was preferred to a summer meeting. It was suggested that the meeting times of winter/summer might be rotated on an every-other year or every third-year basis in the future, but no policy was established.

Brent Sanders nominated Paul Rose (Univ. of Georgia) and Monty Malone (Delta King Seed Co.) as co-chairs for the 2005 meeting. The nominations closed and the two were elected unanimously. The two co-chairs were charged with coming up with a date and place of the 2005 meeting. Suggestions were made regarding the meeting being held in conjunction with the Southern Seedsmen Association meeting to be held Jan. 14-18, 2005 in Savannah, GA, or the Soybean Breeders Workshop to be held in February, 2005 in St. Louis, or hold a separate meeting just for SRIEG 33 at another time. The co-chairs were charged with investigating the options, making a decision, and then notifying the SRIEG 33 membership of the date and place.

The business meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 pm CST.

Tour: On Wednesday, July 21, the SRIEG 33 group traveled to West Memphis, AR to visit the research station facilities of Monsanto and Pioneer. Dr. Larry Ganann hosted the group on the first stop at Monsanto=s station and gave an overview of the scope and objectives of Monsanto=s programs at the station. He also led the group on a tour of the lab facilities and the plot equipment located on the station. The group then traveled to the Pioneer research station. Dr. Mark Hood hosted the group and described the scope and objectives of the station, particularly the soybean breeding program that he leads at that station. He also led the group on a tour of lab and field facilities and plot equipment located on Pioneer=s station. The tour and the 2004 SRIEG 33 meeting officially concluded with lunch provided by Pioneer.

Minutes recorded by Fred Allen.