

51ST ANNUAL WESTERN  
PECAN  
GROWERS  
ASSOCIATION  
CONFERENCE



MARCH 5-7, 2017  
HOTEL ENCANTO de LAS CRUCES  
LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO

SPECIAL EVENT

# **Welcome Reception**

## **Azul Bar**

(Sunday, March 5, 4–6 p.m.)

Hosted beer & wine (until out)

Food, music & the patio will be open



Sponsored by:

**Actagro/Crop Production Services**

**Big Star Ace Hardware Agriculture  
and Farm Supply**

**Helena Chemical Company—Artesia**

**Helena Chemical Company—Mesquite**

**Western Blend, Inc.**

## For Your Information

**All Parking** will be located at Mesilla Valley Mall across Telshor Blvd. from the Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces. Persons parking overnight must sign a waiver and return it to the Mesilla Valley Mall office. Please see the WPGA registration desk for a waiver form.



**Courtesy Shuttle Vans** will run every 15 minutes from the Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces entrance to the east parking lot of the Mesilla Valley Mall. Hours of operation are Sunday and Monday from 8 a.m.–6 p.m. and Tuesday from 8 a.m.–noon.



**Continuing Education Units (CEUs)** for Arizona, Texas, and New Mexico can be earned by attending certain presentations. Obtain the proper application forms at the WPGA registration desk.

# SPECIAL EVENT

## **Western Pecan Growers Banquet and Auction**

### **San Andres Ballroom**

(Tickets Required)

Monday, March 6, 7–10 p.m.

Cash Bar opens at 6 p.m., with  
dinner starting at 7 p.m. followed by the  
Pecan Food Fantasy auction fundraiser.



Sponsored by:

**Bayer Crop Science**

**Dow AgroSciences**

**Green Valley Pecan**

**Golden Peanut and Tree Nuts**

**John B. Sanfilippo & Sons**

**National Pecan Company**

**San Saba Pecan**

# SPECIAL THANKS GOES OUT TO OUR 2017 SPONSORS

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## **Monday Lunch Sponsored by**

New Aces Pecan &

Western Pecan Growers Association



## **Coffee Breaks**

Gowan

Pecan Nut Busters, Inc.

Stahmann Farms Ent. Australia

Cavitt Land and Cattle

Nazar, Inc.

United Country Real Estate - Revolution



## **Pecan Food Fantasy Sponsors**

Fletcher Farms - pecan pie awards

Legacy Pecans - pecans for the Food Fantasy entries

Hotel Encanto - Best in Show award

# 51<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL WESTERN PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

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## SUNDAY, MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>

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- Noon–4 p.m.                      **Registration**—Hotel Lobby
- 1–5 p.m.                            **Pecan Trade and Equipment Show**—Avenida Room, San Rafael Room, and east parking lot
- 3–5 p.m.                            **U.S. Pecan Growers Council Official Meeting**  
Open to members  
Cimarron Room (downstairs)
- 3:30–5 p.m.                        **WPGA Pecan Food Fantasy Entries**—Open for viewing  
Los Padres Room (downstairs)
- 4–6 p.m.                            **Welcome Reception**  
Sponsored by Helena Chemical (Artesia & Mesquite), Western Blend, Big Star Ace Hardware Agriculture and Farm Supply, Actagro, and Crop Production Services  
Azul Lounge & Bar

## MONDAY, MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup>

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- 7:30 a.m.–5 p.m.                **Registration**—Hotel Lobby
- 8 a.m.–5 p.m.                      **Pecan Trade and Equipment Show**—Avenida Room, San Rafael Room, and east parking lot
- 8 a.m.–5 p.m.                      **Pecan Food Fantasy Exhibits**  
—Los Padres Room

- 9 a.m.–11:30 a.m.      **WPGA Educational Program - Morning Session**  
—San Andres Ballroom
- 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.      **Lunch (Outside Exhibitor Area)**  
—Sponsored by New Aces Pecan and Western Pecan Growers Association
- 1–5 p.m.      **WPGA Educational Program - Afternoon Session**  
—San Andres Ballroom
- 6–7 p.m.      **Social Hour**  
San Andres Ballroom
- 7–10 p.m.      **Banquet and Awards**  
Sponsored by Bayer Crop Science, Dow AgroSciences, Green Valley Pecan, Golden Peanut and Tree Nuts, John B. Sanfilippo & Son, National Pecan Company, and San Saba Pecan  
—San Andres Ballroom

**TUESDAY, MARCH 7TH** \_\_\_\_\_

- 8 a.m.–noon      **Registration**
- 8 a.m.–noon      **Pecan Trade and Equipment Show**—Avenida Room, San Rafael Room, and east parking lot
- 8–10 a.m.      **Pecan Food Fantasy Exhibits**  
—Los Padres Room
- 8 a.m.–noon      **WPGA Educational Program**  
—San Andres Ballroom
- 11–11:30 a.m.      **WPGA General Meeting**  
Kevin Ivey, presiding  
—San Andres Ballroom
- 11:30 a.m.–noon      **Growers Panel: Pecan Orchard Hedging, Moderator**—Dr. Mike Kilby—San Andres Ballroom

# WPGA 2017 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

## **MONDAY, MARCH 6TH**

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### **MORNING SESSION**

**Moderator**—Jeff Anderson,  
Doña Ana County Extension  
Agriculture Agent, New Mexico  
State University, Las Cruces, NM

9–9:10 a.m.

**Welcome**—Mr. Kevin Ivey, Western  
Pecan Growers Association President,  
Clint, TX

9:10–9:30 a.m.

**Opening Address**  
Mr. Jeff Witte, New Mexico Direc-  
tor/Secretary of Agriculture, New  
Mexico Department of Agriculture,  
Las Cruces, NM

9:30–10 a.m.

**The WPGA Scholarship**  
Mr. Les Daviet, Dixie Ranch,  
Las Cruces, NM

10–10:30 a.m.

**Sponsored Break**  
Coffee & desserts—San Rafael Room

10:30–11 a.m.

**Pollination in Pecans: The Answer  
is Blowing in the Wind**  
—Dr. Richard Heerema, Extension  
Pecan Specialist, New Mexico State  
University, Las Cruces, NM

11–11:30 a.m.

**How to Conduct your Own  
On-Farm Trials**—Dr. Jim Walworth,  
Extension Soil Specialist, University  
of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

**Lunch (Outside Exhibitor Area)**  
Sponsored by New Aces Pecan and  
Western Pecan Growers Association

### **AFTERNOON SESSION**

**Moderator**—Dr. Richard Heerema,  
Extension Pecan Specialist,  
New Mexico State University,  
Las Cruces, NM



- 1–1:30 p.m.                   **What’s all the Fuss About “GMOs”?**—Dr. Stephen Hansen, Plant Molecular Biologist, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
- 1:30–2 p.m.                   **Movement of Wild Hogs across the Pecan Belt**—Dr. Sam Smallidge, Extension Wildlife Specialist, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
- 2–2:30 p.m.                   **Hedging and Tree Water Stress**—Dr. Lenny Wells, Extension Pecan Specialist, University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
- 2:30–3 p.m.                   **Considerations in Converting Flood Irrigated Pecan Orchards to Micro-Irrigation**—Mr. Joshua Sherman, Area Extension Horticulture Agent, University of Arizona, Willcox, AZ
- 3–3:30 p.m.                   **Sponsored Break**  
Coffee & desserts—San Rafael Room
- 3:30–4 p.m.                   **Plant Growth Regulators for Pecan Orchards**—Ms. Marisa Thompson, Ph.D. Candidate, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
- 4–4:30 p.m.                   **The Pecan Industry in Chihuahua, Mexico: Challenges and Successes**—Dr. Julio Cesar Lopez Diaz, Professor (with Dr. Esteban A. Herrera), Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico

- 4:30–5 p.m.                    **History of the Southwestern U.S. Pecan Industry**—Dr. George Ray McEachern, Extension Pecan Specialist (retired), Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
- 6–7 p.m.                        **Social Hour**—San Andres Ballroom
- 7–10 p.m.                      **WPGA Banquet and Awards**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 7TH** \_\_\_\_\_

- FINAL SESSION**                    **Moderator**—Sandra Barraza, Chaves County Extension Agriculture Agent, New Mexico State University, Roswell, NM
- 8:30–9 a.m.                    **Western Pecan Weevil Update** —Mr. Brad Lewis, Research Entomologist, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
- 9–9:30 a.m.                    **Use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (“Drones”) in Pecan Orchards**—Mr. Joseph Millette, Sr. External UAV Pilot, Physical Science Laboratory, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
- 9:30–10 a.m.                    **The Phytonutrients and Health Benefits of U.S. Pecan Consumption**—Dr. Ronald Pegg, Food Technologist, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 10–10:30 a.m.                    **Sponsored Break**  
Coffee & Desserts—San Rafael Room
- 10:30–11 a.m.                    **Update from American Pecan Board**—Mr. Bruce Caris, Vice President, Green Valley Pecan Company, Sahuarita, AZ

11–11:30 a.m.

**WPGA General Meeting**

11:30 a.m.–noon

**Grower's Panel – Pecan Orchard Hedging**

**Moderator:** Dr. Mike Kilby,  
Fruit, Nut, and Vine Specialist  
(retired), University of Arizona,  
Tucson, AZ

**Panel:**

Allen Brandt, AZ  
Harold Payne, AZ  
Bill Kuykendall, NM  
Tom Stevenson, GA  
Glenn Honaker, TX

**Adjourn**

**Please return your name badges.**



**HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME!**

Pick up your CCAs and CEUs (NM, TX, and AZ) with  
Ryan Hiles at the registration desk.

# 2017 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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**General Superintendent**

Kevin Ivey

**Coordinators**

John White  
Richard Heerema  
Brad Lewis

**Awards Banquet**

John White  
Carol Koenig

**Trade & Equipment**

John White  
John Clayshulte  
Tiffany Johnson  
Brad Lewis

**Education Program**

Richard Heerema  
Tiffany Johnson

**Pecan Food Fantasy**

Jeff Anderson  
Carol Koenig  
Karim Martinez  
Heather Salopek  
Diana Magallanez



## 2016 SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

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Baker Farms	Frank U. Mesa & Son
Big John Manufacturing	Guerrero Farms
Dixie Ranch	Pecan Nut Busters, Inc.
El Cielo Farms	Perce Farm
Fabens Production	R. Kaiser Design and Sales
Gowan USA	Triple A Farm



## 2016 LIVE AUCTION DONORS

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Air-O-Fan	Orchard Machinery Corp.
AMC Sprayers	PBM Supply & Mfg., Inc.
Baker Farms LTD., Co.	Salopek 4MP Farms
Belding Farms	Salopek 6U Farms
Bissett Specialty Equipment	Savage Equipment, Inc.
D & E Orchards	South Plains Implement, LTD
David Salopek Farms	Southwest
Evergreen Farm	Sun Valley, Inc.
Farm Credit of New Mexico	Tom Salopek Farms
Farmers Emeritus	VSSA Commodities
FICO/Green Valley Pecan Co.	W.C. Laikam Co.
Flory Industries	WECO Pecan Sorting
Kingsburg Cultivator, Inc.	Weiss McNair, LLC
Lectroblast	Weldcraft
Lisa J.O. Willman, CPA	Western Blend
National Pecan Company	Wizard Manufacturing, Inc.
New Mexico Pecan Company	

# 2017–2018 CONFERENCE WESTERN PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION BOARD

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<b>President</b>	Les Daviet, NM
<b>First Vice President</b>	Craig Ivey, TX
<b>Second Vice President</b>	vacant
<b>Secretary</b>	Jacob Arnold, NM
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Clayshulte, NM
<b>Past President</b>	Kevin Ivey, TX
<b>Executive Director</b>	John White, NM
<b>Deputy Director</b>	Brad Lewis, NM

## **Board of Directors**

### **Arizona**

Allen Brandt  
Harold Payne  
Jared Allred  
Mark Cook

### **California**

Brody Blain

### **New Mexico**

Les Daviet  
Phillip Arnold  
Jay Glover  
Bill Kuykendall  
Rett Salopek  
Frank Paul Salopek  
Louie Salopek  
Greg Daviet

### **Texas**

Glen Honaker  
Art Ivey  
Lane Brewster

## **Honorary Board Members**

### **Arizona**

Stuart Carter  
Mike Kilby  
Jim Walworth  
Joshua Sherman

### **New Mexico**

Jeff Anderson  
Carol Koenig  
Richard Heerema  
Karim Martinez

### **Texas**

Orlando Flores

# NOTES



THE ANNUAL WESTERN PECAN GROWERS  
ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

**PECAN FOOD FANTASY**  
AND  
**PECAN TRADE AND EQUIPMENT SHOW**

ARE SPONSORED JOINTLY BY

THE WESTERN PECAN GROWERS  
ASSOCIATION

AND

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, CONSUMER AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE



New Mexico State University  
All About Discovery!<sup>TM</sup>

New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator. NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an auxiliary aid or service to participate, please contact John White in advance at (575) 640-7555 or [director@westernpecan.org](mailto:director@westernpecan.org).