



Episode 32 – 2022 Alabama Row Crops Short Course

December 16, 2021

Announcer:

The Alabama Crops Report Podcast, your trusted information source for Alabama agriculture.

Scott Graham:

Hey everybody. Welcome in to the Alabama Crops Report Podcast. Scott Graham, Katelyn Kesheimer and we've got former recurring guests now a first time host with us, the dirt doctor, Audrey Gamble in today. How's it going y'all?

Katelyn Kesheimer:

Good, yeah. It's nice to see you promoted out of the hot seat into one of the hosting seats, Audrey.

Audrey Gamble:

Yes. Thank you. I'm very honored to be here and also be a host today.

Scott Graham:

Well, this is just an audition, so we'll see how we get.

Audrey Gamble:

Okay.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

And the reason we have you promoted to host today is we are talking about a very soon and important event next January of 2022.

Audrey Gamble:

That's right. We have the Alabama Row Crops Short Course coming up on January 18th and 19th in Montgomery, Alabama. It's an event that I guess this will be really the fourth year in person and the fifth year altogether. We've had the Row Crops Short Course. We're looking forward to having a live meeting again after last year when we had to do some recorded presentations and everything. So, yep. It's, it'll be here before we know it.

Scott Graham:

In a new location too, right? Historically, it's been here on main campus in Auburn.

Audrey Gamble:

Mm-hmm(affirmative) the last several years it's been in Auburn, and we love hosting it in Auburn, but I think that kind of the rationale for having it in Montgomery this year is that it shaves off about an hour of driving for those coming from the Western part of the State, whether it's down in the Gulf Coast region or up the Tennessee Valley region being on kind of the Western side of Montgomery saves a little bit of time. So hopefully it's a more convenient location for people to get to.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

Yeah. And after five year is we're building some support and numbers and also some great speakers and topics. So can we talk a little bit about what attendees can expect in terms of the schedule and events, and then we can get into topics that you'll be, we'll be talking about?

Audrey Gamble:

Sure. So, the Short Course is going to start on the afternoon of January 18th, that's on a Tuesday. And that first part of the meeting is really going to be some breakout sessions that are very crop specific related talks. So we will have a peanut session going on, on the afternoon of the 18th. And during that same peanut session, we'll also have a session on corn, soybean and, and small grains. So we have some really good speakers, I think, during those particular breakout sessions. And then that evening from about 4:30 to 6:00 PM, we'll have a social event with snacks and drinks, and really just a time to socialize, and get back together with everyone. After a couple of years apart, then on January 19th on Wednesday, we'll start in the morning at 8:30 with a general session.

Audrey Gamble:

That's going to be some kind of big overarching topics that affect all row crop producers. For instance, Joe Outlaw from Texas A&M that's going to be talking about carbon markets. I know that's something that a lot of our producers have had questions about. We have a talk on input cost management as fertilizer and herbicide and pesticide prices continue to rise. I think that'll be a really important overarching topic. And then some other talks during that general session as well. And then in the afternoon, we'll have a cotton specific section.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

Sounds like a little bit for everybody in Alabama and regardless of what crops you're producing.

Audrey Gamble:

That's the goal, so hopefully everyone. Cotton, we try to have a standalone because so many of our producers produce cotton regardless of what region of The State they're in. But hopefully each of those sessions will have something for all of our attendees. I also need to mention that both before our meeting starts on January 18th. We'll start in the afternoon, but that morning, the Alabama Soybean & Corn Association will actually be having their meeting at the same location. So we kind of did that for convenience. So producers could hit the Soybean & Corn Association first thing in the morning and then move into the Row Crops Short Course that afternoon.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

One stop shop for row Crops. Please edit that out. I'm sorry.

Scott Graham:

I say leave it in.

Audrey Gamble:

Agreed.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

So I want to kind of talk about some of the topics. I'm looking at the agenda here, Audrey, and there looks like some. I see another friend of the pod David Zierden doing the climate outlook. And so that'll be in the general session on Wednesday. And if you listen to that podcast, we talked about how it's going to be another La Niña year this year and how that could impact producer decisions over the next couple months.

Audrey Gamble:

Yes. And I love hearing David Zierden speak. He comes up from Florida, and speaks at several different Alabama row Crop events, and always does an excellent job telling us what we need to be on the lookout for in terms of climate in the next year. And another friend of the pod that will be speaking is Katelyn Kesheimer...

Katelyn Kesheimer:

Oh, yes. I am. Yes.

Audrey Gamble:

Talking about follow [inaudible 00:04:56] management.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

I will. Yeah.

Audrey Gamble:

And what we learned this past year, and how to us that knowledge in the upcoming growing year.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

Yeah. [inaudible 00:05:04] getting a lot of press lately. And so it only makes sense to kind of recap what happened this year and how to manage a potential large outbreak in 2022. So hopefully that'll be timely and helpful for people, especially as we move into early season crops that we might have some warm weathers, and insects showing up pretty early.

Scott Graham:

So with that Katelyn, as you look into your crystal ball, fall armyworms 2022,

Katelyn Kesheimer:

I'm saying beyond the lookout, be prepared, and be scouting, be checking your inventory of chemicals and practice IPM starting very early. Because if we have another warm winter, we had a lot of armyworms go into over wintering with large populations this year. And so my crystal ball's a little bit fuzzy, but I would be prepared. It's better to be a little bit more proactive than reactive with this kind of stuff.

Scott Graham:

You know, one thing you hit on there, Katelyn, that's going to be important. And we're going to have talked about is kind of input cost management and supply chain type things. There's a lot of stuff in the rumor mill right now, if you will, about some prices of widely used chemicals are going up. Some of them are going to be hard to get, and I believe Will Maples from Mississippi State is going to come and talk to us some about that. So that'll be a good talk as well.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

So Audrey, it sounds like a lot of these are very timely topics, climate armyworms, cost management. Can you talk a little bit about how we picked our speakers and topics for this conference next month?

Audrey Gamble:

Absolutely. So everyone in this room was a part of that. So we just got together a lot of the specialists with Alabama Cooperative Extension System, some of the regional agents and talked about what are the major issues that your producers are facing? What do you think are going to be the hot topics? For the upcoming growing season? And we just kind of narrowed down those topics, had a conversation and came to agreements on those. And then at that point, once we had narrowed down our topics, we really started thinking about, okay, who's the top speaker that we can invite. And we try to have at the Short Course, we want it to be a little bit different from our regional and county meet production meetings. So we do try to mix it up with some out-of-state speakers, some speakers that maybe are at Auburn University, but don't work with Extension and don't necessarily see the producers as much. So that's kind of the process that we went through to identify who was going to be speaking and what they were going to speak about.

Scott Graham:

And looking through this list, without getting into a bunch of names and stuff. I mean, it's impressive. We got folks from LSU, Mississippi State, University of Georgia, Florida State, Texas A&M, Cotton Incorporated. I mean, it's a good list.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

And Scott, I think you'll be at the Tarnish Plant Bug Management in cotton from Whitney Crow, Mississippi State. Because, didn't you say that is your favorite bug to kill?

Scott Graham:

Yes I did. I did. And I hope to be there. Yeah.

Audrey Gamble:

As long as there's not a baby on the way.

Scott Graham:

Yeah. Not for me, but for my wife.

Audrey Gamble:

Yeah.

Scott Graham:

But yeah, we'll be sitting on go. So, as of right now, my plan is to go and watch, but my wife may pull rank on that one.

Audrey Gamble:

And I also want to mention while we're here, we will throughout the whole course of the meeting during both days we'll have exhibit space set up. And so we have a lot of sponsors already registered to have [inaudible 00:08:28] at The Row Crop Short Course. And we're still taking sponsors right now. So there's still some booth space available, but a lot of our industry professionals will be there to answer questions, and meet and socialize with attendees as well.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

If one of our listeners would like to get some booth space, who should they talk to?

Audrey Gamble:

They can email me. My email is agamble@auburn.edu. They can also, if you search 2022 Alabama Row Crops Short Course and Google the website for the event should pop up and anyone can complete registration from that website and also sign up as a sponsor on that website. So for sponsors, they can either register online and pay online or contact me, and we can send an invoice. So.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

True story. I Googled that on my phone and I'm looking at your email address right here, so.

Audrey Gamble:

Perfect.

Scott Graham:

I don't know. Her email address sounds like a gamble to me.

Audrey Gamble:

[inaudible 00:09:25]

Katelyn Kesheimer:

Your kid's not even here yet and you're making dad jokes.

Scott Graham:

All right. Audrey, so remind us one more time. The dates where it will be, and I guess how folks can register.

Audrey Gamble:

So The Short Course will be held again on January 18th and 19th, 2022. It will be held in Montgomery, Alabama at the embassy suites. I think this is a familiar location to a lot of our producers and AGPROfessionals because Alpha, for example, has had many meetings there in the past, and to register for The Row Crops Short Course. Again, you can Google 2022 Alabama Row Crops Short Course. There's a link for registration on our website. If anyone has any trouble registering, feel free to contact me. I will say, please go ahead and register now. At least by January 7th, because after January 7th, we're going to increase the registration fee from free to \$40. So go ahead, and do it while you're thinking about it.

Katelyn Kesheimer:

Fantastic. Well, it sounds like great information, probably great food, I would imagine. And it's free as long as you're registering before January 7th. Well, thanks so much Audrey for giving us all the information, and we hope to see everyone in person next month at The Alabama Row Crops Short Course.

Scott Graham:

As always thanks to our listeners. Folks who joined with us here this first year of the Alabama Crops Report Podcast, we really enjoyed doing this and hope it was worth something to somebody. So we'll be back with new episodes in 2022.

Announcer:

The Alabama Crops Report Podcast is a product of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and is sponsored by Alabama Ag Credit.