

# THE 105TH ANNUAL TEXAS PECAN GROWERS CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

2026

Free Registration for TPGA Members  
Until July 10

*July 12-15, 2026*



**THE EMBASSY SUITES BY  
HILTON SAN MARCOS, TX**

Find more information at  
**[www.tpga.org/tpga-events](http://www.tpga.org/tpga-events)**



## 105th Annual Texas Pecan Growers Conference & Trade Show

July 12-15, 2026 · Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos, Texas

The Texas Pecan Growers Association invites you to join us for our 2026 Conference and Trade Show this July at the Embassy Suites in San Marcos. This packet included information, registration forms, and details. If you would like register online, visit [tpga.org/tpga-events/](http://tpga.org/tpga-events/). If you have any questions, please contact our office at 979-846-3285 or [pecans@tpga.org](mailto:pecans@tpga.org).

### ROOM RESERVATION DETAILS

TPGA has a **discounted group rate at Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos Hotel Conference Center**. Reserve your room with **group code 95V** online or contact the hotel and identify yourself as part of the Texas Pecan Growers group. The rate is \$186 per night plus taxes and fees. The discounted group rate is offered until the room block runs out. The **booking cut off date is June 15, 2026 to lock in the rate**. Our guaranteed block includes Sunday through Wednesday nights. Amenities include an all-suite hotel, full cook to order breakfast, free evening reception and conference events located in same building.

### SUNDAY EVENTS

**Trade Show Grand Opening & Welcome Reception.** Registration starts Sunday morning, with the Trade Show Grand Opening and Welcome Reception that evening. The State Pecan Show and Silent Auction open as well, benefiting Texas Pecan Extension and Research. Enjoy great food, refreshing drinks and plenty of opportunities to connect with fellow attendees.

**NEW "Shell-of-a-Time" pecan-cracking competition.** Test your skills in this fast-paced pecan-cracking challenge. Be sure to bring your favorite hand cracking device and sign up on Sunday.

**Cooking with Pecans Demo with Kate Blankenship.** Enjoy a live cooking demo that highlights pecans in a fresh, flavorful way. We'll walk you through a dish that's easy to recreate and unbelievably good. (Hay's County AgriLife Extension-FCH)

**Pecan Grafting Techniques Demo.** Join us for a live pecan grafting demonstration with Larry Jim Womack of Womack Nursery. This hands-on demonstration will showcase the skill and precision behind successful grafting, one of the most important techniques in establishing and improving pecan orchards.

### MONDAY NIGHT EVENTS

**NEW Pecan Cluster Family Night!** Enjoy a pecan themed family crafting evening on Monday, July 13, as you and your kids create a mini Texas pecan variety board with a family-friendly movie playing throughout. One mini pecan variety board is included per ticket and all supplies are provided.

**Casino Night!** A conference favorite returns Monday night at the Embassy Suites. The night will feature games, dinner, and a bar. Be sure to reserve your tickets early for this spectacular camaraderie event as space is limited.

**Several ticket options will be available for both events, with and without dinner service. Please review each option closely when deciding.**

### TUESDAY EVENTS

**Meet with FSA and NRCS Representatives.** Get direct support from FSA and NRCS representatives on USDA programs, loans, disaster assistance, conservation planning, and EQIP. Each meeting is a scheduled 30-minute session. Sign up early to secure your spot.

**Branch out with Bats!** Join us for this free Tuesday-evening event at Troy Swift's orchard located in Lockhart, TX. Bring a chair and your own refreshments as we gather in a pecan orchard known for its active bat population. On Tuesday, July 14th, get settled to watch the sun set and the sky open for bats in the pecan orchard. Enjoy a nighttime chat about these mammals and their helpful role in the pecan ecosystem. Please sign up in advance so we have an accurate headcount before the event.

### WEDNESDAY ORCHARD TOUR

**Join us for an orchard tour** on Wednesday, July 15, at a fifth-generation family farm with a pecan orchard owned by Mark Friesenhahn. Located in New Braunfels, Texas, Comal Pecan Farm spans 110 picturesque acres of actively growing pecan trees. This is a great opportunity to visit a historic site in the Comal community. **Kyle Slusher with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension will provide an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstration along with talks from many other industry experts.** This will be another TPGA visit to Comal Pecan Farm—come see what's changed. The orchard tour costs \$30 per person, with children attending for free. A lunch will be provided. Optional bus transportation is available for an additional \$30, provided enough tickets are purchased.



REGISTER ONLINE HERE:

Texas Pecan Growers Association

4348 Carter Creek Pkwy, Ste. 101 Bryan, TX 77802 • 979-846-3285 • [pecans@tpga.org](mailto:pecans@tpga.org)  
[www.tpga.org/tpga-events](http://www.tpga.org/tpga-events)

# Conference Agenda

## **SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026**

**3 p.m. TPGA Board of Directors Meeting**

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## **SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026**

**10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Trade Show Setup**

(Not open for public viewing)

**10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Conference Registration opens**

**1:30 p.m. Texas Pecan Board meeting**

**5 p.m. Trade Show Grand Opening & Welcome**

**Reception—** Includes a Cooking with Pecans Demo, Pecan Grafting Techniques Demo, "Shell-of-a-Time" pecan-cracking competition, pecan-related games and activities, State Pecan Show & Silent Auction.

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## **MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026**

**8 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration, Trade Show; State Pecan Show open**

**8:30 a.m. Pecan Orchard Management by Texas AgriLife Extension**

**9 a.m. The Native Nut Book Nook opens**

**12 p.m. Lunch on your own**

**Research & Extension Luncheon** (Invite only)

**12:45 p.m. Amazon Fulfillment Center Tour** (Ticketed event)

**1:30-5 p.m. Educational Program**

**5:30-7 p.m. Pecan Cluster Family Night**

**6:00-9:30 p.m. Casino Night at Embassy Suites** (Ticketed event)

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## **TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026**

**8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Registration, Trade Show**

**8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Educational Program**

**12 p.m. Silent Auction and pecan-related games and activities close.**

**12 p.m. Lunch on your own**

**Native Nut Book Nook & State Pecan Show close**

**1:30-5 p.m. Educational Program cont.**

**7 p.m. Branch out with Bats** in Lockhart, TX (Free ticketed event)

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## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026**

**9:00 a.m. Orchard Tour** at Comal Pecan Farm in New Braunfels, TX (Ticketed event)

## **SUPPORT THE PAC**

The National Pecan Federation's  
Political Action Committee

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The Texas Pecan Growers Association is a member of the National Pecan Federation and contributes \$30,000 annually to support representation in Washington, D.C. on behalf of Texas pecan growers. A strong advocacy program also relies on a dedicated political action committee (PAC). While TPGA provides year-round representation, PECAN PAC contributions help advance that work. The PECAN PAC can accept contributions from individuals, partnerships, or LLCs, with a limit of \$5,000 per calendar year. TPGA can no longer accept donations on behalf of its members. PECAN PAC has provided a secure link if you wish to contribute to the PECAN PAC. Scan the QR code to learn more or make a contribution. <https://secure.anedot.com/pecan-pac/donate>. If you would like to contribute directly, you can mail contributions to: PECANPAC, 313 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002

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### **What does the NPF do?**

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

### **What has NPF/PECAN PAC accomplished?**

1. Millions to producers for disaster assistance, tariff mitigation, and relief efforts
2. A 70% reduction in the tariff for pecans going into India
3. Research and Promotion authority to assess imported pecans expected to generate \$4,000,000 in additional marketing and research funding.
4. \$5,500,000 funding for cracking and pasteurization research
5. \$5,500,000 funding for pecan breeding research
6. Pecan Crop Insurance reforms
7. USDA pecan purchases for feeding programs
8. Working to get pecans included in senior, school, and other food programs

### **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
- 



**Texas Pecan Growers Association**

4348 Carter Creek Pkwy, Ste. 101 Bryan, TX 77802 • 979-846-3285 • pecans@tpga.org

[www.tpga.org/tpga-events](http://www.tpga.org/tpga-events)

# Registration Form

Please complete this form to register for TPGA's 2026 Conference and Trade Show, July 12-15, 2026 Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos, Texas. Register online before July 10th: [TPGA.org/tpga-events/](https://www.tpga.org/tpga-events/)

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Registration includes (2) attendees

**Full Name:** .....

**Name of Guest:** .....

**Email :** .....

**Phone :** .....

**Address:** .....

**Zip Code :** .....

**City, State:** .....

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

**Early TPGA member, admits 2**  
 Registering before July 10 ~~\$150~~ **FREE** .....

**TPGA member, admits 2**  
 Registering after July 10 **\$180** .....

**TPGA non-member, admits 2**  
 Registering before July 10 **\$180** .....

**Complimentary "TPGA Future Grower Kits"** filled with pecan themed activities. Available at the registration desk, recommended for children 12 and under. **FREE** .....

**Name of Future Grower(s):**  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

County Extension Agents please contact our office for registration options. Confirmed exhibitors do not pay a registration fee. Registration discounts end July 10. Registration fee subject to change Conference weekend.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

# of tickets

**Amazon Tour, July 13th**  
 12:45 p.m. at the Amazon Fulfillment Center in San Marcos  
 Limited to first 25 participants **FREE** **SOLD OUT** .....

**Pecan Cluster Family Night, July 13th**  
 5:30-7 p.m. at the Embassy Suites.  
 Dinner, Craft & Movie **\$45**   
 Craft & Movie Only **\$20**  .....

**Casino Night, July 13th**  
 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Embassy Suites.  
 Dinner, drinks & games. **\$65**   
 Games Only **\$40**   
 Meal Only (No events) **\$30**  .....

**Branch out with Bats Event**  
 7 p.m. with Swift River Pecans  
 Please sign up in advance for an accurate headcount. **FREE** .....

**Meet with FSA and NRCS Representatives.** Get direct support from FSA and NRCS representatives

**Which agency would you like to meet with?**

- FSA (8 a.m. -12p.m.)  
 NRCS (8 a.m. -5 p.m.)

**Select your preferred time slot for Tuesday, July 12, 2026:**

- 8-9 a.m.  1-2 p.m.  
 9-10 a.m.  2-3 p.m.  
 10-11 a.m.  3-4 p.m.  
 11 a.m.-12 p.m.  4-5 p.m.  Any time works

**Orchard Tour, July 23rd**  
 Kids attend free. **\$30** .....

**Bus Transportation, July 23rd** **\$30**  
 for Orchard Tour .....

Bus service depends on meeting minimum ticket sales. If not met, the bus will be cancelled.

**Total for special events: \$** .....

We have a limited number of event tickets available. We encourage you to reserve early to secure your spot.

# On-Site Registration Form

Please complete this form to register for TPGA's 2026 Conference and Trade Show, July 12-15, 2026 Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos, Texas. We have a limited number of event tickets available. We encourage you to reserve early to secure your spot. For more information, please visit the Registration Desk.

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Registration includes 2 attendees

**Full Name:** .....

**Name of Guest:** .....

**Email :** .....

**Phone :** .....

**Address:** .....

**Zip Code :** .....


**City, State:** .....

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

**TPGA member, admits 2**                      **\$180**  
 Day Of .....

**TPGA non-member,**                      **\$200**  
**admits 2**  
 Day Of .....

County Extension Agents please contact our office for registration options. Confirmed exhibitors do not pay a registration fee. Registration discounts end July 10. Registration fee subject to change Conference weekend.

**Complimentary "TPGA Future Grower Kits"** filled with pecan themed activities. Available at the registration desk, recommended for children 12 and under.  .....

limited quantity available


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 8-9 a.m.                       1-2 p.m.  
 9-10 a.m.                       2-3 p.m.  
 10-11 a.m.                       3-4 p.m.  
 11 a.m.-12 p.m.                       4-5 p.m.                       Any time works

**Orchard Tour, July 23rd**  
 Kids attend free.                      **\$30** .....

**Bus Transportation, July 23rd**                      **\$30**  
 for Orchard Tour .....

Bus service depends on meeting minimum ticket sales. If not met, the bus will be cancelled.

**Total for special events:**                      **\$**  
 .....



# Contributions

## **FRED R. BRISON SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The \$1,000 Fred Brison scholarship is presented annually by TPGA to a student in the Horticulture Department at Texas A&M University. If you are interested in contributing to our scholarship fund (or the TAMU Pecan Endowment), you may use this registration form to do so.

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## **TEXAS A&M PECAN ENDOWMENT**

These contributions support the creation of a pecan endowment at Texas A&M University to support pecan research and the Texas A&M pecan program.

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## **SPONSOR THE TPGA CONFERENCE**

Everyone can help make TPGA's Conference & Trade Show successful. If you're interested in sponsoring the conference, please write the amount you wish to contribute on the line to the right or contact [nichole@tpga.org](mailto:nichole@tpga.org) for sponsorship opportunities.

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## **SILENT AUCTION**

Funds generated from the Silent Auction go to Texas Pecan Extension and Research. Your contribution is for a good cause and can help promote your company or product. If you'd like to donate, please write a description of the item and give an estimated value. Items must be mailed to our office or delivered to the Registration Desk at the Conference before Sunday night's Grand Opening Reception.

Your support delivers real results. For example, TPGA and the Texas Pecan Board are partnering to offer a \$25,000 grant for projects that advance the Texas pecan industry. Priority areas include Pest & Disease Management, Water Use & Drought Tolerance, Soil Health & Fertility, Variety Development & Evaluation, Economics & Market Research, and Environmental & Sustainability Studies.

**Item description** .....

**Attribute donation to** .....

**Estimated value** .....

**Total for contributions \$** .....



## Complete Registration

### TPGA MEMBERSHIP 2026-2027

Many TPGA memberships expire on June 30 (you can confirm in the membership area of the website). If yours is expired or about to expire, please take this opportunity to renew. This packet includes a renewal form. By being a Texas Pecan Growers Association member, you are supporting the work that brings Texas pecan growers access to valuable resources and benefits including; research and extension projects and personnel covering pecan genetics, horticulture, pests, and health; promotion of TPGA members in domestic and international markets; advocacy work within the university systems, state government on issues like water for agriculture, and federal government advocacy as a founding and leading member of the National Pecan Federation. For a full list of benefits, visit our website or email us: <https://tpga.org/join-membership/> [pecans@tpga.org](mailto:pecans@tpga.org)

**Please fill out the attached form.**

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#### REGISTRATION TOTAL

- 1. Registration Fees .....
  - 2. Membership dues .....
  - 3. Total amount for special events .....
  - 4. Total amount for industry contributions .....
- TOTAL ENCLOSED** .....
- 

**Mail this registration form along with a check or money order to:**

Texas Pecan Growers Association  
4348 Carter Creek Pkwy, Ste. 101  
Bryan, TX 77802

Visit [www.tpga.org/tpga-events/](http://www.tpga.org/tpga-events/) to register online.



**Membership Application**

NAME..... DATE .....

FARM NAME, if applicable .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY, STATE, ZIP ..... PHONE .....

EMAIL .....

I agree to give permission for my email to be added to the TPGA e-newsletter to stay informed on industry updates, opportunities, and education. Yes No

*Note: Some communications are only sent via email.*

COUNTY in which your pecans are grown .....

Do you sell pecans directly to the public? Yes No

If so, would you like to be listed on our website's "Where to Buy Pecans" page? Yes No

Do you offer any custom services (such as spraying, harvesting, or grafting)? If yes, please list them below, and indicate whether we may share your name when we receive inquiries. Yes No

Would you like your name to be listed in our Membership Directory on our website? Yes No

*The Membership Directory is only available to TPGA members through our secure login system, and shares the following information: name, phone number, email address, city, and state.*

How many acres of Improved and/or Native pecans do you grow?

Improved: ..... Native: .....

..... **Membership Renewal** ..... **New Membership**

Membership Type	Dues rate
____ Grower/Industry	\$200.00
____ Out of State/Non-Voting	\$200.00
____ Vendor	\$200.00
____ Research/Extension	\$0.00

How did you hear about TPGA? .....

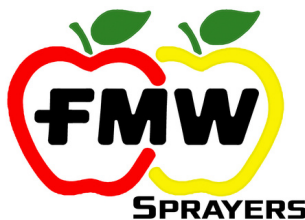
**TPGA accepts payment in the form of a check or complete this form online to pay by card.**

Mail, fax, or email to: Texas Pecan Growers Association 4348 Carter Creek Pkwy. Suite 101, Bryan, TX 77802  
 Fax: 979-846-1752 • Pecans@tpga.org

ESTABLISHED 1921  
**TEXAS PECAN**  
-GROWERS ASSOCIATION-

## Thank You to Our Sponsors!

Thank you to every sponsor for helping to make this year's conference special! The Texas Pecan Growers Association looks forward to seeing you all at our next **Conference and Trade Show on July 20-23, 2026, in Denton, Texas.**



If you would like to sponsor please contact Meghan Mabry at [meghan@tpga.org](mailto:meghan@tpga.org) or call TPGA office at 979-846-3285

## Conference Educational Program

### Monday, July 21, 2025

- 8:00 AM** Texas AgriLife Pecan Orchard Management  
3 CEUs
- 8:30 AM** Management of Feral Hogs with Kaput System—
- 9:15 AM** Pecan Nut Quality Determinants—Dr. Larry Stein, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Uvalde
- 9:40 AM** Cover Crops in Orchards—Stephen Janak, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Hallettsville
- 10:05 AM** Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall/Trade Show, sponsored by Exact Corp
- 10:30 AM** Managing Pest and Beneficial Insects in Pecan Orchards—Dr. Kyle Slusher, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Stephenville
- 11:00 AM** Pecan Disease Management Update—Dr. Young Ki Jo, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station
- 11:25 AM** Foliar Nutrient Sprays—Dr. Monte Nesbitt, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station
- 11:50 AM** Mini Pecan Short Course Q&A and Evaluation  
collect 3 CEUs
- 12:00 PM** Lunch on own/Visit the Trade Show & Research and Extension Luncheon (invite only)
- 1:30 PM** President's Welcome — Troy Swift, TPGA President
- 1:45 PM** Remarks from Special Guest—Franco Trevino, Deputy Director of the Oklahoma City Regional RMA Office; Joanna Strenk, RMA Pecan Policy Expert
- 2:15 PM** Working for Pecan Growers: An Update from National Pecan Federation & Washington, D.C.—Robert Redding, The Redding Firm
- 2:45 PM** Exhibitor Presentation— George Hahn, California Vermiculture LLC
- 3:00 PM** Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall/Trade Show, sponsored by South Plains Implement
- 3:45 PM** Exhibitor Presentation—AMVT
- 4:00 PM** Grant work findings— Monte Nesbitt
- 4:30 PM** Rooting for the Home Team: The Hidden Part of the Pecan Tree—Dr. Richard Heerema, New Mexico State University

### Tuesday, July 22, 2025

- 8:00 AM** Irrigation Water: It's Getting Scarce in Texas— Mark Friesenhahn, Comal Pecan Farm
- 9:00 AM** Planning for Profitability—Dr. Charles Rohla, Noble Research Institute
- 9:30 AM** Exhibitor Presentation—Ralph Steger, Krak-N-Blo Pecan Pro
- 9:45 AM** Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall/Trade Show, sponsored by Bergen Ag Innovations
- 10:15 AM** Exhibitor Presentation—Wizard Manufacturing LLC
- 10:30 AM** Evolution of the Grocery Shopping Experience— Beau Hayden, Vice President, Strategic Intelligence
- 11:00 AM** An Update from the American Pecan Council and American Pecan Promotion Board—Anne Warden and Serena Schaffner
- 11:30 AM** Texas Pecan Growers Assoc. and Texas Pecan Board Business Meetings & Awards
- 12:15 PM** Lunch on own/Visit the Trade Show
- 1:30 PM** Exhibitor Presentation—NNZ
- 1:45 PM** Regenerative Experiments & Bat Studies at Swift River Pecans LLC—Troy Swift
- 2:15 PM** Survey Research Results Depicting the Status, Needs, and Direction of the Texas Pecan Industry—Dr. Monte Nesbitt
- 2:45 PM** Exhibitor Presentation—Bergen Ag Innovations
- 3:00 PM** Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall/Trade Show, sponsored by American Pecan Council & Specialty Crop Trade Council
- 3:45 PM** The Pecan Market: An Insider and Outsider Perspective— Panel moderated by Serena Schaffner
- 4:30 PM** Pecan Crop Estimate & Understanding Industry Numbers— Lalo Medina, Pecan Grove Farms