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<http://agrillife.org/spfcic>



## *Southern Pasture & Forage Crop* **IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE**

Corpus Christi, Texas | April 21-23, 2025  
Holiday Inn Beachfront





## Monday April 21

**12:15–1:00** Registration

**1:00** Introduction & Welcome

*Chair, Leanne Dillard, Auburn University*

**1:10** Texas Overview

*Jamie Foster, Texas A&M University*

*Vanessa Corriher-Olson, Texas A&M University*

*Jim Muir, Texas A&M University*

*Monte Rouquette, Jr., Texas A&M University*

**2:15** Break

**2:30** Forage breeding for southern forage systems

*Jesse Morrison, Mississippi State University*

**3:00** Forage legume breeding at Texas A&M Agrilife Research

*Ray Smith, Texas A&M University*

**3:40** Lightning Poster Summaries

**4:45** Business Meeting

*Brett Rushing, Mississippi State University*

**5:30** Reception & Poster Viewing

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## Tuesday, April 22

**7:00** Depart Hotel

**8:00** King Ranch Historical Tour

**9:30** Depart for Texas Native Seed

**10:00** Texas Native Seed Tour

**12:00** Catered lunch at Caesar Kleberg Center and native plant walk

**1:30** Bass Brothers La Paloma and El Coyote Ranches

**4:00** Texas A&M Agrilife REC Tour

**5:30** Dinner

## Wednesday, April 23

**8:00** Building Resiliency in Pasturelands

*Ben Tracy, Virginia Tech University*

**8:30** Mitigating risk in southern pasture systems

*Brandon Smith, Auburn University*

**9:00** How drones and AI are transforming forage systems

*Igor Bretas, University of Florida*

**9:30** Digital agriculture technologies in forage management

*Mahendra Bhandari, Texas A&M University*

**10:00** Break

**10:30** Concurrent Breakout Sessions

*Forage Breeding- Jesse Morrison, Moderator*

*Production Practices- Rocky Lemus, Moderator*

*Extension Programming- Liliane da Silva, Moderator*

**12:00** Adjourn