



### **Southern Plant Board**

**President:** Ansel Rankins, Louisiana, 225-952-8100

**Vice President:** Awinash Bhatkar, Texas, 512-463-5025

**Sec-Treasurer:** Kenny Naylor, Oklahoma, 405-522-5879

### **Contact Address**

Alabama Dept. of Agriculture and Industries

Attn: Plant Protection

1445 Federal Dr. Montgomery, AL 36107

## **2023 Southern Plant Board Meeting Invitation**

**May 22-25, 2023**

**Gulf Shores, Alabama**

Dear Southern Plant Board Members:

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meeting in Gulf Shores, Alabama. Our conference in Gulf Shores promises to be another exciting and productive meeting as we strive to continue our missions of protecting agriculture, horticulture, forestry, and the environment in all that we do. Details can be found below.

### **Accommodations/Room Rates**

The Lodge at Gulf State Park (A Hilton Hotel)

21196 East Beach Boulevard

Gulf Shores, Alabama 36542

(251)540-4000

Contact the hotel directly at 1-800-618-4350 or [click this link](#) to book the room online. Mention group code **DAI** to get the conference rate.



- A room rate of \$136 per night will be honored from May 22-24, 2023. Hotel room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes, which currently totals 15%.
- The last day to make room reservations at the conference rate is April 30, 2023.
- Check in time begins at 4:00 pm and check out time is by 11:00 am.

### **Transportation and Parking**

The nearest airport is Pensacola (FL) International Airport, which is about 40 miles away. Another option is Mobile Regional Airport, about 70 miles away. Highway traffic is likely to be worse between Mobile and Gulf Shores than between Pensacola and Gulf Shores. There are no shuttles between The Lodge at Gulf State Park and either of the above airports. Transportation to and from the airport and parking are the responsibility of the traveler. Parking options at The Lodge include self-parking (\$10 per night) and valet parking (\$20 per night, subject to change).

### **Member States**

Alabama – Arkansas – Florida – Georgia – Kentucky – Louisiana – Mississippi  
North Carolina – Oklahoma – Puerto Rico – South Carolina – Tennessee – Texas –  
Virginia



## Registration

To register online for the 2023 Southern Plant Board Meeting [Click here](#). Registration is only available online, and the deadline to receive the early registration rate is May 12, 2023.

The registration fee is \$475 until May 12, 2023. After that, the rate increases to \$500. No refunds will be available after May 12, 2023.

Questions concerning registration should be directed to the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (ADAI) at 334-240-7229. If you have questions concerning the meeting program those should be directed to Christel Stewart of ADAI at 334-240-7226.

## Meeting Schedule

Monday, May 22, 2023	Registration and Evening Reception
Tuesday, May 23, 2023	General Session and Breakout Sessions
Wednesday, May 24, 2023	Morning Sessions, Afternoon Activities
Thursday, May 25, 2023	Morning Sessions and Breakout Sessions - Annual Meeting Adjourns at Noon

## Climate

May is a great time to visit Gulf Shores. The average daily high temperature is usually comfortable in the low 80s.

## Door Prizes

If you would like to donate a door prize representing your state or agency, we will be collecting them at the Registration Desk.

## Contact Information

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Tim Reynolds at 334-240-7229.

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