

SOUTHERN INSECT MANAGEMENT
RESEARCH UNIT

USDA-ARS
Mid South Area

Mission

- *The mission of the Southern Insect Management Research Unit (SIMRU) is to generate new knowledge of arthropod pest biology, ecology and management and integrate this knowledge into contemporary farming systems that will promote economical and environmentally stable pest management practices for the southern U.S.*
- *The vision of SIMRU is to be a recognized center of innovation for negating agricultural pest problem through deployed scientific knowledge of pest biology, ecology and management options.*

CRIS PROJECT

Insecticide Resistance Management and New Control Strategies for Pests of Corn, Cotton, Sorghum, Soybean, and Sweetpotato

PROJECT INVESTIGATORS

- Clint Allen
- **Ryan Jackson (Project Leader)**
- Randall Luttrell
- OP Perera
- Gordon Snodgrass
- Yu Cheng Zhu

CRIS PROJECT

Control of Tarnished Plant Bugs by Biocontrol and Other Methods

PROJECT INVESTIGATORS

- Randall Luttrell
- Maribel Portilla
- **Gordon Snodgrass (Project Leader)**

CRIS PROJECT

Effect of Resistance on Insect Pest Management in Transgenic Cotton

PROJECT INVESTIGATORS

- Clint Allen
- Ryan Jackson
- Randall Luttrell
- OP Perera (Project Leader)

Welcome on Board Dr. Katherine Parys

- The USDA ARS Southern Insect Management Research Unit is pleased to welcome Dr. Katherine Parys to the Jamie Whitten Delta Station Research Station. Katherine will be working with the entire SIMRU research team to investigate the spatial ecology of the tarnished plant bug, *Lygus lineolaris*.

- Dr. Parys obtained her Ph.D. from the Department of Entomology at Louisiana State University in 2011, and worked on biological control of *Salvinia* and other aquatic weeds as well as biodiversity and community structure of insects associated with mats of aquatic invasive vegetation. She previously worked on projects in aquatic ecology, taxonomy, and science education and has a strong interest in scientific photography.

- You may contact Katherine by phone at 686-5275 or by email at katherine.parys@ars.usda.gov. In addition, her office located in Building 1 Room 441.



VISITORS Bayer Crop Science

- A group of scientists from Bayer Crops Science visited the Southern Insect Management Research Unit on August 23, 2012.
- The group included Guillermo Vidella, representing South America; Jose Sanchez and Veda Lisandro from Brazil; Ezequiel Bassi from Argentina; and Scott Baker, David Hughes, Gary Henniger, Kermit Price and Charles Cleary of Bayer Crop Science in the United States.
- Gordon Snodgrass and O.P. Perera provided an overview of their research, and Randy Luttrell gave a tour of the Unit's facilities.

Outreach Kenya Dixon, Randy Luttrell, Henry Winters and Essanya Winder

- Tuesday, August 23, 2012 the Southern Insect Management Research Unit assisted Dr. Craig Wilson of the USDA/HISNP Future Scientists Program with a Summer Institute training of ten science teachers from the Leland, Mississippi School District.
- Kenya Dixon and Randy Luttrell arranged for laboratory studies of corn earworm life stages and provided hands-on experience in sampling corn earworm in field cages and agricultural crops.
- Randy Luttrell gave a presentation on the Southern Insect Management Research Unit.
- Henry Winters and Essanya Winder organized a one-hour demonstration of insect rearing for the teachers in Southern Insect Management Research Unit rearing facility.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATION

- Maribel, Gordon, Flenadia, Arnell, and Yu Cheng

