



Presenters for 2020 TAWC Virtual Field Day



Mr. Bob Glodd

Bob is the president and founder of Agri-Search, Inc.- an independent research and consulting firm in Plainview, Texas. Agri-Search was founded in 1980 and is the oldest continuously operating independent agricultural research firm on the Texas High Plains. In addition to independent research trials, Bob serves as agricultural consultant and advises growers in Hale, Lamb, and Castro Counties on irrigation management, weed, insect, and disease control.

He has received numerous awards including Cotton Farming Magazine's "Cotton Consultant of the Year Award" and Texas Association of Agricultural Consultants – "Consultant of the Year Award." Bob served as an IPM Specialist with the

Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Georgetown, Texas. He Bob also served in the United States Army and received a bachelor's of science degree in entomology from Texas A&M University. He and his wife Barbara have raised two sons and live in Plainview, Texas.



Mr. Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller was born and raised in Plainview, TX and has been involved in agriculture his whole life. Jeff holds a BS in Integrated Pest Management from Texas Tech and an MS in Crop Physiology from Texas Tech.

Jeff is married to Kate and has 4 beautiful children. Jeff worked for 10 years with Deltapine/Monsanto in product development and worked 8 years with Pioneer in drought research, sales, and agronomy.

He founded Forefront Agronomy in 2017 to provide leading edge individualized agronomy insight and support to the growers of West Texas. There are many challenges in agriculture and by utilizing our partnerships with DuPont Pioneer,

CropMetrics, and 360 Yield Center we have the best support behind us to tackle these challenges and strive for profitability.



Dr. Veronica Acosta-Martinez

Dr. Acosta-Martinez's is originally from Puerto Rico and obtained her BS degree in Microbiology at the University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez. In 1997, she obtained her MS degree in Soil Science with specialty in Soil Microbiology from Purdue University, and in 2000 completed her PhD at Iowa State University in Soil Science with Soil Microbiology focus.

In 2001, she joined the USDA-ARS, Cropping Systems Research Lab in Lubbock TX. Her research is focused on obtaining a better understanding of the soil microbial component as affected by the complex interactions of management practices and climate extremes. She is also interested in soil microorganisms as indicators of soil health and functions related to biogeochemical cycling, organic matter dynamics, and productivity in semi-arid climates.



Mr. Shawn Wade

Shawn is Director of Policy Analysis and Research at Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. His primary responsibilities at PCG include farm policy, crop insurance, and research.

A Lubbock native, Wade came to PCG in 1991 as communications director after graduating from Texas Tech University with a degree in agricultural communications. In his twenty-plus years at PCG, Wade developed a keen interest in legislative and regulatory issues through his work in communications.

He monitors how current programs are working once they're passed and helps PCG members understand how they work and how proposed changes to those programs might impact them at the farm level. Wade also works closely with cotton researchers, helping to guide and advise on new projects that address key industry needs through programs such as the Plains Cotton Improvement Program and the Cotton Incorporated State Support Program.

Shawn and his wife, Melissa, live in Lubbock with their two daughters, Emily (21) a Senior Agricultural Communications major at Texas Tech and Rachel (17) a senior at the Margaret Talkington School for Young Women Leaders.



Mr. Jody James

Jody was born and raised in Granite, Oklahoma, and received his Meteorology degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1988. Jody James is a 28-year veteran of the National Weather Service. He worked for several years in TV as a broadcast meteorologist in Amarillo, Texas and Springfield, Missouri.

Jody has worked at the Lubbock National Weather Service Office since 1994 as a Journeyman and Senior Forecaster. Jody is currently in his 13th year serving as the Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the NWS Office in Lubbock.