

2018 Annual Conference

I hope everyone who attended the 2018 TAIA Annual Conference enjoyed the conference offerings. We had a record 69 companies that sponsored the conference. All the meeting rooms were fully used, and the attendance was up over last year. We would like to thank all of those who donated items for the live and silent auctions and those who purchased the items for the scholarship and for the Friends of Agriculture Pac Fund.

During the Business Meeting on Friday morning we had a great presentation on “Where We Are With Responsible Ag” by Bill Qualls with Responsible Ag. During the Business Meeting Chairman Noble Laminack presented the awards for 2018. The following awards were given to:

<p>Company of the Year A & L Plains Ag Labs</p>	
	<p>Member of the Year Jim Farley of Farley Farm Supply</p>
<p>The Environmental Leadership Award American Plant Food</p>	
	<p>Education Achievement Award Dr. Josh McGinty</p>

**Special Recognition Award
Lynae Austin**



Your new Texas Ag Industries Association Chairman is Matt Murphree with Heartland Tank Services, Inc. The new Vice- Chairman is Jim Farley of Farley Farm Supply, and Lynae Austin with Professional Turf Products is the new Secretary/Treasurer. Noble Laminack of Bayer becomes the past Chairman.

New members coming on the board include Rob Brooks, DowDuPont; Damon Crabtree; Syngenta, Jay Garretson, Winfield United; Josh Louder, Koch Agronomic Services; and Troy Miller, Bayer.

The Executive Committee consists of Mark Newman with Drexel Chemical, Brad Locke with Simplot Grower Solutions, and Justin Bellar with Texas Producers Coop.

Numerous dedicated board members terms were completed, retirement occurred or occupations changed to non ag related fields. Dr. Larry Unruh with American Plant Food and Charlie Grymes of Syngenta completed their terms. Bart Hunt of Potash Corp retired, and Ken Mull moved to a non ag related company. We thank all these gentlemen for their hard work on the TAIA board.

Again, we would like to thank everyone that sponsored and attended the Annual Conference. Next year's conference will again be held at the Crowne Plaza in Addison on January 16 – 18, 2019.

