



Preliminary Agenda
National Sweetpotato Convention
January 30 – Feb 1, 2022
Bellagio Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, NV

Sunday, Jan 30, 2022

8:00 am	Vendor set up
8:30 – 10:30 am	Board of Directors meeting, Michelangelo Room
11:00 – 1:30 pm	ASPMI Annual Meeting of the Membership, Michelangelo Room
Noon - 5:00 pm	Registration booth open
1:00 pm	Exhibit area opens
2:00 – 4:00 pm	USDA National Clean Plant Network (NCPN) Tier II meeting
4:00	Stakeholder Group meetings - CleanSeed, SCRI GRNN, US Industry
4:00 pm	Hospitality in exhibitor hall
5:00 - 7:00 pm	President's Reception - Dinner and show.

Monday, Jan 31, 2022

7:00 am	Breakfast Buffet, Grand Ballroom
8:00 am – 2:00 pm	Exhibit area open

General session – 8:00 am to 11:45 am – Grand Ballroom

Welcoming remarks. Darren Barfield, The Sweetpotato Council of CA

State highlights. NC, NJ, VA, TX, AL, LA, Canada

Intro to area. Bob Morris, extension horticulturist

Heavy metal Topics

- Arthur Villordan, LSU. Heavy metals in soils and sweetpotatoes research project.
- Food safety considerations with heavy metals. Gabriel Sandoval, Agriculture Food Safety Solutions

Processor Discussion & Updates

Announcements, dismissal. Lunch and Dinner on your own

9:00 am	Spouse/Guest tour – Meet for tour of Machine Gun Vegas or self-guided tour of Bellagio Botanical Gardens
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12:00 noon – 2:00 pm	No host bar and snacks in exhibitor room
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Tuesday, Feb 1, 2022

7:00 am Breakfast, Grand Ballroom

8:00 am – 1:30 pm Exhibitor area open

General session – 8:00 am to 11:45 am – Grand Ballroom

Opening and announcements

State highlights: AR, CA, MS, SC

Chris Clark, LSU - Clean Seed report and the NCPN

Craig Yencho, NCSU - New SCRI grant and future stakeholder involvement

Scott Stoddard, UC Cooperative Extension

California dreamin': Production challenges and innovations

Don LaBonte, LSU - New Variety testing

Kay Rentzel, U.S. Sweet Potato Council. Nelson marketing report, heavy metals and social media, and business meeting

Lunch -on your own

Afternoon open

1:30 pm Exhibit area closed/vendor clean up.

5:30 pm Reception

6:30 pm Banquet – Distinguished Service Award, Speaker & Entertainment

Spouse/Guest Program

Monday, January 31

9:00 am – 12:00 noon Machine Gun Vegas. Buses start loading at 9:00 am. An indoor shooting range experience. Waiver required, which can be found at the MGTV website. Dress for the event! While inside, the room will still be cold. Snacks and refreshments on site.

Tuesday, February 1

8:00 am – 10:00 am Docents lead tours of the Bellagio Botanical Gardens. The Gardens are open all day for self-guided tours.