



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
11:00 – 1:30 pm	ASPMI Annual Meeting of the Membership
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
6:00 pm	President's Reception - Dinner and show.

Monday, Jan 31, 2022

7:00 am	Breakfast
8:00 am – 1:30 pm	Exhibit area open

General session – 8:00 am to 11:45 am

Welcoming remarks. Darren Barfield, The Sweetpotato Council of CA

State highlights. NJ, VA, SC, TX, AL, AR, 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

9:30 am	Spouse/Guest tour - Bellagio Botanical Gardens or load busses for short drive to the Gardens at the Spring Preserve.
---------	--

Tuesday, Feb 1, 2022

7:00 am Breakfast
8:00 am – 1:30 pm Exhibitor area open

General session – 8:00 am to 11:45 am

Opening and announcements

State highlights: CA, LA, MS, NC

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