

**BY-LAWS**  
**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS, INC.**  
(Formerly, Association of Southern Agricultural Workers, Inc.)

Adopted at Jackson, Mississippi, February 7, 1961  
Amended at Atlanta, Georgia, February 6, 1963  
Amended at Atlanta, Georgia, February 6, 1973 (to SAAS)(Note 1)  
Amended at New Orleans, Louisiana, January 29, 1995  
Amended at Little Rock, Arkansas, February 06, 2005

**Foreword**

Under different names, the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers, Inc., has been in existence since 1899. The Association is incorporated under the laws of South Carolina. It has striven to forward the interests of Southern agriculture by bringing agricultural leaders in the field of education and industry together; to instruct and train individuals for the purpose of improving or developing their capabilities relating to educational activities in service to the public arena and to offer young scientists an opportunity to present papers resulting from their research, extension or other efforts and to exchange knowledge with other leaders. It is believed that the Association can continue to serve in these and other ways. With agriculture declining in relative importance to industry, there is need for an organization dedicated to representing and supporting agriculture on an industry-wide basis in the South; to encourage young people to avail themselves of the opportunities of serving agriculture; to helping bring about the best possible working relationship between various agricultural organizations, agencies and agriculturally related industries; and to promote representation by Southern agriculture on national boards and commissions. To accomplish these and other desirable ends, the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists, Inc. is organized with the following articles as a basis for operating.

**Article I**

The name of the corporate association shall be Association of Southern Agricultural Workers, Inc.

Amended February 6, 1963, to change name of organization to Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists, Inc.

**Article II**

The principal place of business of the corporate association shall be: c/o The School of Agriculture, Clemson College, Clemson, South Carolina.

The principal place of business for the corporate association shall be: c/o the president and the secretary-treasurer.

### **Article III**

Any person in the South, including Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia engaged in agricultural research, agricultural teaching or agricultural extension in the schools, colleges or state or Federal experiment stations in this territory and any person in the employ of state, Federal or commercial organizations and who devotes a part or all of his time to the furtherance of agricultural development in the South shall be privileged to attend the meetings of this association and participate in the discussions. Upon the payment of dues by the organization he represents, he shall automatically be a member of the Association with full voting powers.

A. The South as defined includes 14 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The following states are considered in the region: Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma.

B. Upon payment of the registration fee, a person shall be a member of the Association with full voting power.

### **Article IV**

The officers of this association shall be the president and vice-president - both elected annually -, past president and a secretary-treasurer. The secretary-treasurer will be selected by the Board of Directors and employed by the Association as a consultant. The president and vice-president shall not be eligible to succeed themselves.

### **Article V**

The President, Vice-President, Past-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and active president and retiring president, or their designated proxy, of each sanctioned section within the Association shall constitute the Board of Directors, which shall be the governing body of the Association. The term of office of each member of the Board of Directors shall begin immediately upon the election of officers of the Association, and expire with the selection of their successors.

### **Article VI**

The President, Vice-President, Past-President, and one retiring section officer to be elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting shall constitute the Executive Committee. This position shall be called Member at Large.

### **Article VII**

Section 1 - President - It shall be the duty of the President of the Association to preside at all regular or special meetings of the Association, and the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. The President of the Association shall be the spokesman for the Association in matters of policy approved by the Board or the Executive Committee.

Section 2 - Vice-President - It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform all the duties of the president in the absence of the latter, to serve as ex-officio member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, and perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee.

Section 3 - Secretary-Treasurer - It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to handle the general affairs of the Association, arrange for meeting places for the holding of conventions, appoint a local arrangements committee, assist the President in preparing the program and publication of the same, keep in touch with the sectional officers and the general activities of the Association, and promote attendance at the forthcoming convention. He shall collect membership fees and solicit new memberships, account for all sums received, and make disbursements as required. At the expense of the Association the Treasurer shall be placed under bond of \$50,000 as prescribed by the Executive Committee. Funds of the Association shall be carried on deposit in a Federal Depository Insured Corporation bank designated by him which has approval of the Executive Committee and checks drawn against these funds shall be required to show only the signature of the Secretary- Treasurer and his official connection with the Association. Records covering all disbursements must be kept on file subject to examination by the auditing committee. The fiscal year of the Association shall be from January 16th to the next January 15th.

### **Article VIII**

It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to promote the work of the Association and to develop it along lines thought to be of greatest value to the largest number of agricultural workers in the South. The Board of Directors shall have supervision over the work of all officers and in the event any duly elected officer shall fail to fulfill the obligations of his office, the Board of Directors shall have authority to discharge said officer and elect another to take over his duties. In view of the difficulties of getting a full meeting of the Board of Directors at times other than during the regular session of the Association, the Executive Committee shall be charged with the responsibility for carrying out the policies of the Board of Directors during the interim when the board cannot meet. In the absence of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall have the power to conduct official business of the Association and to perform any of the duties regularly performed by the Board of Directors.

### **Article IX**

Regular meetings of the Association shall be held annually on the dates and the place to be fixed by the Executive Committee. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the President, with the expressed approval of a majority of the Board of Directors. Twenty-five members consisting of members from at least five sections shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special meeting of the Association.

### **Article X**

At least thirty days prior to the annual meeting, the President shall appoint the following committees - Resolutions, Nominating, and Auditing. These committees shall perform the tasks assigned to such committees.

## **Article XI**

Subject matter sections of the Association active at the time of approval of these articles shall be continued subject to future action by the Board of Directors. Subject matter sections in addition to those now existing may be added upon a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the Executive Committee. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to withdraw the privilege of membership from sections that fail to meet the objectives of the Association. The following sections have been approved:

Academic Department Heads  
Administrative Heads Section  
Agricultural Economics  
Agricultural Education  
Agronomy  
Agricultural Communications  
Animal Science  
Biochemistry  
Horticulture  
Plant Pathology  
Southern Section of the Soil and Water Conservation Society of America  
Research Centers Administrators Society  
Southern Rural Sociological Association

Amended February 06, 2005 to add Administrative Heads Section and removed Dairy Science and Southern Regional Sections of the Institute of Food Technologist.

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## **Article XII**

SAAS fees will be determined by the SAAS Board (or Executive Committee) one year in advance.

After paying the registration fees set by SAAS all registrants of dues-paying organizations are automatically entitled to all of the privileges of membership, including voting.

Individuals not connected with any organization may participate in the meetings of the Association after paying any registration fee set by the Executive Committee.

Amended February 6, 1963, to read "payment of annual registration fees will entitle all registrants to full membership in the Association."

## **Article XIII**

These articles may be amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote of the members present and voting, provided that a copy of a proposed amendment has been sent to each member of the Board of Directors 10 days prior to the date of the meeting at which the amendment would be voted upon. Amendments voted upon without previous notice to the Board of Directors shall become effective only after approval by a majority oral or written vote of the Board of Directors.

#### **Article XIV**

The Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall have authority to decide any question not covered by or clarified by these articles.

Not a part of the bylaws - for information only:

Some previous copies of the bylaws showed an amendment in Orlando in 1982. No changes were made - only brought before the board. The first change since incorporation was the change in name from the Southern Agricultural Workers to Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists. This was done in 1973. Several small changes were made in Little Rock, 1990 with the desire to qualify for a redetermination of exemption status to an educational tax exempt organization. (Did not succeed - IRS ruled against SAAS)  
Fort Worth - 1992 Deleted Ag Engineering Section