

ISSN: 1936-6019

[www.midsouthentomologist.org.msstate.edu](http://www.midsouthentomologist.org.msstate.edu)

## Dedication of Special Issue Honoring Dr. Gordon Snodgrass

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This special issue of Midsouth Entomologist is dedicated to, and in honor of, Dr. Gordon Snodgrass' work on tarnished plant bug (TPB), *Lygus lineolaris* (Palisot de Beauvois). The foundation of this collection of articles is the proceedings of a symposium given at the Mississippi Entomological Association's 2013 annual meeting to explore management of TPB in Mississippi. Additional articles were solicited from researchers across Mississippi who have worked on TPB alongside Dr. Snodgrass. These articles serve to celebrate Dr. Snodgrass' long and distinguished career as a researcher working on TPB, on occasion of his retirement from the United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS).

Dr. Snodgrass attended Arkansas Tech University on a football scholarship (Fig. 1), where he was all-conference from 1966-1968. He graduated with a degree in Biology in 1968. After graduating, he taught Biology and Science at Lepanto High School, as well as serving as both a football and a track coach. He returned to school to attend graduate school at Mississippi State University, where he pursued a major in Entomology and a minor in Plant Pathology, receiving a master degree in 1977, and a Ph.D. in 1979. He began his career as an entomologist working at the (USDA-ARS) Boll Weevil Research Laboratory in Starkville, MS as a postdoctoral associate.



**Figure 1.** Gordon Snodgrass pictured in Arkansas Tech uniform in 1966 where he attended with a football scholarship.

He continued working for USDA-ARS in Stoneville, MS, as part of the Southern Field Crop Insect Management Laboratory (now the Southern Insect Research Management Unit), in 1981, and subsequently spent 33 years researching TPB (Fig. 2). He retired in early 2014. In over three decades of research on TPB, Dr. Snodgrass has witnessed eradication of the boll weevil and introduction of transgenic cotton, leading to TPB being the primary pest of cotton across the Mid-south.



**Figure 2.** Dr. Gordon Snodgrass pictured in his lab in Stoneville, Mississippi.

In addition to countless peer reviewed papers, he has been an active member of the Mississippi Entomological Association, the Entomological Society of America, and the Mid-south Cotton Entomologist Working Group. He has served as both Vice-President and President of the Mississippi Entomological Association in addition to receiving the Research Service Award in 1994. He has presented or co-authored more than 86 presentations at scientific meetings, and was invited to present his research on more than 45 occasions at symposia, seminars, and workshops. Dr. Snodgrass has been a mentor and friend to many scientists, technicians, students, and other members of the USDA family.

Midsouth Entomologist is honored to present this collection of articles, anchored by Dr. Snodgrass' article, "Highlights of 30 years of research on TPB in the Mississippi Delta."

