

Academy of Fellows

Charles Gilliam

Professor, Department of Horticulture

Fellow, International Plant Propagators Society, 2006



Charles Gilliam grew up on a farm in Lexington, Tenn., and attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he received his bachelor's degree in agriculture education. As an undergraduate, Gilliam was employed as a work-study student at the university's greenhouse. Gilliam continued his education at Virginia Tech, where he earned his master's and doctoral degrees in horticulture. After receiving his Ph.D., he worked at The Ohio State University for three years before joining the Auburn faculty in 1980, where he was promoted to full professor in 1989.

In his 30 years at Auburn, Gilliam has been extremely active in both the college and the horticultural industry as a whole. Working in various positions throughout the department, including serving as department head from 2000 to 2005, Gilliam represented the college on numerous committees, many of which he continues to be active on today.

He is closely involved with the Southern Nurserymen's Association and received the Porter Henegar Award in 1991 for his outstanding contributions to ornamental horticultural

research. From 1998 to 1999, Gilliam served as president of the Southern Region International Plant Production Society, and received the prestigious Sydney B. Meadows Award from the same organization in 2005.

Gilliam works in two main areas of research in the department of horticulture, including weed control and alternative substrates for nursery crops. In his work with the IR-4 project, Gilliam has conducted more than 700 weed trials covering more than 70 weed control products. He also works with the Horticulture Research Institute on both weed control and alternative substrate projects.

