**17th Annual Conservation in Action Tour – Draft Agenda**

***Diversity in Conservation: People, Crops, Technology***

**Arkansas**

**June 10-11, 2024**

5:00 PM: Cocktail Hour & Live Music, B.B. King’s Blues Club, Beale St. Memphis

6:00 PM Dinner & Program

* Adam Herges, CTIC Board Chair & The Mosaic Company, Ruby Sponsor
* Ducks Unlimited Leader- Welcome to Memphis! Ruby Sponsor
* Caydee Savinelli, Syngenta, Ruby Sponsor
* Carolyn Jones, Director, Mississippi Minority Farmers Alliance

8:00 -9:00 PM Open Bar & Live Music

**Tuesday, June 11, 2024: Conservation in Action Tour**

7:00 AM: Registration & Bag Handout at Hyatt Centric Hotel Memphis- *Coffee bar provided.*

7:30 AM: Bus Departs

8:20 AM: Ellis Bell Farm | Forrest City, AR | *Breakfast Refreshments Available*

* Welcome to Arkansas - Mike Sullivan, Arkansas State Conservationist, NRCS and Angela Biggs, Deputy Chief Management & Strategy, NRCS Washington D.C.
* "Ellis Bell Farm History and Conservation Portfolio" by Ellis Bell
* “SHI and the US Regenerative Cotton Fund’s Work in Arkansas” by Emily Ball, Soil Health Educator with Soil Health Institute
* TBD- Farm Credit Mid-America

10:45 AM: Scott Matthews Farm | Weiner, AR

* “A Deep Look at Smart Irrigation Rice Systems" by Scott Matthews
* “Soil Health Challenges & Successes in Arkansas” by Brad & Joyce Doyle, 2024 Conservation Legacy Award Winners
* “Water Management Science & Technology” by Dr. Michele Reba, Research Hydrologist, USDA ARS & Dr. Joe Massey, Research Agronomist & Jeff Fore, Director of Agriculture, Arkansas Chapter of The Nature Conservancy

11:55 AM: Lunch- *Sponsored by Farm Credit Mid-America*

Farmer Panel: "A deep dive into Arkansas agriculture” moderated by Debbie Moreland, Arkansas Association of Soil Conservation Districts

*Featuring: Jennifer James, Clay Smith, P.J. Haynie*

2:20 PM: Holthouse Farm Shop | Osceola, AR

* "Ag Tech & Sustainability" by Travis Senter & Chase Chafin
* “Conservation Programs from a Farmer’s Perspective” by Ryan Sullivan

5:00 – 7:00 PM: After Tour Social at Rooftop Lounge at Hyatt Centric Memphis | *Appetizers and open bar available*

* “Tour Reflections & Learnings” by Martie Templeton, Manager Sustainable Ag U.S. East Region, Nutrien Ag Solutions
* CTIC Hall of Fame Award Presentation
* 2025 tour announcement