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**WOMAN OF
THE YEAR
IN AGRICULTURE**

Dr. Jennifer Taylor



WOMAN OF THE YEAR IN AGRICULTURE LUNCHEON

February 10, 2020

WELCOME

Commissioner Nikki Fried

COLORS PRESENTATION

Riverview HS NJROTC

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Taryn Storter

Vice President

Hillsborough County FFA Federation

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Kata Mullerleile

Vice President, Florida 4-H State Council

INVOCATION

Doyle Carlton III

Chairman, Florida State Fair Authority

— LUNCH —

A decorative border on the left and right sides of the page, featuring stylized illustrations of various agricultural products including grapes, apples, and leafy vegetables in shades of green and yellow.

INTRODUCTION OF HEAD TABLE

Commissioner Nikki Fried

SPONSOR REMARKS

Danielle Daum, Chair
Women's Leadership Committee
Florida Farm Bureau

RECOGNITION OF FORMER WOMEN OF THE YEAR IN AGRICULTURE

Commissioner Nikki Fried

RECOGNITION OF DR. JENNIFER TAYLOR 2019 WOMAN OF THE YEAR IN AGRICULTURE

Commissioner Nikki Fried

CLOSING REMARKS

Commissioner Nikki Fried

The Woman of the Year in Agriculture is an award
designated by the Florida Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services



Since 1985, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida State Fair Authority have recognized the significant contributions of women in the agriculture industry with the "Woman of the Year in Agriculture" award. I am proud to honor Dr. Jennifer Taylor with this distinguished award in recognition of her outstanding work to advance Florida agriculture.

First and foremost, Dr. Taylor is an organic farmer, and farming is a family tradition. Her 32 acres in Glenwood, Georgia was formerly her grandmother's farm. Named in her honor, Lola's Organic Farm has been producing a diverse harvest of organic fruits, vegetables, and specialty crops since 2010. Dr. Taylor's farm also operates as a learning center for other growers in the region. She hosts widely-attended demonstrations on organic farming practices and workshops on navigating federal certification and grants.

Dr. Taylor studied agronomy at Florida A&M and Iowa State universities, earning her doctorate at Virginia Tech. Today, she is an associate professor at FAMU's College of Agriculture and Food Sciences and a small farm specialist in the CAFS Cooperative Extension Program.

Through her work in the extension program, Dr. Taylor developed the Statewide Small Farm Program. Providing hands-on training to underserved farming communities, the program focuses on sustainability and alternative food systems.

The Growers' Market in Tallahassee is the result of Dr. Taylor's efforts to strengthen the connection between organic farmers and the community. Started fifteen years ago, it is the only all-organic market in the state.

Throughout her career, Dr. Taylor has served on several industry committees. For five years, she served as the Chair on the National Organic Standards Board Material Committee for the USDA National Organic Program. She also served on the USDA Advisory Committee for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers. She currently serves as the southern region representative on the Organic Farmers Association, and in 2018 she was appointed to serve in a leadership position on the Cornucopia Institute's Policy Advisory Panel.

Dr. Taylor recently received the Rodale Institute's Organic Pioneer Award for her contributions to the organic farming movement.

Dr. Jennifer Taylor joins 35 other women who have earned the respect and admiration of their peers by making outstanding contributions to Florida agriculture. Therefore, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Dr. Taylor on being named the 2019 "Woman of the Year in Agriculture."

Sincerely,

Nicole Fried

Nicole "Nikki" Fried
Commissioner of Agriculture





Recognizing that most agricultural research and development is targeted to large-scale operations, Dr. Jennifer Taylor (right) strives to provide industry knowledge, hands-on training, and technical assistance to small-scale and family farms like those run by Isreal Artzi (left).



About 90% of Florida farms are small-scale operations. In her role as small farm specialist in Florida A & M University's Cooperative Extension Program, Dr. Taylor finds new ways to assist these underserved farming communities.

A farmer and educator, Dr. Taylor is an ambassador for the organic movement employing the same organic farming methods used by her grandmother.



Organic farmers like Sundiata El (left) benefit from the FAMU Statewide Small Farm Program, a participatory, sustainable farm development program created by Dr. Taylor.



A small-scale USDA certified organic farmer, Dr. Taylor enthusiastically shares her knowledge with other small farmers like Roy Tabbyite (above left) and Susan Anderson (above right).



To better connect small organic farmers like Yocheved Artzi (right) with their local communities, Dr. Taylor started The Growers' Market model in 2005, offering the public access to fresh, local, organically grown produce.

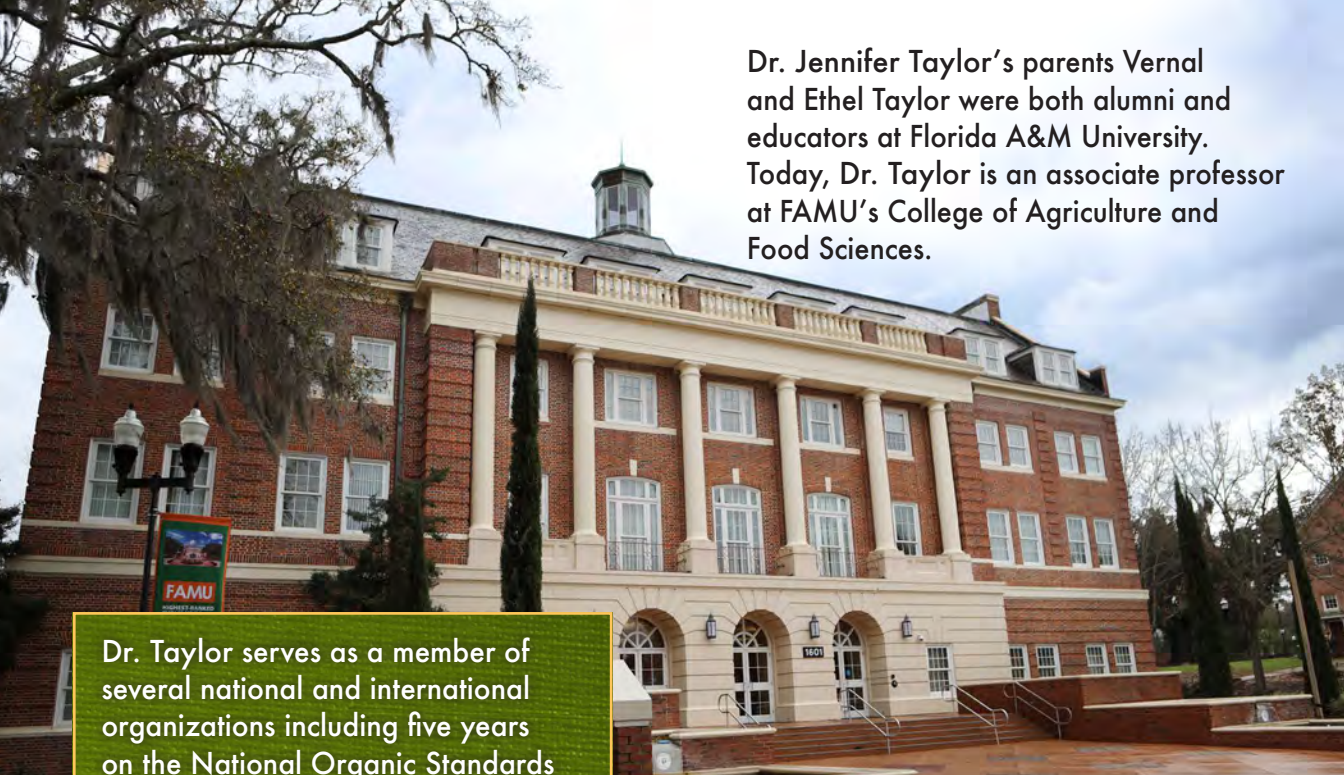


Ann Tucker (above left), Chairwoman of the Muscogee Nation of Florida's tribal council, discusses the role agriculture plays in many Native American traditions and ceremonies. It is also key to the community's health.



Dr. Taylor has been working with the tribal council to convert nine acres into a diverse, self-sufficient food system.

Dr. Taylor and Chris DeBeaux (right) view crops in one of the Tribe's greenhouses.



Dr. Jennifer Taylor's parents Vernal and Ethel Taylor were both alumni and educators at Florida A&M University. Today, Dr. Taylor is an associate professor at FAMU's College of Agriculture and Food Sciences.



Dr. Taylor serves as a member of several national and international organizations including five years on the National Organic Standards Board. In 2019, she received the Rodale Institute's Organic Pioneer Award, and today sits on the Rodale Institute's Board of Directors.



While a strong supporter of the greater statewide and national agriculture community, Dr. Taylor remains deeply committed to helping organic farmers and underserved small-scale farming populations.



Previous Winners

Woman of the Year in Agriculture

1985

Jo Ann Smith

1986

Ruth Wedgworth

1987

Dorothy Conner Shipes

1988

Carolyn Reed Kempfer

1989

Belle Jeffords

1990

Jeanette Barthle

1991

Ruth M. Tucker

1992

Carol C. Murphy

1993

Sarah W. Bailey

1994

Anne Wardlaw Dickinson

1995

Louve "Vee" Frierson Platt
and Patricia Robbins

1996

Norma Stokes

1997

Gertrude "Trudy" Carey

1998

Nancy Gurnett Hardy

1999

Vina Jean Banks

2000

Helen Houck

2001

Barbara Carlton

2002

Annette Barnett

2003

Jennie Lee Zipperer

2004

Martina "Teena" Borek

2005

Marlene Strickland

2006

Iris Pollock Wall

2007

Colleen H. Boggs

2008

Patsy Nathe

2009

Marcia Lightsey

2010

Ann Holt

2011

Sarah K. Childs

2012

Imogene Yarborough

2013

Lynetta Usher Griner

2014

Belinda Chason

2015

Lisa Hinton

2016

Judi Whitson

2017

Dr. Martha Roberts

2018

Dr. Ann Blount

FLORIDA STATE FAIR AUTHORITY

COMMISSIONER NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED

DOYLE E. CARLTON III

LINDA SYFRETT

JOHN "JACK" T. VOGEL

RICHARD E. BOWMAN

DERRICK BROOKS

CHARLES "CHUCK" BRUNO

BOB BUCKHORN

SUSANNE CLEMONS

JOHN DICKS, JR.

RYAN W. DOYLE

EVE GLOEDE

ALEX JOHNS

ARTHA JONASSAINT

MARCIA LIGHTSEY

MALLORY LYKES DIMMITT

A.D. "SANDY" MACKINNON

HONORABLE LES MILLER

HOLLY MILLER MOORE



Florida Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services



WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

FLORIDA
STATE FAIR

