



DR. MICHAEL DIRR FEATURED SPEAKER AT CONVENTION 2006 IN SPARTANBURG

What a super major attraction the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club has obtained for the April 2006 convention—Dr. Michael A. Dirr, teacher, writer, researcher, lecturer, known really world-wide and one of the most humorous and energetic speakers around.

Mike will not only sell you on the value of trees and other woody ornamentals, but will teach you the newest and the best cultivars for your home landscape and for your community beautification projects.

Recently retired as a full professor at the University of Georgia, he continues his research and teaching, and has expanded his nationwide lecturing.

Mike knows Spartanburg well. He is a respected consultant to Mr. Roger Milliken in developing the famous Milliken Arboretum (you will visit it), lead in planning the second-generation treescaping of the Wofford College campus (and you probably will walk this beautiful campus) and was important in designing the many treescapes and garden area of the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport (you will see much of this if you fly in to Spartanburg). In addition, he was instrumental in guiding the local Noble Tree Foundation, and is intimately familiar with many of the community's other unique private/public landscape initiatives that we want to share with convention attendees. As you know, the theme of the convention is "Enhancing the Enhancements"—it continues to improve!

The writer agrees with hydrangea expert Eddie Aldridge as quoted in the July/August issue of *Horticulture Magazine*—Mike Dirr is an impassioned (and the convention will experience this Dirr passion and enthusiasm in Spartanburg!) researcher, teacher, writer, and recipient of dozens of prestigious honors for outstanding contributions to horticultural education, research, and advancement. Dr. Dirr's *Manual of Wood Landscape Plants* is truly every nurseryman's (and many gardeners') "bible"—it is undoubtedly the country's most utilized horticultural teaching and reference text. And his *Reference Manual of Wood Plant Propagation* is essential for propagators (and for all gardeners who take propagation seriously). His more recent *Dirr's Hardy Trees and Shrubs* features Mike's engaging and humorous style and it is illustrated with hundreds of his excellent photographs. And he has now published a CD-ROM with even more of his plant photographs.

Read the exciting article in *Horticulture Magazine* [Click Here – July/August 05](#) and the detailed 2003 biography [Click Here – Dirr Biography](#). You will surely want to be in Spartanburg April 20-22, 2006 to hear and associate with this outstanding gardener.

And you know, we encourage you to "come early and stay late", to visit the many garden-related sites, not only in and around Spartanburg, but in the Carolinas. More on these opportunities later.