



Agroforestry News from the Atlantic and Quebec

About this Newsletter

Have you ever heard of Elzéar Bouffier? He's the shepherd in Jean Giono's book¹, who started planting oak, beech, and maple trees because he felt "this country was dying for lack of trees." A few years later, as a result of his steadfast efforts, water reappeared, as did "willows, meadows, gardens, flowers, and a certain reason to live."

This story, of course, is fiction. However, there are Elzéar Bouffiers in every corner of the world. Quebec and the Atlantic provinces are no exception. These men and women recognize one another. For years they have worked toward realizing the same vision of a landscape where the close tie between trees and agriculture helps diversify earnings, enrich ecosystems, and improve the well-being of rural communities.

¹Jean Giono, *The Man Who Planted Trees*. http://home.in-fomaniak.ch/~arboretum/man_tree.htm

The Quebec and Atlantic regions of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada have initiated this newsletter in response to our common need to share information and experience. However, the newsletter goes a step further by encouraging networking among agroforesters, be they producers, researchers, or consultants. It aims to bring together players in all sectors concerned: agriculture, forestry, land management, rural development, and others. This current issue is the first of two pilot publications. Depending on the interest and response it elicits, we will make a decision regarding the content, format, and frequency of the newsletter. We salute the men and women who pioneered agroforestry, without whom this newsletter would not have been possible, as well as all the other people who have contributed.

Happy reading!

Stéphane Gariépy
Chris Pharo

Agroforestry

Agroforestry is an integrated system of rural land resource management based on combining shrubs and trees with crops and/or livestock, whose interactions generate economic, environmental and social benefits².

- In Eastern Canada, the agroforestry practices most likely to be adopted are:
- Shelterbelts and windbreaks;
 - Riparian forest buffers;
 - Alley cropping (trees or shrubs and crops);
 - Understory crops;
 - Silvopastoral systems;
 - Short-rotation intensive silviculture.

Agroforestry includes the production of timber and non-timber forest products (NFTP) and provides a wide range of environmental goods and services such as water and air quality improvement, soil conservation, habitat and landscape enhancement and carbon sequestration. Through the numerous combinations it allows, agroforestry offers new production models that draw from both agriculture and forestry and are in keeping with the goal of integrated management of rural areas and communities.

²De Baets, Gariépy et Vézina. 2007. *Portrait of agroforestry in Quebec - Executive summary*. <http://www.agrireseau.qc.ca/agroforesterie/>

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Winds from Quebec

Forests/Blueberries: A Way to Increase Production on the Same Hectare of Forest

Unlike traditional blueberry fields, the forest/blueberry production model helps meet a number of sustainable development criteria, because it allows increased yields per hectare while protecting biodiversity and the landscape. *Forêt modèle du Lac-Saint-Jean* is carrying out two projects using the forest/blueberry concept. The first promotes the development of a collective blueberry farm network. The second will document the nesting biology of Connecticut warblers, a bird whose ecology is not well-known.

A forest/blueberry operation featuring 60-meter-wide blueberry field strips alternating with 42-meter-wide forest strips developed for intensive timber production is a good example of harmonizing production practices.



Aerial view of a forest/blueberry operation in Normandin, Lac-Saint-Jean. Photo: Forêt modèle du Lac-Saint-Jean.

This concept emerged in the early 2000s north of Lac-Saint-Jean in order to cultivate blueberries on public lands while maintaining forestry potential. Following a call for proposals by *Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune* on

August 15, 2008, the proposal by the Maria-Chapdelaine corporations in the Sainte-Élizabeth-de-Proulx sector was selected. According to *Forêt modèle du Lac-Saint-Jean* project manager Luc Simard, “this first collective blueberry farm will allow the development of a network of blueberry collectives on *Forêt modèle du Lac-Saint-Jean* land.”

In addition, preliminary results suggest the forest/blueberry model would be a suitable habitat for Connecticut warblers. Work during the summer months has uncovered the first three nests of this species to be found in Quebec since 1976. In a sustainable development context, forest/blueberry farms are a great first step towards harmonious and equitable development of our forest environment.

For more information about *Forêt modèle du Lac-Saint-Jean* projects, visit: <http://www.foretmodeledulacsaintjean.ca>

Source: Guillaume Roy
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Concerted Development of Agroforestry in Quebec’s Eastern Townships Region

Agroforestry is expanding in the Eastern Townships. To better direct this expansion and share regional expertise, a number of stakeholders have set up a round table.

The group is composed mainly of representatives from local development centers, regional county municipalities, *Ministère de l’Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l’Alimentation du Québec*, *Coopérative la Clé des champs de St-Camille*, *Filière des plantes médicinales biologiques du*

Québec, *Association forestière des Cantons-de-l’Est*, *Agence de mise en valeur de la forêt privée de l’Estrie*, *Érabièrre-école de St-Romain*, *Commission régionale des ressources naturelles et du territoire de l’Estrie* and agricultural businesses. The group has met several times to establish a two-year development plan for production, processing, and marketing.

An initial information day was organized on medicinal plant extraction and processing methods. In 2008, seven projects were undertaken in the Eastern Townships, from validating agroforestry potential to setting up medicinal plant demonstration sites. In all, 2,500 nut trees (walnut and oak) and 8,000 m² of medicinal plants were planted (ginseng, goldenseal, black cohosh, sanguinarine, asarum). A 700 ha area of woodland is presently being characterized and studied with respect to its potential.

For more information about the round table, you can contact Luc Fontaine, Agronomist, MAPAQ-*Direction régionale de l’Estrie*, 819-820-3001 # 223, or luc.fontaine@mapaq.gouv.qc.ca

If you wish to know more about agroforestry projects under way in the Eastern Townships, please contact Stéphane Demers, Agroforestry Manager, *Coopérative La Clé des Champs de St-Camille*, at 819-828-0520.

Source: Luc Fontaine
MAPAQ-*Direction régionale de l’Estrie*, for the *Table régionale de l’Estrie en agroforesterie*.

Winds from Quebec (continued)

Birth of a Nut Producers Association in Quebec

The enthusiasm of prospective nut producers led to the creation of *Club des producteurs de noix comestibles du Québec* in January 2008. Giulio Neri and Bernard Contré were the instigators of a group that now includes more than 90 members from a number of regions in the province.

Like other associations in eastern North America, the club seeks to guide and encourage prospective producers and amateurs, and to share information on nut tree propagation and cultivation. Currently, the club is concentrating its efforts on training activities (workshops, plantation visits) and improving plant supply. The club's interests include practical aspects of production, such as harvesting and shelling nuts, as well as seed and plant exchange.

In Quebec, careful selection of hardy, high yielding tree varieties allows the successful cultivation of a number of nut types. The adoption of these varieties that are sufficiently hardy or adaptable represents an agricultural novelty in Quebec. Varieties considered marginal in warmer areas could become "champions" or commercial best-sellers in Quebec, a province where most nuts in the marketplace are currently imported. Hazelnuts and hybrid chestnuts are the best example of this. Quebec consumers, who are less demanding about grade, like the size of these nuts.

So-called "hard" nuts, such as butternuts (white walnuts) and black walnuts have a high nutritional value and a very enjoyable taste. In this case, progress needs to be made in the area of processing (cleaning, shelling). Other high potential but

hardy species are being neglected at the present time: Korean pine, ginkgo, and various hickories.



Nut products from Québec. Photo: Stéphane Gariépy.

A long period of observation, evaluation, and selection followed by a promotional campaign to propagate them will allow us to move forward in exploiting the real potential of nut trees in Quebec. The club is already relying on producers and collaborators from other associations for technical support, creativity, and sharing of "extra hardy" varieties. We invite all interested parties—whether farm operators or experimenters—to join us.

For more information:
[www.lafeuillee.com/
informations/cpncq.htm](http://www.lafeuillee.com/informations/cpncq.htm)

Source: Giulio D. Neri
Club des producteurs de noix comestibles du Québec, g.neri@xittel.ca

Workshop on Mushroom Production on Logs in Centre-du-Québec Region

In Chesterville on October 18, *Regroupement agroforestier centricois* (RAC) invited interested members to take part in an introductory fall workshop on growing mushrooms on logs.

About 15 members enthusiastically participated in the activity, which featured a demonstration that helped them learn the basics of this special technique and will also allow them to experiment in their own wooded areas.

RAC also took the opportunity to give members the latest information on cultivating ginseng; some members are already actively engaged in this agroforestry activity. RAC is closely following the new rules affecting exports to ensure that members are not penalized at harvesting and marketing time.

Lastly, participants learned about the installation of *Freegro* young tree protectors on Serge Comtois's wooded area. Mr. Comtois is vice president of the group that hosted the get-together.

Source: Gilles Théberge,
RAC president; 819-344-2651
gilles.theberge@tlb.sympatico.ca



Workshop participants gathered around an inoculated log. Photo: Gilles Théberge.

Waves From the Atlantic

Willow in Riparian Areas Provide Opportunities for Biomass Production and Environmental Protection

Agriculture and Agri-food Canada has teamed up with the PEI Soil and Crop Improvement Association in establishing two demonstration sites to evaluate the potential of willows to reduce soil erosion, absorb excess nutrients in riparian areas and serve as a source of on-farm renewable energy. Willow has been grown as a source of biomass in Europe for many years.



The West River experimental site. Photo: Brad Scheuermann.

As the cost of fossil fuels continues to fluctuate, farmers are increasingly interested in exploring sources of on-farm renewable energy. Willows may fit the bill as they have similar BTU value to many species of hardwood but, unlike hardwoods, willow can be harvested every three years. Willows are also very good at soaking up excess nutrients in the soil that crops don't use.

Traditionally, willows for biomass production are grown in monoculture plantation style production systems. The objective of this project is to evaluate the effectiveness of willows in riparian zones as filters to decrease nutrient leaching and surface run-off into watercourses. Characteristically, riparian edges are highly productive due to consistent water availability.



Willow clone trial. Photo: Chris Pharo.

Therefore, biomass yields should be attractive.

The two demonstration sites were established in June, 2006 on a hog operation and a potato operation. The site on the hog operation is next to the West River and consists of three separate plots with both native and non-native species of willow. The plots include more traditional plantings of hardwoods and, as comparison to the willows, of shrubs such as serviceberry, chokecherry and hazelnuts which have the potential to provide economic return to the producer.

The second site located in a riparian area of the Dunk River has been planted exclusively to non-native biomass clones. Lysimeters to collect groundwater samples have been installed at the site and additional equipment to measure surface run-off has also been installed. Observations are also being made regarding disease and insect pressures.

Preliminary findings show that riparian areas have tremendous potential for biomass production and willow is effective in absorbing significant amounts of soluble nitrogen and phosphorous.

For more information about this project, please contact Chris Pharo, Ag-land and Agroforestry Manager, AAFC at 902-566-7310 or chris.pharo@agr.gc.ca

Which Willow Clones Perform Best in Atlantic Canada?

With this year's spikes in fossil fuel prices, there is growing interest in woody biomass as source of on-farm renewable energy. Willow biomass is a versatile woody plant that has potential for bio-energy or for use as bio-filters in riparian areas.

However, there is little information or data on performance of willow clones in the Atlantic region. In order to start to address this, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada established a willow clone trial in Prince Edward Island in the spring of 2008. A total of 24 willow clones were planted using plant material from the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Shelterbelt Centre, the State University of New York and other local sources. Data to be collected includes survival rates, biomass yield and insect and disease resistance.

For more information about this project, please contact Chris Pharo, Ag-land and Agroforestry Manager, AAFC at 902-566-7310 or chris.pharo@agr.gc.ca



Willow clone trial. Photo: Chris Pharo.

Waves From the Atlantic (continued)

Maritime Agroforestry Awareness Initiative

Agroforestry, the integration of trees in agricultural production systems, is receiving more attention in Atlantic Canada. However, interest is different in each province depending on local issues and emerging initiatives. Environmental farm planning, workshops and demonstration projects all contributed to raising awareness of agroforestry in the agricultural community.

The Eastern Canada Soil and Water Conservation Centre (ECSWCC) has been actively involved in developing and promoting agroforestry in the region. The centre along with many essential partners has implemented a series of demonstration sites, tours and information sessions to encourage the adoption of two important agroforestry systems for the maritime: windbreaks and forested riparian buffers. A step by step technical guide has been developed to help landowners to establish windbreaks and riparian buffer zones and understand their potential benefits. The initiative also targeted maintenance of existing natural hedgerows.

Many natural hedges have been left without any maintenance along fields or on property lines. In time, such hedges become thicker and

cause problems for field operations. Producers often consider getting rid of them as the only possible option. However, with proper maintenance, natural hedgerows can provide multiple benefits and add biodiversity to the farm. Clinics have been offered in NB and PEI to train producers and extension personnel on proper maintenance techniques.

This initiative was funded through the Greencover Canada Regional Technical Assistance Program.

More information regarding the above activities is available on the ECSWCC Web site:
<http://www.ccse-swcc.nb.ca>.

For more information, please contact : Jean-Louis Daigle, jdaigle@umce.ca ou Yvette Cyr, yvette.cyr@umce.ca au CCSEEC
Tél. : (506) 475-4040

Something positive for a weed patch

In 2005, Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and PEI Soil and Crop Improvement Association initiated a project to examine planting a berm with native trees and shrubs.

A berm is part of a diversion terrace



Planting of berms in spring 2005.
Photo: Delmar Holmstrom.

used by farmers to reduce soil erosion. In the past, farmers were required to mow terraces several times a year to control weeds. In some cases, this was not done. As a result weeds took over the sites spreading their seeds to the adjacent cropland. To mitigate this situation, it was felt planting trees and shrubs would suppress weed growth, provide habitat to wildlife and potential income to the land owner.

The project was started in the spring of 2005 at Maple Plains. Three native trees- white birch, elm and red oak were planted in combination with 3 native shrubs- high bush cranberries, beaked hazelnuts and red osier dogwood.

So far in the project, the average height of white birch went from 64 cm at planting in 2005 to 181 cm in August of 2007 while average trunk diameter (measured about 2.5 cm above ground level) increased from 2.9 cm in October, 2007 to 3.8 cm in October, 2008. The average height of elms increased from 90 cm in 2005 to 164 cm in 2007 while average diameter went from 30.9 to 37.2 cm. The average height of red oak increased from 78 cm in 2005 to 97 cm in 2007 while average diameter went from 18.7 to 21.9 cm.

For more information please contact Delmar Holmstrom, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, at delmar.holmstrom@agr.gc.ca



Clinic on hedgerow maintenance techniques in blueberry fields held at Lamèque, New Brunswick, in September 2008. Photo: ECSWCC.

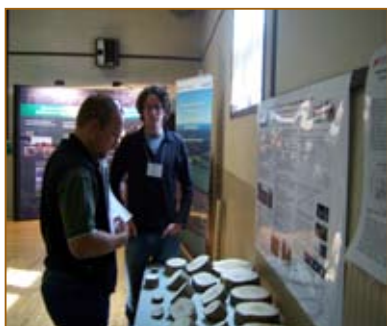
Echoes From the Planet

Once Upon a Time in the West

A small delegation from Quebec and the Atlantic Region took part in the Treevitalize Your Landscape workshop held on September 24 to 25, 2008, in Indian Head, Saskatchewan.

Chris Pharo and Stéphane Gariépy from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and Julien Fortier, a doctoral student at UQAM, attended a series of lectures stressing the benefits of using trees in agriculture, especially as concerns soil and water quality.

Julien Fortier and Stéphane Gariépy also gave a lecture and presented a poster highlighting the use of hybrid poplars for restoring riparian zones. Participants were able to view poplar samples that Julien Fortier had brought for the occasion.



Julien Fortier answers a participant's questions in front of the poster on the use of hybrid poplars in riparian zones. Photo: Stéphane Gariépy.

Agroforestry specialist Laura Poppy conducted an exercise on designing ecological riparian strips, and Mike Dosskey of the USDA National Agroforestry Center spoke about designing buffer zones to improve water quality.

Field Tours highlighted the Agroforestry Division's research leadership role in the development, selection and release of improved tree species suited to the prairie landscape and climate. New designs in tree plantings and function such as the

Eco-Buffer concept, the management of native willows for biomass production, and weed management were also highlighted on the tours.

Source:
Stéphane Gariépy and Chris Pharo
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada



Laura Poppy discusses Ecological Buffer concepts and design with workshop participant. Photo: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Agroforestry is a global issue

Nairobi, Kenya will be the site of the 2nd World Congress of Agroforestry from August 23-29, 2009. Agroforestry focuses on the integration of trees and shrubs on agricultural land.

Agroforestry practices are used throughout the world, but the form that it takes depends on the physical, climatic, political and social circumstances of the country or region. The World Congress will attract over 1000 participants from all continents. The wide-ranging topics include protection of sheep from cold Antarctic winds in Tierra del Fuego, poplar intercropping in northern India, environmental buffers in Europe and windbreaks in North America.

The congress will present scientific research, agroforestry case studies, economic and environmental analyses and discussion of policies that help or hinder the use of agroforestry. The congress will also serve as a

forum for agroforestry researchers, educators, practitioners and policy makers.

Agroforestry practices like windbreaks have been used in Canada for many years. The country was also a key player in getting agroforestry recognized as an important discipline in the 1970's when Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) helped to create the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry, now the World Agroforestry Centre. The centre has its headquarters in Nairobi. The centre conducts research in partnership throughout the tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world. Through the IDRC, the Canadian International Development Agency and many non-governmental organizations, Canada has been involved in many agroforestry projects abroad.

Domestically, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada supports agroforestry through its PFRA&E Agroforestry Division and Regional initiatives and partnerships and through Federal/Provincial agreements to promote Beneficial Management Practices (BMP's) on the farm. A robust complement of Canadians are likely to attend the congress, from university researchers to non-governmental organizations, highlighting Canada's on-going commitment to ensuring that trees and shrubs remain an essential component of the agricultural landscape.

Further details about the organization, call for papers, field trips, registration fees, hotels, and a preliminary congress programme will be posted on the congress website: <http://worldagroforestry.org/wca2009>

Source: John Kort
Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada.

Organizations and Resources

An Agroforestry Website on Agri-Réseau

The Agri-Réseau team is pleased to announce the launch of a new website specializing in agroforestry. Produced with the help of a number of collaborators, the Agroforestry website will feature documents concerning agroforestry systems as well as technical, economic, and social aspects associated with their implementation. The Agri-Réseau site provides a service allowing subscribers to receive information by email on new documents published on its specialized sites.



To access the website:
<http://www.agrireseau.qc.ca/agroforesterie>

Source: Lyne Desnoyers, CRAAQ

Agroforestry in New Brunswick

The Université de Moncton Faculty of Forestry has developed a web site to give visitors the opportunity to discover agroforestry. The site includes the presentations and proceedings of the first Agroforestry Workshop in New Brunswick that was held on November 17-18, 2006 under the theme «Agroforestry Serving Communities».

You can access the web site at:
<http://www.umoncton.ca/umce-foresterie/node/24#english>

Source: Lise Caron
Université de Moncton

An Economic Simulator for Windbreaks

The Canadian Pork Council has called on Institut de technologie agroalimentaire de La Pocatière (ITA), to develop an economic simulator to evaluate the costs and advantages of installing and maintaining wind-breaking hedges around livestock buildings. The simulator, funded in part by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, also helps evaluate the economic impact of agroforestry riparian systems.

To download the simulator:
<http://www.wbvecan.ca/anglais/index.html>

Source: André Vézina
I.T.A., Campus de La Pocatière

Quebec Intensive Silviculture Network

Intensive silviculture is, as its name indicates, the intensive cultivation of short-rotation plantation trees to maximize wood yield. This method has been attracting more and more interest among agricultural sector stakeholders for its potential to produce biomass for energy and for wood, pulp, and paper industries. Species now being used the most include hybrid poplar, exotic larch, white spruce, and Norway spruce. Intensive silviculture can be practiced on fertile or marginal land, and can be integrated into various agroforestry systems.

The Quebec Intensive Silviculture Network (*Réseau Ligniculture Québec* or RLQ) coordinates and encourages intensive silviculture research & development and transfer technology in Quebec. The network includes six Quebec universities, seven industrial partners, provincial ministries and federal departments, and representatives from the private sector.



A 3 year old plantation that combines hybrid poplar, sugar maple and white spruce. Photo: Pierre Gagné, RLQ.

Those interested in practicing intensive silviculture or developing partnerships can find information on the network website at <http://www.rlq.uqam.ca/>

Source: Julien Fortier, RLQ.

Website of the Conférence régionale des élus de Gaspésie-les-Îles (CREGÎM)

The development of non-timber forest products is one of the avenues of resource development diversification being explored by the Conférence régionale des élu(e)s de la Gaspésie et des Îles-de-la-Madeleine. The organization's website features regionally significant studies and findings as well as a number of other documents relative to non-timber forest products and agroforestry.

To access the CREGÎM website:
<http://www.cre-gim.net/RNA>

Source:
Claude-André Léveillé, CREGÎM

Publications

Hybrid Poplars in Riparian Areas: Improving Agricultural Environments While Producing Timber

At a time when the degradation of waterways and river ecosystems is a recurring issue in the agricultural communities of Eastern Canada, the development of riparian zones has become a necessity. However, this kind of development is often viewed negatively from an economic standpoint because it is associated with the loss of agricultural land.

It is possible to achieve multi-functional development with fast-growing tree species such as hybrid poplars. These trees afford protection for riparian and aquatic ecosystems while providing a secondary income when sold as harvested timber. Because hybrid poplars grow very fast when planted in agricultural riparian zones, they help restore a number of short- and medium-term ecological functions (trapping excess nutrients, stabilizing river banks and deep soil, lowering water temperature, creating windbreaks and wildlife habitats, etc.).

The authors, Julien Fortier (doctoral candidate, *Institut des Sciences de l'Environnement* – UQAM), Benoît Truax, Ph.D. (*Fiducie de Recherche sur la Forêt des Cantons-de-l'Est*), and Daniel Gagnon, Ph.D. (Professor, *Centre d'Étude de la Forêt* – UQAM), invite you to consult the brochure they produced in partnership with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. The brochure discusses the role of riparian strips in agriculture and proposes a simple model for developing riparian zones with hybrid poplars.



Hybrid poplar riparian strip in Bromptonville: partial timber harvest after the sixth growing season. Photo: PRFCE 2008.

This document is available on the RLQ web site, in the French «fiche technique» section: http://www.rlq.uqam.ca/texteConnaissances_fr.asp/

Afforestation and agroforestry systems in short-rotation: Two reports available

The Canadian Forest Service of Natural Resources Canada has prepared two reports on four short-rotation afforestation and agroforestry systems. The systems are short-rotation intensive culture of willow or hybrid poplar, block plantation of hybrid poplar, willow-based riparian buffer strips, and willow or hybrid poplar-based alley cropping.

The first report examines the regulatory framework and the incentive programs that apply in Quebec on private land to the four afforestation and agroforestry systems. Adoption issues related to the systems are identified.

Marchand, P.P. and S. Masse. 2007. Short-rotation afforestation and agroforestry on Quebec private land: review of laws, regulations, policies and programs. Information Report LAU-X-130E. Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service, Laurentian Forestry Centre, Quebec, Que.

The first report is available in PDF format on the Canadian Forest Service Bookstore Web site at: <http://bookstore.cfs.NRCan.gc.ca>.

The second report identifies development and adoption issues identified by landowners in Quebec and the three Prairie Provinces regarding the four afforestation and agroforestry systems. These issues are of technical, financial, legal, environmental and other concerns. The report will be available in the near future in PDF format, in English or French.

Marchand, P.P. and S. Masse. (in press). Issues related to the development and adoption of afforestation and agroforestry technologies for energy biomass production: results of focus group sessions in Quebec and the Prairie Provinces. Information Report LAU-X-135E. Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service, Laurentian Forestry Centre, Quebec, Que.

To obtain a copy of the second report, please contact: Claudette Potvin, Centre de foresterie des Laurentides :

Claudette.Potvin@RNCAN-NRCAN.gc.ca

Upcoming Events

11th North American Agroforestry Conference: Columbia, Missouri, May 31 - June 3, 2009

The 11th North American Agroforestry conference entitled «Agroforestry comes of age: Putting Science into Practice», will be hosted by the University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry and the Association for Temperate Agroforestry (AFTA) on May 31 to June 3, 2009, at the Stoney Creek Inn, Columbia, Missouri.

The intent of the conference is to further stimulate development and adoption of sustainable rural land management practices centered on the integration of trees into the landscape. The conference will provide a forum for individuals associated with or practicing agroforestry to share their experiences and discuss production, environmental and social attributes of different agroforestry practices. Upland and riparian forest buffers, windbreaks and shelterbelts, silvopasture, alley cropping and forest farming practices will be the main foci discussed during the conference.

The University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry (UMCA), established in 1998, is one of the world's leading centers contributing to the science underlying agroforestry. Interdisciplinary collaboration is one of the outstanding hallmarks of the Center. The Association for Temperate Agroforestry (AFTA) is a private, non-profit international organization that aims to catalyze technical innovation and adoption of agroforestry in the temperate zone through networking, information exchange, public education and policy dialogue and development.

The Conference will include concurrent technical sessions, a poster session, field trips and time for discussion that focus on the successes, opportunities and constraints of agroforestry.

Target participants include forest and farm landowners, land managers and consultants, business owners and entrepreneurs, scientists, students, foundations, natural resource and forestry professionals, extension specialists, government officials, non-government organizations, environmental consultants, and policy makers.



Alley cropping - Shepherd Farms. Photo: MU Center for Agroforestry.

Abstracts are still being accepted for presentations at the Conference, but the deadline is fast approaching. Please send your abstract electronically before December 31st, 2008 to Michael Gold, at goldm@missouri.edu

Instructions on the requested format and on how to submit your abstract are available on the Conference website.

For more information about the Conference, please visit the conference website at: <http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/events/afta/index.asp>

Source: Michael Gold, MU Center for Agroforestry



The University of Missouri Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center. Photos: MU Center for Agroforestry.

Next Issue

Date of Publication

The next issue Agroforestry News from the Atlantic and Quebec will be published in February 2009.

The Quebec and Atlantic regions of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada have initiated this newsletter in response to our common need to share information and experience.

The newsletter aims to bring together players in all sectors concerned: agriculture, forestry, land management, rural development, and others.

The newsletter is distributed in electronic form through the Agri-Réseau website in Quebec and through various organization websites and mailing lists in the Atlantic.

To receive the newsletter, please subscribe to the Agri-Réseau Agroforestry mailing list using the «S'abonner au site» tab at: <http://www.agrireseau.qc.ca/Agroforesterie/>

To Submit an Article

We invite you to submit your short news, publication or website announcements, resources relevant to agroforestry for publication in the newsletter.

Please send your material by email to the editors, Stéphane Gariépy:

stephane.gariepy@agr.gc.ca

or Chris Pharo:

chris.pharo@agr.gc.ca

The deadline to receive your texts for publication in the next issue is January 27, 2009.

Please limit your text to 300 words. Digital images must be good quality and high resolution, and provided as separate files (jpg format). Please provide a caption or descriptive title for each image and indicate the name of the person and organization to which the image should be credited.

Comments

The current issue is the first of a two pilot publications. Depending on the interest and response it elicits, we will make a decision regarding the content, format, and frequency of the newsletter.

We invite your comments and suggestions on the content and format of the Newsletter. Please send your feedbacks by email to the Newsletter editors, Stéphane Gariépy or Chris Pharo.

We look forward to your feedback!

Warning:

It may be necessary to upgrade your pdf reader to open newsletter hyperlinks.

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