Walnut Council Bulletin

Promoting Walnut and Other Fine Hardwoods

www.walnutcouncil.org

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Walnut Markets Continue Strong Internationally

North American hardwood exporters are reporting flat to declining demand from most key markets at present, with only a handful of bright spots. Contracted production and poor drying weather are keeping supplies of most export-oriented items in check.

Contacts note adverse market conditions in China resulting from economic deceleration and uncertainty related to potential tariff rate increases on US hardwood logs and lumber in March. In addition, a number of hardwood distributors and end users reportedly extended shutdowns during the Chinese New Year holiday period.

Exporters continue to seek out sales opportunities elsewhere to compensate for reduced Chinese business. Vietnam has received most of the attention. The Vietnamese market is energized, but intense competition spilling over from the Chinese market is pressuring prices lower. Reports suggest little to no change in the direction of other leading Far Eastern markets.

In Europe, demand is noticeably stronger from the UK than from other countries. Some exporters have steady ongoing business in Italy, Germany, and Spain, but many report slow or weak activity in those markets.

Comments are mixed about business in Mexico. Demand is decent from manufacturers in the maquiladora zone but not very good from the distribution sector.

US exports of hardwood lumber totaled 129.0 million board feet (MMBF) in November, down 22% from the prior month and 19% from November 2017. It was the slowest November for exports since 2012.

This amazing black walnut tree is in a public park near McGregor, Iowa. It is 38" dbh and 50 feet to the first limb. Walnut Council members Louis Christen (L), Larry Krotz, Bill Carlson (background) and Manfred Mielke stopped to visit.

Likewise, hardwood log exports of 29.7 MMBF trailed the prior month and November 2017 by 18% and 32%, respectively, and were the lowest for any November since 2011. On a year to date basis, hardwood lumber exports lagged the 2017 pace by 6% through November, while log exports still showed a 2% increase despite slumping fall shipments.

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Walnut Council Bulletin Advertising Policy

The Walnut Council attempts to assist in the transfer of technical information pertaining to the growing and harvesting of walnut and walnut products with the publication of the Walnut Council bulletin three times per year.

1. The Council reserves the right to exercise editorial judgment in the products it will accept for advertising.
2. The Council expects the advertiser to be truthful and to guarantee reasonable satisfaction to the consumer.
3. The Council does not endorse the advertised products or services, nor does the Council make any warranty, expressed or implied.
4. All advertisers are subject to Indiana Statutes regarding false or misleading advertising.
5. Advertising may be cancelled for (a) non-payment, (b) violation of Indiana law, and/or (c) customer complaints.
6. The advertising rates for three issues of the same advertisement are $100 for business card, $200 for quarter page, $300 for half page, and $400 for full page.

President's Thoughts

I am pleased to serve as president of the National Walnut Council, Growing walnut and other fine hardwoods. I started with the Missouri Chapter of the Walnut Council in 2002. At that time I had a BS in Forestry and was close to finishing my Masters in Forestry from the University of Missouri. It was then that a dear friend of mine, Mr. Scott Brundage, introduced me to the Walnut Council. He is a mentor and a friend, always promoting managed forests, which produce the best quality and value that a site has to offer. At annual Walnut Council meetings, Scott took me under his wing and introduced me to others whom I now call friends. See recognition of Scott's legacy on page 5.

In 1970, the Walnut Council was formed because it was projected that there would be a shortage of black walnut -- the king of high-value hardwood species. Since its inception, the Walnut Council has continued a mission of transferring scientific-based management, which encourages the development of high-quality black walnut trees. As time has progressed, we've not seen the projected shortage of black walnut, and we're building a better understanding of how to manage forests that contain quality black walnut, in addition to other fine hardwoods. Today's Walnut Council remains a tight family whose interests may focus on wood and nuts, always with an emphasis on trees of quality and value!

This brings me back to today. We are about black walnut. We are about science. We are about knowledge and applied management. And, as much as anything, we are friends and family. At each Annual Meeting we cherish seeing one another and carry on discussions that have spanned the years. We share knowledge and celebrate together.

Dusty Walter

I want to encourage each member to come celebrate with us in Kansas at the June 16-19th Annual Meeting, our 50th meeting. What a great time to invite a friend into our family! We may be on the western edge of the range, but Kansas has a rich tradition with black walnut. Since 2009, black walnut has accounted for 43% of all the timber harvested in Kansas. You can find an overview of the meeting in this edition. It is a wonderful location and program!

Why not take this opportunity to invite a friend as we seek to better understand growing value in black walnut and other fine hardwoods? If we truly believe in the value opportunities ahead for black walnut and other fine hardwoods, let's make this the best meeting yet and grow as a family. As I write this, I want to thank the Missouri and Indiana Chapters. They have agreed to sponsor one or more forestry students from their local universities to attend. I also want to highlight Mike Trial. In a March 8th article in the Columbia Missourian, Mike was highlighted as Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year (American Tree Farm System), see more about Mike on page 5. This article also identifies George Trial as president of the National Walnut Council (1979) and as starting the Missouri Chapter (1983).

Growing quality hardwood, especially black walnut, is a legacy that we pass on to others! George passed it to Mike, Scott passed it to me, and now I must ask you: who will you pass this legacy and passion to?

Dusty Walter
National Walnut Council President

Upcoming Events

April 27
Indiana chapter field day, Norris property, near Thorntown Indiana. RSVP to *warkentiend@gmail.com*.

Ohio chapter field day, Ball-Caldwell Homestead & Spring Hill Woodlands, LLC, Caldwell, OH, Southeast Ohio. RSVP to 573-268-7262.

May 10
Maryland chapter field day, Western Maryland Research and Education Center, Washington County. RSVP to David Robbins at 301-371-0675.

May 18
Wisconsin chapter field day, Green County Forestry Education Center, south of Monroe.

June 16- 19
National Walnut Council meeting, Mayetta, Kansas. See more at *www.walnutcouncil.org.*

July 28-July 31
Northern Nut Growers 2019 Annual Meeting: 110th Annual Conference of the Northern Nut Growers Association will take place from, 2019 at Iowa City, Iowa. See more at *www.nutgrowing.org.*

September 14
Ohio chapter field day, Hammitt tree farm near Cincinnati, OH.

To see more events, go to *www.walnutcouncil.org/state-chapters*.

Walnut Markets Continue Strong Internationally

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YTD 2018 vs YTD 2017 (thru November)-Million Board Feet

Country	2017	2018	Chg	Lumber	2017	2018	Chg	Logs	2017	2018	Chg
China	947.3	835.5	-12%	Red Oak	487	432.3	-11%	Red Oak	124.5	99.5	-20%
Canada	217.8	216	-1%	White Oak	279	286.6	3%	Maple	85	86.5	2%
Vietnam	173.9	199.4	15%	Poplar	297	272.5	-8%	Ash	54.9	66.7	21%
Mexico	121.5	112.9	-7%	Ash	172	144.5	-16%	Walnut	35.2	53.7	53%
UK	40.8	44.1	8%	Walnut	84.1	91.5	9%	White Oak	43.4	49.7	15%
WORLD	**1746.3**	**1647.4**	**-6%**	Cherry	72.7	74	2%	**World**	**440.1**	**447.9**	**2%**

US Hardwood Lumber Exports to Leading Countries & Lumber & Log exports by Species
- USDA Agricultural Service

Hardwood lumber shipments to China slid from 89.2 MMBF in November 2017 to 55.7 MMBF in November 2018, during which time log shipments fell from 24.7 MMBF to 13.3 MMBF. Notably, combined lumber exports to all other markets rose 3.8 MMBF in the same period, though log volume dropped 2.5 MMBF.

US exports of hardwood lumber to Vietnam set a record for the fourth time in five months, reaching 21.8 MMBF. Combined shipments to the next seven largest Far East markets were 24% higher than the previous November.

November hardwood lumber exports to Canada dipped 3% from the previous November and were off 1% on the year. Meanwhile, shipments to Mexico declined to a 47 month low of 8.5 MMBF.

November over November results for several EU28 destinations were indicative of year to date (YTD) trends. Compared to the same periods in 2017, exports climbed 23% in November and 8% YTD to the UK, declined 44% in November and 10% YTD to Italy, slid 24% in November and 13% YTD to Spain, and dropped 8% in November and were unchanged YTD to the EU28 as a whole.

This article was submitted by Jeff Settle, Economics committee chair, and is accurate as of February 22, 2019.

Welcome New Members

A big thank you to new State Life members Warren Cutshall of Indiana and Harlow Osteboe of Wisconsin. We appreciate your long-term commitment to us!

We are pleased to welcome these new annual members to the Walnut Council in the second half of 2018:
James Anderson, Verona, WI
Gregory Atkins, Dayton, OH
Robert Baker, Neponset, IL
Gayle Breymeyer, Watseka, IN
Paul Bryan, Lake Quivira, KS
Jason Caswell, Saint Paul, IN
Peter Che, Cary, IL
Lanny Copeland, Brentwood, TN
Patrick Darcy, Plainfield, IL
Oleksandr Drobyazko, Kiev, Ukraine
Tim & Mary Ann Dunfee, Spencer, IN
Phillip Fine, Kansas City, MO
Ken Goeke, Brookline, MO
Michael Goerudt, Halfway, MO
Kathleen Howard, Sulphur Springs, OH
Matt Hull, Springfield, MO
Matthew Hull, Springfield, MO
Erik Jensen, Superior, IA
Michael Korenfeld, Wildwood, MO
Joseph Lochner, Chanhassen, WI
Tom Mangan, Springfield, MO
Stanley Mehrhoff, Prairie Home, MO
Jennifer Morganthaler, Ava, MO
Leo Mueller, Quincy, IL
Brent Nie, Missouri Valley, IA
Rohit Patel, Esparto, CA
Bart Renkoski, Purdy, MO
Larry Schepers, Jasper, IN
William Thiele, Freeport, IL
Joshua Vinson, St. Louis, MO

We are pleased to welcome these new annual members to the Walnut Council so far in 2019:
Carl Aude, Yorktown, VA
Mark Aude, N. Andover, MA
James Benner, New Franklin, MO
William & Alicia Boyd, Mooresville, IN
Melissa Cullina, Chicago, Il
Bruce Cutlip, Cleveland, Ohio
James Flaherty, Bellevue, Iowa
Grow Native!, Columbia, MO
Erik Jensen, Superior, CO
Dean Kimmich, Perryville, MO
Mike Knoll, Loganville, WI
John Niswonger, Cape Girardeau, MO
Aerial Ramhagil, Fayetteville, AR
Jason Rehtmeyer, Normal, Illinois
Merlin Ring, Olathe, KS
Jim Sawtelle, Superior, CO
Daniel Swain, Needmore, PA
Kevin Theede, Waterloo, WI
Mike Wood, Ridgely, MD
Eric Yarnell, Marshfield, MO

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Walnut Council Members Receive Accolades

Several Walnut Council members have been recognized recently. Our congratulations to each of them for their work and passion. Here are the highlights, as we don't have space in this issue for the entire articles, but find the full stories on our website.

2018 Missouri Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year: Mike Trial of Missouri

Mike's family Tree Farm is located in Boone County, Missouri and it is a special place. Special because it has been enrolled in the Tree Farm Program for over 50 years with continuous care of a 50-acre black walnut plantation. Mike carries on the spirit of his father George in continuing active management of the walnut plantation. And like George, Mike is interested in helping others learn about tree farming as he cooperates with the University of Missouri and allows the forestry faculty to bring students to the farm to learn hands on tree planting and pruning. In addition, he has produced YouTube videos of tree thinning and harvesting that provides an educational opportunity for those interested in growing black walnut.

Mike is an active conservationist remaining engaged in the both the Missouri and national Walnut Council, the Tree Farm program and turns out his conservation interest goes beyond trees to the prairie as he is an active member of the Missouri Prairie Foundation.

Harlan Palm (L) and Scott Brundage (R) receive their awards from Missouri chapter president Bob Ball (C).

Bohlin Family of Wisconsin Highlighted in NRCS Farm Bill Programs Success Story

The Dan Bohlin farm in Wisconsin, which we toured at the 2018 national meeting, was recognized in February 2019 for his successful implementation of Farm Bill practices by the Wisconsin NRCS. Excerpted from the story: "Dan's passion for ecology lead him to attempt to restore as many acres as he could to native prairie, along with maintaining his woodlots for wildlife and production timber. In his land endeavors, Dan partnered with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to utilize most of the programs the Farm Bill has to offer." The article goes on to describe the practices he has used and how that has lead to meeting his goals for his property.

Missouri Chapter Awards Two Special Chapter Members

Harlan Palm and Scott Brundage each received a Meritorious Service Award for "Outstanding Achievement in Support of the Mission of the Missouri Chapter Walnut Council," presented by President Bob Ball in March. Both Harlan and Scott have been active in state and national Walnut Council for decades and their contributions have been outstanding.

Brundage of Missouri Receives Tree Farm Service Award

At the March Missouri Tree Farm program, Scott Brundage was recognized for his Contributions to Tree Farm. The John P. Slusher Tree Farm Service Award recognizes either Tree Farm members or non-members who have performed distinguished service to the Tree Farm Program on a sustained basis and accomplishments consistent with the goals and objectives of the Tree Farm Program with service at the regional, state, or national level, or any combination thereof.

Seeking Nominees for Board of Directors

The following board roles are filled in the odd numbered years for a two-year term. The Vice-President automatically assumes the duties of President the following year and Chair of the Awards and Nominating Committee the year after. All terms begin at the end of the 2019 annual meeting and run through the 2021 annual meeting. If you should have an interest in participating on our board of directors in an upcoming term, please contact Liz Jackson at 765-583-3501 or Lenny Farlee, nominating chair, **by May 1**.

Offices open for 2019-2021 term:

Economics Committee
Legislative Committee
Nut Culture Committee
Protection Committee
Silviculture Committee
State Chapters Committee
Tree Improvement Committee
AWMA Representative
Industry Representative
University Representative
Landowner NW Representative
Landowner NE Representative

Walnut Council Foundation Accepting Land Donations

Why Gift Land?

Over their lifetimes, many Walnut Council members have spent countless hours on and given considerable tender loving care, not to mention money, to their plantations and/or woodlands. As many of us reach retirement age and beyond, we wonder what will happen to our cherished trees when we are gone.

What can we do to ensure our lifetime of work and love will not be sold off, and then perhaps destroyed by the next owner who almost certainly will not appreciate the plantation and/or woodland as we do? If this problem is one you think and worry about, as we do, please consider a gift of such lands to the Walnut Council Foundation. The Management Plan for the Walnut Council Foundation to follow can be developed with the donor and incorporate his/her future goals into the plan.

For those Walnut Council members who wish to ensure that their work will be carried on to the successful conclusion we dream about, the Foundation may be the answer to your prayers. Contact the Foundation at 765-583-3501 or *walnutcouncil@walnutcouncil.org* if you wish to discuss this option.

The Norris property was donated by Jim and Virginia Norris and is being managed per their wishes. This winter the poorly stocked areas were logged to convert from cottonwood and sycamore to more high valued species, to be planted this spring.

Submit a project to the WC Foundation Grants Program

Please share this callout!

Are you experimenting with some ideas on your property to improve forestry techniques? Are you keeping data that might be useful for walnut growers? Have a hypothesis about growing trees you would like to explore?

The Walnut Council Foundation is funding small scale, self-contained projects of relatively short duration. Thousand Cankers Disease research is of special interest but other projects are encouraged to apply. The Walnut Council Foundation will consider fully funding projects up to $1,000 or partially funding large projects provided that other funding sources support the balance of the project.

These projects should be related to the growing and utilization of walnut and other high-value hardwoods and should be conducted with scientific rigor. Special projects to create education or outreach materials or events to promote timber management would also be considered. For questions related to submitting pre-proposal letters and grant proposals, contact Jerry Van Sambeek at (573) 864-8117 or *cm5jwvs@gmail.com*. See the documents online at *http://walnutcouncil.org/wc-foundation/current-projects/.*

Final submissions need to be sent in **by May 15** to: Walnut Council Foundation, c/o Research Committee, 1007 N 725 W, West Lafayette, IN 47906.

Please share this announcement with potential researchers, graduate students, or woodland organizations.

Walnut Council National Meeting

Walnuts in Indian Country

Prairie Band Casino & Resort, Mayetta, KS • June 16 - June 19, 2019

Hosted by the Kansas Chapter, Kansas Forestry Association & Kansas Forest Service

We are excited to host the 2019 Walnut Council Annual Meeting! This year we feature exceptional examples of agroforestry in our field tours with the most knowledgeable experts making presentations. Can't attend the entire event? Consider coming for a day or two, daily rates are available.

Overview

This year participants are invited to sign up for the Walnut Masters golf tournament at the Resort's 18-hole Firekeeper Golf course! As a special welcome to Kansas we are hosting a Sunday night reception at the Kansas History Museum! Participants will be served an excellent assortment of hors d'oeuvres, wines & local beers as well as non-alcoholic drinks. Free access to the museum is offered throughout the evening.

Monday's field tour features the Copperhead Hill Ranch where KS Agroforestry award winner, John Buchanan has established a successful alley cropping system among oaks, walnuts & other high quality hardwoods. Agroforestry experts will provide presentations on design, establishment, and maintenance on a variety of practices.

Monday evening: Sessions will include fire and oak regeneration, tick borne diseases and landowner show and tell followed by our famous hospitality suite, where the real adventure begins. We look forward to a discussion with Arkansas Extension Forester Dr. Tamara Walkingstick about "Women Owning Woodlands."

Tuesday: Back to the field for some excellent woodland management sessions, discussion on woodland birds and the importance of riparian forest management in Kansas related to water issues. Dr. Bill Reid, former KSU pecan specialist will lead an in-door afternoon presentation on nut production along with other presentations.

Wednesday AM: A breakfast buffet kicks off this day followed by technical sessions on Ambrosia beetles and walnut plantations, fire and thinning oak woodlands and other topics. See the agenda on page 10 for all the details.

Registration

The deadline for early registration is June 5th, although later registrations will be accepted with a late fee.

Please register soon to assist us in planning. Full registration includes: Sunday reception, field tours, breaks, lunch and indoor sessions (M, T), or spouse tours (M,T), banquet (T), and meeting favor. Monday dinner, Monday and Tuesday breakfast are on your own.

Those unable to attend the entire meeting may register for an individual day or days or for the banquet separately as shown on the registration form. To register, mail in the enclosed application with a check or register online with a credit card at http://2019walnutcouncil.eventbrite.com.

Confirmation/Cancellation Policy

Confirmations will be sent within two weeks of receiving registration until May 29th. After that date receipts will be available at registration. All cancellations and requests for refunds should be received by Wed, June 5th. A $20 per person administrative fee will be deducted from the total. Refunds may not be available after this date.

Sponsorships

Meeting sponsorships help keep registration costs down and can be an effective mode of advertising for individuals, organizations, and companies who promote the culture, growth, and utilization of high value hardwoods. Sponsors will be recognized by signage at the meeting and in the Walnut Council Bulletin or by a flyer in the registration packet. Contact Liz Jackson by phone at 765-583-3501 or by e-mail at jackson@ purdue.edu. We'd be extremely grateful for your support.

More Information Or Questions?

Contact Liz Jackson, Executive Director, at 765-583-3501; jackson@purdue.edu or check us out on the Web at *www.walnutcouncil.org/annual-meeting.*

Forestry Field Tour Highlights Walnuts in Indian Country

Danny Barrow, Kansas logger, will explain value and marketing of black walnut in KS.

Barrow Ranch—Monday morning, June 17th

The Barrow Ranch introduces participants to beautiful Kansas hardwood forests. Danny Barrow, of Barrow Logging Company, and his son Charlie will assess the value of standing timber and provide a harvest demonstration. Several black walnut logs will be on-hand for log grading and a discussion of market trends on the western range of this valuable hardwood. Jamie Gose from Gresco Tech Solutions will provide live drone demonstrations and their application to natural resource management. David Boyt, with Pottershop Hollow Tree Farm and Sawmill, will demonstrate the versatility that a portable mill can offer processing crotches for burl, creating tree cookies and how to handle large logs. Fisheries biologists will discuss pond management.

This Tuesday field tour site supports a diverse mix of size classes of sycamore, walnut, elms, Kentucky coffeetree, & hackberry.

Copperhead Hill Ranch—Monday afternoon

John and Karen Buchanan have planted thousands of oaks, black walnut, pecan and even black cherry at a wide 25 foot by 25 foot spacing allowing the harvesting of native grass hay crops between tree rows. This alley-cropping system produces annual income while long-range forest products are growing. The system provides important conservation and wildlife benefits.

What is unique to the Buchanan Tree Farm is the level of detail and attention associated with site preparation, tree planting, fertilization, weed and grass control, and other follow-up maintenance that earned them the Kansas Agroforestry Award. Meticulous record keeping for each tree is documented and mapped with a geo-spatial reference point that identifies the location of each tree.

John will provide an overview of the establishment and management techniques that has made the alley cropping system so successful. Dusty Walter, Director of Natural Resource Management, University of Missouri, will lead sessions on agroforestry along with colleagues from University of Missouri's Center for Agroforestry. Hugh Pence, of Pence Select Walnut/Pence Tree Farm, will be on-hand to offer his knowledge and experience designing and managing black walnut alley cropping systems in Indiana.

Kickapoo Reservation, Riparian Forests—Tuesday morning, June 18th

Beautiful, diverse bottomland forests provide the backdrop for Tuesday morning's sessions. The Kansas Forest Service has been working with the Kickapoo Tribe to encourage management of their forests and woodlands. Ryan Neises, Ecotone Forestry, will share the results of forest inventory and assessment of the reservation's forests. Birds of the Forests, will be led by Dr. Alice Boyle, ornithologist and evolutionary ecologist with Kansas State University. Phil Balch with Wildhorse Riverworks will describe stream processes and riparian forests role in stabilizing streambanks. Silviculture of bottomland working forests will be lead by Kansas Forest Service forester Ryan Rastok. Dr. Charles Barden will plan to provide a plant identification tour giving participants' hands-on understanding of riparian plant communities in Kansas. Bill Busby, Associate Scientist, KS Biological Survey will explain the types of forest ecology that supports a diversity of mammals in riparian woodlands.

Spouse Tours Offer a Taste of Kansas

Ted Ensley Gardens

Monday, June 17: Kansas State Capitol and Ted Ensley Gardens

Construction on the Kansas State Capitol began in 1866 and took 37 years to complete. Recent renovations were completed in 2014. Ornate stenciling throughout the rotunda and the ceremonial Governor's office are highlights of the tour. The spectacular Senate Chamber, Representative Hall and State Library are not to be missed. Participants will view murals by David H. Overmyer, John Steuart Curry, and Lumen Martin Winter. The 37 acre Ted Ensley Gardens on Lake Shawnee feature over 1,200 varieties of annuals, roses, trees and shrubs, water and rock gardens and numerous trails.

Tuesday, June 18: Old Prairie Town and Mulvane Art Museum

Old Prairie Town at Ward-Meade Historic Site, located on the Oregon Trail in Topeka, Kansas, is a 6-acre historic site that includes the Ward-Meade Botanical Garden, preserving the family history of one of the earliest settlers in the area. It includes the 1880 Everest Church building, a Santa Fe Train Depot and historic one-room schoolhouse.

The Mulvane Art Museum engages, inspires and builds community through the arts. As a vital partner in the educational and cultural life of Washburn University, Topeka, and the region, the Mulvane's collections, exhibitions, and programs foster an environment where people of all ages and backgrounds gather and explore the visual arts and cultures of the world.

John Steuart Curry's John Brown Mural "Tragic Prelude"

Walnut Masters Golf Tournament

Optional Pre-Conference Event Sunday, June 16

Be sure to register for the first Walnut Masters, a fun golf tournament hosted by State Forester, Larry Biles on Sunday afternoon.

Featuring 18 beautiful holes of the Firekeeper Golf course, designed by four-time PGA winner Notah Begay III. Awarded as "One of the Best Casino Courses," "Best Resort Courses," and the "#1 Best Course you can play in Kansas" by Golf week.

See registration to sign up, $80 per person!

Annual Meeting Fundraiser Fun

The silent auction at the national meeting in July is the Walnut Council Foundation's annual fundraiser. Proceeds from the auction provides funding for research projects related to growing hardwood trees, educational programs for Walnut Council members, and other grants.

Consider donating an item to the auction or bid on one of the many auction items. Auction donations are tax deductible. Don't forget your checkbook! The auction is fun, and wouldn't be a success without ***your*** support!

Hotel and Travel Accommodations: Call and Reserve Your Room Today!

The meeting headquarters is the beautiful Prairie Band Casino & Resort, 12305 150th Road, Mayetta, Kansas, call 785-966-7742 to reserve.

Register by June 10th for the special "SWALNUT" group rate of $99 per night ($139 Saturday, 6/15).

The Resort also offers an on-site RV Park with a shuttle to the hotel for a rate of $30 per night. Call 785-966-7778 to reserve.

Walnuts in Indian Country • Agenda

Sunday, June 16

12:00 – 4:30 PM **Walnut Masters Golf Tournament:** State Forester Larry Biles hosts!! See registration.

10 AM – 12:00 **Walnut Council Foundation Board Meeting** (guests welcome)

1:00 – 4:00 PM **Walnut Council Board Meeting** (guests welcome)

2:00 – 5:00 Registration, Exhibits and Silent Auction Opens

5:00 Mini-buses Depart for Reception

5:30 – 9:00 **KS History Museum Reception**

Welcome: Charlie Barden, KS Chapter Prez and Larry Biles, Kansas State Forester

Meeting Blessing: Joseph Rupnick, Prairie Band Potawatomi, National Tribal Chair

Museum Tour, Hors d'oeuvres, Drinks

8:00 – 9:00 Back to Resort

8:45 – 10:30 PM **Hospitality room open**

Monday, June 17

7:00 – 8:00 AM Hot Breakfast Buffet (on your own)

8 AM – 4PM **Field Tour Departs: Barrow Ranch**

- *Drone & equipment demos*
- *Assessing Black Walnut timber and logs*
- *Sawmill demo*

Field Tour: Copperhead Hill Ranch

- *Understanding Agroforestry practices*

9 AM – Noon **Spouses Tour: Ted Ensley Botanical Gardens**

Noon **Spouses/Tour Lunch Blind Tiger Brewery**

1:00 – 3:00 PM **Spouses Tour: State Capitol and Governor's Mansion**

4:30 All Tours Arrive Back

4:30 – 6:45 Dinner on your own

6:00 – 8:30 Silent auction and exhibits open

7:00– 9:00 **Evening Sessions**

- *Women Owning Woodlands*
- *Effects of Fire and Oak Thinning in KS Woodlands*
- *Protecting Yourself from Ticks and Disease*
- *Landowner Show and Tell*

8:45 – 10:30 PM **Hospitality room open**

Tuesday, June 18

7:00 – 8:00AM Hot Breakfast Buffet (on your own)

8:00 **Busses Depart for Kickapoo Reservation**

9:00 **Spouses Tour Departs: Old Prairie Town & Mulvane Art Museum**

9:00 **Kickapoo Riparian Forest Tour**

- *Birds of the Forest*
- *Wildlife & Ecology*
- *Working Forest Management*
- *Stream Processes*
- *Forest Assessment*
- *Plant Identification*

12:00 – 1:00 **Lunch** (spouses do lunch & wine tasting at Glaciers Edge Winery)

1:00 PM **Return to Resort Hotel**

2:00– 5:00 **Indoor Sessions**

- *Lumber vs. Nuts: Making the Choice*
- *What Can Drones Do?*
- *History of the Potawatomi Tribe*
- *Landowner Show and Tell*

6:00 – 6:45 **Social** (cash bar), Silent auction, music by Atchison's

6:30 **Silent Auction ends/Live Auction**

6:45 **Annual Awards Banquet**

8:00 PM **Entertainment**

8:45 – 10:30 PM **Hospitality room open**

Wednesday, June 19

7:00 – 8:00 AM **Breakfast Buffet Provided**

8:00– 9:30 **Presentations**

- *Ambrosia Beetles and Walnut Plantations*
- *Using Cedar Revetments for Streambank Stabilization*

9:30 – 10:00 **Walnut Council business meeting**

10:30 – 11:30 **State Chapter Reports, Door Prizes, Closing**

Agenda subject to change. This program will be submitted for CFE credits from the Society of American Foresters.

Volume 45, Number 1 ISSN 1041-5769 April 2019

2019 Walnut Council Annual Meeting Registration

June 16-19 • Prairie Band Casino & Resort, Mayetta, Kansas

Please register by June 5 if possible. Late registrations will be accepted with a late fee.
Complete this form or register online at *http://2019walnutcouncil.eventbrite.com*.

Name(s): _____

Please include first and last names of all that will be attending for nametags.

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____Zip: _____

Phone:_____ E-mail: _____

Please list any dietary needs or physical accommodations requests:_____

_____ Check here if you do **not** want your name & contact info in the registrant listing to be shared with attendees.

Full Registration Only

Full registration includes: Sunday reception, breakfast and field tours, breaks, lunch, indoor sessions (M,T), or spouse tours (M,T), banquet (T), and meeting favor. Monday dinner, Monday and Tuesday breakfast are on your own.

Number of Full Registrations: _____@ $175 each $_____

_____ Enter number going on Monday field tour _____Enter number going on Monday spouse tour

_____ Enter number going on Tuesday AM field tour _____Enter number going on Tuesday spouse tour

Golf tournament _____@ $80 per person (across from the resort) $_____

Children (16 and under): _____@ $50 each or $70 with banquet $_____

Name(s) of Children: _____

Late Registration Fee, after June 5: ____@ $40 extra $_____

Daily and Other Registrations

Daily registration includes Sunday: reception; Monday: transportation, field tour, lunch, evening program; Tuesday: transportation, field tour, lunch, afternoon program, excluding Tuesday's banquet. Tickets must be purchased separately for the banquet; Wednesday: morning session.

_____ Sunday @ $30 _____ Monday @ $65; _____Tuesday @ $65; _____ Wednesday @ $30;

_____ Spouse Tour (only) $50 Monday (transportation & lunch included) $_____

_____ Spouse Tour (only) $50 Tuesday (transportation & lunch included) $_____

Extra banquet tickets (Tuesday, PM)_____ @ $45 (children $20) $_____

Total **$**_____

(See reverse for hotel reservation and further meeting information)

_____ Check if you are attending your first national meeting of the Walnut Council.

_____ I am interested in providing a brief talk (5-15 minutes) for the Monday evening or Tuesday afternoon Landowner show and tell.

_____ We are willing to help financially sponsor some aspect of the meeting – please call 765-583-3501.

_____ Call me about submitting brochures or handouts for registration packets or having an exhibit table at the meeting room..

Hotel Information

Deadline for Room Reservations at group discount rate is June 10th.

The meeting headquarters is the Prairie Band Casino & Resort, 12305 150th Road, Mayetta, Kansas, call 785-966-7742 to reserve.

Register by June 10th for the special “SWALNUT” group rate of $99 per night ($139 Saturday 6/15).

Register online at http://2019walnutcouncil.eventbrite.com
or send this registration form and check to:

Walnut Council
1007 N 725 W
West Lafayette, IN 47906-9431
Phone [765] 583-3501, FAX [765] 583-3512

E-mail: ***jackson@purdue.edu***

Diameter (Dbh) Growth Trends for Black Walnut

By William E. Hammitt, Ohio Chapter president

Some black walnut plantation owners measure their trees to determine the periodic rate of growth, trends in growth, and predicted harvest size of trees. I am one of those such plantation owners. However, no matter how interesting and knowledgeable this growth information may be to an individual owner, it can also lead to false assumptions and unrealistic longer- term growth predictions. For example, if our young trees average a half (0.5) to two thirds (0.66), or more, inches of diameter growth when 10 years of age, should we expect them to maintain this rate at age 40 or 50? Should we assume that our trees will maintain a consistent trend in diameter growth over time? Should we be predicting overall diameter size at given or desired harvest times (60 or 70 years)? The purpose of this article is to shed some light on answers to these questions, based of growth measurement data from my own plantation(s).

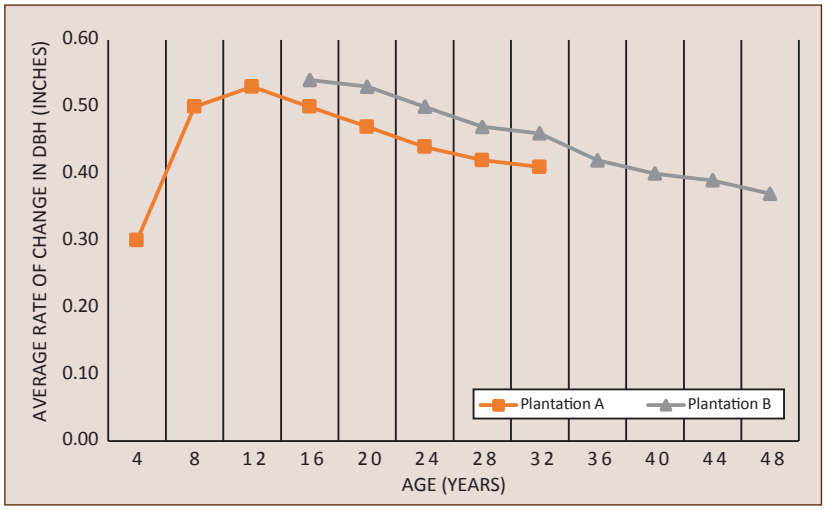


Figure 1. Change in rate of growth (dbh) over 48 years. (Average change in dbh divided by age of trees)

History of Plantation Measurements

The plantations are located in Southwest Ohio at Harrison, about 20 miles northwest of Cincinnati. Plantation "A" is 4 to 5-acres, consists currently of 187 crop trees and was planted in 1984, thus being 34 years old after the 2017 growth season. DBH has been measured every 4th year since establishment of the plantation.

Plantation "B" is located adjacent to Plantation "A", is 1-acre in size, consists currently of 34 crop trees, and was planted in 1968, thus being 50 years of age after the 2017 growth season. Diameter (DBH) was first measured when the trees were 16 years old.

Growth Rate

The trees in Plantation "A" averaged 12.98 inches DBH in 2016, for an average annual growth rate of 0.41 inches per year (Figure 1). However, this does not mean the trees grew at a constant rate of 0.41 inches for each four-year period in which they were measured. Careful analysis of the average increment growth rate per four-year period in Figure 1 shows the trees grew most rapidly in the first eight-years after establishment, reached a threshold around age 12, and then declined gently from about ages 14 through 32. The periodic or incremental growth rate curve for my black walnuts resembles the typical growth curve of a business, where a rapid growth rate follows an establishment period, only to peak and then level off. A similar pattern of growth for several 26 year old stands in Virginia was reported, where the authors concluded, "Growth rate is rapid in young stands once they dominate competing vegetation, but decreases with age at a decreasing rate until an almost constant rate is reached" (Dierauf, Garner, and Scrivani 1995, p8).

An age of 32 years is only about half the harvest age assumed for walnut plantations. If the trees in Figure 1 averaged 12.98 inches DBH and an average annual growth rate of 0.41 per year, should we expect the DBH to be around 26 inches at age 64 (next 32 yrs. x 0.41 in/year = 13.12 inches future growth)? Of course, this all depends on whether the trees continue to grow at a future rate of around 0.41 in/year or if they continue a gentle decline in growth during the next 32 years!

Plantation "B" and its DBH measurements from ages 16 – 48 years may shed some light on growth rates expected in the next 32 years. Figure 1 shows the average DBH growth rate for the trees in Plantation "B". The average DBH for the 48 year trees is 18.06 inches, for an average

Continued on page 19

HTIRC Butternut Breeding and Research Program

By Jim McKenna, Operational Tree Breeder, USDA Forest Service

Butternut, *Juglans cinerea*, also known as white walnut, has been a target of HTIRC research for over a decade. Butternut, although never common, is now a rare tree across most of its former range due in part to a fungal pathogen called butternut canker disease. Our research, done in cooperation with many partners, has concentrated on collecting and screening native butternut and naturally occurring hybrids between butternut and Japanese walnut for disease resistance. We hoped to identify disease resistance in native butternut, but also investigated the hybrids in case disease resistance in native butternut populations was weak or absent. Disease-resistant

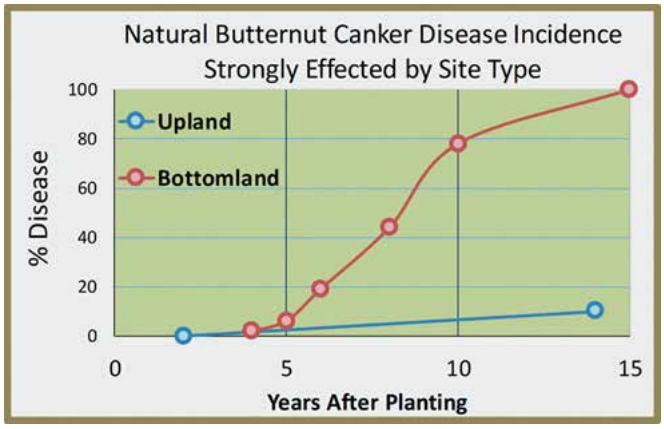


Figure 1

or tolerant families could be propagated for butternut restoration plantings on public and private lands to restore this tree species with historic importance for wildlife food and high value timber products.

Findings, as of 2018, from our research program are summarized below:

1. Determined the highly significant suppression of butternut canker disease on upland sites vs. bottom land sites (Figure 1). Monitored plantings on upland sites have seen much slower progression of natural disease spread than on bottomland sites. This observation led to the initiation of a "citizen science" project supplying butternut seedlings to landowners and public land managers in Ohio and Indiana for paired plantings on upland and bottomland sites to investigate further our initial observations. Reports from these plantings will help us evaluate this disease response difference over a much wider range of sites.
2. Determined that screening seedlings naturally underneath diseased over-story trees was much faster (4 years compared to 10-years) and more economical and informative than previous inoculation methods. Previously, individual trees were inoculated with fungal cultures requiring significant time and effort to screen for potential resistance. We discovered that retaining a few infected but surviving trees in previous plantings and replanting new seedlings adjacent to those retained trees results in more rapid and efficient inoculation of the seedlings and reflects a more natural means of infection.
3. Evaluated the 2nd screening block of HTIRC-Purdue (10-years post inoculation) and found hybrid families possess much more resistance than do pure butternut families (Figure 2). We have found butternut canker disease resistance is weak or absent in the families of butternut we have screened. Some families of hybrid butternut demonstrate much stronger resistance. The families of butternut and hybrid butternuts demonstrating the best resistance provide potential candidates for breeding and seed orchard trees to move toward butternut restoration planting stock. Note that the seed family 15-86 is a new seed accession from New York State that was called a pure J. cinerea but its disease reaction and twig morphology suggest hybrid.

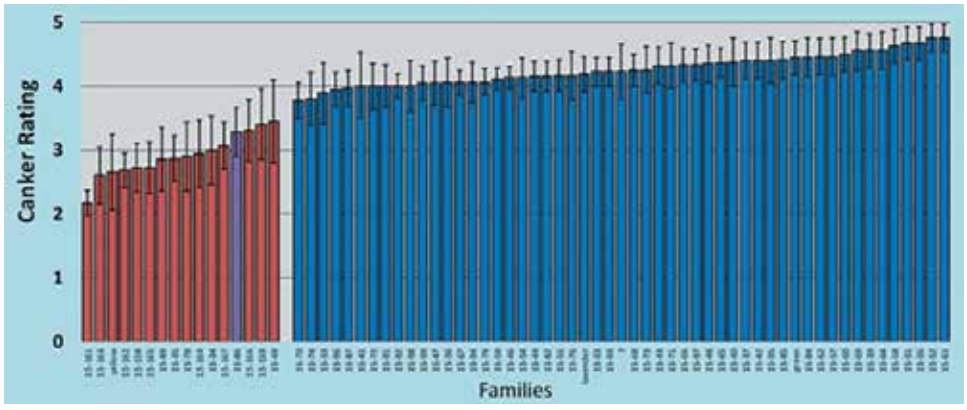


Figure 2: Red bars represent hybrid butternut (hybrids with Japanese walnut) and blue bars represent pure butternut. Canker ratings are based on the number of cankers per tree with "1" being none to very few and "5" being many (Figure 3).

We have reached an agreement to begin to supply excess pure butternut seed from our Ohio and Indiana orchards to the Clements State Tree Nursery in West Virginia, of the West Virginia Division of Forestry, to grow and provide landowners a future supply of butternut. 2018 marks the 10th year the IN-DNR Division of Forestry has been providing hybrid butternut seedlings to Indiana residents through their state forest nursery system. The IN-DNR has been a key cooperator utilizing our screening data and the first state in the native range to deploy hybrid butternut. Beside data, we have shared excess hybrid seed and selections for new hybrid orchards.

The cooperation and contributions of many agencies, landowners, resource professionals and researchers has made this restoration project possible by providing butternut seed or seedlings, planting sites, seedling production, and distribution assistance.

Figure 3

Canker Rating 1 to 2 *Canker Rating 3* *Canker Rating 4-5*

Regional Patterns of Declining Butternut *(Juglans cinerea L.)* Suggest Site Characteristics for Restoration

Morin, Randall S.; Gottschalk, Kurt W.; Ostry, Michael E.; Liebhold, Andrew M. 2018. Regional patterns of declining butternut (Juglans cinerea L.) suggest site characteristics for restoration. Ecology and Evolution. 8(1): 546-559. https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.3641

Abstract

Butternut trees dying from a canker disease were first reported in southwestern Wisconsin in 1967. Since then, the disease has caused extensive mortality of butternut throughout its North American range. The objectives of this study were to quantify changes in butternut populations and density across its range and identify habitat characteristics of sites where butternut is surviving in order to locate regions for potential butternut restoration.

The natural range of butternut (Juglans cinerea L.) extends over a large region of eastern N. America encompassing New Brunswick south to North Carolina, north to Minnesota, and southwest to Missouri. Despite the species' large range, it is typically not a common tree, comprising a relatively minor component of several different forest types. We evaluated change in butternut abundance and volume from current and historic data from 21 states in the eastern United States. We related abundance and volume at two time periods to a suite of ecological and site factors in order to characterize site conditions where butternut survived. We also assessed the current level of butternut mortality across its range. Since the 1980s, the number of butternut trees and butternut volume have decreased by 58% and 44%, respectively, across its US range. Substantial relative decreases in tree numbers and volume occurred in most ecoregion sections.

Five environmental variables were found to be significant predictors of butternut presence. The potential impacts of butternut canker are particularly acute as the canker pathogen invasion pushes a rare tree species toward extinction, at least at a local scale. Based on the results presented here, large-diameter maple/beech/birch stands in dry, upland sites in eastern Minnesota, western Wisconsin, and upstate New York appear to offer the most favorable conditions for butternut growth and survival and thus may be the best stands for planting resistant butternut trees.

Found at TreeSearch online at *https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/jrnl/2017/nrs_2017_morin_002.pdf.*

What I Know (what I think I know) About Forestry

By: Hugh B. Pence

Last year I attended my 100th Walnut Council meeting. Does that make me an expert about forestry? NO WAY! But at least I have some opinions about forestry, and that is what this article is all about.

Respecting Soil Types is Everything

When I attended my first eight to ten Walnut Council meetings, there was usually a soil pit dug, and always a discussion about the different soils and how they relate to the needs of a walnut tree. Why are we so "hard headed" and "slow learners" when it comes to soil types? Obviously, I now know that Mr. Walnut needs a loamy to a silt loam soil, friable, with no hard pan in the subsoil, no high water table, and a soil depth deep enough for 100% tree growth.

Therefore, one needs to look at a soil type map before planting any walnut trees. These soil maps were not made by God, but by humans. The mappings were usually done in two to three acre units, and within those units there could be soils better suited for walnut trees than the rating, or vice versa. Unless you were lucky enough to be on a site with just one soil type, then one needs to take into account the potential variability within in a given soil type area map and plan accordingly. In retrospect one should rarely plant 100% walnut trees on a given site, unless you plan to be in nut production, and then you need to plant specific nut cultivars and not "mine run walnut trees". Therefore if you plant a mixture of walnuts and other hardwoods on a given site, the soil types will dictate which species will prosper on a given soil type. High priority – be realistic – if after four or so years and things aren't growing well, be willing to alter your long term plans for the site. What a waste of time and money managing trees planted on the wrong site.

Since Mr. Walnut wants it just right, not too wet a site nor too dry, one needs to think about that potential glorious site that will grow a superior walnut tree.

I Would Not Plant a Tree in a Farm Field Without a Soil Test

Unless you are planting trees in a woods that has never been farmed, one should always do a soil test on any field that has been previously farmed. On any given field, without a soil test you have no idea of the PH level of the field, nor its fertility. This is your one chance to apply lime if needed, to get the PH up to 6.8 to 7.0, and then get the phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulfur, manganese, zinc, boron, copper, up to a decent level. Planting on the right soil, and correcting fertility, as needed, will go a long, long way towards a successful planting. The one exception to the above plan would be if the field had been a feed lot or if one knew it had been well fertilized, limed and/or manured at some recent past.

Site Preparation, and Early Weed Control is Everything

Proper site preparation will depend on the site on which you have chosen to plant the trees. The main criteria is choosing the correct initial soil preparation, selecting the correct tree spacing for your management criteria, and then proper weed control. Near perfect weed control for three to four years, proper site preparation, and proper fertility are the three main things to guarantee a successful planting.

Put a High Emphasis on Tree Genetics

In today's agriculture, no farmer in his right mind would ever consider "going to the corn crib to get his seed corn". When one orders tree seedlings from a nursery that is essentially what you are doing because a good percentage of those seedlings come with unknown genetics. We have overcome this problem by planting six to ten times the number of trees that will make the final stand, and when the crop trees are selected out of a planting, there are usually enough high quality trees to be profitable.

When one has the opportunity, over an extended period of time, to witness the growth of trees all planted at the same time and managed uniformly, it is indeed sobering to see the genetic variability and poor genetics of some trees planted from unknown sourced seedlings. Buy the highest quality seedlings you can. With the current tree genetic improvement work now being done, the quality of seedlings being offered in the marketplace should continually improve.

If you have some big, tall, extra high quality, walnut trees on your property, don't be afraid to produce some of your own seedlings. Because you know two things for sure; that genetics is adapted to your site and those trees have proven they have the genetic potential to make big veneer trees.

Expect Mediocre Results Planting Trees in the Shade

If you are like me, you probably spend the majority of your time, out in the woods from October to May, when the leaves are off the trees. We all have places on our property, where we think the trees could be doing better.

I got an eye opener, the last couple of years, spending some time in the woods during the summer months. I learned a lot and one thing I learned is the sun casts a long shadow from sun-up to 10 a.m. and from 3 p.m. to sunset. A lot of the trees on our farms that do poorly spend a lot of daylight hours in the shade.

Pruning – The Correct Way is Well Known

I know I've pruned over six thousand trees in my life. Over the past twenty-five years I've had a chance to follow-up, and witness the great results of proper pruning. That said, certainly there are trees that one should give up early on and coppice at the ground to regrow, but it is amazing that sometimes you can make a "silk purse our of a sow's ear", but not often.

We are past experimenting – put a high priority on learning correct pruning techniques. In their arrogance, I'm amazed how many district and professional foresters have not mastered proper pruning techniques.

Size Up Your Property and Plan Accordingly

Don't force a woods or a tree planting to go where it doesn't want to go. Sometimes "down deep in our heart" we think we would like to have certain things happen that though, well informed, we actually know are unrealistic. This line of thinking leads to some big disappointments. Study your property carefully, analyze all the facts, and develop your plan and management and act accordingly.

Think Twice Before You Spend Any Money or Personal Time on Wildlife

When I first started managing farms, my old boss, Howard Halderman, could wave his arms and say as an example, "this ought to be a dairy farm". Can you say your farm is a timber and wildlife farm? Early on, besides timber production, I spent a lot of time on wildlife affairs. In my case, helping wildlife proved to be, at least for me, a waste of time. To benefit wildlife, of most any kind, you need big acreages of wildlife habitat, well managed. Small patches of this and that are essentially worthless. If your property is such that you can truly benefit wildlife – go for it; otherwise concentrate your time on timber production.

Better to be Lucky Than Smart

Don't be afraid to experiment, try different things, see what works, have special projects, experiment, etc. Who knows, maybe something will "hit" and you will have had fun and discover something new.

You Don't have to be Smart – Just Do What Smart People Do

With all the new knowledge gathered about tree planting and timber production, there is no reason to "reinvent the wheel". Do your homework, satisfy yourself as to what will work for you, and have at it.

Enjoy Every Hour You Can Spend in the Woods

Enough said.

This is a good time for me to say THANK YOU to all of those who have helped me on my own personal journey growing walnut trees. I wish I could personally recognize "you all".

Hugh Pence is an Indiana board member, past president of Walnut Council and audit and finance chair.

Logger Representative Report

By Ben Bruggeman

The life of a logger in the 21st century has really changed. It has always taken a special person to work in the woods. Growing up in the woods I saw of lot of what it took to be a good steward of the land, and a successful timber man. Today the logger is a dying breed. It not only takes tough skin and dedication to be a successful timber man, but the support of your wife and family.

There are many things currently holding back the loggers, although some of them are self-inflicted over years of bad practices by less reputable loggers:

- Wrongful cutting of trees
- Recklessness by loggers and skidder operators
- Not paying for trees harvested
- Harvesting trees when ground conditions are unfavorable

The bad practices will take a lot of time to overcome, and it will take time for the good practices and loggers to clean up the reputations of logging. A few things that have hurt logging and profitability:

- Road weight restrictions
- Lack of sawmills due to world markets, with many logs leaving the country
- Hunting restrictions and harvesting times
- Equipment age and replacement cost
- No longer make small skidders
- Environmental restrictions (for example, bat habitat guidelines)

We need to focus on being stewards of the land and less about producing logs. We need to build trust with landowners and take pride in the work we do. This will be hard on the reckless loggers, but in the end the good ones will prevail. In the end the land will be a better place. The key is "Bigger is not Better." It comes down to getting more value out of our logs and the land that produces our logs.

Reflections on the Walnut Council: A Student's Perspective

By Geoff Williams

In our lab, we research pests and pathogens that threaten hardwood trees. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to attend the national meeting of the Walnut Council this past August 2018 in Dubuque, Iowa. My attendance was sponsored by a scholarship and Hugh Pence, and I am incredibly grateful to have had the experience.

Often times scientists—as passionate as we can be about a biological problem that affects ecosystems, economies, and livelihoods—lose sight of the importance of getting into the field and seeing things from the perspective of a landowner, forester, or public servant. Our study system (for me, black walnut) exists in our mind or in our laboratory as more of an abstraction, and we only put our boots on the ground to collect data for experiments.

I cannot imagine a more valuable experience for a young scientist such as myself than three days of talks, field tours, and networking with landowners, foresters, and public servants who face real challenges in the world. After making new friends and contacts with landowners from a diversity of states, age groups, and backgrounds, I discovered that Aldo Leopold's philosophy lives on in the private woodlot owner, to whom it is an every-day way of life.

On the main field tour day, we visited the property of Dan Bohlin, in the driftless region of southern Wisconsin. I saw the most beautiful, straight, and flawless 50+ year old walnut I have seen in my few years of being a 'walnut person' and learned how guided natural regeneration and stand improvement can be used to produce more of these high-quality trunks. Hopefully this skill will come in handy for me when I have my own walnut property.

The talks were every bit as interesting and eye-opening as the field tour. Finally, beyond talks and tours, I had the privilege to meet and talk to landowners and foresters from all over the Midwest. Many of these folks had more decades of experience managing for quality walnut than I have been alive. By the time I knew what a walnut tree was, they were already lifelong lovers of this magnificent tree and all it has to offer.

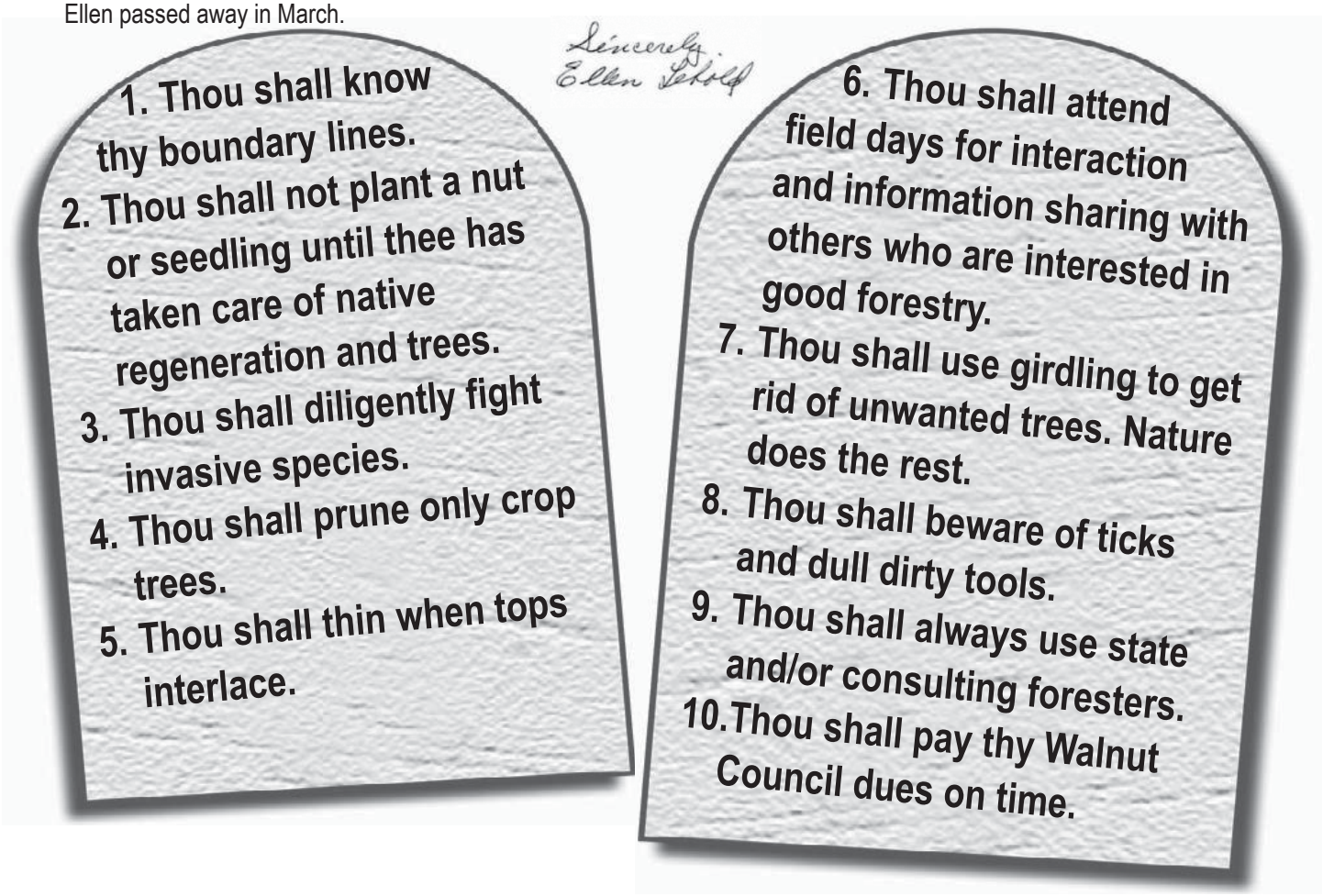
My experience at the national meeting has only served to drive me to become more involved with the Walnut Council. I attended the fall field tour with the Indiana state chapter at Barkley Farms in Bloomfield, IN, where I continued to get to know landowners passionate about high quality hardwoods.

At both the national and state meetings, it was interesting to hear different opinions and discussions about best management practices and how to keep expectations realistic in a walnut plantation. I learned that just like among scientists, expectations can diverge from reality in the minds of landowners and property managers, too. Even foresters can have differing philosophies, loyalties, and levels of experience—so be careful who you hire. In the future, I intend to stay active in the Walnut Council, and keep my science grounded in the real world. I look forward to this year's upcoming meeting in Kansas!

Geoff Williams is a PhD student at Purdue University. His supervisor is Dr. Matt Ginzel, the co-director of the Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center.

Ten Commandments of Good Forestry

Long time member and past president of Missouri Chapter Walnut Council, Ellen Lebold provided the Chapter with this list of "Charlie's and Ellen's 10 Commandments for good forestry" that are used on their Jen-De-le tree farm at Lawson. Ellen passed away in March.



Diameter (Dbh) Growth Trends for Black Walnut

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growth per year of 0.37 inches. This value is certainly less than the 0.41/yr. rate for the 32-year old trees. However, it should be pointed out that the trees in Plantation "A" have been more heavily thinned than those in Plantation 'B", which allows for less crown competition and perhaps, greater DBH growth in the future. For example, trees in Plantation "A" are approximately 40 ft. apart, while those in Plantation "B" are approximately 30 ft. apart. Observation of tree crowns in Plantation "B" shows them too dense and competing for available sunlight.

When growth rate data from plantations A and B are compared (Figure 1), we can get an idea of possible future growth for the 32 year old trees through age 48. The overlapping growth curves are similar in slope.

However, the trees in Plantation "B" are nearer a creek, occupy a better site, and thus, show a greater rate of growth for the years the two plantations overlap (ages 16 – 32). But, it would be unwise to project the future growth of Plantation "A" over the next 16 years based on the growth data of Plantation "B", for Plantation "A" has been thinned more heavily, resulting in greater spacing between crop trees (40 ft.) versus 30 ft. for Plantation "B". In addition, a most recent thinning in Plantation "A" occurred 4 years ago, resulting in a possible increase in the growth rate increment between ages 28 to 32.

LITERATURE CITED

Dierauf T. A., J. W. Garner J. W., and J. A. Scrivani J. A. 1995. A Study of Diameter Growth in Black Walnut Stands. Occasional Report No. 118, Virginia Department of Forestry.

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