Iowa Forestry Field Days
Forestry Extension, Iowa State University and the Division of Forests and Forestry, Iowa Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with County Extension Offices and County Conservation Boards, the Iowa Tree Farm Program, Iowa Woodland Owners Association, and others are providing educational Forestry Field Days at eleven locations throughout Iowa. The following is a listing of field day locations by dates, county, directions and topics to be covered. Some field days are provided without charge and some have a charge to recover our costs for lunches, refreshments and materials when provided. Please note, that in past years, many of you have received a direct mailing inviting you to a field day in your area. For most of you, this newsletter will be your only information about forestry field days.

CLAYTON COUNTY
August 30, 2001, 12:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Scot Christiansen Farm
Topics: Grapes in Iowa-varieties, culture, markets, the Iowa industry; Prairie Establishment-species and seed sources, common plant identification; Woodlands-group management in woodlands, savannah management, oak regeneration, crop tree improvement, thinning and pruning.
Directions: West of Edgewood on Hwy 3 to X21 (Littleport Rd); north approximately 6 miles on X21.
Cost: $5.00 for materials and refreshments

MONROE COUNTY
September 8, 2001, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Soap Creek Tree Farm
Topics: Christmas Tree Production-species, shearing, marketing; Prairie Plants-prairie management, plant identification; Establishing Trees-planting seedlings, direct seeding; Woodland Improvement; Wildlife and Woodlands: Tree and Shrub Identification.
Directions: From Blakesburg, go west on H-51 approximately 3 1/2 miles to H-49; go one mile south on H-49; then west on county gravel approximately 1/2 mile
Cost: $7.00 for lunch and materials

DAVIS COUNTY
September 20, 2001, 12:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Wapello State Park
Topics: Big Tree Management-how to sell and get the most money, identification of tree quality, what is a defect, starting over after harvest; Iowa Tax Laws for Woodlands; Woodland Improvement-thinning, pruning, cost share programs, Multi-flora rose; Alternative Crops for Income from Woodlands.
Directions: Five and 1/2 miles west of Drakesville on Hwy 273 and then south east into the park.
Cost: $5.00 for materials and refreshments

LUCAS COUNTY
September 25, 2001, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Stephens State Forest
Topics: Wildlife Habitat Thinning-crop trees, weed trees, benefits of release; Tree and Shrub Identification; Tree Seed, Iowa’s Other Crop-collection techniques, seed quality, marketing and selling; Harvesting Woodlands-selective harvest vs clearcutting, planning for regeneration.
Directions: Go south of Lucas on Hwy 65 approximately 2 miles; turn right at the bridge (Stephens State Forest Sign). Go approximately 3 miles west into the forested area-first campground on the right.
Cost: No Charge

WARREN COUNTY
September 26, 2001, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Ralph and Charlotte Schlenker’s Acreage and Tree Farm
Topics: Care of Acreage Trees-planting, mulching, fertilization, pruning; Working with Old Groves; Conservation Reserve Tree Plantings; Walnut Plantations-thinning, pruning for quality, identifying and releasing crop trees.
Directions: From junction of Hwy 5 and Hwy 69&65, go south on Hwy 69&65 approximately 6 miles to Fulton St; go
west on Fulton St. 1/4 mile to driveway.

Cost: No Charge

**JACKSON COUNTY**

**September 28, 2001, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

Mensinger Tree Farm  
**Topics:** Forestry and Deer Management-sisal (twine) fencing, sisal bud wraps, fencing techniques; Walnut Management-crop tree release and thinning, pruning for quality; Walnut Selections for Nut Production; Direct Seeding Practices; Goat Prairies-identification and management.  
**Directions:** From the intersection of Hwy 61 and County Rd. D61, north of Maquoketa, go east on D61 approximately 7.5 miles  
**Cost:** No Charge

**LEE COUNTY**

**October 2, 2001, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Shimek State Forest, White Oak Campground  
**Topics:** Light and Forest Growth; How to Encourage Oak Renewal in Woodlands; Changes in Flora and Fauna with Management; Lyme's Disease Update; Forest Reserve Law and Income Taxes; Landowner Objectives and Woodlands; Big Tree Management; Seed Collection-How, Where and Quality.  
**Directions:** From Farmington, east on J56, three miles; south on Forest Road 1/4 mile and then east approximately 1/2 mile.  
**Cost:** $8.00 for lunch and materials

**FLOYD COUNTY**

**October 3, 2001, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Lines Tree Farm  
**Topics:** CRP Trees and Shrubs; Working with New Woodlands-crop tree ID and release, weed tree control, when and how to prune; Woody Plant Identification; Windbreak Design and Species; All About Christmas Trees-species selection, shearing and pruning, weed control, marketing; Making Wreaths.  
**Directions:** Two miles north of Marble Rock on T-26  
**Cost:** $7.00 for lunch and materials

**ALLAMAKEE COUNTY**

**October 4, 2001, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Headquarters, Yellow River State Forest  
**Topics:** Using Direct Seeding for Forest Establishment-seed collection, site preparation, planting techniques, care and maintenance; Evaluation of Herbicide Weed Control Trials; Conservation Easements; EQIP for Iowa; Woodland Silviculture-uneven age management of woodlands, shelterwood for even age management, crop tree thinning and release, herbicides for woodland management.  
**Directions:** 5 miles SE of Rossville on Hwy 76 to B25; 4 miles NE on B25  
**Cost:** $7.00 for lunch and materials

**HARRISON COUNTY**

**October 17, 2001, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

Visitor Center, Loess Hills State Forest  
**Topics:** Direct Seeding-techniques, evaluation of seedings; Companion Plantings-species which go together; Working With

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Walnut Stands-thinning, pruning; Iowa Prairies-prairie management, savannah restoration  
**Directions:** The forest visitor center is located on the west edge of Pisgah  
**Cost:** No Charge

**TREE FARM FIELD DAY**

**October 23, 2001, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Keith and Mary Shafer’s Tree Farm  
**Topics:** The Iowa Tree Farm Program; Crop Tree Release and Improvement; Weed Tree Removal; Walnut Pruning; Plantations-soils, deer; Tree Farmer of the Year Recognition; Small Sawmills-tree quality vs lumber quality, taking care of native lumber, properties and uses of native lumber.  
**Directions:** South of Fairfield on Hwy 1, 6 1/2 miles to 270th St.; east on 270th St 1 1/2 miles to Shafer Tree Farm (Watch for Signs)  
**Cost:** $6.00 for lunch and materials

**Iowa's Tree Farmer of the Year-2001**  
Keith and Mary Shafer from rural Birmingham in Jefferson County have been selected as Iowa’s Tree Farmer of the Year. Each year the Iowa Tree Farm Committee selects the outstanding Tree Farmer of the state for recognition and awards. Keith and Mary were nominated by Ray Lehn, Iowa DNR District Forester from Fairfield.

Keith has been a long time Tree Farmer, with a Tree Farm certified in 1956, and the current 95 acre tree farm which was certified in 1967. Tree Farm activities that have been done by the Shafer’s over the years has included continuing the original management plan written in 1948 with more recent updates and revisions. Tree Farm activities have included harvest of sawlogs in 1980 and 1999, reforestation on several sites over the years totaling more than 25 acres, timber stand improvement on 6 parcels comprising 85 acres, and development of a pond for wildlife habitat and reduced soil erosion. The Shafer’s are multiple-use woodland owners; quality sawlog production is an important objective,
A study conducted at Iowa State University looked at Iowa’s urban/community green ash trees to determine if the ash yellow phytoplasm was present. The survey results indicated that approximately 4% of Iowa’s urban and community green ash trees contained the ash yellow phytoplasm. However, the study found several declining green ash trees that tested negative for the ash yellow phytoplasm but expressed symptoms comparable to trees infected with the ash yellow phytoplasm. The uniformity in symptoms may suggest the possibility of another causal agent causing similar decline. Further research is needed to determine if there truly is another causal agent causing the decline.

Unfortunately, research has not yet been conducted in Iowa’s woodlands to determine the source of ash decline. Keep in mind, there can be numerous factors contributing to decline making an accurate diagnosis very difficult. In addition, there is very little management that can be done without knowing the cause for the decline. The continuing development in testing methods may one day help identify what pathogens are present, which in turn can help us develop management practices. Until that time, we continually learn the importance of diversifying our woodlands.

Chris Feeley, ISU Extension Associate

Featured Shrub-Hazelnut

American hazelnut or filbert (Corylus americana) is a small, 6-12 feet tall and wide, woodland and woodland edge shrub found throughout Iowa, although it is more common in eastern Iowa than western Iowa. Its natural range in North America is from Maine west to Saskatchewan, south to Oklahoma, Georgia and north through New England. Beaked hazelnut (Corylus cornuta) is native across North America, but less common in Iowa than American hazelnut. Both species are very similar; the distinguishing difference is the presence of a horned beak on the fruit of beaked hazelnut.

Hazelnut leaves are alternate, simple 3-6 inches long, heart shaped at the base and dark green above and very hairy or pubescent beneath. Buds are 1/6 to 1/4 inch long, gray-pubescent to greenish brown to purple. The species usually forms multiple spreading stems. Male flowers are in catkins, 1-3 inches long, yellowish brown, and quite showy in the spring. Female flowers are very inconspicuous. The
fruit is an acorn-type nut, enclosed in two leafy bracts.  

Beaked hazel has fruit with an additional horn or beak on its fruit.

In the 1960's and '70's, hazelnut was not common in Iowa; in the last two decades it has become much more common. It if often found in association with our upland woodlands, often growing on the edges or open fields into the woodlands. Production of fruit is fairly sparse in shade, to quite heavy in open field environments with more sunlight. Fruit production begins early, usually one to two years after planting. It reproduces easily from the fruit and spreads into thickets from root sprouts or shoots. It makes an excellent windbreak shrub because it fills in the space with new shoots as it grows and expands.

Hazelnut is a favorite of many species of wildlife, including small mammals, ruffed grouse, turkeys and other large birds, and squirrels. Deer use the plant for winter browse. The filberts have been used for human food by the American Indians early and are now receiving some additional attention as a possible food crop for the midwest. Work is in progress to select varieties for nut production.

Central Region Woodland Stewardship Conference
The Third Annual Woodland Stewardship Conference for Landowners in Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, and Kansas will be November 3, 2001 at the Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, Nebraska. Cost for the conference is $30 and includes the buffet lunch. Concurrent workshops in the following areas will be presented: Woodland Management, Wildlife and Prairies, Working Trees, and Tree Health and Care.

For registration materials contact Forestry Extension, 253 Bessey Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011 phone (515-294-1168) or e-mail (phw@iastate.edu).

State Nursery Seedlings
The State Forest Nursery will be taking tree orders for the fall and spring season starting August 1st. The prices remain the same as last year. There are some new species available for this year along with some new packets. Order forms will be sent to those that have ordered in recent years. They will also be available on the web site at http://www.state.ia.us/forestry. Gift certificates will also be available.

Call 1-800-865-2477 to order or for more information.
Roger Jacob, Forestation and Nursery Forester, Iowa DNR

Forestry Extension: Phone-515/294-1168
e-mail--phw@iastate.edu
Web Site: http://www.ag.iastate.edu/departments/forestry/ext/ext.html