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 seven locations throughout Iowa this fall. 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. For most of you, this newsletter will be your only information about forestry field days.

SAVE IT AND POST IT

Forestry Field Days
LEE COUNTY
October 4, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Pilot Grove Savings Bank’s Community Room, Donnellson
Topics: Iowa Forest Insect Update-gypsy moth, emerald ash borer; Iowa Disease Update-ash dieback, oak wilt, oak tatters; Grass Competition Control in Plantations; Iowa Woods-properties and uses; Direct Seeding-broadcast and row seeding; Planting Trees Using Seedlings; Prairie Remnants-Iowa’s lost landscape.
Directions: Main Street, Donnellson
Cost: $10 for coffee, lunch and materials

LOESS HILLS/HARRISON COUNTY
October 6, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Visitor Center, Loess Hills State Forest
Topics: Iowa Hardwood Lumber-log quality, operation of portable band sawmill, properties and uses of Iowa hardwoods; Harvest in the Woods-working to regenerate fine hardwoods, planting and competition control; Steps in Marketing Sawtimber.
Directions: West side of Pisgah
Cost: No Charge

HANCOCK COUNTY
October 7, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Edelen Tree Farm
Topics: Direct Seeding-how to do it, maintenance of direct seedings; Walnut Plantations-thinning, pruning for log quality, control of grass competition; Planting and Care of Seedlings; Iowa Wetlands-what, how and when; Plantings and Wildlife-rabbits and deer; Trees for Kids-Project Learning Tree.
Directions: From Miller, east on B20 0.5 miles to Taylor Ave; north on Taylor Avenue 2.0 miles to 310th St; east on 310th St. 0.5 miles to Tree Farm
Cost: No Charge

YELLOW RIVER/ALLAMAKEE COUNTY
October 11, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Headquarters, Yellow River State Forest
Topics: Management Decisions in Upland Hardwoods-even vs uneven aged management, assessing the woodland, scaling for lumber and quality, when to market and value, pre and post harvest decisions; Lumber Markets and Lumber Value; Forest Reserve Law Update; Forest Health Update and Trends-oak wilt, ash decline, hickory mortality, tatters, gypsy moth, emerald ash borer.
Directions: 5 miles SE of Rossville on Hwy 76 to B25; 4 miles NE on B25 to the Headquarters.
Cost: $7.00 for coffee, lunch and materials

TREE FARM/DECATUR COUNTY
October 13, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sibylla and Bill Brown’s Tree Farm
Topics: Savannas? What and Why; Soils and Plants; Oak Regeneration and the Savanna; Savanna Restoration-management for savanna plants; Identification of Woodland Savanna Plants; Recognition of Iowa’s Tree Farmer of the Year; Cost Share Assistance and Management Help; Thinning for Savannas; Burning as a Management Tool
Directions: From Leon, east on Hwy 2, 4 miles to Pony Farm Road; south 2 miles on Pony Farm Road to 21675 Pony Farm Road.
Cost: $12 for coffee, lunch and materials

...and justice for all

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension
Ames, Iowa
**CHICKASAW COUNTY**

**October 18, 12:45 P.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Denise Straw Tree Farm and Pine Acres

**Topics:** Identification of Woodland Trees; Marketing timber-quality and value, options for marketing; Walnut and Fine Hardwood Improvement-crop tree ID and release, pruning for quality; Christmas Tree Culture-species, pruning and shearing, marketing, insects and disease

**Directions:** From New Hampton, two miles east on Hwy 24 to Panora Ave (Golf Course Corner); south 1 mile on Panora to field day site.

**Cost:** No Charge

**MILLS COUNTY**

**October 27, 1:00 P.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Otha D. Wearin Trust Tree Farm

**Topics:** Management of Bottomland Hardwoods-volume and value, regeneration of the new forest; Planting Large Seedlings-weed control for success, success using tree shelters; Deer Management and Control; Marketing High Value Timber; Black Walnut as a Part of Bottomland Forests.

**Directions:** From the junction of Hwy 34 and M16 in Hastings, west one mile to 350th St; north on 350th St. to 57947 350th St.

**Cost:** No Charge

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**2005 Iowa Outstanding Tree Farmers**

Sibylla and Bill Brown have been named Iowa’s Tree Farmers of the Year for 2005. They will be recognized and honored at a Forestry field Day at their Tree Farm on October 13 east of Leon in Decatur County. For more information see “Forestry Field Days” in this issue of the Woodland Owners Newsletter.

The Bown’s 200 acre Tree Farm was certified in 1986, and they have continued to manage and improve the Tree Farm with the assistance of their Iowa DNR District Forester, Randy Goerndt. Some of their woodland management activities have included: A selective walnut harvest in 1995; promotion of the savanna plant community with the removal of ironwood, over- and mid-story thinning and regular prescribed burning; and natural regeneration of hardwoods as a result of the prescribed fires.

Bill and Sibylla’s Tree Farm has served as both a research and teaching laboratory for savanna restoration and management in Iowa. Woodland and prairie specialists often visit their Tree Farm and observe the results of their management activities. Some of their educational programs have included field days for woodland owners, the Iowa Native Plants Society, the Iowa Prairie Network, the Des Moines Founders Garden Club, and the Prairie State Mushroom Club. They are also active in growing grapes and the production of wine. They are active in the Iowa Grape Growers Association and is assisting in promoting the grape industry in the state and the selection of grape cultivars for Iowa. Bill is also active with research with Iowa State University, Southwest Missouri State University and Cornell University in the development of new and innovative wine production techniques.

Sibylla and Bill are outstanding stewards of their land. Sibylla has the natural forester heritage; her German roots go back to the Hohenzollern Dynasty, which was a family of German foresters. They both love the environment and promote their conservation efforts in both their willingness to share their experiences and their enthusiasm for what they are doing on their Tree Farm. **CONGRATULATIONS TO IOWA’S 2005 TREE FARMERS OF THE YEAR—SIBYLLA AND BILL BROWN**

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**Upcoming Events**

**THE TWO STATE FORESTRY CONFERENCE AND EXPO**

September 8 -10, 2005 at the RiverCenter in Davenport Iowa. Whether you are an experienced forester, land owner or forestry enthusiast, the 2005 Two State Forestry Conference and Expo is for you. Featuring educational programs and interactive demonstrations, including an authentic lumberjack show, that will educate and entertain one and all. Don’t miss this great event! **For more information visit [http://www.twostateforestry.com/](http://www.twostateforestry.com/) or call 309-764-1486. ext. 4.**
WOODLAND STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE
November 19, 2005 at Lied Conference Center, Arbor Day Farm, Nebraska City, NE
For more information contact Paul Wray: Phone (515/294-1168) or e-mail phw@iastate.edu

50th ANNUAL SHADE TREE SHORT COURSE
March 14-15, 2005 at the Scheman Center, Iowa State University
Be sure and attend this golden celebration of the premier shade tree conference in the US. Dr. Jeff Iles is planning an excellent program and event.
For more information contact Paul Wray: Phone (515/294-1168) or e-mail phw@iastate.edu

Emerald Ash Borer Update
Emerald ash borer...yes, we have heard a lot about this exotic, invasive insect. With millions of ash trees killed in the greater Detroit area and more tree deaths are expected throughout Michigan this year, the emerald ash borer is a significant threat to America’s urban and natural landscapes.

Before quarantines could be established, emerald ash borer was spread to neighboring Indiana and Ohio in various ash products (firewood, logs, and nursery stock). Early in the quarantine process, this beetle was also spread to Virginia and Maryland in nursery stock.

Many states are on full alert for the emerald ash borer. In Iowa, the Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association (INLA) joined with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) in recommending its members participate in a voluntary moratorium on purchasing ash nursery stock from east of the Mississippi River. This action strengthens the federal quarantine for moving ash products outside the known infested areas.

A multi-disciplinary task force, encompassing IDNR, IDALS, and Iowa State University Extension (ISUE), was assembled in 2004 to determine if this exotic borer was in Iowa. Fortunately, emerald ash borer was not found after surveying more than 250 sites and 2000 trees in all 99 counties.

Monitoring activities for 2005 will involve two tactics: surveys and sentinel trees. Mark Shour, ISUE entomologist, Holly Steiner, ISU undergraduate student, Aron Flickinger, IDNR forester, and the IDALS nursery inspectors will be conducting another statewide survey for the emerald ash borer during the summer and fall 2005. New business developments, established ash trees, new housing developments, landscape plant nurseries, and forest product mills will be visited in the effort. In addition, ISUE and IDNR established 50 sentinel trees prior to Memorial Day 2005. Sentinel or “trap” trees are intentionally stressed so that insect borers in the area will be attracted to them, lay eggs, and their larvae develop under the tree’s bark. In the absence of a known sex pheromone, this strategy has been used in Michigan to locate low population levels of the emerald ash borer.

As woodland owners and managers, your watchful eyes can enhance this formal monitoring effort. Although you have seen images of this pest, a picture is included in this article to refresh your memory. If you locate a suspicious ash tree, contact ISUE at 515-294-1101 or IDALS at 515-725-4170.

Newsletter

Contributed by Mark H. Shour, PhD, Iowa State University Extension

Featured Shrub-Elderberry
Common elderberry (Sambucus Canadensis) is common throughout Iowa, and is usually found along streams and ditches and in moist open woodlands. It is native in eastern North America from Nova Scotia to Florida, west to Texas and north to Minnesota.
It is a fast growing large shrub, 5 to 12 feet tall, often growing in thickets. It has pinnately compound, opposite leaves with 5 to 11 (mostly 7) leaflets, pointed and with teeth. Its twigs are stout, light gray in color with a very large pith, making the twig weak and pithy. Its flowers are produced in large, branched many flowered clusters, blooming in early summer. Each individual flower is bisexual, has five white petals. The fruit, produced in large clusters, with each individual fruit about 1/8 inch in diameter, deep purple in color, and very juicy.

Elderberry fruit is famous for its wine, jam and pie made with the juicy fruit. Elderberry fruit contains large amounts of vitamin C, as well as flavonoids, sugar, tannins, and some amino acids. The juice has been used to relieve colds and for asthma and bronchitis. The flowers have been used to improve complexion and the early American Indians used elderberry as a tea.

The Electronic Woodland Owners Newsletter
Postage and paper cost continues to rise, making it more difficult for us to provide this newsletter. It is available on our Forestry Extension Web Site at: [http://www.ag.iastate.edu/departments/forestry/ext/nletter.htm](http://www.ag.iastate.edu/departments/forestry/ext/nletter.htm)

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