



The Ohio Hetuch



Summer 2007

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Chair Comments—Dave Apsley, OSAF Chair

I hope you are all having a great summer. Don't forget to register for the summer meeting, which is coming up on July 18th. As always our OSAF summer and winter meetings are a great opportunity to interact with your fellow SAF members, become involved in the affairs of the Ohio Chapter, expand your horizons with great programming, and earn CFE credits. This summer is no exception. Stephanie Miller, your Chair Elect, has been working hard to organize an informative and exciting event. Please consider registering today!

On another note, I just finished signing up as a mentor on the national SAF website (www.safnet.org). I'm not sure what took me so long. The process is very simple and only takes a couple of minutes. Please consider making yourself available to students and young professionals to help them select their career paths and learn about the forestry profession. Presently, there are only three Ohio SAF members listed as mentors on the web site.

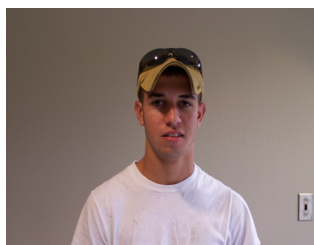
Finally, as many of you realize there is currently not a reliable directory for Ohio family forest owners to locate qualified forestry assistance. I am in the process of forming a committee to explore ways that Ohio SAF can promote the profession and our members. The details are sketchy, but the current thinking is to develop a list and/or website which promotes our members who are available to provide services to Ohio woodland owners. This list would be limited to SAF members and would provide details about their credentials and the services they provide. I see this as a win-win for SAF members and Ohio woodland owners. Please let me know if you have any thoughts, concerns, or suggestions (apsley.1@osu.edu or 740-289-2071).

Hope to see you in July!



Dave Apsley

2007 Cowen-Embree Scholarship Winners



Kenneth J. Mason "K.J."

Thank you to the Society of American Foresters for the scholarship and certificate. The money was used to pay for books, forestry supplies, and tuition.
Thanks Again,
Kenneth Mason



Kacy L. Ray

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I am very honored to be nominated for the 2007 Cowen/Embree Scholarship from the Ohio Society of American Foresters. The past few years at Ohio State has brought me many challenges, new experiences, a wonderful educational opportunity, and good friends and colleagues. Receiving this scholarship during my senior year reinforced my educational choice and reminded me that hard work and diligence is recognized and appreciated.

District IX Council Report- Roger Weaver, District IX Council Representative

My very first Council meeting as your official representative was held in Bethesda, MD on the weekend of March 24 – 25, 2007. This is my first Council report to you; something I will want to do after each meeting to keep you aware of the issues at hand.

It is amazing how many letters and reports are generated out of our National office that need Council buy-in. We spent most of the first morning going over those. The quality and professional level of these documents makes me proud of the SAF staff.

Here are some of the highlights of the Council meeting:

1. A strategic alliance between SAF and a large group of the TIMO and REIT companies was discussed. This alliance will only offer office space, office support, shared health benefits, and other administrative duties. SAF would benefit financially with this arrangement but would also open up dialogue with the largest landowners in the country. Council voiced concerns but backed proceeding with the talks.
2. Rita Nezek has left SAF for a job on the hill. Doug Crandell will take over her roles as Policy lead.
3. A long discussion was held about Liability Insurance coverage for local SAF Chapter meetings. JZA, our insurance broker for SAF, offers some coverage for most types of meetings, but each chapter needs to be aware when they exceed the boundaries of normal functions. Some activities that include kids, water events, sporting clays, field trips, etc., are not covered and supplemental insurance should be attained from JZA. The best resort is to find a local partner to pair up with that would have their own liability insurance. Contact SAF if there are questions concerning your coverage.
4. Due structure was a huge topic. All SAF member dues will be \$133 each year. Student dues remain at \$35. When students enter the workforce, their dues will be \$85 a year for 5 years as long as they stay a member of SAF. Retirees stay at \$105 as long as they retire as SAF members. Golden Members now will need to pay for the JOF if wanted at \$25 a year.
5. Local Chapter dues. When a new member joins SAF, a first year charge of \$22 for all local units will be assessed. After that first year, the assigned local dues take effect. This avoids the multiple invoices confusing new members.
6. Effective March 24, 2007, current student members and all subsequent student years of membership will count as active years of membership.
7. Membership classes were also voted on. With a vote of 8 for and 5 against, SAF will adopt only 3 membership categories: Member, Associate, and Student. I voted against this motion. There was not a clear decision made on what the difference was between the Member and Associate. Those that voted for this motion felt that SAF should be open to all who want to join as a member. I'm from the thought that we are a professional society and any more compromise on membership takes away from the professional stance of the Society. Since the vote was so split, it was decided to form a small team to research and analyze before finalizing any direction on this. This team will bring their ideas to the June meeting. I will continue to fight this. Before any of this can happen, a full vote by the membership will be needed, so keep posted.
8. An intensive focus group and survey process will be taking place over the next few months. Some of you may be contacted to provide feedback on your feeling on SAF.
9. A team has been formed to look again at the Leadership Academy and bring back ideas on the best way to make this happen.
10. Another task force was created to research the idea of SAF becoming a SFI Group Certifier. This is in its early stages and a lot of work needs to be done before looking hard at this.
11. The Council did have the opportunity to meet with the new Chief of the Forest Service, Gail Kimball. She is a long time SAF member and strong on Forest Health issues. Her comment about Forest Health includes stumps and loggers, so glad to see a glimpse of forest management coming from her.

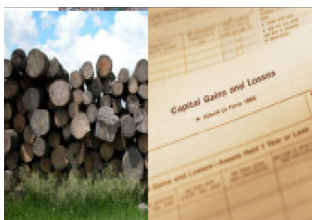
Please contact me at anytime if there are questions or comments about the issues above or those close to your heart.

Thanks for allowing me to serve.



Roger Weaver

Announcements



Income Tax Treatment of Timber Related Transactions

Wednesday, July 25, 2007 9 am - 4 pm

Agriculture Administration Building, Ohio State University, Columbus Campus

Preregistration is Required

Register by July 17, 2007- \$100

This conference qualifies for 5.5 of Category 1 SAF CFE credit

For more information about this event or to get registered visit <http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu>

Job Posting

Forest Management Technology Instructor—Hocking College

For full description please visit the OSAF website at www.ohiosaf.org

Emerald Ash Borer: A Long-Term Perspective

-Robert Long, OSAF Forest Science and Technology Coordinator

Land managers, urban foresters, and public officials in Ohio and Michigan have been in the unfortunate position of gaining rapid experience in managing the emerald ash borer (EAB) infestations that have spread through both states. As of June 1, twenty-eight Ohio counties are now known to be infested by EAB. By fall, this number is likely to increase along with new quarantines and restrictions on moving fire wood. While there is considerable research focused on urgently needed new detection methods and better chemical or biological controls, there is other research in progress that is looking for longer term solutions for dealing with EAB.

Breeding Research: Development of resistant inter-specific hybrids through the use of classical breeding methods is the objective of the research led by Dr. Jennifer Koch and associates at the Delaware Forest Service Laboratory along with Dr. Dan Herms, OARDC and cooperators at Dawes Arboretum and Holden Arboretum. Manchurian ash, *Fraxinus manshurica*, has been shown to be resistant to EAB, so efforts were initiated to cross native North American ash species with Manchurian ash, an Asian species. While this might sound like a straight-forward approach, there are many obstacles that have to be overcome. First, it has proven difficult to successfully cross some species with the Manchurian ash. Some of our native ashes have multiple ploidy levels (white ash has 2N and 4N populations in a single Ohio county; other areas have 6N populations!) and they can only be crossed with individuals of similar ploidy for long term work. Second, there are only a limited number of Manchurian ash individuals available for crosses. Manchurian ash is dioecious and female trees do not develop many viable seeds under natural conditions in Michigan and Ohio. This is probably due to the different climatic conditions here compared with their native range in Asia. One way of controlling for some of these difficulties is to take cuttings from mature ash trees and graft these to younger trees in a greenhouse. Environmental conditions can then be controlled to maximize breeding success. When a cross is apparently successful, it is still necessary to verify the genetic make-up of the progeny. These progeny then need to be evaluated to try to identify any segregation of phenotypic traits associated with EAB susceptibility or resistance.

There are other longer term issues that also must be addressed. For instance, what is the genetic diversity associated with our native ash species and how important will this be for developing crosses suitable for local conditions? This could be assessed more rapidly by using ash provenance studies that are available at some universities and arboreta. Additional work is in progress to develop molecular markers for use in ash. Such markers could potentially accelerate a breeding program substantially, or be associated with resistance once suitable families are available for testing. Finally, the results of breeding programs like these can be unpredictable and unexpected results could have beneficial aspects. For example, an early hybrid that may be only a first step in a long-term back-cross program, may be an acceptable street tree to replace ash lost in our urban forest. All of this work is labor intensive and requires a considerable commitment of time and highly skilled technical support. Even more difficult is securing funding for what is clearly a long-term effort. The results of this research won't be available in one or two years, but persistence over a longer period can yield significant progress as has happened with the American chestnut. Patience and commitment will be required to produce EAB resistant ash hybrids.



Ecological and Forest Management Research: Since EAB is now becoming more widely distributed, foresters and other land managers will need to consider management strategies before, during, and following EAB infestation of forests and woodlots. The Ohio Division of Forestry has several foresters specifically dedicated to helping private woodland owners in altering their management plans to reflect the reality of EAB infestation. Generally, the approach is to reduce the ash component in most forests in advance of any infestation. However, many ash woodlots are old fields that were frequently too wet to grow crops, and ash, particularly green ash, became established on these sites. If a stand is relatively young and composed primarily of ash, then options are more limited, and may involve planting with non-host species. Other problems facing landowners are invasive plants that may be poised to colonize sites following ash mortality. These include European and glossy buckthorn, honeysuckles, and many more. Dr. Kathleen Knight, an ecologist at the Delaware Forest Service Lab, is working with Drs. Herms and Cardina at OARDC to monitor the ecological impacts of EAB, including regeneration and succession in EAB impacted forests in Ohio and Michigan.

A network of monitoring plots has been developed in both states and data from these plots will be used to help develop management guidelines. Data from yearly crown health ratings will be used to create transition matrices that enable the forecasting of mortality in infested stands. For example, how long will it take for 80% of the ash trees in a given stand to die when ash trees represent 60% of the overstory basal area? Two models of forest succession will be used to forecast the effects of EAB in all stands sampled. The Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS) will be used to model forest succession for 50 years with all ash trees dying during the first 10-year time step. The FVS is the USDA Forest Service's nationally supported framework for forest growth and yield modeling. Additionally, the FVS will be parameterized to model the growth and survival of honeysuckle (*Lonicera sp.*), the most common invader in these plots, as well as other important invaders. A simple model of forest succession will also be developed based on replacement of canopy ash trees by intermediate or suppressed trees beneath them.

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Emerald Ash Borer: A Long-Term Perspective—continued from page 3

The models of succession and the transition matrices of ash decline trajectories will be immediately useful for managers to predict the future condition of their stands. The value of the data collected in the plots will increase over time as EAB impacts these forests and the predictions of the models can be tested and validated. Depending on land owner objectives, land and forest managers will need to make informed decisions regarding opportunistic harvests, removal of hazard trees, supplemental plantings, invasive species control, and natural regeneration dynamics. This research will provide the basic information land managers need to guide their decisions both prior to potential EAB infestations and in managing EAB aftermath forests.

This is just a brief summary and MUCH other research is in progress in Ohio and Michigan. So, the bottom line is that significant progress has been made, but patience is required for the ultimate pay back from all of this work. Stay tuned.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Mary Mason and Dave Carey, biological technicians at the Delaware Laboratory, contributed information for this article. Their contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

Forester Spotlight

John Dorka was named a 2007 Society of American Foresters (SAF) Fellow, making him the 33rd fellow named to the Ohio SAF. The SAF Fellow rank honors members who have provided outstanding contributions to the Society and to the forestry profession. The rank of Fellow is a special accomplishment because the individual must be nominated by their local chapter and approved by the District Fellows Committee.

As most of you know, John served as the Chief of the Ohio Division of Forestry for the past five years until retiring in 2007 with 33 years of service, but John did not start at the top. He started as Assistant Forest Manager at Blue Rock State Forest in March 1974. He moved through the ranks as a Timber Management Forester, then Assistant District Forester in the District 4 Athens office, until he moved to Columbus in 1984 as Land Management Administrator and Deputy State Forester.

John has been a member of SAF since 1974 and a Certified Forester since 2002. John has been an active member of the Ohio SAF chapter serving in all four executive offices from 1985 to 1988, then as Policy Committee Chairman. At the national level, he was a member of the Silviculture and Biometrics Working Groups. John also showed his support when the SAF Forester Certification program was created; he was instrumental in implementing a pay-supplement program for all Division Foresters who voluntarily become SAF Certified Foresters.

On Saturday, June 30, 2007, Ohio Division of Forestry employees, past and present, as well as friends of the Division are invited to attend a family picnic at the Ohio State Fair, Natural Resources Park. John Dorka will be the guest of honor for the event. The event begins at 1:00 pm. It is requested that you bring your own place settings and a covered dish; beverages and sloppy joes will be provided. To RSVP or if you have any questions, please call 1-877-247-8733.



Ohio SAF Fellows

William F. Cowen, Jr.	1979
Ture L. Johnson	1983
O. A. Alderman	1984
Irving I. Dickman	1984
Donald E. Richter	1984
Franklin P. Newell	1985
James H. Brown	1986
Ernest J. Gebhart	1986
William R. Lebold	1986
James T. Lenox, Jr.	1986
Garry F. Marcum	1986
Robert A. Nelson	1986
David M. Bergman	1987
Everette D. Rast	1987
David A. Schatz	1987
Ralph Elmer Hershberger	1989
Howard B. Kriebel	1989
Robert A. Nosse	1989
John P. Vimmerstedt	1989
David F. Berna	1990
Robert B. Redett	1990
Dan B. Kincaid	1991
Lawrence J. Ehlers	1994
David L. Embree	1994
John R. Gerlach	1995
William D. Ticknor III	1996
Walter D. Smith	1999
Emmett A. Conway	2000
Daniel B. Houston	2002
Mark A. Jukich	2002
Philip S. Perry	2003
Thomas D. Berger	2005
John E. Dorka	2006

Check out the Ohio SAF Website to keep up to date on

- The Winter meeting minutes
 - Upcoming meetings
 - Past issues of the Hetuch
- www.ohiosaf.org

Ohio Takes Lead in Link Deposit Program- Andy Sabula, Ohio Division of Forestry, Forest Industries

An initiative by the Ohio Division of Forestry that began more than a decade ago to help reduce the environmental impacts of silvicultural operations has taken root and is now on the cutting edge of the logging industry. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Division of Forestry have teamed up to jointly administer the Linked Deposit Program for Silviculture. The purpose of the program is to provide low-interest rate financing to loggers who wish to purchase equipment that will help protect and improve water quality in and around logging operations. Even though the linked deposit concept has long been used in a variety of disciplines, Ohio is the first state to develop and implement such a program for silvicultural applications. The potential of Ohio's program has been recognized by Maine's State Forester and has been used as a model for a similar program in that state.

To qualify for the program, loggers must meet several requirements. They must be an Ohio Master Logging company as documented by the Ohio Forestry Association; agree to file Operation and Management plans with the local Soil and Water office; allow their work to be reviewed; and act in an environmentally responsible manner.

A field review of a TimberPro TF830 forwarder purchased through the program by Master Logger Tracy Seymour, owner of T&R Logging, was recently held at Shade River State Forest in Meigs County. The review team was made up of representatives from the Ohio EPA, Farm Credit Services, Weyerhaeuser, Glatfelter Paper Co., the Division of Soil and Water, T&R Logging and the Division of Forestry. The purpose of this team is to review the implementation, progress and effectiveness of the program. T&R was using the forwarder to conduct a harvest that included a pine thinning to approximately 80 square feet of basal area per acre as well as a clear cut. Because the sale included both high value sawtimber and low value pulpwood it was economically feasible to accomplish a silviculture prescription that may not have been feasible with conventional equipment.

There are several advantages to using a forwarder over conventional equipment. The forwarder is able to pick up logs from the forest floor, load and carry them rather than dragging or skidding them. This results in a relatively intact duff layer and much less soil disturbance, greatly reducing the opportunity for soil movement. Soil compaction is also lessened by the use of tracks that fit over the forwarder's wheels. These tracks dissipate the weight of the load, reducing ground pressure by almost half. With a maximum load of not less than 20 tons, the ground pressure of the rear wheels with tracks is 9.76 pounds per square inch; without the tracks it would be 18.84 pounds per square inch. The health of the residual trees that remain in the forest stand also benefit from this type of equipment. Trees are not damaged by logs skidded past them as they would be with conventional equipment. When done properly it all adds up to a much nicer, more aesthetically pleasing job.

The main obstacle that keeps more equipment like this from being used is cost. The equipment is very expensive to purchase and maintain. The Linked Deposit program was in part designed to help address that problem. The forwarder that Tracy bought cost \$250,212.00. The normal interest rate of the loan would have been 7.4%. Through the use of Water Pollution Control Loan Funds that are made available through the OEPA, the interest rate on the 5-year loan was reduced to 3.6%. That translates into a monthly savings of \$438.00 and a savings over the life of the loan of over \$26,000.00. With savings like that the loggers in Ohio gain a competitive advantage and can afford to stay in business. To date, four logging companies have purchased 7 pieces of equipment with a total loan value of \$1,228,751.00. Several other companies have expressed interest in the program and have begun the process to become qualified.

Not only do the trees and soil benefit from the application of this equipment, but it's much safer for the workers as well. A recent study of West Virginia logging companies by the Center for Disease Control (Bell 2002) indicates that workers compensation claims drop significantly when this type of equipment is used. Mechanized companies had an injury claim rate that was less than half that of the non-mechanized companies. This in turn results in dramatically lower worker compensation rates. Working in the woods is hard work and the improved conditions that mechanized logging operations offer help attract and retain good workers.

People with vision planted the timber from this site many years ago. It is now being used as raw material for the forest industries in Ohio and West Virginia, supporting jobs and the tax base in rural areas. Through the Division of Forestry's "Trees to Textbooks" program, a percentage of the revenues generated from the harvest will go to the local county, townships and school districts. This is an example of the wise use and conservation of a truly renewable resource. The application of sound forestry benefits everything. It should be recognized as a tribute to those that came before us.



Jeremy Scherf
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1119 E. Main St., Suite 2
Barnesville, OH 43713-9102



OSAF 2007 Summer Meeting *Forestry In Our Front Yards!*

Bringing the Forest and Forestry to Ohio's Growing Urbanized Population

Wednesday, July 18th, 2007

Register now to attend the 2007 Ohio SAF Summer Meeting in the beautiful host community of Upper Arlington. Ohio has been a leader in Urban Forestry for over a quarter of a century, and Upper Arlington has been a role model for Ohio communities. OSAF's Steve Cothrel and his staff are graciously welcoming us to their city to learn more of the ins and outs of urban forestry.

We have a great day planned. Drew Todd, Ohio Urban Forestry Coordinator, will give us a statewide perspective of urban forestry. Dr. Michael Horton will share his experiences with woodscaping... a means of bringing a forest-like setting to small urban areas and landscapes. We will spend lunch and the afternoon at Upper Arlington's beautiful Thompson Park. We will see examples of urban woodland management, honeysuckle control, Emerald Ash Borer management, and trees we usually don't see in Ohio forests. Because we all get "weird" questions about the landscape trees, we'll do diagnostics with OSU Extension Educator and Entomologist, Curtis Young. Finally, OSAF's own Joe Puperi will demonstrate his Air Spade® (a soil aeration tool using supersonic air) and we'll see one of Ohio's finest tree climbers do his thing. If you've never seen an arborist at work in a tree, it is a mesmerizing and wonderful experience!

Sign up early and join us for a wonderful day! SAF and ISA credits will be available.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Miller, OSAF Chair-Elect, at 419-429-8313 or at Stephanie.miller@dnr.state.oh.us. Visit the OSAF Website www.ohiosaf.org/calendar.html for additional copies of the registration form.

Please Register by July 11th:
OSAF Members- \$25 per person
Non-SAF Members- \$30 per person

*****Also coming in the next edition! *****

Urban Forestry Corner

As urbanization continues throughout Ohio's landscape, we foresters are constantly facing new challenges. As city folk search for solitude in Ohio's forests either as dwellers, visitors, or woodland owners, foresters must be able to communicate with them and understand their challenges. Because much of Ohio's voting public lives in urbanized areas, foresters must be skilled at sharing sound forestry messages to people living in municipalities and developed areas. For many Ohio citizens, the urban forest is the closest to forest management they ever get. Urban Forestry's position in sharing the good news of forestry and the need to increase Ohio's forestlands with community dwellers will continue to grow here in Ohio and throughout the country. With that in mind, ***Urban Forestry Corner*** will be a regular addition to *The Hetuch*. Enjoy stories from OSAF membership and beyond!