



Action in Agroforestry

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Michael Gold and Hannah Hemmelgarn, editors

High School Teacher Agroforestry Workshops Prepare Educators for Upcoming School Year

A key component of the University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry's mission is the education and training of those who are "empowered to make a difference locally, regionally, and globally for the long-term future of rural and urban working farms and forests". Education efforts include regular field days, intensive trainings (e.g., Agroforestry Academy), conferences, webinars, an agroforestry online masters program, and most recently, a professional development program for high school teachers in Missouri.



The majority of high school students who participate in an agriculture program in this state will pursue an agriculture-related profession following graduation. By equipping high school educators with curriculum materials and training in agroforestry and forestry, they have the opportunity to prepare their students to address issues of sustainability in agriculture advanced by the intentional integration of trees on farms. The timing of this program is apt, as the updated agriculture curriculum for Missouri teachers will be released for use this fall, and will include the agroforestry modules developed at UMCA.

On June 21st and 22nd, 12 high school teachers from all corners of the state gathered at the Truman State University Farm in Kirksville, MO for this year's first teacher training event. During the workshop, teachers learned the fundamentals of agroforestry planning and design, reviewed forestry content, and completed a MO DIRT soil science training. Each component of the training was offered with hands-on, project-based approaches that teachers have found to be most effective for sharing this new knowledge with their students.

This project, led by Hannah Hemmelgarn, Mike Gold, and Hank Stelzer is supported by the NCR-SARE Professional Development Program grant, and will continue in 2019. On July 23rd, a second workshop will be held for teachers at the Darr Agricultural Center in Springfield, MO. The agroforestry curriculum developed for this project is currently publicly available for download at <http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/education/HSCurr.php>.



Job Openings

UMCA Position: H.E. Garrett Endowed Chair Professor and UMCA Director

Details and online application via Human Resources <http://hrs.missouri.edu/find-a-job/academic> Review of applications began on July 16, 2018 and will continue until the position is filled. Starting date for the position is January 1, 2019 or negotiated. Questions regarding the position should be directed to Drs. Mike Gold (GoldM@missouri.edu) and Dave Larsen (LarsenDR@missouri.edu), Co-Chairs of Search Committee.

UMCA Position: Assistant Research Professor – Silvopasture Systems

Details and online application via Human Resources - <https://hrs.missouri.edu/find-a-job/academic> Questions regarding the position should be directed to Dr. Michael Gold, Interim Director, Center for Agroforestry, Email: goldm@missouri.edu.

Position: FARM Specialist (Full Time) with Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT)

The Farm and Realty Management Specialist's primary role is landowner outreach and consultation. S/he will receive training on specialty crops, managed grazing, NRCS technology and permanent land protection to then assist landowners in understanding what specialty crops and livestock are suitable to grow on their land.

Responsibilities: Landowner Outreach: (30%); Landowner Education: (30%); Landowner Relations: (25%); Tracking and Reporting (15%)

Qualifications: Experience and/or education in sustainable food production. Candidates should have proven initiative, ability to learn technology and a track record of reliability. For details and specifics visit silt.org

Deadline for Applications: August 17, 2018

Salary commensurate with experience. Start Date August 30, 2018.

Confidential Application Process: Visit SILT website for details or contact Suzan Erem, SILT Board President: suzan@silt.org. (319)-480-4241

KUDOS

Congratulations to Novianus Efrat, who defended his master's thesis, "Identification of Health-Promoting Compounds from Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum* L.) Using Global Metabolomics Platform". Efrat's thesis aimed to identify and quantify high-value compounds in switchgrass with a wide variety of bioactivities. With the utilization of global metabolomics platform (XCMS Online), they have successfully identified more than 130 putative bioactive compounds. Identification of multiple high-value compounds from switchgrass will provide information to help increase the overall revenues of the production chain and benefit every participant involved in the supply chain of the cellulosic biorefinery industry.



Left to right: Dr. Leszek Vincent, Novianus Efrat, Dr. Shibu Jose, Dr. Chung-Ho Lin



Thank you to Dawson Farris and Priyanka Sharma (left) who contributed their time and energy to the cottonwood replanting at HARC last month. There are now 7,000+ cottonwood trees growing in the Sulphur Creek bottom as part of Dr. Sougata Bardhan's biomass research study.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2018 Sixth Annual Agroforestry Academy

July 22 - 27, 2018 | University of Missouri campus, Columbia, MO | Univ. of MO Center for Agroforestry

The 6th annual Agroforestry Academy will take place July 22-27 this year in Columbia and surrounding field sites. This is a week-long training that includes integrated classroom workshops, multiple on-farm visits, hands-on demonstrations and content integration into practical on-farm agroforestry planning and design. Full scholarships are available to veterans, women, and minorities. More information at <http://centerforagroforestry.org/academy/2018/RegistrationBrochure.pdf>

NAFEX Fruits of the Heartland Conference

July 26 – 28, 2018 | Danville, IL | North American Fruit Explorers

Fruits of the Heartland is a joint conference of the North American Fruit Explorers, the Midwest Fruit Explorers, and the Savanna Institute. The conference will include presentations on growing and marketing fruit, hands-on demonstrations, and farm tours.

More information at <https://nafex.org/index.php/nafex-annual-meeting/>

Silvopasture Camp: Southeast Minnesota

August 3rd – 4th, 2018 | Spring Grove, MN and Coon Valley, WI | Wallace Center Pasture Project collaboration

The University of MN Extension, University of WI Extension, the Wallace Center Pasture Project, and the Savanna Institute will jointly host a silvopasture workshop near La Crescent, MN. Participants will visit working silvopasture farms, hear presentations and have networking sessions and group exercises for silvopasture design and management. Sign up for either or both days; registration includes meals. Visit

<http://www.myminnesotawoods.umn.edu/agroforestry-education/silvopastureworkshop/> for more information.

NEMA Webinar: Agroforestry Planning and the Built Environment

1:30pm EDT | Friday, August 3rd, 2018 | <http://www.nemaagroforestry.org/webinars/>

This webinar, presented by the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Agroforestry Working Group, will feature Robert Lingenfelter, PLA, AICP, LEED AP to discuss Small Landscape Interventions Mingled with Big Agroforestry Ideals. More information at www.nemaagroforestry.org/webinars.

Nutshell with Gabriel Pent: Livestock Welfare and Performance in Silvopasture Systems

July 31st, 2018 | Free Online Discussion at 6pm CT | The Savanna Institute

The Savanna Institute's Nutshell discussions take place online, live with experts on practical topics in agroforestry and perennial agriculture. In this Nutshell, Gabriel Pent, ruminant systems specialist at Virginia Tech's Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Blackstone, VA, will discuss livestock welfare and performance in silvopasture systems. Limited space is available, so register today at www.savannainstitute.org/events.html.

12th Annual Chestnut Roast

October 6th, 2018 | 10:00am – 2:00pm | MU Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, New Franklin, MO

The University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry is celebrating its 20th anniversary at this year's Annual Chestnut Roast. The event includes roasted chestnut samples and sales, tours of the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center Farm and Historic Hickman House, chef demonstrations, local craft and food vendors, and activities for the whole family. The event is free and open to the public.



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