



# Action in Agroforestry

September 2019 Vol. 10, No. 9 Michael Gold and Hannah Hemmelgarn, editors

## Center for Agroforestry Welcomes Ashley Conway

Assistant Research Professor Dr. Ashley Conway is a recent graduate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she completed a Ph.D. in Animal Science this year. Prior to her Ph.D., she obtained an M.S. and B.S. in Animal Science at Washington State University. Following her B.S. degree, she worked from 2010-2012 as an agroforestry/agriculture extension volunteer in Zambia, Africa for the Peace Corps. Ashley grew up on a small family farm, Conway Family Farms, LLC, located in Camas, Washington State. The farm has a family-managed herd of dairy goats (25-40) for Grade 'A' raw and pasteurized milk and an artisan creamery. They also maintain a small flock of wool sheep, chickens, and bees, cultivated commercial blueberries, lavender, and vegetables for income generation.



Dr. Conway will focus her research on silvopasture, the intensively integrated tree-forage-livestock systems in order to raise livestock more sustainably, and specifically, understanding livestock interactions with forage, crops and trees in silvopasture systems. Her primary goal is to develop a research program investigating the logistical, economic, environmental, and social dynamics of silvopasture systems in Missouri and the Midwest through the lens of efficient and responsible animal production. Her program will work to better understand how to optimize animal performance and nutrition using silvopastoral production practices while maintaining or enhancing ecosystem services and tree performance. A systems-level approach will be used to measure animal performance, health and welfare, and environmental impact. With this information, Dr. Conway's goal is to develop scientifically-supported recommendations to producers to support silvopasture adoption.

You can find Dr. Conway's contact information and bio here:

<http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/personnel/conway-a.php>

## New Publications from the Center for Agroforestry

Ho, K-V., K.L. Schreiber, D.C. Vu, S. M. Rottinghaus, D.E. Jackson, C.R. Brown, Z. Lei, L.W. Sumner, M.V. Coggeshall, & C-H. Lin. 2019. Black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) extracts inhibit proinflammatory cytokine production from lipopolysaccharide-stimulated human promonocytic cell line U-937. *Front Pharmacol.* 19 Sept. 2019. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2019.01059>

Vu, D.C., T.L. Ho, P.H. Vo, M. Bayati, A.N. Davis, Z. Gulseven, G. Carlo, F. Palermo, J.A. McElroy, S.C. Nagel & C-H. Lin. 2019. Assessment of indoor volatile organic compounds in Head Start child care facilities. *Atmos. Evn.* 215(15): 116900. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosenv.2019.116900>

# KUDOS

**Congratulations to Chung-Ho Lin and his team** on their successful grant proposal “Explore the Economic Opportunities and Health Benefits of the Elderberry in Missouri” which has been funded as part of the MU School of Natural Resources mini-grant program.

**Miguel Salceda joined MU on a Fulbright scholarship from Panama** for a PhD. He earned his MS in environmental engineering and a BS in civil engineering, both from the Technological University of Panama, Panama City. He has also worked extensively with the Bureau of Environmental Management at the National Authority of Public Services of Panama, developing geographic database systems and doing environmental impact assessments. His research interests include watershed modeling, groundwater analysis, determination of hydraulic parameters of aquifers, river flow measurements, determination of hydrologic and hydraulic parameters of watersheds, and application of isotopic techniques in hydrology. At MU, he will be working with Dr. Ranjith Udawatta as several locations throughout Missouri including the Greenley and HARC watershed plots, to understand conservation effects of buffers on surface and ground water.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **The Agroforestry Podcast: Silvopasture on the Rise**

*Available soon on any podcast app | Center for Agroforestry*

This month’s Agroforestry Podcast episode explores some of the big questions and on-the-ground activities associated with raising animals, trees, and forage in an integrated farm system. Greg Judy, Dusty Walter, and Ashley Conway each make an appearance in this episode to share their insights on silvopasture. Listen and subscribe on any podcast app [www.stitcher.com/podcast/the-agroforestry-podcast](http://www.stitcher.com/podcast/the-agroforestry-podcast).

### **The Land Institute Prairie Festival: Carbon, Culture & Change from the Ground Up**

*September 27-29, 2019 | The Land Institute, Salina, KS*

The Prairie Festival offers a unique opportunity to interact with some of the world’s most compelling authors, thinkers, artists, and advocates focused on agriculture, food, the environment, science, sustainability, and social and environmental justice. The special event is held at the Land Institute’s Big Barn; camping is available in the orchards, and evening barn dances and bonfires make this lively conference unique. Featured speakers at this year’s Prairie Festival include Bill McKibben, M. Francesca Cotrufo, Carolyn Finney, and many more. Register at <https://landinstitute.org/news-events/prairie-festival/>.

### **Missouri Chestnut Roast Festival**

*October 5, 2019 | 10:00am-4:00pm | UMCA | HARC, New Franklin, MO*

The Missouri Chestnut Roast Festival is a perfect opportunity to get to know the Center for Agroforestry’s work at the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, to taste this year’s harvest of chestnuts, learn Missouri folk arts and new recipes for perennial crops. This year marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic Hickman House at the farm! More information about this engaging, family-friendly event is forthcoming on the Center for Agroforestry’s website: [www.CenterForAgroforestry.org](http://www.CenterForAgroforestry.org)

### **Midwestern Silvopasture at Green Pastures Farm**

*October 12, 2019 | 10:00am – 4:00pm | Savanna Institute | Green Pastures Farm, Clark, MO*

Greg and Jan Judy run a silvopasture operation that includes 16 farms, four owned and 12 leased. They graze South Poll cows, cow/calf pairs, bred heifers, bulls, stockers and a parasite resistant St. Croix hair sheep flock. Greg and Jan’s emphasis is on working in balance with nature and keeping inputs low. For the field day, Greg and Jan will give a tour of the farm, discuss the benefits of silvopasture, and the lessons learned over the years. More information and registration at [www.savannainstitute.org](http://www.savannainstitute.org)

## **Nuts and Bolts of Pecan Production**

*October 13, 2019 | 1:00pm – 5:00pm | Savanna Institute | Shepherd Farms, Clifton Hill, MO*

During this field event, learn about pecan production from Dan Shepherd, a producer with decades of experience. The field day will include a tour of the harvesting and processing equipment and a mature pecan orchard. More information and registration at [www.savannainstitute.org](http://www.savannainstitute.org)

## **Green Lands Blue Waters Conference: Over, Under, Through to Continuous Living Cover**

*November 19-20, 2019 | GLBW | Graduate Hotel, Minneapolis, MN*

At this year's conference, learn how grounded champions, who have worked for decades to change agricultural paradigms, are collaborating with the next generation of agricultural leaders and new allies in creative partnerships to break (or not break) new ground, keeping our soil and our communities rooted as we endeavor to create a resilient agriculture. Plan to come away lifted by the voices of many determined allies moving this important work forward, together. More information and registration at [www.greenlandsbluewaters.org/resources/conferences/](http://www.greenlandsbluewaters.org/resources/conferences/)

## **Perennial Farm Gathering**

*December 6-7, 2019 | Savanna Institute | Sinsinawa Mound Center, Sinsinawa, IA*

This year's PFG will feature keynote speaker Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquín (President and CEO of Regenerative Agriculture Alliance), panels and workshops with Midwest agroforestry experts, perennial food and beverage tastings, and the ever-popular 5-minute Nutshell Show & Tell talks, which are open to all attendees. Session topics will include chestnut, hazelnut, and elderberry production, silvopasture, financing perennial agriculture, land access and land tenure agreements, online marketing, beneficial insects, and more! More information and registration at <http://www.savannainstitute.org/events.html>.

## **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Agroforestry Symposium**

*January 30, 2020 | 8:30am – 6:00pm | Center for Agroforestry | Bond Life Sciences Center, MU Campus*

The 2020 Agroforestry Symposium "Show Me More" will highlight value-added processing opportunities for Missouri agro-ecosystems. Dr. Kiruba Krishnaswamy, Assistant Professor of Food Science and Bioengineering at MU, and Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe will share their insights on this topic as keynote speakers for the day. For more information and registration, visit <http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/events/symposia.php>



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