



Action in Agroforestry

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Land of the Osages Research Grand Opening Celebrates New Partnership

The University of Missouri's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR) celebrated the grand opening of the new Land of the Osages Research Center (LORC) on Tuesday, Oct. 29. LORC will be developed to support new research in agroforestry, a set of sustainability-focused systems combining trees and shrubs with crops and/or livestock – designed and managed as a mosaic of integrated agroecosystems.

LORC will join a network of centers throughout the state known collectively as the Agricultural Experiment Station (AES), and is the first such center to open in more than 30 years. The grand opening featured an opening ceremony that paid tribute to the center's partnership with the Osage Nation.

"CAFNR is so proud to be opening the Land of the Osages Research Center," said Christopher Daubert, vice chancellor and dean of CAFNR. "This center is funded by a donor's estate gift, and he wished to build a partnership between the Osage Nation and agroforestry, which is something CAFNR is thrilled to continue."

The 550 acres that make up the center were an estate gift from Doug Allen, who also established MU's H.E. Garrett Endowed Chair Professorship in 2006 and passed away in 2017. Future plans for the site include demonstration trials, internship opportunities and workshops to train local communities in agroforestry practices, all made

possible through the endowment created by Allen. Plans also include collaboration with the Osage Nation to develop research and training opportunities focusing on Traditional Ecological Knowledge and its potential applications in modern agroforestry.

Chief Standing Bear and other representatives of the Osage Nation spoke at the opening ceremonies and were in attendance for the day's festivities, which included lunch and a field day. The field day included

tours of the site and educational presentations about agroforestry.

"This is such an exciting day, and we're so thankful for Doug's willingness to pave the way for this center to become a reality," said Sarah Lovell, co-superintendent of the center and director of the MU Center for Agroforestry. Lovell is the current H.E. Garrett

Endowed Chair Professor. "His gift will allow us to further our already strong agroforestry programs and research, as well as build collaborations with the Osage Nation."

The Land of the Osages Research Center is located at 30118 Old 8 Road in Gravois Mills. For a closer look at the Land of the Osages Research Center grand opening ceremony, visit:

[flickr.com/photos/cafnr/albums/72157711639221492](https://www.flickr.com/photos/cafnr/albums/72157711639221492).

*Article authored by Logan Jackson, CAFNR
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UMCA Faculty Visit Dale Bumpers Small Farm Research Center

New faculty in the University of Missouri's Center for Agroforestry (UMCA), Drs. Sarah Lovell, Ashley Conway, and Ron Revord, traveled to the USDA-ARS Dale Bumpers Small Farm Research Center in Booneville, Arkansas during the third week of October. The Dale Bumpers Farm is composed of 2,214 acres and carries a mission of using scientific principles and technologies to enhance the profitability and sustainability of small-scale farms. Agroforestry is a main strategy of this ARS Research Center and offers a platform for collaboration with UMCA faculty. The trip to Booneville allowed UMCA faculty members and ARS scientists the opportunity to discuss collaborative research development for agroforestry on small- to medium-sized farms.

Group discussions and presentations generated shared excitement for research and grant proposal development across a range of disciplines, from landscape-level planning using suitability mapping, to biotic interactions in alley cropping and unique silvopasture system forage testing. The group also toured field sites throughout the Dale Bumpers Farm and discussed areas well-suited for collaboration as well as ways to leverage similar plantings at the University of Missouri's Southwest Research Center and Horticultural and Agroforestry Research Center for replication across environments.



After passing through MU's Southwest Research center, the group also seized this opportunity to visit University of Arkansas and USDA-ARS research scientists and sites in Fayetteville, AR. This time was spent learning about historical collaborations between MU, UA, and ARS, visiting silvopasture and specialty crop groves, as well as exploring future research opportunities together. The trip was wonderfully productive, rewarding, and invigorating for our new faculty members as they build relationships and continue to settle in at UMCA.

KUDOS

Congratulations to Dr. Chung-Ho Lin, who recently received notice of funding from the Missouri Specialty Crop Block Grant Award to **“Explore the Economic Opportunities and Health Benefits of the Pawpaw in Missouri”** to identify the health benefits and novel uses of pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) in cosmetic, personal care products, nutraceutical, and pharmaceutical industries. The study will increase the overall income potential of pawpaw products, and will benefit those involved in the pawpaw industry in Missouri.

Ever wanted to know about all the many ways that **agroforestry supports pollinators in temperate areas**? The USDA National Agroforestry Center's [systematic review on temperate agroforestry and insect pollinators](#) was recently published in a special issue of *Forests*. *“Temperate Agroforestry Systems and Insect Pollinators: A Review”* (Bentrup et al., 2019) was developed in collaboration with the 4th World Congress on Agroforestry. Their review of 134 research publications indicates that agroforestry practices can provide three overarching benefits for pollinators: (1) providing habitat including foraging resources and nesting or egg-laying sites, (2) enhancing site and landscape connectivity, and (3) mitigating pesticide exposure.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Water Management Workshop with Mark Shepard

November 21, 2019 | 8:30am – 3:30pm | MO Young Farmers Collective | The Hartsburg Grand, Hartsburg, MO

Where do you begin with transitioning degraded lands into sustainable ecological systems? It all starts with water. Mark Shepard will share his NRCS compatible adaptations to keyline design during this workshop hosted by the Missouri Young Farmers Collective, Missouri Organic Association and USDA-NRCS. The workshop will expand your understanding of how water behaves within landscapes, teach you how to identify the contours on your land, as well as communicate these water management concepts more effectively between government agency officials and farmers. Registration and more information at <http://www.missouriyoungfarmers.com/water-management-mark-shepard>

Indigenous Education in a Traditional University in Colombia

November 19, 2019 | 6:30pm | University of Missouri Bush Auditorium (Cornell Hall), Columbia, MO

As part of the programming of the Native American Heritage Month and the International Education Week, Dr. Abadio Green Stocel from the indigenous community Gunadule of Mayan ancestry, located between Panama and Colombia, will be giving the lecture *Indigenous Education in a Traditional University in Colombia: The Pedagogy of the Mother Earth*. Dr. Green is an international figure in indigenous education and activism as well as a regular international speaker in Europe, Canada and Latin America. All are welcome. Open to the public. This event is sponsored by the International Center for the Development of Education in collaboration with The Bridge, both from MU's College of Education.

Words from a Bear Documentary Discussion

December 6, 2019 | 2:00pm – 3:00pm | 101 Swallow Hall on the MU Campus, Columbia, MO

In another Native American Heritage Month event at MU, Jeff Palmer will discuss his film *N. Scott Momaday: Words from a Bear*, which premiered at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and will air on the PBS series *American Masters* in 2019. Momaday is a Pulitzer Prize winner and a Kiowa author. Palmer is a Kiowa filmmaker and media artist. As a dean's fellow at the University of Iowa, Palmer received his master of arts in Native American studies, focusing on Native American exploitation in early cinema. For more information, visit <https://coas.missouri.edu/event/native-american-heritage-month-words-bear>

2019 Perennial Farm Gathering

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

This year's PFG will feature keynote speaker Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin (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. Other featured speakers include Eliza Greenman, Terry Durham, Tom Wahl, Mike Lilja, Thelma Heidel-Baker, Paul Dietmann, Susan Erem, Greg Padget, Dayna Burtness, Jason Fischbach, and Kevin Wolz. More information and registration is available at <http://www.savannainstitute.org/2019-perennial-farm-gathering.html>.

2020 Great Plains Growers Conference

January 9-11, 2020 | Fulkerson Center, Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, MO

The Great Plains Growers Conference is a wonderful local event for commercial fruit, vegetable, cut flower and honey bee producers from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and surrounding states. The conference will include research-based information, from both horticulture research specialists and local growers, to help producer's farms grow and thrive. More information and registration at www.Greatplainsgrowersconference.org.

11th Annual UMCA Agroforestry Symposium

January 30, 2020 | 8:30am – 6:00pm | University of Missouri Bond Life Sciences Center, Columbia, MO

This year's Agroforestry Symposium will focus on value-added processing for Missouri agriculture and forestry products. The keynote speaker, Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe, will be joined by knowledgeable presenters including Kiruba Krishnaswamy, Assistant Professor of Food Science and Bioengineering at the University of Missouri; Brian Hammons, President of Hammons Black Walnuts; Sara Low, Associate Professor of Regional Economics at MU; Nicola Macpherson of Ozark Forest Mushrooms, and more. The symposium is free and open to the public, but advanced registration is requested: <http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/events/symposia.php>.