

2023 Joint Conference of the Northern Nut Growers Association, the Chestnut Growers of America, and the Walnut Council Highlights

The 2023 Joint Conference of the Northern Nut Growers Association (NNGA), the Chestnut Growers of America (CGA), and the Walnut Council (WC) will take place July 23-26, 2023 on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia, Missouri. Complete details can be found in the Spring 2023 *The Nutshell* or the NNGA website (nutgrowing.org). Register on-line with credit card at centerforagroforestry.org/event/2023-nut-grower-conference. Full registration includes program packet, favor, Sunday welcome reception, poster and Show and Tell sessions; Monday all-day field tours and evening live auction, Tuesday concurrent technical sessions and box lunch, Tuesday evening social and banquet, and the Wednesday technical session. Alternatively register for the CAPS (companion and children) program which includes Sunday welcome reception, Monday live auction, Tuesday tour at Warm Springs Ranch, lunch at the A-Frame Winegarden on the Blufftop, with optional afternoon wine tasting, and social and banquet. Register by June 24 to take advantage of early bird discount. Registration does not include transportation or lodging. Plan to use your own vehicle or arrange for carpooling at the conference for off-campus activities and for Monday's field trip to HARF.

Reservations and payments for on-campus housing should have been made already. A block of rooms with discounted rates is available thru June 23 at The Hampton Inn and Suites Columbia at the University of Missouri, 1225 Fellows Place (not the one at 3410 Clark Lane) about a half mile from conference venue is the main hotel but the

discounted group rate has expired. To make reservations call 573-214-2222 to book at the special "Walnut Council" group rate regardless of which organization you belong to at \$115 + tax per night or book online at bit.ly/3jIBuXc. Rooms include a free hot breakfast and free parking. Pets are allowed with an additional one-time charge of \$50 for up to 4 days. There are numerous other hotels at all price points in the Columbia region. Check out the visitcolumbiamo.com website for local information on lodging, restaurants, shopping, etc.

There will be an opportunity to participate as a donor or bidder in a live or silent auction or both. Donation sheets will be available at the conference or on the NNGA website to indicate which organization(s) is to receive proceeds. Proceeds to the NNGA and the WCF go into their grants programs to fund tree-related research and other projects.

Board meetings are scheduled for the NNGA and WCF Sunday morning and the WC, NNGA, and CGA Sunday afternoon. All three organizations will have their business meeting early Tuesday morning.

Post-conference tour options for Wednesday afternoon depends on the interest expressed on the registration form. As the post-conference tour options are organized, they will be announced on the NNGA (nutgrowing.org) and WC (walnutcouncil.org) websites. Those already organized include Brundage/Wilson HTIRC walnut clone trial; Missouri Pacific Lumber, and Chestnut Charlie's Organic Tree Crops.



Conference Agenda

Sunday, 23 July 2023

On Sunday, we will have organizational meetings throughout the day at the Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources (ABNR) building or the Columbia Hampton Inn at the University of Missouri. Mid- to late afternoon, you should be able to register, pick up of keys for on-campus residence hall lodging, set up posters, displays, and exhibits. In the evening, we will have a welcome reception, poster session, and the traditional Show and Tell (Lightening talks) program.

9:00 – 12:00	NNGA Board of Directors Meeting , 210 ABNR Building	5:45 – 7:00	Welcome Reception with light hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, ABNR Lobby
10:00 – 11:30	Walnut Council Foundation Board of Directors Meeting , Hampton Inn Columbia at the University of Missouri	6:00 – 7:00	First Poster Session concurrent with Reception), ABNR Lobby or Room 123
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch on your own. Suggestion – Student Center Cafeteria or Plaza 900	7:10 – 8:30	Show and Tell with Lightening Talks , ABNR Conservation Hall
1:00 – 3:30	NNGA Board of Directors Meeting (Continued from morning session)	7:10 – 7:20	Welcome , Mike Gold, Moderator
11:30 – 3:30	Walnut Council Board of Directors Meeting , Hampton Inn Columbia at the University of Missouri	7:20 -- 7:30	Charlie Novogradac, Construction and Operation of a Low-Cost Air Cleaner For Small Chestnut Orchards
3:30 – 4:30	Chestnut Growers of America Board of Directors Meeting , 210 ABNR Building	7:30 – 7:40	Jeff Polfer, Abundant Harvests, Soil Health, Nutrients and Plant Health
3:30 – 7:00	Registration , ABNR Lobby	7:40 – 7:50	Rick Hartlieb, Setting Up a New Diversified Orchard with Hazelnuts and Chestnuts
3:30 – 6:00	Set up Posters, Exhibits, and Silent Auction, ABNR Lobby and Room 123	7:50 – 8:00	Bill Hammitt, Establishing Clover Cover Crops in Black Walnut Plantations
4:00 – 5:30	Dinner on Your Own – check with Registration desk for suggestions or see restaurant list at www.visitcolumbiamo.com	8:00 – 8:10	John Kelsey, NNGA Cultivar Inventory Database
		8:10 – 8:30	Mike Gold, Field Day Logistics

Poster Sessions, ABNR Lobby

Sunday July 23 7:00-7:30 & Monday July 24 6:30 -7:00

Stephanie Adams, Oak Wilt and Chestnut Oak: What is going on?

Casey Calvert and Tim Martinson, Forestry Co-ops: A Model to Consider

Alyssa Dunnivan, Missouri's Thousand Cankers Disease Survey

Aziz Ebrahimi, et al., Conserving Threatened Butternut Trees Using a Multi-nomics Approach

Carrie J. Fearer and Anna Conrad, Walnut Witches'-broom Disease: A Threat to Butternut Restoration

Max Huchteman, Weed Management Trials in Elderberry

Caleb Kell, et al., Mixed Nuts: Evaluating Field Performance and Improving Regeneration of Pure and Hybrid Butternut

Shaneka Lawson, et al., Precocity studies in *Quercus bicolor*: Information gleaned from acorns

Shaneka Lawson, et al., Growth patterns and soil suitability studies in *Juglans nigra* L. and *Quercus rubra* L. plantations
Amy Miller and Melanie L. Lewis Ivey, Chestnut Anthracnose aka Blossom End Rot

Tim Martinson and Greg Vogel, Walnut Council Impacts:

Survey Results on Number and Size of Walnut Plantations

Jim McKenna, Blight Resistance of OxO American Chestnut in Indiana

Jim McKenna, Bark Cracking of Walnut Trees - a Tough Nut to Crack

Nolan Monaghan, Quantitative Trait Loci Mapping in Eastern Black Walnut

Sydney Moore, A Genotype by Environment Study Incorporating Promising American Elderberry Cultivars

Andrew Newhouse and William A. Powell, Development and regulatory review of transgenic American chestnut trees for environmental restoration

Caleb O'Neal, et al., Direct Field Propagation of Elderberry

Sarah Phipps and Rosalee Knipps, Have You Spotted This Invader? Spotted Lanternfly

Ron Revord, Ozark Chinquapin Conservation

Andrew Thomas, et al., Shaking Black Walnut Trees for an Earlier and More Valuable Nut Harvest

Michele Warmund and Jerry Van Sambeek, GA₄₊₇ soak before stratification enhances walnut seedling production

Conference Agenda

Monday, 24 July 2023

Monday's activities include a field trip to the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Farm (HARF) with optional afternoon trip to a local walnut planting. You will need to use your own vehicle or carpool with others for the field tours. At HARF, we have scheduled **three different tours that will be repeated twice** along with events around the haybarn and showing of podcasts within the haybarn on topics we cannot tour in the summer. In the evening you, will have a second chance to visit with the poster presenters before the NNGA has its annual live auction.

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| 7:30 – 8:45 | Travel to and mingle over coffee at the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Farm (HARF)
10 Research Center Road, New Franklin, MO 65274
I-70 West to US 40 West to Hwy 5 North into New Franklin, watch for signs) | | |
| 8:45 – 9:00 | Ron Revord, Welcome and Field Day
Logistics and board wagons for Tour 1 or 2 or assemble for walking tour | | |
| 9:00 – 11:00 | Wagon Tour 1 (Near Loop): Mike Gold and Nick Meier
Chestnut Repository 1, Chestnut Cultivar Trial, and Chestnut Repository 2 | | |
| 9:00 – 11:00 | Wagon Tour 2 (Far Loop): Ron Revord
Black Walnut Mapping Populations And Selection Trials and Hazelnut Breeding Block
Kit Carlson and Michele Warmund -- Drones for Pest Control | | |
| 9:00 – 11:00 | Tour 3 (Walking): Mark Coggeshall, J. Bryan Webber, and Shaneka Lawson
Black Walnut Repository and Progeny Block; Swamp White Oak Planting; and
Hazelnut Selection and Cultivar Traits | | |
| 11:00 – 12:30 | Demonstration Stops around Hay Barn Chestnut, Pecan, and Walnut Harvesters;
Electric Deer Fencing; Orchard Irrigation; Elderberry Culture and Weed Management Trial;
Grafting and Control Pollination videos;
Black Walnut Repository and Selection Trial (for those on forest management tour) | | |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | Lunch #2 for those remaining at HARF
for additional Wagon or Walking tours | 11:30 – 12:00 | Lunch #1 for those going on timber
management field trip in the afternoon |
| 12:30 – 2:30 | Repeat HARF Tours 1, 2, and 3 | 12:15 – 1:00 | Drive to Alternate Timber Management
Field Tour at 301 North Highway UU.
From HARF, cross I-70 and take Highway
UU south about 1 mile. |
| 2:30 – 4:30 | Repeat HARF Tours 1, 2, and 3 | 1:15 – 1:30 | Welcome to Timber Management Field
Tour, Mike Trial, Juglans Nigra Enterprise |
| 4:30 – 5:15 | Return to Columbia | 1:30 – 4:00 | Rotate among four field stops: Controlling
Invasive Species (Stelzer), Alternative
Vegetation to Grasses, Tree Spacing and
Thinning, Small Log Utilization (Trial) and
the Equipment Display. |
| | | 4:00 – 4:30 | Return to Columbia |
| 6:30 – 7:30 | Live Auction Setup in ABNR Conservation Hall | | |
| 7:00 – 7:30 | Second Poster Session , ABNR lobby | | |
| 7:30 – 9:30 | Live Auction , ABNR Conservation Hall.
Proceeds will be used to support tree
related research and special projects | | |
| 9:30 – 10:00 | Successful bidders settle up with the NNGA Treasurer and pick up their items | | |

Conference Agenda

Tuesday Morning, 25 July 2023

Tuesday begins the technical side of the conference with two concurrent sessions. Moderators are expected to keep talks on time so you can switch between sessions. At the end of the afternoon break, the Walnut Council Foundation will close their silent auction that supports a research grants and special projects program for the Walnut Council. A companion (CAPS) program will include a tour at the Warm Springs Ranch, lunch at the A-Frame Winegarden on the Blufftop, with optional afternoon wine tasting. In the evening, we will have our traditional banquet preceded by a social and the group photo. Price of admission to social/banquet was included in the full registration, so we are expecting everyone to attend and share their experiences on managing trees for nuts and timber.

7:00 – 8:00 Coffee available in ABNR Lobby
7:45 – 8:15 **NNGA Business Meeting**, ABNR 210
7:45 – 8:15 **Walnut Council Business Meeting**,
Agriculture Science Building
7:45 – 8:15 **Chestnut Growers of America Business
Meeting**, ABNR 104
8:20 – 8:30 **Welcome and Logistics**, Mike Gold
8:30 – 9:15 Ron Revord, **Keynote Presentation** –
Update on UMCA Chestnut and Other
Nut Tree Research

9:30 – 3:00 **Companion or CAPS Program**. Meet in the
Hampton Inn lobby, travel to Warm Springs
Ranch in the morning and have lunch at the A-
Frame Winegarden on the Blufftop with
optional afternoon wine tasting. Travel on your
own (carpool), tour ticket and lunch included
with CAPS registration.

Concurrent Session A Tuesday Morning

ABNR Conservation Hall; **Mike Gold, Moderator**

9:20 – 9:40 Jeanne-Romero-Severson, AIMS:
Update on Chestnut Ancestry
9:40 – 10:00 Mike Nave, Cross Species Breeding
For Eastern Chestnut Growers
10:00 – 10:20 Greg Miller, Grafts vs Seedlings for
Chestnut Production
10:20 – 10:40 Break
10:40 – 11:00 Amy Miller, Our Experience with Oak
Wilt in Our Chestnut Orchards
11:00- 11:20 Seth Gillim, Success, Challenges, and
Opportunities of Scaling Regenerative
Chestnut Agroforestry
11:20-11:40 Louis Naeger, Planning for Farm
Succession
11:40 – 12:00 Charlie Novogradac, Practical Tips,
Cautions
Observations, and yet to be Tried Ideas on
Establishing Chestnuts Organically
12:00- 1:00 **Box Lunch in ABNR lobby**

Concurrent Session B Tuesday Morning

Agriculture Hall; **Hank Stelzer, Moderator**

9:20 – 9:40 Thomas Goff, Black Walnut in the
Eastern U.S. – Current Status and
Recent Trends Based on FIA Data
9:40 – 10:00 Brian Brookshire, Eastern Black Walnut,
An Industry Perspective on Domestic
and International Lumber and Log
Markets
10:00 – 10:20 Q and A for Goff and Brookshire
10:20 -10:40 Break
10:40 – 11:00 Tim Martinson, Economics and the
Walnut Council
11:00 – 11:20 Lenny Farlee, Timber Basis and
Taxation Considerations
11:20 – 11:40 Joe Alley, Introduction to USDA
Programs for Tree Establishment and
the Management of Tree Plantations
and Forest Stands
11:40 – 12:00 Q and A for Martinson, Farlee, and Alley
12:00- 1:00 **Box Lunch in ABNR lobby**

Conference Agenda

Tuesday Afternoon, 25 July 2023

Concurrent Session A Tuesday Afternoon

ABNR Conservation Hall, **Ron Revord, Moderator**

- 1:00 – 1:10 Jesse Marksohn, The Case for Chestnut Flour: Early Research and Findings
- 1:10 – 2:00 Chestnut Marketing Panel; Mike Gold, Moderator; Amy Miller, Route 9 Co-op, Roger Blackwell, Chestnut Growers, Inc. Roger Smith, Prairie Grove Chestnut Growers; Debbie Milks, Chestnut Charlie's Organic Nuts; Tom Wahl, Red Fern Farm
- 2:00 – 2:20 Refreshment Break

2:20 Closing of the Silent Auction

- 2:20 – 2:40 Thomas Molnar, An Update on New Cultivars from Rutgers University And Strategies for Propagation
- 2:40 – 3:00 Dan Jacobs, John Capik, and Thomas Molnar, Making Informed Decisions On Pollinizer Selection and Distribution Throughout a Hazelnut Orchard.
- 3:00 – 3:20 Nick Meier and Ron Revord, Breeding for Durable EFB Resistance Through the Hybrid Hazelnut Consortium
- 3:20 – 3:40 Jason Fischbach, Update on Hazelnut Germplasm and Industry Development From the Upper Midwest Hazelnut Development Initiative
- 3:40 – 4:00 Warren Chatwin, Picturing Pecans: New Cultivar Releases and Modernizing the USDA ARS Pecan Breeding Program
- 4:00 – 4:20 Dan Shepherd, My Mistakes In 50 Years of Being a Pecan Farmer
- 4:20 – 4:40 Rodney Dever, Who Needs Pawpaw Cultivars?
- 4:40 – 5:00 Andy Newhouse and William A. Powell, Development and Regulatory Review of Transgenic American Chestnut Trees for Environmental Restoration

5:00 – 6:00

Successful silent auction bidders settle up with Walnut Council and pick up Purchased Items

6:15 – 7:00

Social with cash bar, Brewer Field House

6:30 – 6:45

Group Photo, Traditions Plaza (Conservation Hall in case of rain)

7:00 – 8:00

Banquet, Brewer Field House

8:00 – 8:45

Keynote Speaker, Shawn Mehlenbacher, Hazelnut as a Model for Tree Crop Breeding

8:45 – 9:00

NNGA Announcements, Big Nut, Awards, Roll Call of States

9:00 – 9:15

Walnut Council Announcements, Walnut Achievement Award, and Recognitions

9:15 – 9:30

Comments from Chestnut Growers of America

Concurrent Session B Tuesday Afternoon

Agriculture Hall;

Lenny Farlee and Jerry Van Sambeek, Moderators

- 1:00 – 1:20 Shaneka Lawson, et al., Growth Patterns And Soil Suitability Studies in *Juglans nigra* L. and *Quercus rubra* L. plantations
- 1:20 – 1:40 Jerry Van Sambeek, Hardwood Fertilization For Timber and Nuts
- 1:40 – 2:00 Q and A for Lawson and Van Sambeek
- 2:00 – 2:20 Refreshment Break

2:20 Closing of the Silent Auction

- 2:20 – 2:40 Stephanie Adams and Fredric Miller, Oak Decline and Death in Illinois: What Role Does Phytophthora Play?
- 2:40 – 3:00 Bruce Moltzan, National Perspective on Forest Health Issues
- 3:00 – 3:20 Matt Ginzel, Hardwood Tree Improvement And Regeneration Center's Strategic Responses to Forest Health Threats
- 3:20 – 3:40 Q and A Forest Threats with Adams, Moltzan, and Ginzel
- 3:40 – 4:00 Ben Knapp and John Kabrick, Contributions of Hardwood Forest Management to Climate-smart Forestry
- 4:00 – 4:20 Brian Schweiss and Hank Stelzer, White Oak Initiative Update.
- 4:20 – 4:40 Lauren Pile, Controlling Invasive Plants and Grape Vines in Hardwood Plantings.
- 4:40 – 5:00 Q and A on Forest Management with Knapp, Schweiss, Stelzer and Pile

Conference Agenda

Wednesday, 26 July 2023

We conclude the conference on Wednesday morning with a joint technical session. We have asked poster presenters to leave posters up until after the break as a concurrent activity. For the afternoon, depending on interest, we are arranging for several post conference field tours. Hopefully you will participate in one as you travel home.

- 8:00 – 8:15 Coffee available in ABNR lobby
- 8:15 – 8:30 **Welcome and Announcements**, Greg Miller, NNGA President, ABNR Conservation Hall
- 8:30 – 11:40 **Session C Presentations**, **Greg Miller, Moderator**
- 8:30 – 9:20 Mark Coggeshall, Ron Revord, and Nick Meier
Past, Present, and Future of Black Walnut Breeding at the University Of Missouri Center for Agroforestry
- 9:20 – 9:40 Doug Wallace
Using NRCS Web Soil Survey for Evaluating and Developing Hardwood Plantings
- 9:40 – 10:00 Chung-Ho Lin
Exploring the Economic Opportunities and Health Benefits of Black Walnuts (*Juglans nigra*)
- 10:00 – 10:20 Break
- 10:20 – 10:40 Bill Stouffer
Alley-cropping, Tree Management, and Nut Production
- 10:40 -11:00 Josh Payne
Cover Crops and Soil Health Impacts for Orchards and Tree Plantings
- 11:00 – 11:20 Samantha Bosco
Updates on Efforts to Map the Demand for Agroforestry – Research Gaps, Bottlenecks, and Possible Solutions
- 11:20 – 11:40 Brian Hammons and Pierce Hollingsworth
Nut Markets for the 'BOLD, WILD Walnut' – Flavorful, Healthy & Sustainable
- 11:40 – 12:00 Mike Gold, Ron Revord, and Greg Miller
Announcements, Wrap Up, and Closing

Post conference field tours (These will be arranged during the meeting – Make notes below)