

ACTION IN AGROFORESTRY

monthly newsletter of the University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry

February 2010

Michael Gold and Michelle Hall, editors

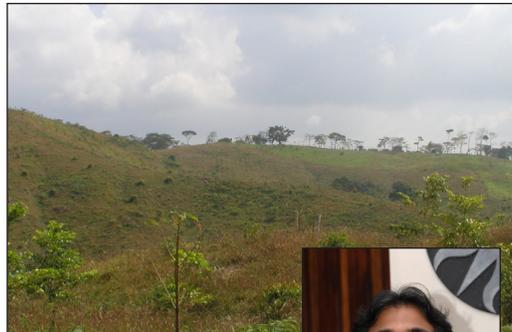
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Shibu Jose helps to educate on reforestation with native trees

Although teak, Caribbean pine and other fast-growing, non-native trees have been the species of choice for reforestation projects in Latin America in the past, native tree species are often better suited to local conditions and are more resistant to pests and disease.

Jan. 21-22, the Environmental Leadership and Training Initiative, ELTI, and the Native Species Reforestation Project, PRORENA, joint initiatives of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, hosted a group of international experts to share their experiences in native species reforestation and land restoration projects. Shibu Jose, director of the MU Center for Agroforestry, was one of the invited experts to the conference, held at the Smithsonian's Earl S. Tupper Center in Panama.

Jose chaired the session on "Native Trees in Agroforestry and Silvopastoral Systems," giving talks both to kick off the panel and to close. Jose's session featured speakers from Conservation International, the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, State University of New York and



Above: Reforestation of an abandoned pasture land with native tree species in the Panama Canal Watershed, Panama.

Right: Dr. Shibu Jose, UMCA director, speaks during the session he led on "Native Trees in Agroforestry and Silvopastoral Systems."



the Center for Research on Sustainable Farming Systems.

Other talks included "Where, When, Why and How?" which shared data on field experiments in Panama and the region; "Restoring Environmental Services"; and "The Use and Management of Native Trees by Rural Landholders."

"This was a unique gathering of scholars in varied but cohesive fields," Jose said. "Our hosts were extremely gracious and allowed us to see some of the culture and history of Panama during our stay. This was a unique opportunity to meet with an international group of

experts and aid in a very important project: the reforestation of Mesoamerica."

According to the director of ELTI, the goal of the conference was to translate the scientific results from experimental work with native trees into information that can be used by decision makers, conservationists and land holders.

Go to http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2010-01/stri-shm011810.php for more information about the conference.

UMCA OPENS SEARCH FOR TREE IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST

The MU Center for Agroforestry is looking for a Research Assistant Professor of Forestry - Tree Improvement. Start date is May 1; review of applications begins in March.

The position is a 100 percent research appointment. Salary is commensurate with experience. A Ph.D. is required, as is at least one degree in Forestry with an emphasis in forest genetics and tree improvement.

Responsibilities include the continuance of a long-term tree improvement research effort established by the Missouri Department of Conservation while furthering the development of ongoing applied breeding programs for black walnut, Chinese chestnut and pecan within the Center.

For more information on the posting and how to apply, go to <http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/position.pdf> or contact Dr. Shibu Jose, Search Committee Chair, 573-882-0240, or joses@missouri.edu.

SYMPOSIUM VIDEO NOW ONLINE

The full video from UMCA's Inaugural Agroforestry Research Symposium is now available online. To see the presentations, go to <http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/events/sym2010.asp>

The symposium was held Jan. 6 and featured speakers David Burner, USDA-ARS; Ranjith Udawatta and Stephen Anderson, Soil, Environmental and Atmospheric Sciences, MU; and Mike Gold and Larry Godsey, MU Center for Agroforestry. Keynote speaker was Andy Mason, interim director, USDA National Agroforestry Center.

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KUDOS

Chung-Ho Lin is the primary investigator on the grant "Introduction of biological agents for enhancing rhizodegradation of munitions explosives TNT and RDX," from the Army Research Office & Lincoln University Cooperative Research and Extension Programs. The grant runs through 2010. Articles about the promising research have gone national; Lin has been featured in the Christian Science Monitor, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Kansas City Star, Columbia Daily Tribune, Richmond Times Dispatch, KBIA, WLII-TV (Univision of Puerto Rico) and more than 60 other news media outlets.

OUTREACH

Mike Gold presented "How to Grow, Harvest, Manage and Market Nut Crops" for two break-out sessions at the 19th annual Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture's Farming for the Future Conference. The event was Feb. 4-6 at Pennsylvania State University. More than 2,300 people attended the conference.

RESEARCH

Jose, S. (ed.). 2009. *Agroforestry for Ecosystem Services and Environmental Benefits*. Springer Science, The Netherlands. 266p.

Agroforestry systems are believed to provide a number of ecosystem services; however, until recently evidence in the agroforestry literature supporting these perceived benefits has been lacking. This volume brings together a series of papers from around the globe to address recent findings on the ecosystem services and environmental benefits provided by agroforestry.

Specifically, this volume examines four major ecosystem services and environmental benefits: (1) carbon sequestration, (2) biodiversity conservation, (3) soil enrichment and (4) air and water quality. Past and present evidence clearly indicates that agroforestry, as part of a multifunctional working landscape, can be a viable land-use option that, in addition to alleviating

COMING SOON...

March 23 UMCA Chestnut Workshop Series, workshop #1 Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, New Franklin
Contact Julie Rhoads, 573-882-3234 or rhoadsj@missouri.edu, for more information

poverty, offers a number of ecosystem services and environmental benefits.

This realization should help promote agroforestry and its role as an integral part of a multifunctional working landscape the world over.

IMPACT

Michele Warmund and Mark Coggeshall conducted a study to determine the optimal time of Chinese chestnut chip budding 'AU-Super' on Qing and AU-Cropper seedling rootstocks. Budding success increased from 15 percent on July 21 to 65 percent and 75 percent for Qing and AU-Cropper rootstocks, respectively, Sept. 19.

Warmund, M.R., and M.V. Coggeshall. 2009. *Chip budding of 'AU-Super' Chinese chestnut scions on AU-Cropper and Qing seedling rootstocks. Acta Hort. 844:115-118.*

Diner's Journal

The New York Times Blog on Dining Out



We all know chestnuts from UMCA's Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center are delicious, and now New York City will know as well! The New York Times Blog on Dining Out, Diner's Journal, included an entry Feb. 2 on a new restaurant in NYC, which just so happened to have tried a few pounds of HARC chestnuts (and ordered more!) the week before. Here's what they had to say:

"To find unusual ingredients from farms around the country, Print, the restaurant in the new Ink 48 hotel at 48th Street and 11th Avenue, has an in-house forager."

Heather Carlucci-Rodriguez, who will run the kitchen with her husband, Charles Rodriguez, formerly the executive chef at the Sony Club, raved about the chestnuts that the forager, Johanna Kolodny, got from the Center for Agroforestry of the University of Missouri. "She also loved the Greek-style yogurt from a farm in upstate New York. Ms. Carlucci-Rodriguez, who closed Lassi, her tiny Indian takeout shop in Greenwich Village last summer, is the pastry chef and said she will be using those ingredients in her desserts..."

To see the blog entry, go to <http://dinersjournal.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/02/02/ingredients-you-wont-find-in-a-store/?emc=eta1>



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