



# Action in Agroforestry

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Michael Gold and Hyelee Won, editors

## 10th Annual Chestnut Roast -- A Big Success

Under perfectly blue skies and a pleasant October sun, the MU Center for Agroforestry celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Annual Missouri Chestnut Roast Festival. The event took place on Oct. 8, 2016 at the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center (HARC) in New Franklin, Mo. Over 3,000 attendees enjoyed the beauty of the Missouri River Hills, feasted on a variety of local foods, enjoyed an array of demonstrations and presentations, ate roasted chestnuts, bought fresh chestnuts, listened to live music, and joined in on HARC farm and Hickman House tours.

The Missouri Chestnut Roast is a festival of culture and agriculture that celebrates agroforestry farming through Missouri's traditional and specialty crop industries such as tree nuts, elderberries, pawpaws and forest products.

Presenters at this year's festival included Mildred Mattfeldt-Beman who spoke on growing culinary herbs and medicinal botanicals, John Dodam who presented the history of mules in Missouri, Leo Sharashkin shared his knowledge on Ozark beekeeping, and Michael Gold spoke about growing market opportunities for chestnuts. The New Franklin Athletic Booster Club provided the food to festival goers including buffalo and elk burgers. There was a children's area, cooking demos, walking tours and rides with the MU Mules for all age groups to enjoy.

"I am so glad I came today. The weather is perfect, and I've been having so much fun trying all the food samples. This is the perfect fall event" MU student Kaitlyn Wallace said. Wallace is a journalism student who heard about the festival from one of her sorority sisters.

Many MU students outside the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources showed interest in the festival this year as they looked for new fall activities to do around Columbia.

"My friends and I have always gone to the pumpkin patch or the corn maze, but we wanted to try something new this year. This festival has been a unique and educational experience. It's been so cool to see all these vendors and get to know more businesses in Missouri" Columbia native Anastazia Prost said.

In addition to getting to know the vendors at the festival, first-time festival attendees learned about the Historic 1819 Hickman House.

"I had no idea that there was something so cool on university property. The tour of the house was super interesting, and I can't believe I didn't know this house existed until today" MU Student Jordan Donner said after his tour of the Historic Hickman House.

Wallace, Prost and Donner all said they would like to attend the festival again next year. With many new attendees and a big crowd enjoying the event, the 2016 Annual Missouri Chestnut Roast Festival was a big success.

"All the speakers and tour leaders did a fabulous job!" Dr. Shibu Jose, Center for Agroforestry Director and HARC Farm Superintendent, stated in his email to those involved with the festival. "The volunteers, faculty, staff and students worked really hard to ensure an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all the attendees. I heard a lot of positive comments throughout the day!"



*Chestnuts were roasted and free samples were given out for festival attendees to enjoy.*

Drs. Chung-Ho Lin (PI), Anuradha Roy, Zhen Cai, Mark Coggeshall and Michael Gold have been awarded a Missouri Dept. of Ag. Specialty Crop Block Grant entitled: *Identify Novel Uses of Black Walnut and its Byproducts*. Research will be conducted to characterize the health-promoting compounds along with market research on black walnuts and byproducts including shells, kernels, barks, green walnut husks and leaves collected from orchard waste. The grant amount is \$29,500.

Dr. Chung-Ho Lin has received a \$10,000 gift from Elemental Enzymes. Elemental Enzymes began as a start-up company at the MU Business Incubator and currently has offices in St. Louis, MO. Elemental Enzymes is a life sciences company focused on generating cutting-edge solutions, ranging from organic solutions to biotechnology advances. Through the use of their proprietary platform and other scientific breakthroughs, Elemental Enzymes develops biological products that can address key market needs.

Drs. Maria Fidalgo (PI), Kathleen M. Trauth, Bryan Mayhan, and Chung-Ho Lin have been awarded an EPA Region 7 Grant entitled: *Pesticide Landscape-Based Monitoring: Method Development and Strategy*. The grant amount is \$406,661.

Drs. Maria Fidalgo (PI), Chung-Ho Lin, and Teng Lim have received a Mizzou Advantage Undergraduate Research Teams (URT) award to support their project entitled: *Program Degradation of Antibiotics from Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Wastewater by Heterogeneous Fenton Reaction*. Mizzou Advantage URTs bring together an interdisciplinary mix of faculty, staff and students to conduct problem-based research linked to one of the four Mizzou Advantage areas.

Hannah Hemmelgarn, MS Thesis candidate SNR/Agroforestry, was awarded a Mizzou Advantage Graduate Student Travel Grant Award to present *An Experiential Approach to Agroforestry Education: High School Educator Professional Development* at the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) Extension and Knowledge Exchange Working Party Conference, Kenora, Ontario, Canada, September 25th-29th, 2016.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Green Lands Blue Waters (GLBW) Conference, Memorial Union, Columbia, Mo. November 29-30, 2016

Theme: "Going Green with Conservation-Based Farming: Market-Based Approaches to Promote Soil Health and Water Quality."  
Registration is now open. **Notable sessions include (see schedule for full program):**

#### • Agroforestry – Mid-American Agroforestry Working Group (MAAWG)

- 1) *Mob-grazed livestock marketing and leasing, options to incorporate silvopasture*, Greg Judy, Green Pastures Farm
- 2) *Producing and marketing meat goats using invasive species as a rotationally grazed forage source*, Mark Kennedy, former NRCS State Grazing Lands Specialist
- 3) *Markets for pasture-raised eggs and potentials for silvopasture*, Russell Diez-Canseco, President and CEO Vital Farms

#### • Market-Based Tools for Production and Conservation

- 1) *Calculating the Financial Costs & Benefits of Conservation Cropping*, Rebecca Wasserman-Olin, Economics Researcher, Chippewa 10% Project, Land Stewardship Project
- 2) *Veggie Compass (Fruit and Nut Compass) Decision Support Tools*, John Hendrickson, UW-Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems
- 3) *NRCS Dedicated EQIP Funding Pool for Agroforestry and Specialty Woody Crops*, Lauren Cartwright, MO NRCS Ag. Economist

The GLBW Conference will include two hour working group sessions on cover crops, agroforestry, perennial biomass crops, perennial forage / pasture systems, and perennial grains, as well as a "Tour of Midwest Watersheds."

Registration: \$180. **For details and registration:** <http://snr.missouri.edu/green-lands-conference/>

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### North American Agroforestry Conference; Blacksburg, VA June 27-29, 2017

<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1865066>

Abstract Submission Opened September 1, 2016, Closes December 9, 2016