



Action in Agroforestry

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Michael Gold and Megan Tyminski, editors

Agroforestry in Full Blossom at 15th Annual North American Agroforestry Conference

Hosted by Virginia Tech, the 15th Annual North American Agroforestry Conference (NAAC) took place from June 26-29, 2017, in Blacksburg, Virginia. Sponsored by the Association For Temperate Agroforestry (AFTA), the biennial NAAC is the premier gathering of agroforesters from across North America. Over 170 individuals, mainly from the US and Canada, were joined by colleagues from Mexico, Brazil, Spain, Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, Nigeria, Indonesia, China, Korea, India, and Nepal.

UMCA was one of the NAAC sponsors and Gregory Ormsby Mori was heavily involved in the conference organization and planning. Many UMCA faculty, staff and graduate students gave oral presentations, posters, and moderated breakout concurrent sessions. Among the many highlights: Graduate student Jihyun Park won the AFTA award for best student poster “Identifying Bioactive Phytochemicals in Spent Coffee Grounds for Cosmetic Applications”. Michael Gold received the AFTA Outreach and Education Award “For extraordinary accomplishments in the field of Agroforestry Outreach and Education and demonstrated sustained service at the highest levels of professional practice and leadership”. Closing out the NAAC, Gregory Ormsby Mori led efforts to organize and coordinate a live Agroforestry in Action webinar “Agroforestry Policy Forum” with panelists from the US, Canada, Mexico and Spain (all UMCA webinars are available here -- <http://www.agroforestryinaction.org/>).



Collaborative Fracking Research

SNR/UMCA faculty and students, working with the MU School of Medicine Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women’s Health Program, Commonweal Foundation Biomonitoring Program, Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, University of California San Francisco, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), have successfully developed the analytical methods to assess the exposure of communities to pollutants associated with hydraulic fracking (HF) operations by determining the fracking chemicals and their metabolites in the urine collected from the residents living adjacent to HF operations. Hazardous breakdown products of HF chemicals were present in the urine of study participants at much higher levels than those found in the general population, with one example up to ten times higher. The information has been disseminated to the community residents who participated in the research. UMCA/MU scientists are currently working with several organizations and communities to raise the funds needed for assessing the exposure of residents to the toxic chemicals derived from HF activities.

KUDOS

Welcome Megan Tyminski – Information Specialist Intern - UMCA



Megan is an MU senior, majoring in Science and Agricultural Journalism, minoring in Sustainable Agriculture. She cares about community, conservation, pollinator health, and food security. Her goal is to create accessible communications and activities in order to help the public care about and understand these issues. She recently received a prestigious Udall Scholarship which honors the legacies of Morris and Stewart Udall. The award recognizes students for leadership, public service and commitment to issues related to Native American nations or to the environment. She is the founder of the beekeeping club at the University of Missouri, and serves as the President of Sustain Mizzou, a student-run 501(c)3 nonprofit. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, concert-going, and hiking.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Grow Native! Workshop in the Field

August 1 | 7:30 - 4 p.m. | University of Missouri South Farm Research Center, Columbia, MO.

Great opportunity to learn from many experts in native plants and native landscaping--all in one place! Full day of great native landscaping topics, to be held as a concurrent education track at the MU Turf and Landscape Field Day from 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Six CEUs for landscape architects will be offered for this workshop. Experts will speak on native landscapes, oak selection, agroforestry in urban settings, prairie strips and more! Registration includes lunch: \$40 for MPF members, MoGIA members, Master Gardeners, and Extension Specialists; \$50 for nonmembers; \$20 afternoon session only (1 to 4 p.m.) <http://grownative.org/events/august-1-2017-grow-native-workshop-in-columbia/>

Silvopasture workshop

August 4 & 5 | La Crescent, MN (Southeast MN)

The workshop offers 8 Continuing Education Units for Foresters and Forest Stewardship Plan Paperers! Participants can reserve rooms at a local hotel or nearby camp ground. Participants are also welcome to just come for the Saturday portion of the workshop. Registration is \$45 for Friday and Saturday, or \$30 for just the Saturday program or \$20 for the Friday program; Register online at <https://www.regonline.com/SilvopastureWS>. This will cover one dinner (Friday, August 4), and snacks and lunch (August 5). Questions? Contact: Diomy Zamora (612-626-9272 or zamor015@umn.edu) or Diane Mayerfeld (608-262-8188 or dbmayerfeld@wisc.edu)



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