



# Action in Agroforestry

March 2020 Vol. 12, No.3 Hannah Hemmelgarn & Michael Gold, editors

## Supporting Dialogue During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Center for Agroforestry, like many other organizations, seeks to respond to our current public health circumstances with solidarity and support. At the University of Missouri, all in-person classes have been deferred to online material for the remainder of the spring semester. This is a tremendous burden both for those students who may have limited access to technology, and for those faculty whose courses have otherwise been entirely in-person. Many other campuses have and are responding similarly to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

In an attempt to support educators at this time, UMCA

is providing an introductory agroforestry curriculum with free, publicly accessible materials including video, audio, texts, and discussion guides on the home page of our website [www.CenterforAgroforestry.org](http://www.CenterforAgroforestry.org). The content is at a level appropriate for undergraduate environmental sciences, sustainability, agronomy, ecology, and other similarly oriented courses. These modules are sufficient to fill at least three class period equivalents as “guest lectures” while instructors patch through this transitional period.

While we adjust to continued changes and uncertainty in the months ahead, we are witnessing an upsurge of creative resilience in our community and regional networks. As we collectively navigate this shift, let us also engage in a dialogue about ways to grow more sustainable regional food and agriculture systems. Agroforestry is certainly an important part of this conversation, whether for diversified sources of nourishment, for climate or economic stability. If you make use of the curriculum materials provided by the Center for Agroforestry in your learning circles, please let us know how they have served you in this ongoing dialogue. Please also let us know if you need further resources or assistance in this regard. We’re happy to connect at a distance.

Direct questions and feedback to Caroline Todd: [toddcs@missouri.edu](mailto:toddcs@missouri.edu).



## 2020 Agroforestry Symposium seminar videos now available!

Recorded seminars from the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Agroforestry Symposium: “Show Me More” Value-Added Processing for Agriculture and Forestry are now available [here](#). If the ice and snow kept you from attending the event in January and tasting the delicious value-added forest flavors, please enjoy these informative lectures provided from the event.

## Missouri NRCS Sets April 10 Application Deadline to Apply for Easements

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has set an April 10 deadline to apply for wetland and agricultural land easements in Missouri. NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to help private landowners, tribes, land trusts and other groups protect valuable lands through easements.

The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) focuses on restoring and protecting wetlands as well as conserving productive agricultural lands and grasslands. Landowners are compensated for enrolling their land in easements. Landowners and tribes interested in ACEP Wetland Reserve Easements and partners interested in ACEP Agricultural Land Easements should contact their local USDA service center

(<https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs>).

Applications for ACEP are taken on a continuous basis, but **only those Missouri applications received by April 10 will be ranked and considered for funding this year.**

## KUDOS

### Recent Publications

Alagele, S.M., Anderson, S.H., Udawatta, R.P., Rankoth, L.M. 2020. Long-term perennial management and cropping effects on soil microbial biomass for claypan watersheds. *Agronomy Journal*, DOI: 10.1002/agg2.20116

Ho, K-V., Schreiber, K.L., Park, J., Vo, P.H., Lei, Z., Sumner, L.W., Brown, C.R., Lin, C-H. 2020. Identification and quantification of bioactive molecules inhibiting pro-inflammatory cytokine production in spent coffee grounds using metabolomics analyses. *Frontiers in Pharmacology* <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2020.00229>

**Congratulations** to the Savanna Institute on their substantial award from the Nature Conservancy's Natural Climate Solutions Accelerator Program and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, which will fund support for participating farmers to plant tree crops as alley cropping in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. In addition to helping farmers pull together for the advancement of their products, the Savanna Institute will provide monitoring services to evaluate environmental and agricultural performance.

**Welcome** to Manuela Pereira, PhD Candidate in applied ecology at the University of Sao Paulo and Professor of Agroecology at the Federal University of Fronteira Sul (Brazil). Pereira was awarded a PrInt CAPES/USP scholarship to conduct her research internship at the University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry in 2020. She will be working primarily with Dr. Ranjith Udawatta. Look for more information on Manuela's research in the April issue of E-News!

**Welcome** also to Kelsi Stubblefield, Graduate Research Assistant and MS student at the Center for Agroforestry. Kelsi is originally from southern Illinois and studied writing/composition and environmental sustainability science at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee. She realized the potential for study with UMCA while presenting a research poster at the 2019 Agroforestry Symposium. Kelsi will be working with Dr. Zhen Cai and Dr. Sarah Lovell on agroforestry adoption research.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Nutshell Webinar: Tribal Agroforestry & Indigenous Fire Stewardship

March 24, 2020 | 7:00pm | Savanna Institute | Free online webinar

This live, online discussion will feature Frank Lake, Research Ecologist in the Redwood Sciences Laboratory of the US Forest Service. Lake will share about tribal agroforestry and Indigenous fire stewardship practices in the Pacific Northwest region. Register for this and other Nutshell webinars at

[www.savannainstitute.org/events.html](http://www.savannainstitute.org/events.html).

## Developing Engaging Extension Curriculum to Enhance Food Security

March 26, 2020 | 12:00pm CST | USDA Renewable Resources Extension Act | free webinar

How can Extension support practices that sustain healthy forests and rangelands, while enhancing food Security? Healthy and productive forests and rangelands are the hallmark of the Renewable Resources Extension Act and essential for addressing our future food security challenges through advances in agroforestry and rangeland management practices. Successful Extension Educators transfer innovations to stakeholders via engaging curricula. This webinar will feature the work of three successful Extension Educators: Dr. John Munsell, Agroforestry and whole farm planning, Virginia Tech; Dr. Diomy Zamora, Agroforestry and Silvopasture Systems, University of Minnesota; and Dr. Travis Mulliniks, Nebraska Ranch Practicum, University of Nebraska. More information and registration at

[https://arizona.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9OyFkJpTeWaWS\\_eFZu3fg](https://arizona.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9OyFkJpTeWaWS_eFZu3fg)

## Trees for Livestock, Food and Medicine

March 25, 2020 | Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT) | free online webinar

Steve Gabriel from Wellspring Forest Farm in New York, an agroforestry extension specialist with the Cornell Small Farm Program, will present on medicinal and feed values trees can offer ruminant livestock. Tree species including willow, poplar, and black locust have been extensively researched and found to offer opportunities for silvopasture systems. Steve Gabriel is the author of the 2018 book *Silvopasture: A Guide to Managing Grazing Animals, Forage Crops, and Trees in a Temperate Farm Ecosystem*. Learn more and register for the webinar at <https://foodanimalconcernstrust.org/webinars>.

## Glades, Quail, and Prescribed Fire Workshop

June 2-3, 2020 | Oak Woodlands & Forest Fire Consortium | Ash Flat, Arkansas

Co-hosted by the Oak Woodlands & Fire Consortium, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, and The Nature Conservancy, this 1.5-day workshop in Northern Arkansas will focus on prescribed fire management of glades, with emphasis on quail habitat. A half day of presentations at Ozarka College will be followed by a full day field tour to see these practices at Harold E. Alexander Spring River Wildlife Management Area. Registration is required and limited to the first 50 registrants. For details, visit

<https://oakfirescience.com/events/glades-quail-and-prescribed-fire-workshop-in-arkansas/> or contact Joe Marschall ([marschallj@missouri.edu](mailto:marschallj@missouri.edu)) with questions.

## Comprehensive Elderberry Workshop

June 11-13, 2020 | River Hills Harvest and the Midwest Elderberry Cooperative | Columbia, MO

Join new and experienced elderberry growers in the Midwest at this informative workshop and gathering at the MU Bradford Research Center. June 11<sup>th</sup> will feature a new growers workshop covering elderberry culture from soil preparation to harvest; June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> will include a comprehensive workshop and field tour with in-depth information on growing, propagating, diseases and pests, ongoing research, market and marketing etc. Early bird registration price ends April 30<sup>th</sup>. More information and registration at <https://www.riverhillsharvest.com/2020-comprehensive-elderberry>.

