Annual Center for Agroforestry Events

Research Center Field Days

At the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center (HARC) located in New Franklin, MO https://harc.missouri.edu/about/, the Center for Agroforestry’s field day showcase is the annual Missouri Chestnut Roast Festival, held each year on the first Saturday in October. The event includes research farm tours, family-friendly activities and demonstrations, tours of the 200 year old renovated historic Hickman House on-site, local craft and food vendors, educational seminars and music. The HARC hosts several other field events, listed on their website and social media pages @HARCUMCA1.

https://www.flickr.com/search/?user_id=62135710%40N03&view_all=1&text=horticulture%20and%20agroforestry%20research%20center

The Land of the Osages Research Center (LORC) https://cafnr.missouri.edu/research/centers/land-of-the-osages/ is the newest MU research center, with great future promise as partnership grows between UMCA and the Osage Nation. A gift from long-time UMCA supporter, Doug Allen, the grand opening of this center occurred on October 29, 2019. Stay tuned as future LORC field days are posted in the UMCA upcoming events listing.

https://cafnr.missouri.edu/2020/01/a-humble-giver/
Several agroforestry and specialty perennial crop research efforts are also ongoing at the Southwest Research Center, located in Mount Vernon, MO. In particular, research on pawpaw, elderberry, blackberry, and others are featured during the annual Alternative Tree Crop Field Day, held at the end of September.

https://www.flickr.com/search/?user_id=62135710%40N03&view_all=1&text=southwest%20research%20center

Conferences & Symposia

The Annual Agroforestry Symposium is an opportunity for learning and collaboration, held between January and February each year at the University of Missouri Columbia campus’ Bond Life Sciences Center. This event is free and open to the public, with informative speakers representing the year’s topic theme, an exhibit area featuring agroforestry vendors and organizations, perennial tree crop foods and demonstrations during the event reception. The following recent Symposium programs and video recordings illustrate the event’s scope and extent.

- View all previous years’ Agroforestry Symposium programs and videos: [http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/events/pastsymposia.php](http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/events/pastsymposia.php)

The Center for Agroforestry also participates and collaborates in regional, national, and international agroforestry conferences and events, including the following:

- The Savanna Institute’s Perennial Farm Gathering [http://www.savannainstitute.org/](http://www.savannainstitute.org/)
- The Green Lands Blue Waters Conference [https://greenlandsbluewaters.org/](https://greenlandsbluewaters.org/)
- The Annual Conference of the Northern Nut Growers Assoc. [https://nutgrowing.org/](https://nutgrowing.org/)
The Agroforestry Academy

The University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry (UMCA) has, since 2012, hosted an annual week-long intensive agroforestry training program that combines in-class seminars from agroforestry and natural resources professionals, field visits to working agroforestry farms and research centers, and experiential activities including mushroom inoculation, tree grafting, and a case study design project. Initiated as a “train-the-trainer” program, the Academy now hosts both farmer/landowners and outreach professionals in order to learn from each other during the week.

Since 2012, hundreds of participants have completed the training program, many of whom are now champions for agroforestry in their respective fields and regular partners with the Center for Agroforestry.

Interested attendees are encouraged to submit their registration application as soon as possible, as the program fills quickly. More information and a full brochure for this year’s Academy is available at


Other Field Events, Workshops & Guest Speakers

Based on interests, needs, and availability, Center for Agroforestry field events and workshops take place throughout the year on topics ranging from log-grown mushroom cultivation, specialty crop establishment and management, forest farming with medicinal plants, managing shade for profitable silvopasture, and many others that
typically include champion agroforestry farmers who are willing to share their experiences.

To learn more about upcoming events, visit the UMCA event calendar page (link). To help organize or host a workshop, fill out the form on the Get Involved (link) page, or contact Hannah Hemmelgarn at hemmelgarnh@missouri.edu

**Webinars & The Agroforestry Podcast**

New to the Center’s menu of media, The Agroforestry Podcast capitalizes on this unique downloadable audio platform rapidly growing in popularity. While there are several podcasts on farming and food systems, none has featured agroforestry until now. With the strong network of growers, researchers, and educators in our midst, The Agroforestry Podcast is a place where we share diverse, knowledgeable voices on a wide array of topics. Season one includes episodes on forest farming with medicinal plants, establishing silvopasture with cattle, the ins and outs of alley cropping, pawpaw as a unique specialty crop, benefits of native plants as perennial crops, and much more. As listeners continue to spread the word and subscribe to the podcast, there have been at least 1000 unique downloads of each podcast episode this year, with 30-50 new listeners every day. The Agroforestry podcast is available on any podcast app, and on the Center for Agroforestry’s website, free to stream or download.