

# ACTION IN AGROFORESTRY

monthly newsletter of The Center for Agroforestry at the University of Missouri

December 2010

Michael Gold and Michelle Hall, editors

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## The Center for Agroforestry unveils new Web look

The Center for Agroforestry at the University of Missouri unveiled its new Web site Nov. 23.

The Web site has a completely new look, which involved nearly a year's work. The College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources communications team created the new design to better reflect MU's Web look, while the people at AgEbb implemented the design and will continue to update the site.

The project was a huge undertaking, as UMCA has one of the largest sites AgEbb maintains. Some pages were reconfigured and many menus have changed.



“We hope the new site is more informative, user-friendly and easier to navigate,” said Shibu Jose, director of UMCA. “Take some time to explore the site and please let us know if you have suggestions for further improvement.”

Please direct comments/updates on the site to

Michelle Hall, [hallmich@missouri.edu](mailto:hallmich@missouri.edu).

### NEW UMCA GRANTS TO TAKE ON ELDERBERRY, BIOMASS, BLACK WALNUT AND BIOREMEDIATION

The Center for Agroforestry supports a diverse array of research foci. Recent grant awards reflect this diversity, including:

Andy Thomas, Patrick Byers, John Avery, Bill Reid and Bob Martin were awarded a grant from the Missouri Department of Agriculture's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program for “Advancement of American Elderberry as a Missouri Specialty Crop by Elucidating its Pest and Disease Complex.” The \$29,611 award will run for two years. The team will study the microscopic eriophyid mite, which is believed to be the worst elderberry pest in the Midwest, along with viruses which many believe are critical stumbling blocks to the significant advancement of elderberry as a commercial crop, Thomas said. In addition to the University of Missouri, investigators include those from Missouri State University, Kansas State University and the USDA.

Mike Gold and a team of UMCA and MU investigators, growers and value-added producers, have been awarded a new USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) grant that will support the establishment of existing and/or new elderberry grower clusters and provide the necessary market information to profitably produce elderberry and create value-added products. The three-year award (2011-2013) is for \$105,000.

Mark Coggeshall is part of a multi-state team of researchers awarded a National Science Foundation grant to develop the genetic and genomic resources required to protect and sustain our valuable hardwood forest resources in the face of accelerating pressures from invasive organisms, pollution, pests and climate. The total grant is for more than \$3.7 million; Coggeshall will receive approximately 10 percent of the total award.

Keith E. Goyne (MU), John Kabrick and Steve Shifley (USFS) have received a \$118,215 grant from the Missouri Forest Foundation to quantify spatial distribution of residue and investigate changes in soil nutrient concentrations following woody biomass harvest. This award runs January 2011-March 2014.

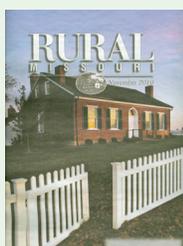
Chung-Ho Lin has received collaborative funding with Lincoln University on the following research projects:

1. Phytoremediation/bioremediation of munitions explosives and heavy metals in soils (USDA-NIFA, \$600,000, 2010-2013).
2. Removal of pesticide and heavy metals from aqueous phase by carbon-based nanomaterials (USDA-NIFA Capacity Building Grant, \$475,000, 2008-2011).
3. Tracking the source and transport of DOM and pathogen in terrestrial aquatic system using fluorescence EEM spectroscopy and molecular biotechnology (USDA-NIFA-SERD Grant, \$499,367, 2010-2013, China Scholarship Council, \$16,000, 2010-2011).

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## OUTREACH

The **Thomas Hickman House** was featured on the cover of *Rural Missouri* magazine for the November issue. Information about the house and how to schedule a tour was included on the inside cover.



## IMPACT

The **Center for Agroforestry** recently signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding with Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, the top national university in Pakistan.

## RESEARCH

**Shibu Jose** organized the session “Family Forestlands: Agroforestry for Commodity Production and Ecosystem Services” at the Society of American Foresters National Convention, Oct. 26-30, Albuquerque, N.M. UMCA presenters included: **Dusty Walter**, “Silvopastoral options for family forest land owners”; and **Ranjith Udawatta**, “Agroforestry for watershed restoration and water quality.” UMCA also had an exhibit at the event.



UMCA researchers gave numerous presentations at the recent ASA, CSSA, and SSSA 2010 International Annual Meetings, Oct. 31-Nov. 3, Long Beach, Calif. The conference, “Green Revolution 2.0: Food+Energy and Environmental Security,” included (speakers listed first):

**Kristen S. Veum, K.W. Goyne, S. Holan and P.P. Motavalli**, “Assessment of Soil Organic Carbon and Total Nitrogen Stocks under Conservation Management Practices in a Claypan Agroecosystems using an Adapted ANOVA.” (*Kristen gave her talk two weeks after giving birth to daughter Julia – talk about dedication!*) **Veum** won a \$500 Douglas D. Randall Young Scientists

## COMING SOON...

**Jan. 12** 2nd Annual Agroforestry Symposium  
“Meeting Renewable Energy Goals: Role of Bioenergy Crops”  
9:30 a.m.-5:10 p.m., Conservation Hall  
ABNR Bldg., MU campus  
RSVP to [rhoadsj@missouri.edu](mailto:rhoadsj@missouri.edu) by Jan. 5  
<http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/events>

**Jan. 13** UMCA Annual Review  
Stotler Lounge, Memorial Union, MU campus

Development Fund travel scholarship from the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources to attend the conference.

**Irene M. Unger, K.W. Goyne, and R.J. Kremer** (*poster presentation*) “The Effects of Veterinary Antibiotics on Soil Microbial Community Function in Vegetative Filter Strips and Cropland.”



**Barbieri, C., and C. Valdivia.** 2010. Recreation and Agroforestry: Examining New Dimensions of Multifunctionality in Family Farms. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 26(4): 465-473.

*Multifunctionality serves as an analytical framework to recognize many services that farms provide to their surrounding communities and society. This study explores an often overlooked dimension of multifunctionality by examining the relationship between recreational multifunctionality and the practice of agroforestry. Results show that the recreational use of the land is positively associated to the cognitive and affective attitudes towards agroforestry. Results also show that the higher the perception of intrinsic and economic values of agroforestry, the more recreational use of the land.*

## KUDOS

**Larry Godsey** has received his Ph.D. in forestry. He successfully defended his dissertation, “Modeling the Financial Impact of Management Decisions on Loblolly Pine (*Pinus taeda L.*) Production,” Nov. 19.



**Mike Gold** has served as a co-facilitator for the MU Freshman Interest Group (FIG) program every fall since 1999. The FIG program has five objectives: 1) to enhance entering students’ transition to college; 2) make the campus psycho-

logically small by creating peer reference groups; 3) encourage group identity development; 4) provide an integrated learning experience by connecting faculty, students, disciplines and campus experiences in a purposeful, coherent and seamless fashion; and 5) enhance students’ academic and social success. This fall, along with FIG undergraduate peer adviser Rio Schondelmeyer, Gold took the FIG Natural Resources Proseminar class of 18 students to tour the MU Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center. Highlights of the tour included the UMCA black walnut and chestnut research orchards, pine straw and silvopasture research plots and the 1819 Thomas Hickman House. Following the field trip, the FIG students were treated to dinner at Shakespeare’s Pizza in downtown Columbia.



The Center for Agroforestry at the University of Missouri

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**Shibu Jose, Ph.D., Director**

 The Center for Agroforestry  
University of Missouri

A Global Center for Agroforestry, Entrepreneurship and the Environment