



Action in Agroforestry

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Michael Gold and
Savannah Kannberg, editors

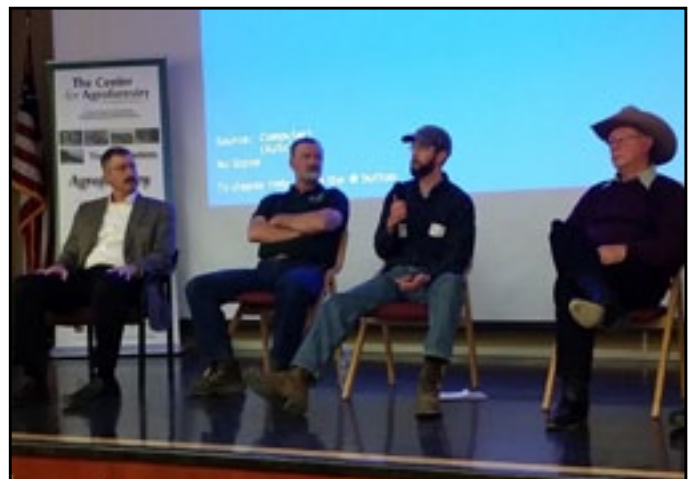
6th Annual Agroforestry Symposium “Climate-Smart Agriculture: The Role of Agroforestry”

The 6th Annual Agroforestry Symposium, “Climate-Smart Agriculture: the Role of Agroforestry” was held on Jan. 8, 2015, on the campus of the University of Missouri-Columbia. The Symposium included seven excellent presentations covering both biophysical and social dimensions of Climate-Smart Agriculture and ended with a dynamic and diverse group of landowners in a panel discussion.

Dr. Thomas Sauer, Assistant Director of the Midwest Climate Hub, USDA ARS, Ames, Iowa, delivered a superb keynote presentation entitled “Agroforestry for Climate-Smart Agriculture.” Dr. Sauer summed up his keynote with the following take home summary points: “1) Climate variability will present ever-increasing challenges for agriculture, which will have to adapt and become more resilient; 2) Further intensification of land use is needed to meet food, fuel, feed, and fiber production demands, presenting increasing stress on natural resources; 3) Agroforestry practices offer excellent climate adaptation and mitigation potential through modification of local microclimate and changes in hydrology; and 4) Regional climate hubs will be assimilating research into adaptation tools and practices and should become another source of information for agroforestry practitioners.”

The landowner panelists included: Bill Stouffer, Napton, MO, chestnut alley cropping; John Buchanan, Valley Falls, KS, hardwood and hay alley cropping; Eric Reuter, Harrisburg, MO, diversified agroforestry; Dusty Walter on behalf of Brian Tomazi, Cuba, MO, silvopasture; and Mark Shepard, Viola, WI, restoration agriculture.

All Symposium presentations were live-streamed and these presentations are now available on the UMCA website: www.centerforagroforestry.org/events/symposia.php



At the Symposium, a question and answer period. From left to right: Dusty Walter (UMCA), Mark Shepard, Eric Reuter and John Buchanan.

Photo by Caroline Todd

Symposium presentations included:

- Perennial Grains: Climate-Smart by Design; Dr. Lee DeHaan, The Land Institute (Salina, Kan.)
- Silvopasture: Creating Climate-Smart Pastoral Systems; Dr. Robert Kallenbach, Division of Plant Sciences (University of Missouri)
- Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions: The Agroforestry Way; Ms. Janet Chappell (North Carolina State University); Dr. Alan Franzluebbers, USDA ARS (Raleigh, N.C.)
- Developing Climate-Smart Soybeans; Dr. Babu Valliyodan & Dr. Henry Nguyen, National Soybean Biotechnology Center (University of Missouri)
- Restoration Agriculture: Real World Permaculture for Farmers; Mark Shepard, Restoration Agriculture Development (Viola, Wisc.)
- The Human Dimensions of Climate-Smart Agriculture; Dr. Jere Gilles, Division of Applied Social Science (University of Missouri)

First graduates of the online Agroforestry MS program

December 2014 was a milestone month for the Agroforestry masters program at the University of Missouri. The first two graduates of the online MS program completed all the requirements and earned their masters -- all online.

Jacob Winterbower studied with Dr. Michael Gold. His MS essay was entitled: "Effects of Buffer Width and Site Characteristics on Phosphorous Runoff: A Review of Scientific Literature." The other graduate was Garien Behling, a student of Dr. Shibu Jose. His MS essay was: "The USDA Agroforestry Strategic Framework: Reversing the Trends and Consequences of the 20th Century and Saving American Agriculture."



Garien Behling

Upcoming Events

Feb. 4 - 6, 2015 — Missouri Natural Resources Conference; Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. More information at www.mnrc.org

Feb. 5 - 7, 2015 — MOA Organic Association Annual Conference; Springfield, Mo. Conference details at www.moaconference.org

Feb. 7, 2015 — Missouri Nut Growers Association; Pleasant Hill, Mo. Check out www.missourinutgrowers.org

Feb. 17 - 18, 2015 — Iowa Cover Crops Conference; West Des Moines, Iowa

Feb. 26 - 28, 2015 — MOSES Annual Conference; La Crosse, Wisc. Find out more at: www.mosesorganic.org/

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KUDOS

New publication

Dr. Jeanne D. Mihail published a paper on morels, which was funded through the Center for Agroforestry. Mihail is a Plant Science professor at the University of Missouri.

Mihail, J.D. 2015. Is it time for morels yet? *McIlvainea* 23:53-60. http://www.namyco.org/publications/mcilvainea/v23/time_for_morels.html.

Dissertation defense

Eddie LaReece Pittman passed his dissertation defense in November 2014. His PhD project is entitled "Spectroscopic distinguishability, forced degradation kinetics and LC-MS/MS degradation product characterizations involving 5-Fluorouracil and similar or affiliated compounds in relation to environmental concerns." Pittman is a PhD student in MU's Department of Chemistry, where he is advised by Dr. Renee Jiji (Chemistry) and Dr. Chung-Ho Lin (UMCA).

OUTREACH

UMCA talks agroforestry at conference

Dr. Gene Garrett, UMCA Senior Outreach Specialist, presented "Overview of Agroforestry: For Profit and Ecosystem Services." This talk was given at the Great Plains Growers Conference in St. Joseph, Mo., on Jan. 9, 2015.