



Action in Agroforestry

October 2017 Vol. 8, No. 10 Michael Gold and Megan Tyminski, editors

University of Missouri is ranked #1 in the 2018 Top Online Colleges for Master's in Environmental Science!

This ranking is based on value. We analyzed accredited online schools across the nation, taking into consideration academic strength factors along with manually researched tuition rates in order to provide a list of colleges offering the best value to students. Inclusion on this list shows high academic standards and a commitment to affordability, two key factors important to prospective students. University of Missouri made the ranking at 1st for Master's Degrees in Environmental Science! The full list is available here: "<http://www.guidetoonlineschools.com/degrees/environmental-science#best-value-masters>"



2018 Top Online Colleges for a Master's in Environmental Science

This list shows schools offering online master's degrees in environmental science and ranks the best overall combination of academic excellence and low tuition. Ranked at #1, the University of Missouri has a strong academic strength rating of 74% and offers a Master of Science in Natural Resources - Agroforestry for the lowest annual tuition of \$5,400. Southern Methodist University offers an M.S. in Environmental Science for \$20,250 annually, with a notable academic strength score of 82%.

View our methodology for more details or learn more about SR Education Group.

All tuition numbers were manually collected and verified

Rank	School	Annual Tuition	Academic Strength
→ #1	University of Missouri	\$5,400	74%
#2	Auburn University	\$6,525	73%
#3	Colorado State University-Fort Collins	\$6,850	72%
#4	Southern Methodist University	\$20,250	82%
#5	University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point	\$8,769	64%
#6	University of Alabama at Birmingham	\$14,925	73%
#7	Nova Southeastern University	\$12,410	69%
#8	Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	\$7,650	61%
#9	Troy University	\$7,410	61%
#10	University of Wisconsin-Stout	\$12,326	64%

<http://www.guidetoonlineschools.com/degrees/environmental-science#best-value-masters>

This recognition is based on the Master of Science in Natural Resources (Agroforestry Emphasis) online program. Within a short period of five years, this new SNR online MS program has admitted 74 students and graduated 21.

NRCS Announces November 17 Application Deadline for Financial Assistance

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced November 17 as the cut-off date to apply for fiscal year 2018 funds through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Funding will be available to address resource concerns through a separate Agroforestry and Woody Crop Establishment funding pool within EQIP. For specific questions on the agroforestry funding contacts: Lauren Cartwright at Lauren.Cartwright@mo.usda.gov or 573-876-9415; or Nate Goodrich at Nate.Goodrich@mo.usda.gov or 573-876-9402 <http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDANRCS/bulletins/1afee3f>

KUDOS

Karen Funkenbusch (Lead PI), along with Co-PIs Michael Gold, Patricia Barrett, Debi Kelly, Karisha Devlin, Jeff Samborski, Jim Spenser and Jeffery Reed, were awarded a 2501 program grant entitled “Missouri Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers” under the USDA Office of Advocacy and Outreach. Grant activities include multiple offerings of both “Understanding the ABCs of USDA programs” and “Grow Your Farm” workshops along with a week-long “Agroforestry Academy”. The long-term goal of the 2501 project is to assist socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to obtain greater on-farm income, greater diversification on farm landscapes, enhanced farm sustainability through product diversification and enhanced stewardship of farm resources by utilizing USDA farm programs. The grant award is \$199,982 and runs from Oct. 1 2017 – Sept 30, 2018.

UMCA/HARC Staff Host Indiana Farmers and Extension Agents

Center for Agroforestry Interim Director Mike Gold and the HARC Farm staff hosted Tamara Benjamin (Ph.D., Assistant Program Leader, Diversified Food and Farming Systems, Purdue University) for a HARC farm tour on October 9, 2017. Under a USDA Beginning Farmer Rancher Development Program (BFRDP) grant, Dr. Benjamin is heading up a group of 20 individuals, half beginning farmers and half extension educators, who are touring in Missouri to visit innovative farming operations focused on agroforestry, silvopasture and pasture-based animal production systems.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Green Lands Blue Waters (GLBW) Annual Conference

Nov. 28-29 | Madison, WI

Includes Mid-America Agroforestry Working Group (MAAWG) session in conjunction with Perennial Farm Gathering (see below). Two day registration: \$185.

For details: <https://www.cias.wisc.edu/glbw2017/>

Perennial Farm Gathering

Nov. 29 | Savanna Institute - Madison, WI

More details can be found at: <http://www.savannainstitute.org/perennial-farm-gathering.html>

9th Annual UMCA Agroforestry Symposium: Soil Health in Diverse Cropping Systems

8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Jan. 25, 2018 | Columbia, MO

Speakers include: Dr. Wayne Honeycutt, Soil Health Institute; Sara Parker Pauley, Director, Missouri Department of Conservation. Final program details forthcoming.



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