

ISSUE ONE 2021

SC Tree Farm NEWS

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MESSAGE

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2021 TREE FARM
STANDARDS

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

by Gary Hermann

Photo taken by Frances Taylor, the Forestry Association's Communications Director

As the one year anniversary of this ongoing pandemic approached, I wondered how the SC Tree Farm Program and Tree Farmers were coping with the recommendations of masks, social distancing, and cancellations of nearly all large meetings, workshops, and tours. When I was required to complete a section for the committee's annual report to ATFS on the SC Tree Farm Committee's "Health and Financial Report", I realized SCTF has managed to cope quite well.

For the report, I was asked to answer the question: "Why does Tree Farm Matter in Your State?" My response follows:

Simply put, the forest products industry in South Carolina is a \$21 Billion industry; the leading agricultural crop. The industry needs raw materials produced by Tree Farmers practicing and promoting sustainable forestry, promoting the use of wood and paper, and showing their stewardship via their own working forests. What has SC Tree Farm done to promote this production?

First, the year 2020 caused many changes to normal SCTFC programming. Tours, outreach, educational, and informational programs were cancelled. An additional number were delayed until 2021.

We did hold our annual Legislative Day, where state legislators and Tree Farmers are mutually thanked and recognized for their service and lobbied to support legislation that affects the industry. Forty-seven (47) Tree Farmers took time to attend and meet their respective representatives; including two (2) members of the next generation of Tree Farmers.

In 2020 South Carolina Tree Farm inspectors made 145 Tree Farm inspections; 81 of which were NEW inspections. Forty-seven (47) re-certifications were also made. Sadly 17 Tree Farms were decertified for various reasons. Through this inspection process, Tree Farmers are recognized as producing clean water, wildlife habitat, and sustainable wood supplies; not to mention sequestering

carbon and providing recreational opportunities.

Prior to shutdown the committee sponsored meetings on: "Carbon Markets", "Markets For Ecosystem Services", Chestnut Restoration, "Alternative Markets For Non-timber Forest Products" – to name just a few of the educational programs.

A highlight of the Outreach & Education Subcommittee has been the release of their "Land of Legacy" podcast series. In conjunction with "Leadership Nature", the podcasts feature SC Tree Farmers showing and discussing their woodlands while sharing personal stories of their properties

Tree Farm committee members have been leaders and instrumental in forming and supporting local landowner associations, formation of a "Women Owning Woodlands" chapter, and contributing money for purchase of a new sawmill for the Wood Magic Forest Fair – an environmental and forestry program designed to reach 5th graders.

With just these few examples it seems obvious the Tree Farm program in South Carolina matters greatly and has a large impact on the forest resources of our state. Many people, both long-established and new residents of our state, have been reached, introduced to, and educated to the value and numerous benefits our forests provide for us all.

Hopefully you see what I saw; South Carolina Tree Farm has weathered a very trying year and created tangible results despite the challenges encountered. This was all due to the diligence and hard work of our volunteers, the FASC staff, and Tree Farmers themselves.

I also hope these comments find you and your families safe and well. I wish you continued good health and God's blessings.

Contact Gary Hermann at 843/893-7426 or hermann@lowcountry.com

Tree Farm Legislative Day: A New Approach

The annual SC Tree Farm Legislative Day was cancelled this year due to COVID-19 issues. The event has traditionally been held at the Statehouse to increase awareness of Tree Farming and the importance of forestry. This year, materials outlining top legislative issues identified by Forestry Association President & CEO Cam Crawford and other information was mailed to Tree Farmers. "Besides the current South Carolina Forestry Commission and Clemson University Public Service Activity budget requests, please take note of the Open Fields Doctrine, Eminent Domain and Trespassing Notice sections in the handout," said Bob Franklin, Publicity Committee Chairman, in a letter sent with the mailing. "These bills are being considered this session and could influence how you manage your property. Since we won't be meeting this year, I would strongly encourage you to contact your legislators and let them know your feedback on these issues." Contact SC Tree Farm Administrator Guy Sabin at treefarm@scforestry.org for a copy of the materials.

Service To Tree Farm Program Recognized



MEETZE HONORED. Mike Meetze (right) was honored March 3, 2021 for his dedication and service as Chairman of the SC Tree Farm Committee. SC Tree Farm Committee Awards Chairman Russell Hubright, with the SC Forestry Commission, presented the plaque to Meetze at Forestry Association Headquarters, Columbia, SC. Plaque wording: "American Tree Farm System Leadership Recognition presented to Mike Meetze, South Carolina Chair 2020, For Outstanding Service to the National, Regional, and State Tree Farm Program". Meetze is a former Board member for the Forestry Association of South Carolina and 2013 SC Tree Farmer of the Year. Photo taken by Frances Taylor, Communications Director for the Forestry Association of SC.

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SPEARMAN THANKED FOR SERVICE. John Spearman, 2004 Regional Tree Farmer of the Year and 1999 SC Tree Farmer of the Year, Lane, SC recently completed his service on the SC Tree Farm Committee. Spearman has served on the Committee for several years and also served on committees for American Tree Farm. We sincerely appreciate his outstanding service and dedication to Tree Farm. Photo taken by Frances Taylor, Communications Director for the Forestry Association of SC.

state Tree Farm administrator's comments



Photo: FASC's Frances Taylor

WoodsCamp is our newest online tool for reaching forest landowners in SC. This website allows landowners to map their property and receive a free report on their forests, connect with forestry programs and services, and ultimately become Certified Tree Farmers. Facebook advertising will allow us to offer this resource to people who may have never even heard of Tree Farm before. I encourage you to visit <https://woodscamp.com> and share this website with your neighbors. The SC Tree Farm Program continues to develop and grow!

Guy R. Sabin
SC Tree Farm's State Administrator
treefarm@scforestry.org, 803/798-4170

editor's note



Welcome to this issue of SC Tree Farm NEWS – a publication of the South Carolina Tree Farm Committee.

It provides a reflection of the myriad aspects of SC Tree Farming. Am so proud of the great work of our Tree Farmers and Committee. Thank you all!

Frances L. Taylor, Forestry Association
Communications Director & FASC Tree Farm
Committee representative
803/798-4170 or sca@scforestry.org

Tree Farm Committee Project Features SC Tree Farmers

Land of Legacy series

The SC Tree Farm Committee's Land of Legacy Podcast Series highlights ten of South Carolina's Legacy Tree Farmers. Leadership Nature's Tom Davidson and FASC's Emily Oakman, Director of Landowner Outreach, Education and Programs, created a new way to learn about forestry by listening. You can listen on Leadership Nature's Stitcher, Apple Podcasts, and Spotify, or on SC Tree Farm's website: <https://www.sctreefarm.org/tree-farm-podcast.htm>

■ Leadership Nature's Tom Davidson



■ FASC's Emily Oakman



EPISODE 1 MIKE MEETZE

Photo taken by Frances Taylor, Forestry Association of SC



EPISODE 3 EDDIE DRAYTON

Photo taken by Frances Taylor, Forestry Association of SC



EPISODE 2 PAT DORN

Photo taken by Frances Taylor, Forestry Association of SC



EPISODE 4 RANDELL C. EWING, SR.

Photo taken by Justin Holt, SC Forestry Commission



EPISODE 5 ANNIE RUTH JONES

Photo by David Bourgeois, Center for Heirs' Property Preservation



EPISODE 8 DR. GEORGE KESSLER

Photo from FASC file



EPISODE 6 JOHN SPEARMAN

Photo from FASC file



EPISODE 9 WALT AND BARBARA McPHAIL

Photo by Emily Oakman, Forestry Association of SC



EPISODE 7 SKEET AND GAIL BURRIS

Photo supplied by Skeet and Gail Burris



EPISODE 10 WALLACE WOOD

Photo taken by Frances Taylor, Forestry Association of SC

WOMEN CHANGING THE FACE OF FORESTLAND OWNERSHIP



By: Janet W. Steele,
Clemson University,
Area Extension
Agent - Forestry
and Wildlife
Orangeburg County

As reports of land management issues ranging from western wildfires to urbanization in the south-

east make their way into the news media, an equally impactful issue is facing family-owned forests here in South Carolina. Sixty-three percent of the state's almost 13 million acres of forestland are private, family forests, the majority of which have a man as the primary owner and decision-maker. The average age of more than 80% of these men is 55 and over, which will lead to a significant intergenerational land transfer in the next few decades. Since wives are often younger than their husbands and outlive them 70 to 80% of the time, they can be thrust into the role of decision-maker on family forests with little to no preparation when a husband passes away. Women may also acquire land through inheritance from other family members, or less commonly by purchasing land. Why does this matter in terms of the ability of women to make land management decisions? Because the timber industry contributes \$21 billion to the economy of South Carolina, and family-owned forests provide a significant portion of this wood fiber. Educating women forest landowners about sustainable forestry can encourage them to maintain their land as family-owned working forests.

Dr. Thomas Straka, retired Professor in the Forestry and Environmental Conservation Department of Clemson's College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Life Sciences specialized in forest resource management and economics. He explains, "It is all demographics. The Baby Boomers are a huge bulge in the nation's forest owner age distribution and are aging fast. Many owners are couples and women tend to live longer than men. You don't need to be a forest economist to see the result, but it helps."

Since women tend to inherit property later in life, getting them involved when they are younger and more physically active will lead to them implementing more forest management practices throughout their ownership. However, most forestry education programs are constructed by male natural resource professionals for primarily male audiences, and there is a dearth of programs targeting female landowners or managers.

To better educate South Carolina's women forest landowners, Clemson Cooperative

Extension partnered with ten other agencies, organizations, and female-owned natural resource management companies in 2019 and 2020 to host pilot workshops based on the successful Women Owning Woodlands (WOW) program. This program was created to address the needs of educating female forest owners and supporting women in forest leadership roles. It is a collaborative project of the National Woodland Owners Association and the US Forest Service. WOW provides an online resource for forest management materials and publications, as well as providing support to individual states organizing their own WOW networks. States have successfully hosted single to multi-day forestry meetings, workshops, field tours and trainings, with topics ranging from treatment of invasive species and how to sell timber, to keeping forest land in the family and timber taxes.

With funding from a Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Community Engagement Grant, the first South Carolina Women Owning Woodlands workshop was held in October 2019 in Colleton County and the second in March 2020 in Jasper County. These full-day events included morning sessions to introduce participants to general forestry terms and concepts and guide them to resources they can use to help them manage their property. The afternoon property tours highlighted sustainable forestry, wildlife habitat enhancement, longleaf pine restoration, and conservation practices. Over 60 women participated in the two workshops.

A third workshop scheduled for May 2020 in Greenville County was rescheduled to October 2020 due to restrictions from Covid-19 and was eventually canceled. With the remaining SFI grant funding, the SC WOW team developed a free 4-part webinar series entitled "Your Land", which was hosted in October and November 2020. To diversify the presentation format during each session, a series of videos was created to highlight what would normally be shown in the field tour portion of an in-person workshop. Twelve videos ranging in length from 3 minutes to over 17 minutes were close captioned after the webinar ended and are available for viewing on the national WOW website at <https://www.womenowningwoodlands.net/content/sc-wow-shares-video-library-women-woodland-owners>. Over 200 registered for the fall 2020 webinar series, with participation averaging 64 live attendees and 46 recording views for each session. A second webinar series was hosted from January to March 2021 and focused on topics that past participants had indicated they would like more information on. These included timber taxes, land transition planning, and forest health issues related to forest pests, diseases, and invasive plants. The winter 2021 webinar series had 76 paid registrants.

Before attending the in-person workshops, participants were sent a brief survey to gauge

their level of knowledge about forestry and to determine their attitude towards forest ownership. Twenty-five percent of participants felt they had no knowledge for managing their woodlands, 18% felt slightly knowledgeable, 54% felt moderately knowledgeable, and 3% felt very knowledgeable. None felt significantly knowledgeable. Evaluations after the workshops indicated that participants gained knowledge on all topics presented, with some indicating that they had gained significant knowledge. When asked in another survey question what 3 things they valued most about owning woodlands, the most common responses were family, legacy, conservation, stewardship, beauty, and wildlife. These responses echo other studies which have found that women forest landowners are concerned about caring for their land and transferring it to family members, and not just producing timber for income.

Almost half of the participants who attended the in-person workshops were aged 60 or older, which is an indicator of the age group of women becoming engaged in forest management on their property. Of interest was that the webinars attracted a younger group of women. The percent of participants aged 31-40 years rose from an average of 7% of the attendees at the in-person workshops to over 20% during the fall 2020 webinar series. And for the first time there was participation in the 21-30 age bracket, even though it was still a small percentage (4%).

■ The SC WOW team will begin scheduling in-person events as soon as Covid-19 restrictions begin to ease and is already planning a fall 2021 webinar series that will start on October 5, 2021. SC WOW updates can be found on Facebook at @WOWsouthcarolina and by contacting Clemson Extension Area Forestry and Wildlife agent Janet Steele at jmwatt@clemson.edu or 803/534-6280.

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■ *This article from CU In The Woods Spring 2020 issue was updated by the author.*
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- U.S. Census Bureau, <https://www.census.gov/>
- Women Owning Woodlands, <http://www.womenowningwoodlands.net/>



The best management practice to reduce the risk of fusiform rust is to purchase seedlings with good genetics that are fusiform rust resistant.

FUSIFORM RUST ON LOBLOLLY PINE TREES

Photo of Loblolly Pines taken by Bob Franklin



**By: Jeff Fellers,
Clemson University,
Cooperative
Extension Area
Forestry Agent**

Have you ever noticed an orange powdery substance on a pine tree? Many times, during late March and early April you can find a common disease on pines producing orange spores. Fusiform rust is a fungal disease of pines and can be damaging or deadly to Loblolly Pines that grow in our area.

The disease takes two hosts, pines and oaks. Both are required for the fungus to complete its life cycle. During March and early April, the fungus produces spores on the pine trees, which creates the orange rust color. These spores are spread by wind to oak trees. Newly formed leaves on oak trees are then infected with the fungus. The fungus will then produce spores on the oak leaves, which can be hard to see, and then pass them back to pines through the wind during late April through June. The fungus does not really harm the oaks, but it can lead to death of the pines.

The best management practice to reduce the risk of fusiform rust is to purchase seedlings with good genetics that are fusiform rust resistant. Most seedlings purchased from nurseries will have resistance to fusiform rust. Many times, we see high fusiform rust infections in naturally regenerated stands. Infection does not always lead to mortality. Smaller trees have a higher probability of dying from rust infections than larger trees. Site of infection also affects the likelihood of mortality. Fusiform rust can infect the main trunk and branches of pine trees. Infections on the main trunk are more likely to lead to the death of a tree. If the tree does survive an infection on the main trunk, a gall will form and create a weak spot in the tree structure. Trees that have a gall on the main trunk are much more susceptible to wind breakage. Infection on a branch within 12 inches of the main trunk could spread and infect the main trunk. If the infection occurs on a branch, many times the tree will survive with very little adverse impact. Infected branches can be pruned out and destroyed to minimize impact on the tree.

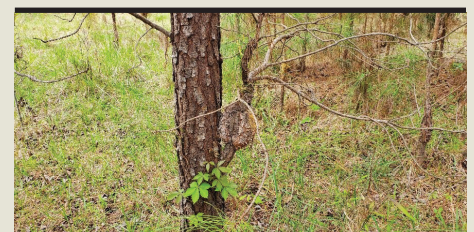
In the forest management aspect, rarely do I see a stand of pines that have been economically damaged by fusiform rust. Losing a couple of trees to disease is not

a big issue if it is a small percentage and remains contained. However, if you have a pine tree in your home landscape that gets fusiform rust on the main trunk, it could become a hazard tree. That tree may need to be removed. If you have questions about fusiform rust, please contact me at the Union County Clemson Extension Office at 864/427-6259.

*Jeff Fellers can be reached at 864/424-8273 (C) or fellers@clemson.edu
Photos below were provided by Fellers.*



Fusiform rust infection on the base of a Loblolly Pine.



Fusiform rust infection on the branch of a Loblolly Pine.

LMP

THE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PLAN – FROM THE TREE FARMER’S PERSPECTIVE



*The Landscape Management Plan is available at
<https://www.state.sc.us/forest/pubs/slandscapemanagementplan.pdf>*



**By: Stephen Lloyd, ATFS Southern
Region Tree Farm Manager**

For Tree Farmers, a forest management plan is a vital part of meeting the Standards of Sustainability. It is developed by a professional forester and customized for your property to meet your goals and objectives. If the forester happened to be Ernest Hemingway or Tom Clancy, we might be inclined to read it cover to cover several times and even recommend it to friends. However, I am no Tom Clancy, and

I fully recognize that my plans are purely informational and admittedly dry! Research has shown that most landowners rarely read their plans, and time spent preparing it could have been put to better use doing the thing that actually influences their management decisions – walking their property and talking to a forester.

So, what is to be done about plans that are needed, but will never be read? The answer: develop an umbrella plan that meets the Standards and that you don't have to read unless you want to.

The Landscape Management Plan, or LMP, does just that. Most of the information in a traditional individual management plan is boilerplate or stock text describing forest types and management activities that do not change from plan to plan: pages of text that landowners need to wade through to decipher the next best thing to do on their property.

The LMP takes all that text and collects it in a single document

online. Every forest type, management objective, best management practice (BMP), forest management activity and more for a whole state is collected, stored, and made available for reference by landowners and foresters. Foresters need only draw up some maps, basic landowner objectives, a timetable of recommended activities, and perhaps a few other site-specific details and reference the rest to the LMP. Time savings for the forester are significant, leaving them more time to spend with you, the landowner.

As a landowner, the product you receive is a smaller, more concise document comprised of maps and perhaps a couple pages of text and tables with reference links to the LMP for more information on topics pertaining to your land. If your forester recommends v-blade planting and you want to know more about it, you can find it in the LMP. However, if you already know what v-blade planting is, it is not there to clutter up your document with information you don't need.

Best of all, the LMP has been integrated into the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) forest certification process. The new 021 Tree Farm Inspection Form has been modified to incorporate the LMP in a way that meets the requirements of our third-party verification system. All the functionality without the massive Tree Farm plan.

The LMP comes with its own geodatabase packed with layers of map data for hydrology, T&E species, historic/special sites, and all those items foresters look for when inspecting your Tree Farm. Of course, if you prefer the look and feel of a nice thick plan, you are free to stick with tradition. It's your land, your objectives, your choice.

*Steve Lloyd, Southern Region Tree Farm Manager, can be reached at
SLloyd@forestfoundation.org.*

tree farmer SNAPSHOTS



Minchew Farms in Calhoun County is now a fully certified 43-acre Tree Farm. New SC Tree Farmer Jeff Minchew received his Tree Farm sign from Certified Wildlife Biologist Judy Barnes earlier this year after the property was inspected by Janet Steele with Clemson Extension Service.



New SC Certified Tree Farmer Andy Brady, St. Matthews, SC, is shown here with his forester Bill Steele, Southeastern Forestry. Brady enjoys planting hardwood trees, which he grows from seed, to enhance wildlife habitat on his property near the Congaree River. Guy Sabin, SC Tree Farm's State Administrator, conducted the Tree Farm Inspection.



W. McLeod Rhodes, the Forestry Association's 2017 Chairman and 2019 SC Tree Farmer of the Year, was recognized by the Center for Heirs' Property for his service on their Board. Making the presentation was Dr. Jennie Stephens, CEO - Leadership Team. Rhodes is also a Commissioner with the SC Forestry Commission. (Photo provided by the Center for Heirs' Property.)



Woman In Conservation: Pam Porter -- An Interview With Lowcountry Land Trust was posted recently at <https://www.lowcountrylandtrust.org/news/>. Porter is a Board member with the Forestry Association of South Carolina. She and her family are proud to be part of the Tree Farm program.



Joe Hamilton is featured in an article that focuses on: **What Is Heirs' Property?** [<https://grist.org/fix/what-is-heirs-property-a-huge-contributor-to-black-land-loss-you-might-not-have-heard-of/>]. Hamilton is a SC Tree Farmer and a Board member with the Forestry Association of SC. Pictured: Joe Hamilton (right) with his son and grandson. Hamilton's South Carolina property has been in his family since 1874. Photo: Jennifer Elizabeth Hamilton.



ROLLING OUT THE 2021 TREE FARM STANDARDS

inspector notes

Since becoming a certification program Tree Farm has grown more rigorous and greater attention is needed to show how the Standards are being met when completing an inspection. Doing a good Inspection is more than just meeting the certification requirements, it also provides guidance and affirmation for your Tree Farmer that they really are leaving the land better than they found it. This column provides tips and suggestions for Tree Farm Inspectors.

Photo taken by FASC's Frances Taylor



**By: Guy Sabin,
SC Tree Farm's State Administrator**

The new 2021 Tree Farm Standards went into effect on March 15, 2021 with a new Inspection form, training requirements, and some subtle but important updates to the previous Standards. Many landowners are curious about actions required to remain Certified Tree Farmers, and all Inspectors will need to complete the new training.

INSPECTORS – All Tree Farm Inspectors saw their training expire on March 15, 2021 and must complete the four-hour Inspector Training class to remain trained under the 2021 Standards. This training will focus on changes in the Tree Farm Standards and use of the new 021 Inspection form. A significant change in the training requirements means that your status as an Inspector will be valid for the full 5-year life of the Standards, from 2021-

2026. Previously, the training was only valid for two years and required regular inspections or refresher training. All Inspectors trained to the new Standards will have an expiration date of March 15, 2026.

NEW INSPECTION FORM – Beginning March 15, 2021 all Tree Farm Inspections must be done using the new 021 Inspection form. The new form is slightly longer and asks for more detailed information in some sections compared to the previous 004 form. A new provision allows for use of the SC Landscape Management Plan in place of a full written plan by including landowner objectives and management recommendations on the Inspection form.

THE 2021 STANDARDS – The Tree Farm Standards remain largely the same, with some updates to improve clarity and provide additional guidance. The Guidance sections of the Standards are, in fact, where most changes occur. Overall, the changes emphasize the importance of good documentation to meet the requirements of being an internationally recognized certification program. This includes keeping records on activi-

DID YOU KNOW?

DID YOU NOTICE that the new Standards are named for the year they go into effect and no longer include a range of years? When the 2015-2019 Standards became the 2015-2020 Standards [due to changes by the international governing body that certifies Tree Farm], the American Tree Farm System decided to only put the starting year in the name. The new Standards are expected to be in effect through March 15, 2026.

ties such as pesticide use, monitoring visits, prescribed burning, stocking/survival checks, and periodic checks for known locations of threatened and endangered species.

MANAGEMENT PLANS which meet the 2015-2020 Standards are still valid and no specific updates are required. I do recommend using the ATFS Management Plan Addendum Tool at <https://www.treefarmssystem.org/atfsaddendum> as a way to confirm all Standards are addressed and help with notes and documentation. This tool is designed as a complement or attachment for existing management plans.

REINSPECTIONS are not required to meet the new Standards, although this is a good time to evaluate the status of management plans and activities. An optional reinspection is recommended every 6 years and offers a timely update for landowners and foresters. A reinspection and review of the forest management plan is a good time to confirm documentation of resources consulted for FORI, special sites, and endangered species; and to ensure that required elements are addressed, such as consideration of options to control pests, pathogens, and unwanted vegetation, and identification of applicable laws and regulations.

NEW INCENTIVES COMING SOON – SC Tree Farm, along with Georgia and Florida, is part of the ATFS Certification Growth Pilot project. This effort to increase certified forest acres will include social media advertising, WoodsCamp, the SC Landscape Management Plan, and CertApp. New incentives for inspecting foresters will be offered, and landowners with a new inspection will receive a free year of SC Tree Farm membership. Facebook will be the primary outreach tool guiding new landowners to an online portal called WoodsCamp. There, landowners will have a chance to consider their management objectives, map their property, and be matched with opportunities based on their interests. Landowners will be connected with foresters who will use the SC Landscape Management Plan in conjunction with an online mapping tool to complete the management plan and inspection for Tree Farm certification. Stay tuned for more information about these new ways to streamline the certification process.

Sabin can be reached at 803/798-4170 or treefarm@scforestry.org.



A Landowner's Guide To Forestry In South Carolina has been updated with new information and more photographs. The 24-page publication was produced by the South Carolina SFI Implementation Committee (SC SIC). To download a copy, go to the Forestry Association's website, click on Programs, then click on SFI. Above: SC Tree Farm Administrator Guy Sabin holds a copy of the new *Guide*. Photo taken by FASC's Frances Taylor.

■ **Editor's Note:** The SC SIC contracted Jennifer Howard, Summerville, SC to work on the *Guide* project. She and her family are part of the Tree Farm Program. She began her career as a field forester in North and South Carolina and later worked in communications for WestRock. She's now principal with Steward Terra.



FRANKLIN RETIRES. The Longleaf Alliance recently went through some restructuring. Bob Franklin, SoLoACE Longleaf Partnership Coordinator, has retired and Jennie Haskell was hired for the new position of Coastal Partnerships Coordinator. Before joining the Longleaf Alliance, Haskell was a forester with the USDA Forest Service for 20 years. Franklin will continue to be involved with the SC Tree Committee as Publicity Chair. Photo taken by FASC's Frances Taylor.

APPLICATION

join the **SOUTH CAROLINA TREE FARM PROGRAM**

TREE FARM DUES

Acres	Dues Amount
10-100	\$60
101-200	\$70
201-400	\$80
401-600	\$100
601-800	\$120
801-1000	\$140
1001-1200	\$160
1201-1400	\$180
1401-1600	\$200
1601-2000	\$220
2001-3000	\$260
3001 +	\$350

Name _____ Contact Person _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

County that Tree Farm is located in _____

(Print) Email Address _____

Membership Categories:

Individual Family Unit - Husband/Wife/Children Business or Organization

I would like to join the South Carolina Tree Farm Grassroots Advocacy Group on forestry issues Yes No

Do you have a Tree Farm management plan? Yes No Date plan was prepared and/or updated _____

Number of forested acres _____

Do you have a Tree Farm number? Yes No If yes, please provide your Tree Farm number _____

Do you have a forester you consult? Yes No

Forester's Name and Company _____

Payment Total amount submitted _____

Check (payable to SC Tree Farm Program)

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Other _____

Card # _____ Exp. _____ Security Code _____

Name (as it appears on card) _____ Billing Zip Code _____

Send completed form and payment to:

South Carolina Tree Farm

ATTN: Guy Sabin/State Administrator

4901 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212

Ask your fellow woodland owners to join! Additional forms are available from treefarm@sforestry.org or call Guy Sabin at 803/798-4170.

why you should join **SOUTH CAROLINA TREE FARM**

The **South Carolina Tree Farm Program** supports sustainable management of family owned forest lands for wood, water, wildlife, and recreation.

TREE FARMER MEMBERSHIP. Membership is open to anyone interested in promoting good forestry, with or without property eligible for certification.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION. Minimum of ten acres forestland with a written Tree Farm/Stewardship management plan and Tree Farm Inspection.

www.MyLandPlan.com is available on the web to help you manage your property.

WHAT YOU'LL RECEIVE

- Quarterly **Woodland Magazine**
- Semi-Annual **South Carolina Tree Farm News**
- Invitations to SC Tree Farmer of the Year Annual Tour & Forestry Education opportunities
- Emails on forestry educational meetings and advocacy issues

For more information, contact Walt McPhail, National Tree Farmer of the Year 2012 and SC Tree Farm Membership Chair, 864/288-7618 or treevetsc@aol.com



SC Tree Farm is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. All donations other than dues are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

BENEFITS OF BEING A TREE FARMER

- **MEMBERSHIP:** Provides you with membership in a national organization that is a leader in representing private landowners, keeps you abreast of new developments and political trends, gives you a voice in decisions affecting land management, and provides you with an opportunity to shape the future.
- **NETWORKING:** Making connections with other landowners, sharing ideas, learning from each other, connecting with professional foresters, avoiding problems others have had, becoming part of a community that works together for better land management.
- **RECOGNITION:** The green and white diamond shaped Tree Farm sign recognizes Tree Farmers for meeting the standards of the Tree Farm System with a written, approved management plan. We're proud to be Tree Farmers.
- **CERTIFICATION:** Tree Farm Certification that meets international, third party standards of sustainable forest management may provide greater access to markets with more bids on your timber, potentially higher timber prices and preference when mills are on quota.
- **EDUCATION:** Landowner education programs, tours, and field trips are provided for forest landowners. Tree Farm foresters provide on the ground assistance during initial and reinspections.
- **ADVOCACY:** Tree Farm advocacy protects your property rights and the right to grow timber in South Carolina. Federal advocacy by National Tree Farm staff and local SC grassroots efforts have been instrumental in keeping the current capital gains tax and raising the estate tax exemption levels to help keep your farm in the family.

The National Tree Farm staff works on issues related to Tree Farming, soil and water conservation, and much more.

SC Tree Farm works closely with the Forestry Association of SC on state and local issues to ensure we will continue to have healthy, working forests for future generations.

If you're not a landowner or interested in certification you can still receive benefits of membership via the Friends And Supporters category for \$60/year.

BOARD

Chair Gary Hermann [2019-2021]

District 12 Chair

Member [2017-2024]

Bobcat Forestry

442 Dandridge Rd., Walterboro, SC 29488

843/893-7426 (C), hermann@lowcountry.com

Past Chair Mike Meetze [2019-2021]

2013 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2015-2024]

458 Piester Rd., Newberry, SC 29108

803/276-2696 or meetzefarms@aol.com

Vice Chair Janet Watt Steele [2020-2022]

Outreach & Education Chair

Member [2017-2024]

Clemson Extension, 1550 Henley Street, Suite 200

Orangeburg, SC 29212

803/534-6280 (O), jmwatt@clemson.edu

Secretary/Treasurer Jim Brown [2020-2022]

District 4 Chair

Member [2017-2024]

Evergreen Packaging, 28026 US Hwy. 76

Kinards, SC 29355

864/993-0071, jim.brown@everpack.com

Tree Farm Inspector Ken Leach [2020-2022]

Inspections Chair

Member [2015-2024]

Paradise Land Co., LLC

507 Pembroke Road, Greenwood, SC 29646

864/993-4978, kensleach@yahoo.com

Tree Farmer Mac Rhodes [2020-2022]

2019 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2019-2024]

Essex Farms, LLC

1820 Savannah Hwy., Ste. F2

Charleston, SC 29407

843/870-3788

mac@mcleodrhodes.com

At Large David Bourgeois [2015-2024]

Center for Heirs' Property Preservation

1535 Sam Rittenberg Blvd., Suite D

Charleston, SC 29407

843/745-7055, dbourgeois@heirsproperty.org

State Program Administrator Guy Sabin

SC Tree Farm, 4901 Broad River Road

Columbia, SC 29212

803/798-4170 (O), treefarm@scforestry.org

Membership Services Julie Leary

803/798-4170 (O), Julie@scforestry.org

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

District 1 Chair J. Kirk Weyman

Member [2015-2024]

404 Loblolly Drive, Anderson, SC 29625

864/226-8476 (H), 864/934-1393 (C)

WeymanK@charter.net

District 2 Chair McCullough Ardrey

Member [2017-2024]

3315 S. Potter Road, Heath Springs, SC 29058

803/804-1838, mardrey@comporium.net

District 3 Chair Jeff Riggan

Member [2018-2024]

SC Forestry Commission

39 General Henderson Rd., Newberry, SC 29108

803/276-0205, 803/230-0143 (C), jriggin@scfc.gov

District 5 Chair Steve McMillan

Member [2015-2024]

Southeastern Forestry, Inc.

1303 Kathwood Drive, Columbia, SC 29206

803/413-2944 (C), 803/743-9695 (O)

jstevemcmillan@gmail.com

District 6 Chair Michael J. Grant

Member [2015-2024]

Forestry Consultant

825 Mt. Valley Road, Blythewood, SC 29016

803/714-0655 (O), 803/360-4043 (C)

Mikejamesgrant@aol.com

District 7 Chair David Nagel

Member [2015-2024]

American Forest Management

PO Box 240, Bennettsville, SC 29512

843/454-0015 (O), 843/921-3607 (C)

david.nagel@afmforest.com

District 8 Chair T. J. Lyell

Member [2018-2024]

WestRock, 2202 Paper Mill Rd.

Florence, SC 29506

843/667-6252 (W), 843/250-9777 (C)

terry.lyell@westrock.com

District 9 Chair Steve Tomlin

Member [2020-2024]

75 Haig Court

Georgetown, SC 29940

843/240-4399

steve.tomlin@frontier.com

District 10 Chair Warren Duncan

Member [2015-2024]

Milliken Forestry, 245 Stoneridge Dr.

Columbia SC, 29210

803/788-0590, 803/730-1249

duncan@millikenforestry.com

District 11 Chair Eric W. Smith

Member [2015-2024]

WestRock

5600 Virginia Ave., Charleston, SC 29406

843/745-3258 (O), 864/993-8653 (C)

Eric.W.Smith@westrock.com

Fundraising Chair Tom Brant

Member [2015-2024]

Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service

P O Box 1150, McCormick, SC 29835

864/852-2112, Ext. 115, jbrant@clemson.edu

Membership Coordinator Dr. George Kessler

At Large [2015-2018]; Member [2015-2024]

Natural Connections, Inc.

4008 Six Mile Highway, Central, SC 29630

864/868-9487, 864/608-4040 (C), Gksslr@demson.edu

Publicity Chair Bob Franklin

Chairman [2015-2019], Member [2015-2024]

401 Ravenwood Road, Walterboro, SC 29488

843/893-7775, bobbyfranklin55@gmail.com

Recognition Chair Russell Hubright

Member [2015-2024]

SC Forestry Commission Representative

PO Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221

803/896-8823, RHubright@scfc.gov

Tour Chair Anneta Pritchard

Member [2018-2024]

SC Forestry Commission

353 Fire Tower Road, Orangeburg, SC 29118

803/664-2029, apritchard@scfc.gov

ACF Rep. Kirk Bell

Member [2015-2024]

Richardson, Bell, McLeod, & Wetzel

1073 Brookhaven Dr., Aiken, SC 29803

803/648-4142 (O), 803/646-6468 (C)

rBMW@atlanticcbbn.net

SC Forestry Commission Rep.

State Forester Scott Phillips

Member [2015-2024]

P O Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221

803/896-8801 (O), 803/667-1067 (C)

sPhillips@scfc.gov

Forestry Association of SC Rep.

Frances L. Taylor

Member [2015-2024]

4901 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212

803/798-4170 (O), scfa@scforestry.org

SCTF Committee Meeting Support

Debbie Kiser

SC Forestry Commission

Forest Management Section

PO Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221

803/896-8824 (O), dkiser@scfc.gov

Randell Ewing, Jr.

Member [2015-2024]

2547 Millbrook Court, Hartsville, SC 29550

843/858-1515, 843/857-9114, randellewing@aol.com

T. Dave Hegler

Member [2015-2024]

Milliken Forestry Company

245 Stoneridge Dr., Columbia SC, 29210

803/788-0590 (O), 803/920-5819,

hegler@millikenforestry.com

Ben Mays

Member [2019-2024]

International Paper

4001 McCords Ferry Road, Eastover, SC 29044

803/353-7355 (O), 334/407-9223 (C)

benjamin.mays@ipaper.com

Cliff McKinney

Member [2017-2024]

134 Cainhoy St., Orangeburg, SC 29118

803/747-9679, mckinney_clifton@yahoo.com

Emily Oakman

Member [2019-2024]

Forestry Association of SC

4901 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212

803/798-4170 (O), eoakman@scforestry.org

Tom W. Patton, Jr.

Member [2015-2024]

SC Forestry Commission

P O Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221

803/667-1149(C), tpatton@scfc.gov

Margaret Utecht

Member [2019-2024]

Suncrest, LLC

505 Hudson Rd., Greenville, SC 29615

864/430-5234 (C)

Margaret.Utecht@gmail.com



Hermann Meetze Steele Brown Leach Rhodes Bourgeois Sabin Leary Weyman



Ardrey Riffin McMillan Grant Nagel Lyell Tomlin Duncan Smith Brant



Kessler Franklin Hubright Pritchard Bell Phillips Taylor Kiser Ewing, Jr. Hegler



Mays McKinney Oakman Patton Utecht Cate Dorn Drayton Ewing Johnson

William P. Cate

2015 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2016-2024]
2 Cooks Mountain Road, Eastover, SC 29044
803/261-9052 (C), 803/353-8189
buckeyeagsvs@gmail.com

Pat Dorn

2017 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2018-2024]
1201 Bookman Loop, Winnsboro, SC 29180
803/767-1310
pdorn@anchorinvestmentmanagement.com

Edward R. Drayton

2008 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2015-2024]
Cattails Tree Farm, LLC
200 Westover Drive, Hartsville, SC 29550
843/332-6123, ERD111@aol.com

Randell C. Ewing, Sr.

1998 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2015-2024]
1108 Hill Crest Road, Hartsville, SC 29550
843/601-2466, randellewing@aol.com

Dr. Knowlton Johnson

2018 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2019-2024]
26 Wesley Drive, Apt. L, Asheville, NC 28803
828/285-2595, kwjohnson49@gmail.com

Charles W. McKinney, Sr.

2016 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2017-2024]
1063 Old Milton Road
Clinton, SC 29325
864/833-4457, cmckinneysr@yahoo.com



McKinney, Sr. McPhail Sanders Wood Burnett

Dr. Walt A. McPhail

2012 National Tree Farmer of the Year

2001 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2015-2024]
2 Jenkins Ct.
Mauldin, SC 29662
864/288-7618 (O), Treevetsc@aol.com

Jimmy C. Sanders

2014 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Member [2015-2024]
101 Quail Run Court
Greenwood, SC 29646
864/993-4421 (C), jsanders2@nctv.com

Wallace B. Wood, Jr. [2015-2024]

2011 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

Pineview Farm, 452 Price's Mill Rd.
Plum Branch, SC 29845
864/333-2393 (O), 864/993-5012 (C)
wwd@wctel.net

Guerry Burnett [2021-2022]

2020 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year

21 Hoppin John Lane
Taylors, SC 29687
864/423-6499
guerry62@gmail.com

SOUTH CAROLINA TREE FARM DISTRICTS

County	District	
Abbeville	4	Greenwood 4
Aiken	5	Hampton 12
Allendale	10	Horry 8
Anderson	1	Jasper 12
Bamberg	10	Kershaw 2
Barnwell	10	Lancaster 2
Beaufort	12	Laurens 1
Berkeley	11	Lee 6
Calhoun	10	Lexington 5
Charleston	11	Marion 8
Cherokee	3	Marlboro 7
Chester	2	McCormick 4
Chesterfield	7	Newberry 4
Clarendon	9	Oconee 1
Colleton	12	Orangeburg 10
Darlington	7	Pickens 1
Dillon	8	Richland 6
Dorchester	11	Saluda 5
Edgefield	5	Spartanburg 3
Fairfield	6	Sumter 6
Florence	8	Union 3
Georgetown	9	Williamsburg 9
Greenville	1	York 3

Forestry Association OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Representing South Carolina's
\$21 Billion Forest Industry

4901 Broad River Rd., Columbia, SC 29212
803/798-4170

Non-Profit Org.
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Recognition Corner

NATIONAL TREE FARMERS OF THE YEAR

- 2000 Dr. A. G. "Skeet" and Gail Burris, Cummings, SC
- 2012 Dr. Walter A. McPhail, Mauldin, SC

REGIONAL TREE FARMERS OF THE YEAR FROM SC

- 1996 Dr. A. G. "Skeet" and Gail Burris, Cummings, SC
- 2000 Dr. A. G. "Skeet" and Gail Burris, Cummings, SC
- 2003 Dr. Walter A. McPhail, Mauldin, SC
- 2004 John & Mary Rebecca Spearman, Lane, SC
- 2005 Dyches Family, Savannah, GA
- 2007 Johny L. Haralson, Denmark, SC
- 2012 Dr. Walter A. McPhail, Mauldin, SC

SC TREE FARMER OF THE YEAR WINNERS

- '80-'81 S. Guerry Stukes, Summerton, SC
- '81-'82 Ben S. Williamson, Darlington, SC
- 1982 Mary Julia Royall, Mt. Pleasant, SC
- '83-'84 Rufus B. Lawrimore, Hemingway, SC
- '84-'85 Brookes Lawton, Allendale, SC
- '85-'86 John W. Kemp, Jr., Edgefield, SC
- '86-'87 Charles W. Redfearn, Beaufort, SC
- '87-'88 Carroll & Jane Brown, Colleton Co.
- '88-'89 John Carter, Sharon, SC
- '89-'90 James W. Hunt, Jr. Eastover, SC
- '90-'91 Robert Cecil Gentry, Salem, SC
- '91-'92 Tom Turner, Rock Hill, SC
- '92-'93 Francis A. Snelgrove, Lexington, SC
- '93-'94 W. R. "Roy" Watkins, Cassatt, SC
- 1995 Dr. A. G. "Skeet" Burris, Cummings, SC
- 1996 Gordon E. Gale, Hardeeville, SC
- 1997 William E. Eutsler, Cheraw, SC
- 1998 Randell C. Ewing, Hartsville, SC
- 1999 John Spearman (Deer Hill), Lane, SC
- 2000 Fred Gantt, Columbia, SC
- 2001 Dr. Walter A. McPhail, Mauldin, SC
- 2002 Dyches Family, Savannah, GA
- 2003 John M. McPhail, Abbeville, SC
- 2004 Johny L. Haralson, Denmark, SC

- 2006 Bookman Station, LLC, Columbia, SC
- 2007 Ben Herlong, Saluda, SC
- 2008 Edward R. Drayton, Hartsville, SC
- 2009 Mark T. Jones, Piedmont, SC
- 2010 Dennis L. Bauknight, Easley, SC
- 2011 Wallace B. Wood, Jr., Parksville, SC
- 2012 Joanna Angle, Chester, SC
- 2013 Mike Meetze, Newberry, SC
- 2014 Jimmy C. Sanders, Greenwood, SC
- 2015 William P. Cate, Eastover, SC
- 2016 The McKinney Family, Clinton, SC
- 2017 W. Patrick "Pat" Dorn, Jr.
- 2018 Knowlton W. Johnson
- 2019 W. McLeod Rhodes
- 2020 Guerry Burnett

NATIONAL TREE FARM INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR

- 2010 J. Kirk Weyman, Anderson, SC

SOUTHERN REGIONAL TREE FARM INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT

- 2010 J. Kirk Weyman, Anderson, SC
- 2002 Tom W. Patton, Jr., Columbia, SC

GEORGE D. KESSLER SC TREE FARM INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS

- 2000 Tom W. Patton, Jr., Columbia, SC
- 2003 Jeffrey G. Brown, Elgin, SC
- 2009 J. Kirk Weyman, Anderson, SC
- 2012 Robert "Bob" G. Miller, Kinards, SC
- 2013 McCullough Ardrey, Lancaster, SC

Note: Dr. A. G. "Skeet" Burris, Cummings, SC, was instrumental in establishing the award. Burris named the award after Dr. George D. Kessler in honor of his service to the SC Tree Farm program.

NATIONAL FIELD LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

- 2005 Jeff Brown, Elgin, SC

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

- 2018 Dr. George D. Kessler

SC TREE FARM CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: treefarm@scforestry.org
Write: South Carolina Tree Farm
4901 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29212