

ISSUE ONE 2022

SC Tree Farm NEWS

TREE FARM LEGISLATIVE DAY SUCCESS

UPCOMING TOURS & PROGRAMS

USEFUL NOTES JUST FOR OUR INSPECTORS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

by Janet W. Steele, SC Tree Farm Committee's Chair



It is truly an honor to serve as 2022 chair of the SC Tree Farm Committee. I know these are some huge boots to fill, following Mr. Gary Hermann and all of our other wonderful chairpersons into this position. Gary did an admirable job of keeping the committee on track in 2021 as we continued to navigate through Covid restrictions and was excited as the rest of us to return to in-person meetings finally.

The new year has brought several changes to our committee. Sadly, our friend and long-time SC Tree Farm

Committee member, Dr. George Kessler, passed away in late January. Although he will be greatly missed, his legacy will continue through all he has contributed over the years to the program in South Carolina. The George D. Kessler Tree Farm Inspector of the Year award is a fitting tribute to the importance he placed on getting foresters around the state involved in the program and supporting the efforts of Tree Farm landowners. A well-known Tree Farm advocate and program contributor in South Carolina, Dr. Kessler's achievements have also been recognized nationally. In 2018, he was the recipient of the ATFS National Leadership Award.

In February, the SC Tree Farm board approved the creation of a fund in Dr. Kessler's memory. The board will discuss how these funds will be utilized at their May meeting. Contributions in Dr. Kessler's memory can be made to SC Tree Farm and mailed to 4901 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC, 29212. David Bourgeois, the Center for Heirs Property Preservation representative and At Large member of the board, has agreed to fill Dr. Kessler's position as Membership Coordinator.

Another significant change coming this year is that Committee member Tom Brant has stepped down from his role as Fundraising chair. Tom retired from Clemson Extension in December, and although he will remain on the Tree Farm Committee, he will not have the time commitment needed to coordinate the silent auction each year. We thank Tom for his dedicated service to SC Tree Farm and especially for his hard work coordinating the collection of auction items, setting up the auction, and making sure that it was run so smoothly. And we wish him well in his retirement! If you are interested in serving as Fundraising Chair, please contact Tom or me for more information.

Finally, Inspections Chair Ken Leach has asked that his replacement also be found. Ken, too, is a recent retiree. Ken has graciously continued to serve in this role as we prepare for our assessment by ATFS in June but is looking forward to spending more time with his bees! Ken also has been a dedicated member of the SC Tree Farm Committee and worked hard every year to ensure that our required inspections are completed along with his other duties as Inspections Chair. If you are interested in serving as Inspections Chair, please contact Ken or me for more information.

Thank you to Bob Franklin (Publicity Chair), Russell Hubright (Recognition Chair), and Anneta Pritchard (Tour Chair) who are all serving again in 2022. I appreciate their dedication and the many skills they each bring to our state program.

SC Tree Farm is off to a busy start for 2022. In January, the

assessment committee members (Chisolm Beckham, Jim Brown, Gary Hermann, Ken Leach, Guy Sabin, Eric Smith, and Janet Steele) began reviewing the 39 Tree Farms selected by ATFS and determining if any replacements would need to be chosen. Document gathering has already started by the committee members, who meet once or twice a month. The assessment will be conducted virtually this year and is scheduled for June 6-10.

SC Tree Farm was a program sponsor for a workshop hosted by the SC Land Trust network on February 10th at the State Farmers Market. Green For Your Green: Capturing Opportunities in Emerging Ecosystem Services Markets was a very appropriate title for the workshop, which focused on managing forests for carbon sequestration, clean drinking water, and wetlands mitigation. The 70 attendees represented forest industry and agencies, consulting forestry, land trusts, and private landowners. These emerging markets will provide forest landowners with another means of producing income from their timber by doing what they already do day-to-day, managing healthy, productive forests that protect our air, soils, and water.

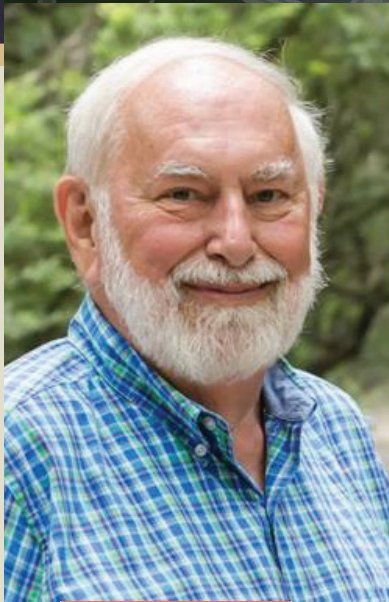
The SC Tree Farm Legislative Day was held on March 3rd. As usual, Bob Franklin worked alongside Patty Pierce to plan the event. A smaller group participated than pre-pandemic, but the issues that our Tree Farmers were able to present to their representatives and senators face-to-face was as critical to the success of the forest industry in SC as they have been in past years. I greatly appreciate Bob and Patty's time coordinating the event and each of our Tree Farmers who made the trip to Columbia. Although there were only about 30 voices that were heard outside the two chambers, they represented every forest landowner in the state when they were bringing these issues to the attention of their legislator.

Planning is already underway for our 2022 Tree Farm Tour and Awards Ceremony that will be held on Mr. Bill McCrary's property in Fairfield County. Anneta Pritchard, as always, has things well organized and her fingers crossed that it will be a calm hurricane season. Each of our district Tree Farmers of the Year is an excellent example of the ability of our family forests in South Carolina to sustainably produce timber while still protecting so many important resources. I am so impressed with each District winner and know what a hard decision it must have been to select this year's winner.

Finally, I am proud as your SC Tree Farm chair and a part of the Clemson Extension Forestry and Natural Resources Team to announce that Clemson Extension has 180 participants enrolled in the hybrid Master Tree Farmer course being offered through the university. The course opened in January and is structured around seven content modules, including pine management, hardwood management, wildlife management, forest health and invasive species, timber harvesting, marketing and merchandising, and timber taxes and estate planning. Three field days are scheduled around the state in late April and May and will allow participants to see the forest management practices and concepts highlighted during the online content. The launch of this program on January 24th was significant since it was Dr. Kessler who created the original Master Tree Farmer program in the early 2000s when he was with Clemson University.

Janet W. Steele, Clemson University Area Extension Agent - Forestry and Wildlife, Orangeburg County Clemson Extension, Orangeburg, SC, can be reached at 803/534-6280 (O), 803/371-6486 (M), or jmwatt@clemson.edu.

GEORGE KESSLER MEMORIAL FUND ESTABLISHED

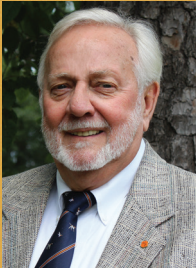


Dr. George D. Kessler, Central, SC, passed away Jan. 29, 2022. He was a former Forestry Association Board member and 2015 recipient of FASC's Distinguished Service Award. He was 2018 recipient of American Tree Farm's National Leadership Award, a long-serving member of the SC Tree Farm Committee and 2012 Committee Chairman. In 2000 Dr. Kessler was selected as the National Extension Representative to the National Tree Farm Operating Committee. He developed and implemented the Master Tree Farmer Program that reached landowners in six Southern states.

■ The George Kessler Memorial Fund was established by the SC Tree Farm Program to honor and continue the influence Dr. Kessler has made in the forestry community.

Make checks payable to SC Tree Farm Program, Attn: George Kessler Memorial Fund and mail to: SC Tree Farm Program, 4901 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212

OTHER NEWS MAKERS



HARALSON

HARALSON HONORED. Johny L. Haralson, Denmark, SC, -- the Forestry Association's 2009 Chairman and 2020 Distinguished Service Award recipient -- was recently honored with a resolution from Bamberg County Council, recognizing his lifetime of service and contributions to the area.

"The County of Bamberg is recognizing Johny Haralson for his servanthip to our communities and to the people of South Carolina," said Bamberg County Council Chair Spencer Donaldson. "He's been a champion for tree farming, land conservation, and environmental stewardship."

A native of Denmark and a Soil and Water District commissioner for Bamberg since 2004, Haralson has operated Johny L. Haralson's State Farm Agency for 46 years, but says, "land conservation and forestry has always been my love and my passion."

Haralson was National Forest Landowners Association's 2016 Landowner of the Year, National Arbor Day Foundation's 2008 Good Steward Award recipient, 2007 Regional Tree Farmer of the Year, and a former Master Tree Farmer of the Year.

Photo of Haralson taken by FASC's Frances Taylor.



HERMANN

HERMANN HONORED. Gary Hermann was recently honored for his dedication and service as Chairman of the SC Tree Farm Committee during 2021. Hermann, with Bobcat Forestry, Walterboro, SC, has served in several key roles for the Committee in past years -- including District 12 Chair. We appreciate his service!

Photo of Hermann taken by FASC's Frances Taylor.



MEETZE

MEETZE IN SCFC'S PSA SPOT. Mike Meetze, 2013 South Carolina Tree Farmer of the Year, Newberry, SC is one of the individuals included in the SC Forestry Commission's PSAs televised earlier this year. Meetze is a former Forestry Association Board member and a former Chairman of the SC Tree Farm Committee. In 2017, Meetze and his Tree Farm were featured in the South Carolina Ag + Art Tour in Newberry, SC. He demonstrated use of his portable saw mill at one of the tour stations. He is slated to host a PLT event this summer at his Tree Farm.

Photo of Meetze taken by FASC's Frances Taylor.

state Tree Farm administrator's comments



Photo: FASC's Frances Taylor

The SC Tree Farm program is happy to be moving forward with more in-person events for 2022. Our Tree Farm Day at the Capital was a success, and tours are being planned with Tree Farmers Bill McCrary in Fairfield County and Jim and Pam Porter in Jasper County.

We are also going through an assessment to ensure compliance with certification standards. Many thanks to those selected to represent South Carolina's high standards of forestry practices!

Also, be sure to check out the latest Tree Farm incentives available for landowners and inspectors. This funding from the American Tree Farm System is only available for a short time, so be sure to take advantage of this extra benefit!

Guy R. Sabin

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

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



SC TREE FARM LEGISLATIVE DAY HELD

■ The SC Tree Farm Committee's Legislative Day was held March 3, 2022 at the Statehouse to increase awareness of Tree Farming and the importance of forestry. Thirty-three SC Tree Farmers came to Columbia to advocate with their legislators on key forestry issues. Photo taken by FASC's Emily Oakman.

TREE FARMERS AMONG FASC HONOREES



■ BURNETT



■ HARALSON



■ McCRARY



■ RHODES

2020 HONOREES. On Nov. 12, 2021, during the Awards & Recognition Breakfast of the Forestry Association of South Carolina, FASC Chairman Wayne Steffen congratulated 2020 SC Tree Farmer of the Year Guerry Burnett, Taylors, SC and 2020 Charles H. Flory Distinguished Service Award recipient Johney L. Haralson, Denmark, SC.

Haralson was National Forest Landowners Association's 2016 Landowner of the Year, National Arbor Day Foundation's 2008 Good Steward Award recipient, 2007 Regional Tree Farmer of the Year, and a former Master Tree Farmer of the Year.

2021 HONOREES. The Forestry Association of South Carolina also congratulated 2021 SC Tree Farmer of the Year Bill McCrary, Chapin, SC and 2021 Charles H. Flory Distinguished Service Award recipient W. McLeod "Mac" Rhodes, Charleston, SC.

Rhodes is 2019 SC Tree Farmer of the Year, a Commissioner for the SC Forestry Commission, and was 2017 Chairman of the Forestry Association of SC.

All photos taken by FASC's Frances Taylor.

GOVERNOR NOMINATES KNIGHT-CARTER TO SERVE ON GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE BOARD



Governor McMaster has nominated Yvonne Knight-Carter of Moncks Corner to serve on the Governor's School for Agriculture Board of Trustees. "Yvonne Knight-Carter is the perfect person to join the Governor's School for Agriculture Board of Trustees," says FASC President & CEO Cam Crawford. "The Forestry Association applauds Governor McMaster for nominating her to serve on the Board. Her experience as an educator and Tree Farmer will serve the Governor's School for Agriculture well. The Forestry Association is pleased to endorse her nomination."

Knight-Carter is also a new Board member for the Forestry Association of South Carolina and was recognized as District 11 Tree Farmer of the Year in 2021. She was featured in a PBS segment with Chuck Leavell on America's Forest.

INSPECTOR TRAINING HELD

The SC Tree Farm Inspector Training class was conducted at Clemson University on March 11, 2022. Among the speakers was Eric W. Smith, Charleston, SC [pictured]. He's been a member of the SC Tree Farm Committee for several years and served as 2009 Committee Chairman.

Photo taken by FASC Vice President Guy Sabin -- who serves as SC Tree Farm Administrator.



TREE FARMER SNAPSHOTS

Here are snapshots of just a few of the Tree Farmers who attended the Forestry Association's 2021 Annual Meeting in Greenville, SC. All photos taken by FASC's Frances Taylor.



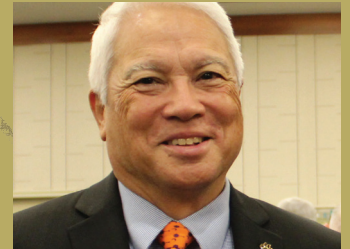
■ EDDIE & LINDA DRAYTON



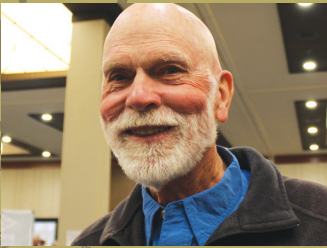
■ WALT & BARBARA McPHAIL



■ RANDELL EWING & JUDY BAREFOOT



■ GENE KODAMA



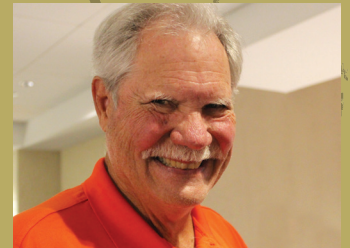
■ DR. "SKEET" BURRIS



■ JOHNEY HARALSON



■ PAT DORN



■ JOHN SPEARMAN



■ JIMMY SANDERS



■ MAC RHODES



■ GUERRY BURNETT



■ PAM PORTER

TREE FARM SILENT AUCTION IS A SUCCESS

THANKS EXPRESSED TO WILLIAMS



BRANT



LEACH



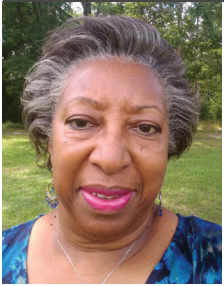
The SC Tree Farm Committee's Silent Auction -- held Nov. 10-11 as part of the Forestry Association's 2021 Annual Meeting in Greenville, SC -- was successful but somewhat scaled back with about 45 items. The Auction raised \$5,565 and those proceeds will go towards committee projects. The Silent Auction was chaired by Tom Brant. Ken Leach, a long-serving member of the Tree Farm Committee assisted and made Auction-related announcements during FASC's Chairman's Dinner.

Reg Williams, Johnston, SC, was thanked for his generosity in providing Stihl chainsaws over the past several years for SC Tree Farmer Of The Year recipients. "He's been the unsung hero who has given generously while remaining out of the spotlight," said Walt McPhail, who praised Williams during the Forestry Association's Nov. 12 Awards & Recognition Breakfast at Greenville, SC. "We just wanted to thank him for providing our SC Tree Farmer winners with the chainsaws after the national Tree Farm program ended this important special recognition." Pictured (left to right): Guerry Burnett - 2020 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year, Reg Williams, Bill McCrary - 2021 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year, and Walt McPhail, 2012 National Tree Farmer Of The Year. Photo taken by FASC's Frances Taylor.

Tom Brant has since announced he's stepping down as Fundraising Committee Chairman. We sincerely appreciate his dedication and outstanding service over the past few years.

Photos of Brant and Leach were taken by FASC's Frances Taylor.

TREE FARMERS ON FASC'S BOARD



Yvonne Knight-Carter
Broadaxe Branch
Partners, Moncks Corner



Pam S. Porter
Porter Land & Timber
Bluffton



Steve Hudson
United Wood Treating/
Retired, Union



Barbara McPhail
McPhail Tree Farms
Mauldin

Several Tree Farmers are currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Forestry Association of South Carolina. They include: Yvonne Knight-Carter, Pam S. Porter, Steve Hudson, and Barbara McPhail. We appreciate their service.

COMMITTEE NOMINATES WOOD. The SC Tree Farm Committee is submitting a nomination on Wallace Wood for Regional/National Tree Farmer of the Year. Wood served as 2019 Chairman of the SC Tree Farm Committee and was 2011 SC Tree Farmer of the Year. The SC Tree Farm Committee's 2012 Tour and Luncheon were held at his Pineview Farm in McCormick County. "The farm consists of planted loblolly pine, natural hardwoods and pasture," Wood told attendees. "Commodities produced are pine timber and beef cattle. Goals for the farm include profit, recreation, aesthetics, wildlife habitat, soil and water conservation and sustainability. With hard work, education, conservation programs and many blessings, we are accomplishing these goals. We hope to leave the land better than we found it."



Wood is a former Executive Director of the Upper Savannah Land Trust; former President of McCormick Co. Forestry Association; a past McCormick Co. Tree Farmer of the Year Award recipient, and a past Conservationist of the Year Award recipient -- presented by McCormick Soil and Water Conservation District. While a county agent with Clemson Extension Service, he served as a regional Master Tree Farmer coordinator for many years.

TREE FARMERS SPEAKING UP. Walt McPhail, National Tree Farmer of the Year 2012 and National Forest Landowner of the Year 2011, Mauldin, SC, and SC Land Trust Network Executive Director Jennifer Howard, Summerville, SC, were among the individuals helping raise awareness about issues impacting Tree Farmers/landowners during a recent visit to the Statehouse, Columbia, SC.

McPhail is Chairman of the State Forestry Commission and a former Chairman of the Forestry Association of SC.

Howard and her family are also part of the Tree Farm Program. She's principal with Steward Terra Communications, LLC.



SALUTE TO OUR FORMER TREE FARM COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN & CHAIRWOMAN

thank you!

FROM THE EDITOR: A special salute to all the individuals who have chaired the South Carolina Tree Farm Committee. THANK YOU for your service.

Here's a list of some leaders from recent years.

- 1992 Russell K. Hallberg, Rock Hill, SC
- 1994 Tom W. Patton, Jr., Lexington, SC
- 1995 Dan A. Scheffing, Andrews, SC
- 1996 Dan A. Scheffing, Andrews, SC
- 1997 Steven C. Moore, Mullins, SC
- 1998 Brian M. Fox, Holly Hill, SC
- 1999 Randall Johnson, Walterboro, SC
- 2000 Jeff Brown, Elgin, SC
- 2001 Gordon E. Gale, Hardeeville, SC
- 2002 Bruce White, Chester, SC
- 2003 Wayne Anthony, Prosperity, SC
- 2004 C. Scott Pellum, Hampton, SC
- 2005 John E. Spearman Jr., Lane, SC
- 2006 Michael S. Windhorn, Catawba, SC
- 2007 Johny L. Haralson, Denmark, SC
- 2008 George Chastain, Georgetown, SC
- 2009 Eric W. Smith, Kinards, SC
- 2010 L. Denise Bonnette, York, SC
- 2011 L. Denise Bonnette, York, SC
- 2012 Dr. George D. Kessler, Central, SC
- 2013 Ken Leach, Greenwood, SC
- 2014 C. Randell Ewing, Sr., Hartsville, SC
- 2015 Bob Franklin, Walterboro, SC
- 2016 J. Kirk Weyman, Anderson, SC
- 2017 Jimmy C. Sanders, Greenwood, SC
- 2018 Scott Phillips, Columbia, SC
- 2019 Wallace B. Wood, Plum Branch, SC
- 2020 Mike Meetze, Newberry, SC
- 2021 Gary Hermann, Walterboro, SC

APPLICATION *for new*

SOUTH CAROLINA TREE FARM INCENTIVES

LANDOWNERS. Forest landowners joining SC Tree Farm as fully certified can receive 5 years of free membership!

To qualify:

- Landowner must be a new member in SC Tree Farm.
- The property must meet American Tree Farm System eligibility requirements and is not currently certified.
- The property must have a forest management plan meeting Tree Farm Standards.
- A Tree Farm Inspection must be completed by your forester.
- Membership begins upon approval of your Tree Farm Inspection.

SC Tree Farm membership dues range from \$60/year (10-100 acres) to \$350/year (over 3,000 acres).

INSPECTORS. SC Tree Farm Inspectors can receive an incentive payment for any new Initial Tree Farm certifications, both for new and existing Tree Farm members. Private foresters are invited to apply:

30-100 acres	\$200
101-500 acres	\$300
501-1,250 acres	\$500

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Inspector Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

SC Tree Farm # _____ Forested Acres _____ Landowner name _____

Return application to: Guy Sabin, SC Tree Farm, 4901 Broad River Road, Columbia SC 29212
Email: Guy Sabin at treefarm@scforestry.org

McCRARY TREE FARM TOUR SCHEDULED



On Sept. 15, 2022 the SC Tree Farm Committee will host a tour of Bill McCrary's Fairfield Co. Tree Farm, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., 703 Clark Bridge Rd., Winnsboro, SC. McCrary is 2021 SC Tree Farmer of the Year.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES FOR THE TREE FARM: Recreation, wildlife habitat, enjoyment for friends and family, and timber production.

TREE FARM FIELD WORK: McCrary does about 70% of the Tree Farm field work himself. He has devoted much time to working on the roads and fire breaks and to a pond he built for habitat and aesthetic values.

TOURS: Several tours have already been hosted on the Tree Farm. Tour stops included a focus on historical sites located on the property.

RECOGNITION: In 2009, McCrary was awarded the David H. Sandler Award by Sandler Training. The award is the organization's highest honor and is given to one person worldwide annually. In 2004, the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce honored McCrary as Small Business Person of the Year.

In 2013 and 2019, he was named District 6 Tree Farmer of the Year by the SC Tree Farm Committee. He received the Outstanding Young Forester Leadership Award from the SC Chapter of the Society of American Foresters in 1985.



TOUR WILL FEATURE THE PORTERS' TREE FARM



On Nov. 2, 2022 the SC Tree Farm Committee will host a tour of Jim & Pam Porter's Tree Farm. The Porters were honored in 2021 as District 12 Tree Farmers Of The Year and the American Tree Farm System's FORESTS & FAMILIES recently featured an article that focused on them.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES FOR THE TREE FARM: "To practice sustainable forestry, focused on the utilization of intensive silviculture and highest levels of genetics to maximize timber production. Wildlife habitat development and conservation, protecting water quality for the New River/Calibogue Sound watershed, while providing recreational opportunities, cultivating the low country out-of-doors lifestyle for family and friends. Another key priority is providing educational opportunities for a wide range of groups to showcase the process of sustainable forestry and benefits it provides."

The Porters have a Conservation Easement with Low Country Land Trust on 1650 acres of Bailey Mill Plantation.

Jim is an SAF Certified Forester. His undergraduate degree was in Forest Management from the University of Missouri-Columbia, MO. **INVOLVEMENT & RECOGNITION:** Pam Porter serves on the Forestry Association's Board and the SC Conservation Bank Board. She's active with Low Country Land Trust, Lowcountry Landowners Association, and other groups. Jim serves on the American Forest Foundation Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors for the Family Forest Carbon Initiative -- a joint venture with American Forest Foundation and The Nature Conservancy. He serves on the Low Country Land Trust Board, and is involved with other groups.

ARE YOU MAKING MISTAKES on the INSPECTION FORM?

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.

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



Photo taken by FASC's Frances Taylor

Many landowners and inspectors are gaining experience with the new 2021 Tree Farm Standards, making this a good time to review some of the most common mistakes when filling out the new 021 Inspection Form. Although changes in the Standards have been minimal, there is greater emphasis on documentation and tracking for all management activities, and more details

are required for sections such as Reforestation, Prescribed Fire, Forest Health, and others.

Here are some of the most common issues for both inspections and Tree Farm management plans that have emerged from recent inspections and reviews.

1. FORI – Forests of Recognized Importance can be a challenging topic because there are no specific resources that can confirm their presence. FORI includes large-scale, landscape-level resources such as the ACE Basin, Jocassee Gorges, or designated Scenic River corridors. Proximity to Congaree National Park or Natural Heritage sites should also be considered. FORI are usually named or identified and have some efforts underway to protect the unique qualities of that area. Forester and landowner local knowledge may be cited as resources in this section, along with the SC Natural Heritage database, SC Forest Action Plan, and SC Wildlife Action Plan.

2. Special Sites – Special Sites include archaeological, cultural, and historic sites, as well as sites with unique geological or ecological properties. Landowners may also identify special sites that are important to them or their family. SC ArchSite combines data from the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and the SC Department of Archives and History to provide a valuable online tool to help confirm whether special sites are relevant on the property.

3. Invasive species and Water Resources – A common omission is to leave off required elements that are not relevant for the property. Remember that all topics must be addressed, even if only to confirm that they are not present. The Standards require the management plan to include forest health, soil, water, wood and fiber production, threatened and endangered species, special sites, invasive species, and FORI. For invasive species in particu-

lar, it is recommended to avoid making a blanket statement that none are present. A better practice is to indicate that there are no significant populations of invasive species impacting the property at that time. Streams and other water resources should be noted in both the management plan and on the map. Likewise, the management plan should indicate if no streams, wetlands, or other features are present. This can readily be included in the same section of your management plan that covers Best Management Practices.

4. Required Questions – All of the questions on the inspection form must be answered for applicable sections. This includes the narrative sections in Endangered Species, Forest Health, FORI, and Special Sites. Questions in these sections such as, “in what ways is the landowner seeking to prevent, control, or respond to forest health concerns,” and “describe the use of prescribed fire for the past 5 years,” must be answered for the inspection to be entered into the American Tree Farm database.

5. Sources – The sections for Endangered Species, FORI, Special Sites require inspectors to indicate the resources that were consulted to determine relevance of those topics. Our guidance from ATFS has shifted away from generic statements like, “qualified natural resource professional,” towards listing specific sources. Many online resources are available such as SC ArchSite, Natureserve, SC Heritage Trust, and state forest and wildlife action plans. Professionals from specific organizations such as USFWS, NRCS, or SCFC may also be cited. Consulting foresters are also considered qualified professionals, although all are encouraged to list the documented references that are used as a basis for evaluating these topics.

6. Addendum – These changes to the Standards should be fulfilled on both the Inspection Form and in the forest management plan. A good way to update an existing management plan is by using the 2021 ATFS Management Plan Addendum to make sure all required topics and documentation are covered. The Addendum can be completed by the forester or the landowner and attached as part of the plan. The Addendum is available on the SC Tree Farm website's Certification page at www.sctreefarm.org

Taking care of these details during a Tree Farm Inspection can help smooth the certification process and meet our ultimate goal of helping family forest owners practice good forestry on their land.

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

OTHER PROGRAMS

MASTER TREE FARMER COURSE CONDUCTED. The Master Tree Farmer (MTF) “hybrid” course combined online and face-to-face learning this year. It incorporated self-paced lectures, discussion, and other web-based methods of participant-instructor interaction, along with hands-on participation activities in the field.

- **MODULE 1**/Jan 24 Introduction To Forestry
- **MODULE 2**/Jan. 31 Harvesting, Marketing & Merchandising
- **MODULE 3**/Feb. 7 Wildlife Management
- **MODULE 4**/Feb. 7 & 14 Pine Management
- **MODULE 5**/Feb. 28 Hardwood Management
- **MODULE 6**/March 7 Forest Health
- **MODULE 7**/March 14 Timber Taxes, Estate Planning, and Conservation Easements

Master Tree Farmer, offered through Clemson Extension, builds on a participant’s base knowledge of forestry. After completing Master Tree Farmer, participants have a greater understanding of scientific and practical knowledge to manage their forest land to best suit their ecological, economic, and recreational needs.



GROWING OUR FUTURE MEETING SLATED FOR JUNE. The Growing Our Future Annual Forestry Meeting will be held at T&S Farms, Leesville, SC on June 1, 2022 from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Speakers include:

- Scott Jones, CEO, Forest Landowners Association
- Cam Crawford, President & CEO, Forestry Association of South Carolina
- Dr. Walt McPhail, National Tree Farmer of the Year 2012 and National Forest Landowner of the Year 2011
- Dr. Tom Dobbins, Professor and Associate Dean of Outreach and Engagement, and Director of Clemson Cooperative Extension

Also: Dr. Roger “Tripp” Lowe, UGA – Technology in Silviculture; Eddie Reese, USDA – Federal Cost Share Opportunities; Chisolm Beckham, SCFC – State Cost Share Opportunities; Ryan Bean, Clemson Extension – Upcoming forestry and natural resources programs and research/demonstrations; Tom Patton, SC Forestry Commission update; and Dr. Cory Heaton, Clemson Extension – Wildlife Management.

Cost: General Admission - \$25, Foresters - \$75, and College Students - \$10.

Register at tinyurl.com/2022AFM. The deadline to register is May 20. Late registration will be an additional \$10. No refunds after May 1, 2022.

■ Contact Ryan Bean, Natural Resources Extension agent - Clemson Cooperative Extension Service, at 803/840-6124 or rbean@clemson.edu for more information.



As stewards of the land, Tree Farmers are committed to protecting watersheds and wildlife habitat, soil conservation, growing a healthy forest, and leaving a legacy for future generations. They also enjoy bird watching and other recreational aspects that forests provide.



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@scforestry.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.

SC TREE FARM COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

BOARD

Chair Janet Watt Steele [2021-2023]
Outreach & Education Chair
Member [2017-2024]
Clemson Extension, 1550 Henley Street, Suite 200
Orangeburg, SC 29212
803/534-6280 (O), jmwatt@clemson.edu

Past 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

Vice Chair T. J. Lyell [2022-2024]
District 8 Chair
Member [2018-2024]
WestRock, 2202 Paper Mill Rd.
Florence, SC 29506
843/667-6252 (W), 843/250-9777 (C)
terry.lyell@westrock.com

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@pactivevergreen.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]
Membership Chair
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 Lobolly 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 Riggin
Member [2018-2024]
SC Forestry Commission
39 General Henderson Rd., Newberry, SC 29108
803/276-0205, 803/230-0143 (C), jrigin@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 9 Chair Eric W. Smith [interim]
Member [2015-2024]
WestRock
5600 Virginia Ave., Charleston, SC 29406
843/745-3258 (O), 864/993-8653 (C)
Eric.W.Smith@westrock.com

District 10 Chair Warren Duncan
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Milliken Forestry, 245 Stoneridge Dr.
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803/788-0590, 803/730-1249
duncan@millikenforestry.com

District 11 Chair Eric W. Smith
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Eric.W.Smith@westrock.com

Fundraising Chair Tom Brant
Member [2015-2024]
106 Logan Road, Greenwood, SC 29646
864/554-5478, brant@clemson.edu

Publicity Chair Bob Franklin
Chairman [2015-2019], Member [2015-2024]
401 Ravenwood Road, Walterboro, SC 29488
843/893-7775, bobbyfranklin55@gmail.com

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@atlanticbnn.net

SC Forestry Commission Rep. Recognition Chair Russell Hubright
Member [2015-2024]
SC Forestry Commission Representative
PO Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221
803/896-8823, RHubright@scfc.gov

Forestry Association of SC Rep. Frances L. Taylor
Member [2015-2024]
4901 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212
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SCTF Committee Meeting Support Debbie Kiser
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Forest Management Section
PO Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221
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Chisolm Beckham
Member [2022-2026]
SC Forestry Commission
PO Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221
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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

Cliff McKinney
Member [2017-2024]
134 Cainhoy St., Orangeburg, SC 29118
803/747-9679, mckinney_clifton@yahoo.com

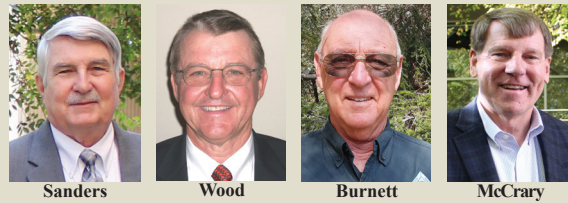
Emily Oakman
Member [2019-2024]
Forestry Association of SC
4901 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212
803/798-4170 (O), eoakman@scforestry.org

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

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

W. Patrick Dorn, Jr.
2017 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year
Member [2018-2024]
7512 Still Hopes Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169
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

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

Mike Meetze
2013 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year
 Member [2015-2024]
 458 Piester Rd., Newberry, SC 29108
 803/276-2696 or meetzefarms@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 [2021-2025]
2020 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year
 21 Hoppin John Lane
 Taylors, SC 29687
 864/423-6499
 guerry62@gmail.com

William F. "Bill" McCrary [2022-2026]
2021 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year
 127 WaxhawsTrace
 Chapin, SC 29036
 803/622-1405 (C)
 billmc56@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.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Columbia, S.C.
PERMIT No.1005



SC TREE FARM CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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, Beaufort, 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
2021 William "Bill" F. McCrary

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