SC’s DISTRICT TREE FARMERS OF THE YEAR

TOURS & EVENTS

COMMITTEE DIRECTORY 2018

CHAIRMAN’S MESSAGE

INSPECTOR NOTES: Useful Resources
One of the things I really enjoy about working with South Carolina’s Tree Farm Committee is the culture of growth and change that the Committee embraces. The Committee is dynamic and always looking for opportunities to grow Tree Farm and create new ways to benefit forest landowners in our state. I want to highlight a few recent changes that are noteworthy.

The South Carolina Tree Farm Program has a backlog of landowners who are interested in being Certified Tree Farmers but have not qualified because they lack a management plan that meets the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) requirements. We have been working to decrease this backlog for several years. Early on we identified management plans as the most substantial barrier to certification for most landowners. Several initiatives were implemented to try and remove this barrier with varying levels of success.

A significant outcome of these earlier initiatives is the development of a template management plan that meets all ATFS requirements and can be used by any forester to quickly develop the plan for Tree Farmers. This template plan is currently available to use, and we will soon be hosting training sessions for foresters who wish to learn to use this tool more effectively. However, we recognize that even with this simplified plan template the costs to have a forest management plan developed are still a barrier for many landowners. So to address this we are developing a new financial assistance program for current South Carolina Tree Farm members to help them with the costs of having a forest management plan developed that will facilitate the certification of their Tree Farm. Full details about this program will be announced in the near future.

Another noteworthy change is the change in leadership of our Education and Outreach Subcommittee. For over a decade this Subcommittee has been led by Dr. Walt McPhail. Walt has been a true leader in all of our Committee’s efforts to better educate landowners in SC about the benefits of active management. This includes a significant increase in the number of events we host each year and development of our Annual Forest Landowners Tour that we host in conjunction with the Forestry Association’s Annual Meeting. In June, Walt announced that he’ll be stepping down and Janet Steele, the Forestry Association’s Director of Landowner Outreach, Forestry Education and Programs, will be taking his place as Education and Outreach Subcommittee Chair. Walt, thank you for your dedicated service and Janet thank you for being willing to step into those big shoes! For those of you wondering, Walt is not leaving the Committee, but rather taking this opportunity to slow down a little while cultivating new leadership that will help sustain the future growth of our Tree Farm Program.

While we are talking about new leadership on the Tree Farm Committee I want to mention several other new members to our Committee. Anneta Pritchard, Santee Unit Forester with the South Carolina Forestry Commission, joined the Committee as our Tour Subcommittee Chair, replacing Roy Boyd who recently retired. We have several new District Chairs including McCullough Ardrey, Bill Ardrey Forestry, Inc. – District 2 Chair; Jeff Riggin, South Carolina Forestry Commission – District 3 Chair; Jim Brown, Enviva – District 4 Chair; and TJ Lyell, WestRock – District 8 Chair. Matt Raebeloom joined the Committee representing International Paper, Pat Dorn was added as our 2017 South Carolina Tree Farmer of the Year, and Tom Brant, Clemson Extension, has stepped up to take over the Fundraising Subcommittee following David Schneider’s move to Virginia. A big thank you to each of these people for their willingness to serve!

Change is constant and just like the forests we manage, change must be directed with thoughtful intent to achieve the outcomes we desire. Your South Carolina Tree Farm Committee is one of the strongest in the nation and continues to lead the way in creating innovative solutions that benefit landowners in our state and by recruiting and developing new leaders that help us see the forests through new eyes. I am very excited to see what the future brings as we continue to grow the South Carolina Tree Farm Program to benefit the forestry community of South Carolina.

Scott Phillips can be contacted at SPhillips@scfc.gov
Project Learning Tree is a program that trains teachers with fun activities that use the forest as a framework for teaching all subjects from poetry to math. Of course, there is also plenty of information about trees, forestry, and wood products designed to get kids excited about nature and better understand our natural resources. Tree Farmers are teachers, too, and passionate about sharing good forest management with others. Tree Farm and Project Learning Tree are a natural fit. Janet Steele, FASC Director of Landowner Outreach, Forestry Education and Programs, has been awarded two grants from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program and American Tree Farm System that will help bring them closer together. Tree Farmers will have the opportunity to learn engaging hands-on activities from Project Learning Tree, and funds will be available to help support school groups interested in visiting Tree Farms. If you’d like to do more to help educate our next generation about forestry please plan to attend an upcoming PLT workshop for Tree Farmers. Sharing our message of sustainable forestry is one of the most important things we can do.

Guy R. Sabin
SC Tree Farm’s State Administrator
treefarm@scforestry.org, 803/798-4170
The SC Tree Farm Committee met June 7, 2018 in Columbia, SC. We have a lot of great tours and other events slated for the next few months. Mark your calendar for the Sept. 20 Field Tour & Awards Ceremony being held on the Richland Co. Tree Farm of Pat Dorn -- 2017 SC Tree Farmer of the Year. Also on tap: the Nov. 7 tour of Cypress Bay Plantation owned by Skeet and Gail Burris -- 2000 National Tree Farmers of the Year. Additional details for these and other events will be posted on the Forestry Association’s facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/SCForestryAssociation] and included in mailings to Tree Farmers. Photo taken by Justin Holt, SCFC.

A Landowner’s Focus Group was held June 7, 2018 at Walt McPhail’s Belton, SC Tree Farm. Participants included Forestry Association Chairman-Elect Jimmy Sanders who is also past Chairman of the SC Tree Farm Committee and 2014 SC Tree Farmer of the Year; Dr. George Kessler -- who received the American Tree Farm System’s National Leadership Award earlier this year; Walt McPhail who is 2012 National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year; John Spearman -- 2004 Regional Tree Farmer of the Year; and Guy Sabin, SC Tree Farm Administrator and Forestry Association Vice President. The group is working with national Tree Farm System reps to address SC Tree Farm Committee challenges. Photo taken by Guy Sabin.

SC Tree Farm and the Upper Savannah Land Trust co-sponsored a Women in the Woods field day May 19 at Wallace and Susan Wood’s Tree Farm in McCormick County. Ten women toured the property and learned about thinning, prescribed burning, protection of soil and water quality, and enhancement of non-timber resources. Wallace and Susan Wood, 2011 SC Tree Farmers of the Year, discussed their management objectives and practices. Judy Barnes, retired SC Dept. of Natural Resources biologist, led a portion of the tour and discussed ways to enhance wildlife habitat for a variety of game and non-game species. FASC’s Janet Steele helped coordinate the program for the field day.

American Tree Farm announced April 19 that the first round of voting has been completed and finalists for the Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year award include James “Jimmy” C. Sanders from Greenwood, SC. The Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year award recognizes private landowners that have done an exceptional job of forest management on their property and are also actively promoting sustainable forestry.

Speakers for the May 9 Clemson Extension landowners program held at T&S Farm, Leesville, SC included Forestry Association President and CEO Cam Crawford, Columbia, SC, who discussed legislative issues impacting forestry, and Walt McPhail who updated attendees on the Tree Farm program.

During the program, the Forestry Association of SC, SC Forestry Commission, SC Timber Producers Association, SC Tree Farm Program, and SC Sustainable Forestry Initiative Committee jointly recognized Beth Richardson, Distinguished County Agent, for over 34 years of outstanding service to South Carolina forest landowners. Photo taken by Guy Sabin.
Dr. George Kessler, Six Mile, SC was honored with a resolution at the Statehouse on April 17. He was honored for his years of dedication and outstanding service to landowners and forestry in South Carolina. Pictured above with him (from left): State Forester Scott Phillips, Walt McPhail -- Chairman of the SC Forestry Commissioners, and Forestry Association President & CEO Cam Crawford.

Earlier this year, Dr. Kessler received the American Tree Farm System’s National Leadership Award which “recognizes the efforts of key Tree Farm volunteers who have been instrumental in accomplishing on-the-ground goals, motivating peers, and educating landowners.” Dr. Kessler was appointed Clemson Extension Service cosponsor representative for the SC Tree Farm Committee in 1972. Over the years, he served the Committee in many capacities, including tenure as Chairman. In 1984 he initiated a Master Tree Farmer program in South Carolina which was offered every year through 1998. In 1988, he developed Master Tree Farmer II for those seeking more in-depth study.

Dr. Kessler Honored

The Master Wildlifer Field Tour was held May 19 at Walt McPhail’s Belton, SC property. Tour stops were led by Clemson Extension Agents Cory Heaton, Mallory Dailey, TJ Savereno, and Ryan Bean. Tour topics included native plants, invasives, wildlife habitat management, pine management, hardwood forest management, and more. Photo by Thomas Dobbins.

GROUP TOURS McPHAIL’S TREE FARM

CEDARLEAF FARM featured on MAKING IT GROW

SCETV’s Making It Grow recently featured a segment on Cedarleaf Farm owned by Joanna Angle [2012 SC Tree Farmer of the Year] and Dr. Bill Altman of Chester, SC. The link shows drone footage of the property – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwz-hVZNxOE

Dr. Kessler Honored

Dr. Walt McPhail received the Friend of Extension Award at the annual South Carolina Association of County Agricultural Agents conference hosted in Newberry, SC on May 17. The group said: “This is the highest award that SCA-CAA can bestow upon a non-member. The purpose is to recognize outstanding support for Extension educational programming. Recipients may be local, statewide, or national. This award can be received only once.”

McPhail Honored

Randell C. Ewing, 1998 SC Tree Farmer of the Year, and his son Randell Ewing Jr., Hartsville, SC hosted the Darlington/Florence County Forest Landowners group on April 14. Attendees enjoyed a wagon tour of the Tree Farm, learned about management practices, and viewed unique artifacts found on the property. Photo taken by Janet Steele.
William F. “Bill” McCrary  
Chapin, SC (Tree Farm in Fairfield County)  
Occupation: Founder and CEO of Sandler Training South Carolina  
Nominated By: Justin R. Hilton, Miliken Forestry Co., Inc.

Bill McCrary has owned 360 woodland acres for 14 years and the land has been under a written management plan for eight years. The property has been a certified Tree Farm for eight years.

**PRIMARY OBJECTIVE:** Easy access for friends and family to use and enjoy.

**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 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, 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.
Dr. Knowlton W. Johnson

Asheville, NC [Tree Farm in Chesterfield Co.]

Occupation: Retired University Professor

Nominated By:
Corey Flowers, Flowers Forestry, LLC,
Darlington, SC

Dr. Knowlton W. Johnson of Asheville, NC, has had his Chesterfield, SC property enrolled in the American Tree Farm System for several years.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES: From Corey Flowers’ notes:

1. Manage forest resources by experimenting with alternative silviculture as demonstration opportunities (e.g. genetically improved loblolly pine vs. a control (3rd general loblolly pine), and forest management practices including converting a loblolly pine stand to a longleaf pine stand and the application of flex stand practices under experimental condition in comparison to a control.

2. Implement best conservation practices as a foundation of sustainable forest management, including practices such as water bars, water drainage ditches, and increases in the quality of water by allowing the beaver to coexist (Clemson and the International Beaver Association are resources that can provide assistance.)

3. Establish and maintain healthy wildlife, fish, and biodiversity practices (e.g. monitoring and correcting the PH of a 2.5-acre fish pond with liming as necessary, adequately stocking the fish pond, providing watering holes for wildlife, providing a natural setting for wildlife that does not include baiting, and establish wildlife plots throughout the forest.

4. Provide recreation opportunities -- hunting and fishing (e.g. through a 3rd party hunting club and selective neighbors allowed fishing rights).

5. Implement a public education program for forest professionals, community residents, and school aged children in Chesterfield County, and other interested parties elsewhere.

6. Develop a tree farm that is an example of sustainable forest management to serve as a model for other forest owners, stressing a sustainable research and evaluation strategy emphasizing periodic revenue – cost cash flows and an extension-oriented framework based on the property being a demonstration area to illustrate various forest management practices.

TREE FARM FIELD WORK: The owner is fully engaged in developing the tree farm management plan, specifying an annual work plan for the consulting forester and contractors and traveling to the tree farm regularly to monitor completion of work plan tasks.
F. Spann Brabham
Bamberg, SC [Tree Farm in Bamberg Co.]
Occupation: Industrial Saw and Tool, and Tree Farmer

Nominated By:
Annetta S. Pritchard, Springfield, SC

Spann Brabham owns 1,673 woodland acres and the land has been a certified Tree Farm for three years.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES: timber production, wildlife, recreation, and aesthetics

TREE FARM FIELD WORK: Brabham does all the work on the Tree Farm except site prep and tree planting. The rest is accomplished by contractors and grandsons.

MULTIPLE USE CONCEPT: The Tree Farm is under the multiple use concept. Allowed uses include recreation, hunting, fishing, and bird watching.

INVolVEMENT: Anneta Pritchard says: “He is meticulous in the management of his property. His land is a perfect example of how good forest management principles benefit not only economically but also provide for quality wildlife habitat as well as aesthetic and recreational benefits. Mr. Brabham has been a member of QDMA since its inception. He helps promote prescribed burning within his community and assists friends and neighbors with their prescribed burning. He has allowed Clemson Extension to use his property to provide teaching opportunities for other landowners. Though not a forester by trade or education, Mr. Brabham is a local, well-known source of knowledge for up to date forest management practices. He seeks out training such as Master Tree Farmer and Master Wildlifer to keep current in his education and to ensure his tree farm is the best that it can be.”

He is a member of the Forestry Association of SC, Tree Farm, and Forest Landowners Association.

RECOGNITION: He has been recognized as the NRCS Conservationist of the Year.
W. McLeod “Mac” Rhodes  
Charleston, SC [Tree Farm in Charleston Co.]  
Occupation: Owner of Essex Farms

Nominated By:  
Alex Chewning, Charleston, SC

Mac Rhodes owns 1,916 woodland acres -- with 1,860 of those acres certified as a Tree Farm. The land has been a certified Tree Farm since 2014.  

**PRIMARY OBJECTIVES:** Continuous growing and harvesting of timber while caring for wildlife habitat and recreational needs of the property.

**TREE FARM FIELD WORK:** Rhodes does most of the Tree Farm field work himself.

**TOURS:** Several tours have been conducted on the property. For example, Rhodes hosted members of the SC Tree Farm program and Center for Heirs Property on a tour of his Beehive Tree Farm on May 20, 2017. The tour included stops at a natural pine regeneration site, an active pole thinning operation, and stands being prescribe burned.

**MULTIPLE USE CONCEPT:** The Tree Farm is under the multiple use concept. Allowed uses include timber, wildlife habitat, aesthetics, water quality, and recreation.

**INVOLVEMENT & RECOGNITION:** Forest History Society Board member; 2017 Chairman of the Forestry Association of SC; Director, Forest Landowners Association; Vice Chairman of the Clemson Timberland Legacy Program’s Advisory Committee; Founding Partner of Clemson’s Wood Utilization + Design Institute Advisory Committee; Chairman for the Center for Heirs Property Preservation; member of the Charleston County Agricultural Issues Advisory Committee; member of the Society of American Foresters, Longleaf Alliance, American Tree Farm System, and Lowcountry Open Land Trust. He is a past Chairman of Charleston County Forestry Board and past Chairman of the SC Association of County Forestry Boards. He is one of the organizers of Tri-County Forestry Association (Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester counties). He is a Registered Forester in South Carolina.
The SC Tree Farm Field Tour and Awards Ceremony will be held Sept. 20 at the Richland County Tree Farm of W. Patrick Dorn, Jr. -- 2017 SC Tree Farmer of the Year. In addition to the tour of Dorn’s property, the program will include a presentation honoring SC’s District Tree Farmers of the Year and nominators, as well as remarks by SC Tree Farm Committee Chairman Scott Phillips.

Tour Stops:

**Stop 1: Archaeological Site.** Dr. Andrew A. White, an assistant research professor in the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina, has been conducting archaeological research on the Dorn property since the fall of 2015. Excavations during two USC field schools have revealed that the property contains deeply buried, well-preserved archaeological deposits dating back to at least 7000 BC. Those deposits have potential to contribute greatly to our knowledge of ancient Native American families and societies that lived in the Eastern Woodlands.

**Stop 2: BMPs.** South Carolina has an abundance of scenic beauty, clean water, wildlife habitat, recreation and timber. Maintaining clean water is vital to the existence of these resources. Following Best Management Practices and good forest stewardship help protect the water quality of nearby rivers, streams, and ponds. This stop on the Broad River will focus on BMPs, timber management, and the SC Scenic Rivers Program. Speaker is Holly Welch, SC Forestry Commission.

**Stop 3: Managing Eastern Wild Turkey Habitat.** The Eastern Wild Turkey has a large body, iridescent feathers, distinct call, and courting behaviors that make pursuit of a gobbler addictive. Populations now occupy all 46 of South Carolina’s counties. This stop on the Cedar Creek Tract will highlight managing timber stands to enhance wild turkey habitat. Speaker is Mark S. Garner, Ph.D., C.W.B., Forest Wildlife Biologist, US Forest Service.

**Stop 4: Timber As An Investment.** Forestry is South Carolina’s #1 manufacturing industry, the #1 harvested crop, the most exported commodity from the Port of Charleston, and contributes $21 billion to the state’s economy. This stop will focus on the investment of growing timber as well as differing management objectives for properties that are strictly for timber production and those that are multiple use. Speaker is John Hane, Milliken Forestry.

TOUR CONTACTS: 2017 SC Tree Farmer of the Year W. Patrick “Pat” Dorn, Jr., 803/767-1310, pdorn@anchorinvestmentmanagement.com; or 2018 SC Tree Farm Field Tour Chair Anneta Pritchard, 803/664-2029, apritchard@scfc.gov
The Nov. 7 Tree Farm Forest Owners Program will feature a tour of Cypress Bay Plantation in Hampton County owned by Dr. A. G. “Skeet” & Gail Burris – 2000 National Outstanding Tree Farmers. They were also 2000 Regional Tree Farmers of the Year, and 1995 SC Tree Farmers of the Year. Tour stops will focus on food plots, thinning and burning, and so much more.

Tour registration/information will be available in late August as part of the Forestry Association’s Convention Preview material.

TOUR CONTACT: Janet Steele at janet@scforestry.org or 803/798-4170.
There are three sections on the Tree Farm Inspection form that ask what resources were consulted to determine whether certain things are present. Answering these questions in order to certify a Tree Farm requires a certain amount of expertise, knowledge of where to find that information, and in one case, sufficient local knowledge because there are no consolidated sources of information.

Which resources were consulted to determine occurrences of threatened or endangered species on the property and their habitat requirements? Which resources were consulted to determine relevance to Forest of Recognized Importance? Which resources were consulted to determine whether special sites are present? When answering these questions remember that you as a forester are a qualified natural resource professional, and your expertise and field observations should be part of how you answer! There are also additional sources of information than can help.

**Threatened and Endangered Species.** The Tree Farm Standards require a good-faith effort to identify any known occurrences of threatened and endangered species and take steps to protect them if necessary. This might include checking with the US Fish and Wildlife Service or SC Department of Natural Resources websites to review listings of T&E species by county and determine whether any might be relevant. SC DNR can also provide information of known locations and potential impacts if you send them a map and project details. For GIS users USFWS provides shape files of designated habitat through their ECOS Environmental Conservation Online System website. Another excellent resource is the NatureServe Explorer, an online tool with county level information and species detail. With these resources available, an example answer to this question might be, “Forester reviewed USFWS and SC DNR listings of threatened and endangered species for the area and noted no known occurrences on the property.”

**Forests of Recognized Importance.** FORI is a Tree Farm term for significant, large landscape areas of exceptional ecological, social, or biological values. In most cases, FORI will be identified, protected, and named in some way and are normally larger than a single Tree Farm. Some examples in South Carolina include the ACE Basin and Jocassee Gorges. FORI can also apply when a property is adjacent to a state or federally protected area like a Heritage Preserve or Congaree National Park. The best resources for identifying FORI are local knowledge of the forester and landowner. You can also review maps, check the SC DNR Heritage Trust Program, and consult with local conservation groups. The Tree Farm website is a great way to get familiar with definitions and guidance for FORI, but cannot replace local knowledge to determine whether they are relevant. Although FORI are rare they are an important aspect of certification.

**Special Sites.** A reasonable effort must be made to locate and protect special sites for their unique historical, cultural, geological, biological or ecological values. Since special sites come in many varieties, there are also a wide range of resources available to help identify them. Ecological and biological sites may be identified through some of the same maps as threatened and endangered species. Nearby Heritage Preserves and other protected areas may provide some clues, and the NatureServe Explorer includes ecological communities and systems as well as individual species. Historical and cultural resources include SC Archives and History and the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Both offer professional services if you suspect an important site on the property and together they provide SC ArchSite, an online source and map viewer for cultural resource information. You may also be surprised at the wealth of information available from local sources, such as historical societies or libraries.

By making use of these resources, many of them available online, you can ensure that a Tree Farm is in full compliance with the Standards for certification.

**RESOURCES**
- SC Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species Inventory [http://www.dnr.sc.gov/species/index.html](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/species/index.html)
- USFWS Endangered Species [https://www.fws.gov/endangered/](https://www.fws.gov/endangered/)
- American Tree Farm System Forests of Recognized Importance [https://www.treefarmsystem.org/fori](https://www.treefarmsystem.org/fori)
- SC Archives and History [http://scdah.sc.gov](http://scdah.sc.gov)
- SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology [http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/sciaa/front-page](http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/sciaa/front-page)

Sabin can be reached at 803/798-4170 or by emailing to treefarm@scforestry.org.
# Application to Join the South Carolina Tree Farm Program

**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

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 ____________________________

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**New TREE FARM DUES**

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**Payment Options**

- 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**

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

Chairman Scott Phillips  [2018-2019]
Sec./Treas. [2015-16]. Member [2015-12/31/19]
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Past Chairman Jimmy C. Sanders  [2017-2018]
2014 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year
Tree Farmer  [2015-17]. Member  [2015-12/31/19]
101 Quail Run Court, Greenwood, SC 29646
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Vice Chairman Wallace B. Wood, Jr.
2011 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year
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Secretary/Treasurer & District 10 Chair
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Sec./Treas. [2017-2020]. Member [2015-12/31/19]
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Tree Farmer Mike Meotze
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458 Pieter Rd., Newberry, SC 29108
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Member  [2017-2021]
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843/883-7426 (C)
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GK: SC Tree Farm Committee

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Upcoming Events

- The SC Tree Farm Field Day & Awards Ceremony will be held September 20 at the Tree Farm of Pat Dorn in Richland County, SC.

- The Annual Tree Farm Forest Owners Program slated for Nov. 7 will feature a tour of Cypress Bay Plantation in Hampton County owned by Dr. A. G. "Skeet" & Gail Burris. Program Coordinator is Janet Steele -- janet@scforestry.org or 803/798-4170.

- The Forestry Association’s 50th Annual Meeting will be held Nov. 7-9, at the Westin at Hilton Head Island, SC.

Recognition Corner

NATIONAL TREE FARMERS OF THE YEAR
2000 Dr. A. G. “Skeet” and Gail Burris, Cummings, SC
2002 Dr. Walter A. McPhail, Mauldin, SC
2012 John M. McPhail, Abbeville, 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 Johnney 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 Ganit, Columbia, SC
2001 Dr. Walter A. McPhail, Mauldin, SC
2002 Dyches Family, Savannah, GA
2003 John M. McPhail, Abbeville, SC
2004 Johnney L. Haralson, Denmark, SC
2006 Bookman Station, LLC, Columbia, SC
2007 Ben Hurlong, 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.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL TREE FARM INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT
2000 Tom W. Patton, Jr., Columbia, SC
2002 Tom W. Patton, Jr., Columbia, 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.

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