Hi Folks,

It’s time for an update on forestry-related educational events and issues. Pictures are from the April Forestry Field Day and were provided by Col. Guy Troy.

The main event I want to let you know about is the fall Randolph County forestry meeting, “Present and Future Pine and Hardwood Markets,” on September 30. Recent timber prices may have caused people to question whether they should sell mature timber now or wait and to wonder what type of trees they should plant for future harvest. Dr. Bob Bardon of North Carolina State University’s Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources will discuss pine and hardwood timber markets and the potential of selling harvest “waste” to the biomass market, and consulting forester Dan Edwards will talk about local market trends. Dinner will be provided. Please call our office to register by September 29.

You might also consider attending the upcoming Woody Biomass Workshop at the Cooperative Extension office in Burlington. The following description is provided: “Landowners interested in learning about utilization of woody biomass for energy and its impact on the management, enhancement, and enjoyment of their forest resources are invited to participate in an evening dinner program. The program’s topics will include: overview of recent policy implications related to renewable energy and its impact on woody biomass, production and harvesting of woody biomass, wood energy biomass market considerations, forest management considerations in the context of a woody biomass market.” More details and events are located on the third page of this newsletter.

Regards,

Mary Helen Ferguson
American Tree Farm System® (AFSC)
Approved by Programme for the
Endorsement of Forest Certification

Recognition by this international group is expected to increase the sales of timber from AFSC farms (such as those in the NC Tree Farm program) in to a market demanding “sustainable” or “green” sources of wood. More information: http://www.treefarmsystem.org/cms/pages/38_66.html. You can learn more about forest certification systems here: http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/forestry/pdf/WON/wn42.pdf (note that the above-referenced change causes some of the information in this publication to be out of date).

Estate Planning Options for Family Forests

http://www.na.fs.fed.us/stewardship/estate/estate.shtml

New Advocacy Group for Woodland Owners

A National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO) has been formed to represent the interests of forest owners in Washington, D.C. The purpose of this group is similar to that of the NC Forestry Association, on a state level. More info: 703-244-8745.

Want a “First in Forestry” License Plate?

Call 919-857-4813 or go to http://www.dfr.state.nc.us/hot/ht_plate.htm.

Image from www.dfr.state.nc.us

Forestry Field Day attendees heard from experts, including NCSU faculty, consulting foresters, and the NC DFR County Ranger, about tree farm management.
Upcoming Events

Woody Biomass Workshop
Sept. 16, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Alamance Co. Cooperative Extension office, 209-C N Graham-Hopedale Rd., Burlington. Registration or more information: 336-570-6740. For accommodations for persons with disabilities, contact Mark Danieley at 336-570-6740, no later than five business days before the event.

Rural Lands Update: Practical Tax and Legal Issues Facing Clients with Property Interests in Farm, Horticultural, and Forest Land
Sept. 24. Lexington. “…designed for attorneys, foresters, accountants, financial planners, appraisers and other professionals serving clients with interests in rural landholdings. Landowners are also encouraged to attend to learn more about the issues and the relationships with the professional advisors they need.” More information: http://randolph.ces.ncsu.edu/index.php?page=events&event_id=12785 or 919-732-7539.

Present and Future Pine and Hardwood Markets
Sept. 30, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Randolph Co. Cooperative Extension office, 112 W. Walker Ave., Asheboro. Register by Sept. 29. More information: 336-318-6000. For accommodations for persons with disabilities, contact Wanda Howe at 336-318-6000, no later than five business days before the event.

NC Tree Farm Regional Workshops
South Central Piedmont (Oct. 25. Salisbury)
North Central Piedmont (Nov. 8. Yanceyville)
“Workshops are open to all forest landowners and are offered at no cost to participants. A complimentary lunch will be provided at all workshops courtesy of the NC Tree Farm Program and its sponsors. All workshops will consist of an indoor session during the morning followed by lunch and field tour of a local Certified Tree Farm in the afternoon.” More information: www.nctreefarm.org, DWWForester@aol.com, or 252-947-2345.

Working Forest Summit: A Workshop for Landowners (NC Division of Forest Resources)

2009 Randolph County Forestry Field Day
April. Plans are not complete, but tentative plans are to visit McDowell Lumber Co. and a farm where select hardwood harvesting is being or has been done. The farm also has pines, and different aspects of woodland management will be discussed.

If you have e-mail and have not yet signed up for the Randolph Forestry listserv, please consider doing so! I will send out newsletters and updates this way. If you want to get listserv updates but continue to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, that’s an option, too. To get on the list, e-mail me at maryhelen_ferguson@ncsu.edu. (If you just want to receive the newsletter, by paper, you don’t need to take any action at this time.)