



Photo by Kevin Wolz

New & Beginning Farmers

Opening up Possibilities Through Agroforestry

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NAC Director's Corner

A commentary on the status of agroforestry by Susan Stein, NAC Director

Previous *Inside Agroforestry* issues have highlighted the use of agroforestry on farms and forest lands across the United States to address a host of landowner needs.

This issue highlights the opportunities that agroforestry is providing to new and beginning farmers, a sector that received special attention in the 2014 Farm Bill. These landowners, especially those with limited resources, are taking advantage of the economic and ecological opportunities that intensively managed agroforestry systems can provide - a variety of benefits and income sources at multiple levels and over a range of time periods. Producers can harvest perennial crops from forests, trees, and shrubs; annual field crops; and/or produce livestock and dairy products on the same piece of land.

This issue of *Inside Agroforestry* showcases the use of agroforestry by new and beginning farmers through USDA programs, agroforestry leasing, coalition building, and engagement in a variety of educational opportunities. One such opportunity is our new web page presenting resources for this audience: <https://nac.unl.edu/issues/newfarmers.htm>.

We'd love to hear your stories related to this topic. If you are, or know of, a new farmer engaging in agroforestry, please let us know. Additionally, if you know of new farmers who are interested in agroforestry, please share this newsletter and our website.

News on Agroforestry Notes

Agroforestry Notes has always been an important publication series for NAC because it provides technical information and has a “how to” approach. We are excited to announce two new and updated *Agroforestry Notes*, along with other *Agroforestry Notes* news.

These new and updated *Agroforestry Notes* are available as PDFs in our new full color design – please check them out and share with anyone you think would be interested.

Riparian Forest Buffers: An Agroforestry Practice

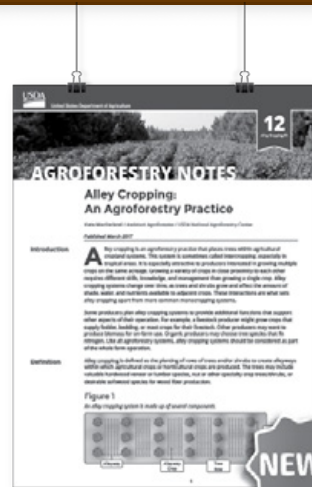
Outlines the basics of riparian forest buffers including their objectives, steps for buffer implementation, and design tools and resources.



NEW!

Alley Cropping: An Agroforestry Practice

Updates the previous version of this publication, written in 1999, with new science and approaches to alley cropping.



NEW!

As of January 1, 2017, printed copies of new and updated *Agroforestry Notes* are no longer available. Printed copies of *Agroforestry Notes* published before this date are still available. Please see our website for details:

<https://nac.unl.edu/publications/agroforestrynotes.htm>

Growing Tomorrow, Today

Lilia McFarland, USDA New and Beginning Farmer and Rancher Program

USDA is hard at work to support the next generation of food, fiber, fuel, and flora producers across the country – and that includes support for agroforestry. New and beginning agroforestry producers might be surprised by the wealth of resources that USDA has to offer.

Whether you are just starting out, or looking to grow in your agroforestry career, we hope you'll come see us at USDA.

Why invest in the next generation?

The average age of the American farmer now exceeds 58 years, and 2014 data shows that almost 10 percent of farmland in the continental United States will change hands in the next five years. These changes present a significant challenge to rural communities: how to keep communities economically vibrant and attract new farmers, ranchers, and other business owners, workers, and their families.

To meet these challenges, USDA has engaged our resources to inspire a strong, productive next generation of farmers and ranchers by improving access to land, capital and risk management tools. The hope is to increase next generation participation within key USDA programs and services that create opportunity and longevity for new and beginning farmers and ranchers. We also launched the first comprehensive, interactive online tool for new and beginning farmers, <https://newfarmers.usda.gov/>, a one-stop-shop where a new agricultural operator can access the full breadth of the Department's resources in support of their farm or ranch business.

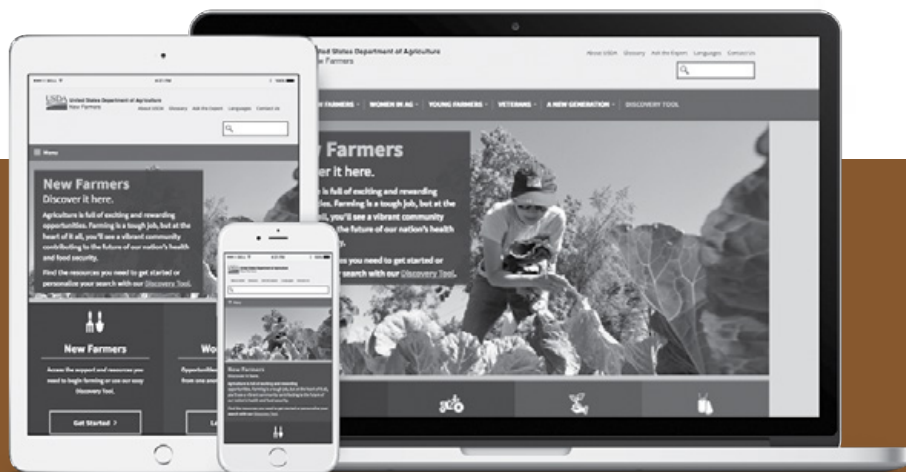
What might I qualify for?

Through partnerships with USDA, agroforestry professionals can access a variety of financing support for actively managed

farmed plots of trees or biomass production. The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), which conserves agricultural lands and wetlands, may also provide assistance with tree planting and forest management as part of the restoration process if producers are interested in putting their land into an easement. There is also significant conservation support offered through partnerships with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Farm Service Agency, including: the Conservation Reserve Program, which will pay cost share to plant trees and manage stands for the benefit of the wildlife and timber; the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), which provides payments to private forest landowners for implementing conservation practices that help improve forest health and restore wildlife habitat; and the Conservation Stewardship Program, which can potentially allow forestland owners to receive an annual land use payments for operation-level environmental benefits. In many of these programs, USDA has worked to increase participation by new and beginning farmers. For example, in 2014 about 11 percent of EQIP contracts went to new and beginning farmers; by 2016 this had increased to 27 percent. Similarly, in 2014 about 3.2 percent of applicants in the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program were first-time beginning farmers. By 2016 that number had increased to more than 22 percent.

How do I get connected?

USDA Service Centers are located across the country, throughout the communities they serve. These centers provide customers access to some of the most critical services offered by USDA—including financial assistance and conservation planning. Come see us today to find out what might be available to you and your operation! 🌱



USDA's <https://newfarmers.usda.gov> puts a wealth of USDA resources right at your fingertips.

Forest Farming for New Farmers

Holly Chittum, Virginia Tech

Forests represent 65% of the land base across the Appalachian region. Along with timber production and harvest, farming of non-timber forest products provides a potential income source for Appalachian forestland owners. There is a long history of the sale of wild harvested forest edible, medicinal, and decorative plants in this region. As consumer knowledge of and

increasing opportunities for farmers and forestland owners in Appalachia and beyond, who are interested in starting or expanding/diversifying a forest farming operation. Funded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) under the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP), the ABFFC is the

opportunities for farmer-farmer and farmer-industry representative networking. The Coalition also improves access to resource inventory and plant habitat management support services by training extension and agency personnel. Additionally, opportunities are provided to link these personnel with forest farmers so that they may learn more about these enterprises.

The project is a collaboration across multiple academic institutions, governmental, and non-governmental organizations, including the USDA Forest Service, Virginia Tech, Penn State, North Carolina State, the Maryland University of Integrative Health, Appalachian Sustainable Development, United Plant Savers, Rural Action, the Blue Ridge Woodland Growers, the USDA National Agroforestry Center, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Southern Regional Extension Forestry Network.

Year One has wrapped up at the ABFFC and much was accomplished. The coalition website is up and running at www.appalachianforestfarmers.org. It includes a substantial and growing collection of forest farming resources

As consumer knowledge of and demand for these products has grown in recent years, forest cultivation has become considered an economically viable option and a sustainable alternative to wild harvesting.

demand for these products has grown in recent years, forest cultivation has become an economically viable option and a sustainable alternative to wild harvesting. Increased demand has piqued the interest of new farmers looking for ways to diversify production or make better use of wooded land that requires minimal site preparation and keeps the forest ecosystem intact.

The Appalachian Beginning Forest Farmer Coalition (ABFFC) is dedicated to

first project supported by the BFRDP to focus specifically on forest farming.

The ABFFC promotes and expands cultivation and conservation of native non-timber forest medicinal products. It helps prepare forest farmers to supply raw material that is both forest grown verified and certified organic to nutraceutical and herbal product industries. This is achieved through technical, administrative, and market sales training, and providing



At an event hosted by Blue Ridge Woodland Growers, people interested in beginning forest farming gathered in Floyd, Virginia. Photos by Holly Chittum.



⬆️ Growers, buyers, and other partners gathered in Rutland, Ohio to learn more from each other about forest farming and the forest medicinal products supply chain.

⬆️ Participants in the Blue Ridge Woodland Growers-hosted ABFFC event learned about post-harvest handling and value added production at the Appalachian Herb Growers Consortium.

and learning tools, as well as a forum for connecting coalition members. ABFFC membership is now almost 700 strong and growing. Two newsletters have been published with a third on the way in spring 2017. Eight forest farmer training events and two external training sessions took place at multiple locations across the Appalachian region including in Virginia, Tennessee, Ohio, Kentucky, and Maryland. The high level of interest in forest farming across the region was evidenced by the strong turnout at these events.

For the first events in November 2015, people gathered together from across the forest medicinal products supply chain to discuss new opportunities for growers and buyers in collaboration with United Plant Savers, Mountain Rose Herbs, Pennsylvania Certified Organic, North Carolina State, and Penn State. Summer 2016 events took place in Kentucky and Ohio for the United Plant Savers half-day and 1-day introductory forest farming workshops with collaborators from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Pine Mountain Settlement School, and Mountain Rose Herbs. Attendees received an introduction to the forest botanicals market and supply chain and learned about a Forest Grown cost-share program funded by United Plant Savers. The Blue Ridge Woodland Growers hosted their ABFFC event in late summer in Floyd, VA. Attendees got a glimpse of the grounds and drying facilities at the Appalachian Herb Growers Consortium at the Blue Ridge Center for Chinese Medicine during a field trip. They learned about

different aspects of production from site selection and propagation to post-harvest handling and value added production.

In late August the coalition joined forces with Appalachian Sustainable Development in the forests of northeastern Tennessee near Mountain City. Participants dove into a diverse set of topics from how to make value added products like wild cherry bark syrup to forest farm management and budgeting strategies. In September, the ABFFC presented forest farming sessions at the Small Farms Conference in Virginia Beach and the International Herbal Association Conference in Columbia, Maryland. Finally, the coalition journeyed up to Rutland, Ohio and the United Plant Savers Goldenseal Sanctuary in late September with Rural Action. The weekend was full of events in the classroom and in the field. Some attendees spent time in the woods with Eric Burkhardt of Penn State and Chip Carroll of United Plant Savers discussing site selection and related topics, while others learned the process of tincture making with local herbalist Caty Crabb. Evening found everyone around the bonfire sharing thoughts about valuable ideas gleaned from the event and excitement for what is to come.

Attendee feedback on these events indicate that much was learned and that their understanding of the opportunities and challenges related to forest farming has increased substantially. Many also indicated that they were highly likely to use the information gained during the trainings in their forest farming

endeavors. Venues used for the trainings and catering were also rated as excellent!

Planning for Year Two of the project is well underway. In addition to offering several trainings that give a detailed survey of forest farming industry and practices, the ABFFC also plans to offer next-step curriculum. Participants will focus on important forest farming topics from propagation and seed sourcing, to harvest and post-harvest processing, to business planning and more in order to build depth and offer opportunities for specialization.

Information about the 2017 events is available on the ABFFC website calendar, with more to follow as the dates for future events are confirmed. In addition to planned Year Two program events, the Coalition has offered trainings and programs in partnership with other organizations. These include a preconference workshop at the Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture Future Harvest Conference in College Park, MD in January 2017, two forest farming sessions at the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture Farming for the Future Conference in State College, PA in February 2017, and a one-day introductory training at the Organic Growers School Annual Spring Conference in Asheville, NC in March 2017. The list of collaborative events is growing, so be sure to check the ABFFC website calendar often for updates. 🌱

For more information, visit:
www.appalachianforestfarmers.org

Agroforestry in the Tropics

Scott Gallant, Rancho Mastatal Sustainability Education Center

I am the co-director and farm manager at Rancho Mastatal Sustainability Education Center, located in rural Costa Rica. For the last eight years we've been designing and implementing a tropical agroforest that produces fruits, nuts, tubers, greens, and spices on our twelve acre campus. The goals of our site are three fold:

- Grow food for our kitchen.
- Investigate trial crops and techniques which may be appropriate and replicable to farmers in our region.
- Teach, practice and demonstrate agroforestry practices to the groups and visitors of our site.

Visitors to our project, mostly from temperate climates, often have trouble recognizing the agro-ecological landscape we've created. They understand that we practice organic agriculture and expect to find tidy rows of veggies; tomatoes, eggplant, and such. However, we live in a tropical rainforest, and our agricultural systems mimic the ecology of this place. The land wants to be in tree cover, and reverts to this through patterns of succession. When we work to mimic the structure and function of the forest (agroforestry) as opposed to working against it (maintaining field crops), we are simultaneously promoting ecosystem health, growing food, changing our microclimate, and reducing work. These are powerful arguments in favor of agroforestry.

Unlike most parts of the temperate United States, agroforestry has a long and uninterrupted history in the tropics.

From the deliberate transformation of the Amazon rain forest into a food forest, to modern tropical home gardens, to the shade grown coffee plantations of Central America--the peoples of tropical America have maintained a relationship with trees in agricultural systems. This cultural recognition of the benefits of trees, whether for food, fodder, fencing, energy or shade, means there is a great deal of interest in agroforestry.

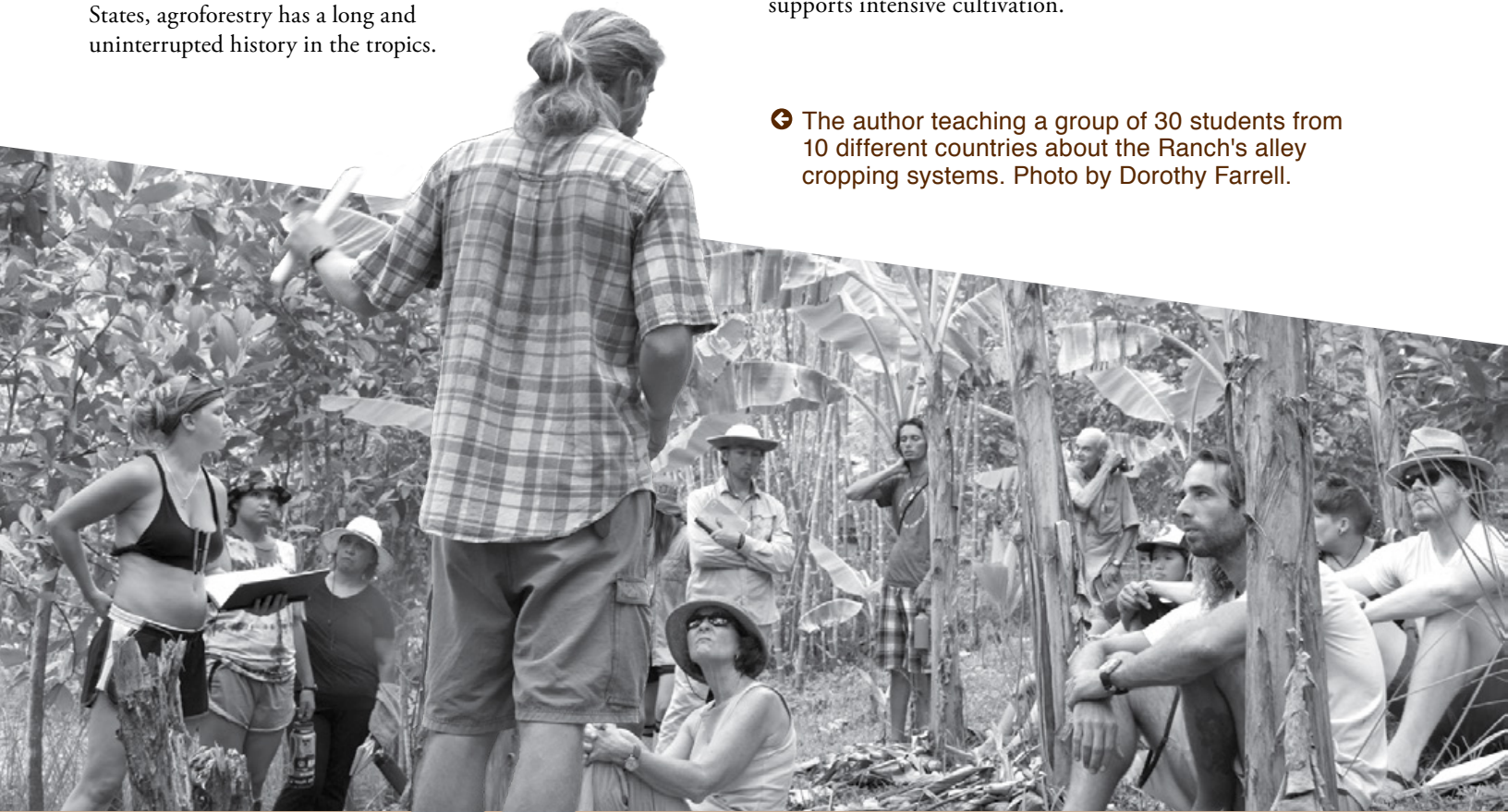
The Loss of the Trees

This interest has provided me the opportunity to work as a consultant for new farmers and projects around Costa Rica. My path to become a consultant began when I first experienced the agricultural systems of the nearby Zapaton Indigenous Reserve a few years ago. It was here that I saw the juxtaposition between field crops and tree crops, between monoculture and polyculture.

As in many rural places around the globe, farming is a dying way of life here. My partner Laura Killingbeck and I interviewed the farmers and elders of this area to learn what farming looked like 100 years ago, 50 years ago, and today; and what had caused the changes.

Fifty years ago the region was almost completely deforested, but it was also full of farming families churning out heaping quantities of staple crops such as rice, corn, and beans. The topography here is extremely steep and the climate produces over 4000 mm (157 inches) of rain per year. The clearing of the land to produce these crops, year after year, combined with heavy monsoon rains, led to the inevitable loss of soil. Today, less food is grown in the region compared to the past; the soil no longer supports intensive cultivation.

🕒 The author teaching a group of 30 students from 10 different countries about the Ranch's alley cropping systems. Photo by Dorothy Farrell.





📍 Salak palm is an ideal understory species that produces a market quality fruit. Photo by Scott Gallant.



📍 Above: Jackfruit is an easy to grow and prolific tree in tropical agroforestry systems.

Below: A nearby farmer is turning his bean monoculture into a polyculture by incorporating contours of plantain and passion fruit. Photos by: Laura Killingbek.

This reduction in production is not the fault of landscape—it is a symptom of how that landscape is managed. I contrasted this pattern with that of a neighboring farm, La Iguana Chocolate. They maintain a four hectare planting of cacao trees, with a leguminous tree overstory, a classic agroforestry pattern. The soil under these trees is deep, black, and full of life. Seeing this convinced me that the trees of this landscape were the key to bringing back the agricultural life of our region.

Consultation Work around the Country

In 2014, landscape designer Rachel Jackson and I co-founded the Rancho Mastatal Design/Build Collective in order to provide support for landowners who want to implement agroforestry practices.

Our clients to date fit a common pattern; they have recently purchased land that was previously cattle pasture. Usually it is located on steep hillsides, in high rainfall areas. Rarely are they working with quality agricultural soils. It is clear to our clients that most of their land is not suitable for traditional row crop agriculture or cattle, but they need support to move beyond these models. We create conceptual master plans and provide advice on:

- The big picture patterns of land renewal
- How to take advantage of specific land features
- Where to site different systems (timber, tree crops, infrastructure, roads, etc)
- Which crops are economically viable
- How to source, layout, plant, and manage different crops
- Goal setting and project implementation



These needs expressed by beginning farmers in Costa Rica are similar to those of beginning farmers everywhere, including the U.S. It is quality information and not just money that makes the difference.

The agroforestry movement in Costa Rica is strong. It walks hand-in-hand with a vibrant conservation ethic, and various agroforestry systems are supported by government subsidies for tree planting. Our hope as designers is to leverage all of the above and leave our clients with a plan to create their own agro-ecosystems. 🌱

Military Veteran Farmers Practicing Agroforestry

Hyelee Won, University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry

Military veterans and agroforestry practice may seem like an uncommon combination, but there are a lot of veterans in rural America who could benefit from becoming involved in the agriculture industry.

The Veteran Farmer Reserve Program, based at the Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture, is for those interested in exploring agriculture without committing to a full-time training program. This 12-month program meets one weekend a month, with an additional service learning commitment of 40 hours of hands-on farm work at Arcadia during 2017. Reserve Farmers receive hands-on training at Arcadia's expanding farm in Alexandria, VA; visit working livestock, greenhouse, organic, and other farms on field trips; and receive classroom instruction on topics ranging from pest control to marketing and farm business

planning. According to Arcadia, military veterans' service experience involving leadership and independence but also collaboration and adaptation gives them the physical and mental toughness to be successful in the agriculture industry.

Laron Murrell is a U.S. Army veteran who has served two tours in Iraq. Murrell was a recent participant at the Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture as a full-time veteran farm fellow.

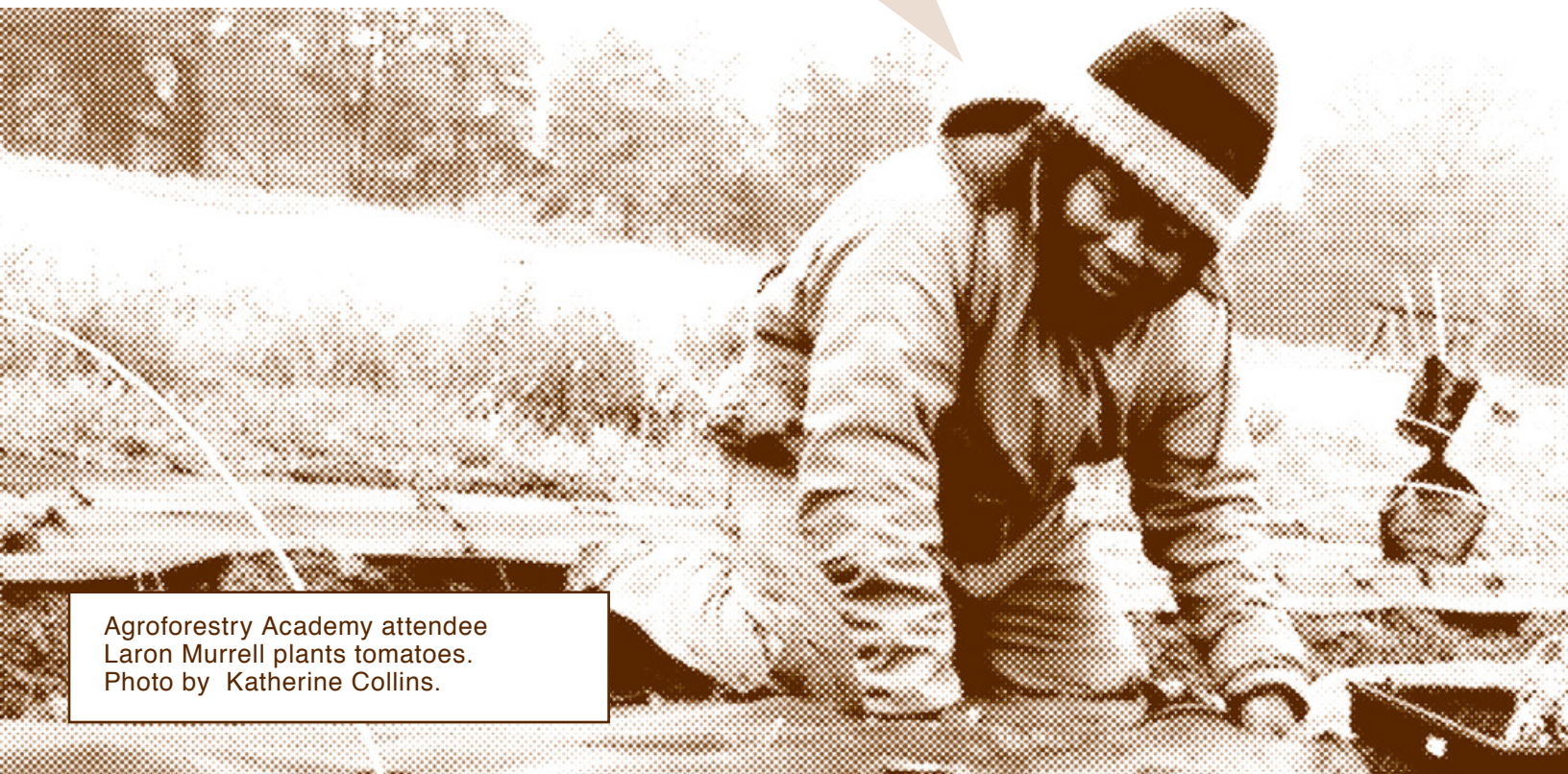
"I was doing a program at Arcadia as a part of a veterans and farmers program to learn more about agriculture. Agroforestry was something that I always took an interest in," Murrell said.

Murrell is interested in vegetable production, agroforestry, high tunnel production and possibly some livestock, and they are all ways he can aid the nation in securing food. With his training from Arcadia's Farmer Training Program,

Murrell hopes to establish his own farm business in North Carolina.

Tony Colosimo left the military with a 10 percent service-connected disability after serving eight years in the U.S. Army Reserve. Laron Murrell is a U.S. Army veteran who has served two tours in Iraq. Like Murrell, he

I was doing a program at Arcadia as a part of a veterans and farmers program to learn more about agriculture. Agroforestry was something that I always took an interest in.



Agroforestry Academy attendee Laron Murrell plants tomatoes. Photo by Katherine Collins.

also became involved with agroforestry after leaving the military.

Colosimo earned a nursing degree after serving in the military. While he and his wife both had careers in the city, they had a plan to retire when they turned 55 years old for a more engaging lifestyle that would bring them into contact with a community.

“Agriculture met our requirements, so we bought a piece of property that had been in my wife’s family since 1875 and got started,” Colosimo said.

Starting out can be challenging, but there are many resources that can provide the help that a military veteran new to farming may need. Colosimo became

interested in chestnut trees when he first started his research for his farm.

“The more we looked into it, the better it sounded. Planting trees also resonated with my inner Boy Scout,” Colosimo said.

Colosimo and his wife will be celebrating 25 years of marriage this year. They have planted 200 chestnut trees and 200 pawpaw trees together. “Agroforestry has been a framework for me to analyze my property and draw up a plan to fulfill its full potential.” Colosimo said.

Both Murell and Colosimo have graduated from the Agroforestry Academy that is held each year by the University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry. Scholarships are available for military veterans. 🌱

For more information on Arcadia's Veteran Farmer Program, visit:

<http://arcadiafood.org/veteran-farmer-program>

For more information on the Agroforestry Academy, visit:

www.centerforagroforestry.org/academy

8

Common Characteristics of Military Personnel

1. Dependability
2. Integrity
3. Decision-making
4. Looking Out for Others
5. Initiative
6. Tenacity
7. Professional Presence
8. Adaptability

A New Lease on Life with Agroforestry

Matt Stannard, Farm Commons

For beginning farmers, the leasing process can be the beginning of an ongoing relationship with land and others who care about it.

With nearly 40% of all farmland under a lease, there's a good chance that farmers entering the world of agroforestry will also enter the world of agricultural leases. Leases are private contracts granting a farmer-tenant the right to occupy and use a landowner's property for agricultural purposes. In most instances, an agricultural lease isn't terribly complex. The rights conveyed to the farmer-tenant are typically exclusive (only the farmer can occupy and use the property), and generally binding on future landowners. Leases are also usually transferable between farmer/operators. Of course, these and all other provisions can be modified if the parties want different terms.

Rather than a legal formality, the lease can facilitate a deeper relationship between two parties connected to the land.

Leasing allows new farmers access to land—including land well-suited to agroforestry—that they could not otherwise farm without paying a great deal of money upfront. Nevertheless, while beginning farmers may be excited about the prospect of agroforestry, they may be much less excited about the prospect of negotiating and signing a lease. They may see the process as an unpleasant hurdle to overcome in order to get to the sweet spot of working the land.

While it's understandable to be put off by legal matters, there are benefits to framing the leasing process in a more holistic light. Rather than a legal formality, the lease can facilitate a deeper relationship between two parties connected to the land. More than just a legal agreement; an agricultural lease is a dialogue between landowner and farmer. There's a good chance that both parties care about the land and have an interest in looking out for one another because of the long-term benefits agroforestry provides. In turn, agroforestry ventures are the perfect opportunity to foster a long term relationship with the landowner, via the lease agreement.

Understanding the landowner's motivation for engaging agroforestry producers is the perfect starting point. A landowner may appreciate the ecological benefits of agroforestry or seek the aesthetic benefits of a more permanent agricultural landscape. A long-term lease gets the landowner a tenant farmer they can count on, and a supplemental source of income. The property's value has potential to increase over the years due to the improved soil and ecological balance. By exploring in detail the motivations of potential landlords, lessees can build a solid foundation for a shared vision for an agroforestry venture.

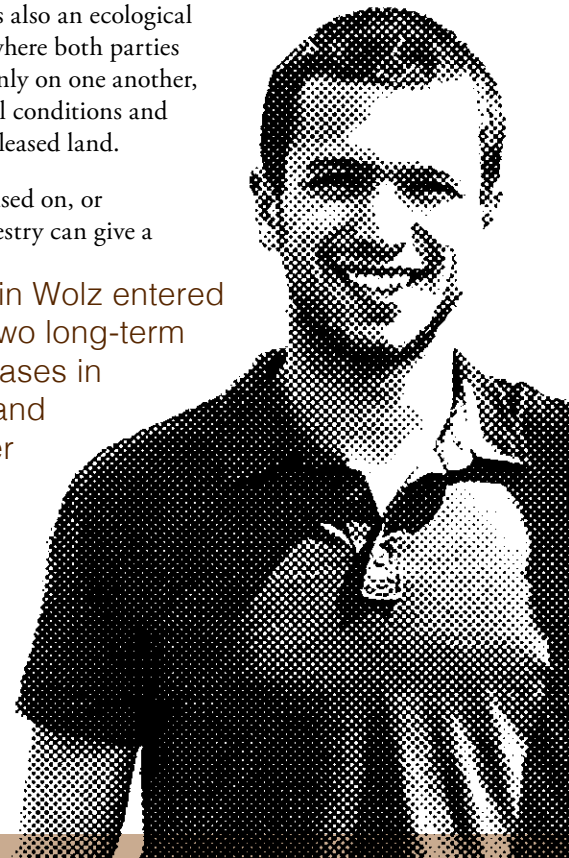
Since nature's processes run longer than a few years, an agroforestry lease mirrors this long-term ecological view. The best lease for both landowner and producer often covers at least a few years and up to several decades. The success of such an enduring relationship rests on the details. Drafting rental rates, management provisions, and the division of risk between parties, to name just a few examples, requires careful consideration of the exact plants and animals involved. For example, a landlord and producer may need to agree on a penalty to be assessed against the landlord if the landlord cancels a long-term lease early. A fair penalty takes into account the investment the producer makes in the land. Someone planning to forage for mushrooms makes little to no investment so a small penalty is reasonable. A farmer with thousands of dollars' worth of hazelnut plants intended for 50 years' worth of production will expect something quite different if the landlord cancels the lease after 5 years.

Just like any long-term relationship, a crafting a successful lease is time-consuming and requires mental energy. The parties must address questions like who pays for upfront purchases and expenses, how to account for return on investment over time, whether payment will be made through "cash rent," crop share payments, or a combination of both, and how to account for the value of mature trees, land improvements made by the tenant at the end of the lease.

Tough issues—including worst-case scenarios—will need to be discussed in the leasing process. But through that process, both parties will learn more about the land they are, in essence, sharing. Because agroforestry is long-term, place-specific, and dependent on living ecosystems, the leasing process is also an ecological education process, where both parties are dependent not only on one another, but on the ecological conditions and requirements of the leased land.

A long-term lease based on, or inclusive of, agroforestry can give a

Kevin Wolz entered into two long-term agroforestry leases in the Midwest and aspires to enter more leases and other long-term collaborative agroforestry ventures in the years to come.



farmer access to affordable long-term tenure of land, providing a valuable alternative structure in a farming economy all-too-frequently based on tenuous short-term expectations. Added benefits include the opportunity to share the innovation of agroforestry practices with the landowner and others in the local farming network, and to promote greater levels of sustainability in agriculture. A long-term agricultural lease is truly a win-win for farmers, landowners, and the practice of sustainable farming. ‡

For more information, see:

Erin Hannum, *Inspirations for Creating a Long-Term Agricultural Lease for Agroforestry: A Workbook, Farm Commons*, June 29, 2016, available through:

www.farmcommons.org

In Brief...

A periodic summary of agroforestry-related journal articles

John S. Weedon, Connecticut Farmland Trust

Expand or Not to Expand the Farm? Depends on Age

Using NASS Census of Agriculture data, Katchova and Ahearn (2016) looked at patterns in land ownership, leasing, and farm size over time with a cohort of 830,404 farms identified in the 2002, 2007, and 2012 census. Their analysis revealed that farmers of aged 35 and under, with 10 or fewer years of experience, were more likely to expand by buying and/or renting land. The authors suggest that these younger beginning farmers may be driven to expand in order to make more money so they can abandon their non-farm occupations. Older beginning farmers tend to buy small operations and settle in; farming is a second or third career and the desire to farm is motivated by a lifestyle choice or investment goals. The authors suggest that policy and outreach efforts differentiate between younger and older beginning farmers. Younger beginning farmers need capital to purchase more land and infrastructure; older beginning farmers need assistance to enter the field and maintain their operations.

AGROFORESTRY IMPLICATIONS: Selling agroforestry to beginning farmers may require different strategies based on farmers' age. Younger beginning farmers may be attracted to agroforestry's promise of a broad and deep income stream from multiple products over different time periods. Older beginning farmers, who are less driven by economic concerns, may respond to agroforestry's other benefits such as aesthetics or conservation.

Katchova AL, Ahearn MC. 2016. Dynamics of farmland ownership and leasing: implications for young and beginning farmers. Appl Econ Perspect Pol. 38(2):334-350.

Farm succession planning: multigenerational farmers versus first generation farmers

The paper's authors, Inwood and Bean (2013) observe that many efforts to recruit and retain family farmers and protect farmland fail to recognize that farmers are a heterogeneous population with differing economic and social values. Reviewing 269 farmer surveys and conducting 90 farmer interviews, the investigators examined how two subgroups of farmers – “multigeneration” and “first generation” - view farm structure and succession planning. Multigeneration farmers, young or old, will typically do “whatever it takes” to identify individuals to take over the farm. This may be because they grew up in households that value a strong attachment to the farm and farming as a way of life. With first generation farmers, that urgency to pass the farm onto heirs or others is weak as they often believe it is “too early to tell” if the operation will be sustainable enough to pass onto the next generation. This attitude many change over time; as some first generation farmers indicated in interviews, they were starting to think of their farm as a meaningful business enterprise.

AGROFORESTRY IMPLICATIONS: Because many agroforestry production systems require long lead times, farm succession planning is important to help ensure an ongoing operation. Promoting succession planning requires customized outreach efforts based on differing values and attitudes of various farmer sub-groups.

Inwood S, Clark JK, Bean M. 2013. Differing values of multigeneration and first-generation farmers: their influence on the structure of agriculture at the rural-urban interface. Rural Sociol. 78(3):346-370.

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Upcoming Events

May 12-13, 2017

Agroforestry Trainings for
Military Veterans
Montour Falls, NY
bit.ly/2f8O6E6

June 27-29, 2017

North American
Agroforestry Conference
Blacksburg, VA
www.regonline.com/naac2017

July 12-14, 2017

The Future of Ginseng and
Forest Botanicals
Morgantown, WV
bit.ly/2pKIWPF

For more upcoming events, visit our website calendar: nac.unl.edu/events

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<https://nac.unl.edu>



NAC Mission

The USDA National Agroforestry Center (NAC) is a partnership of the Forest Service (Research & Development and State & Private Forestry) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. NAC's staff is located at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE. NAC's purpose is to accelerate the development and application of agroforestry technologies to attain more economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable land use systems by working with a national network of partners and cooperators to conduct research, develop technologies and tools, establish demonstrations, and provide useful information to natural resource professionals.

USDA Non-Discrimination Policy

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the

responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at https://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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