

MA/RI-TACF Quarterly Meeting July 25, 2010
 Lunenburg, MA - Public Library

GROWERS MEETING 11 - 12:30

Jamie Donalds, President, Yvonne Federowicz, Vice President, Kathy Desjardin, Secretary, Mike Novack, Treasurer, Kendra Gurney, Science Coordinator, Lois Melican, Denis Melican, Charlotte Zampini, , Brad Smith, Brian Clarke, Rich Hoffman, Rufin VanBossuyt, Guy Shepard , Bruce Spencer, John Emery, Mike Meixsell, Rich Hoffman

<p>Spring & summer activities</p>	
<p>Mother Tree Pollinations</p>	<p>Four trees were pollinated this year (Nanking pollen) - RI: Coventry, Cranston and E.Greenwich (yf, cz) and MA: one tree in Wayland. John Emery pollinated his tree.</p>
<p>Orchard Inoculations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LINCOLN orchard is done - there are some selections ● John Emery's 2 orchards were done - Wayland had a small group of trees to select - a few 3s with some 2'5 and 3s in the 2nd orchard - how many trees to keep in an orchard - Mike Novak says at least 2. Other orchard was contaminated - possible dilution of line bags on crown probable contamination. 1 in 12 trees looked strong ● Sterling and Grafton orchards were done this year. There is lots of brush to be dealt with as a result, raising the question of "what to do with it". Some chapter gives it to a bio-fuel company. E Greenwich was not pre-bagged we should be OK - potentially 3 or 4 lines of Nanking. ● Charlotte said that the Lincoln inoculations went well and Adam has been trained. ● Wrentham about ½ of the trees were done (second half completed later) ● Grafton was inoculated ● Medway - 3 lines were done there. ● 4 people is a great team for inoculation
<p>Ratings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jamie said if you've rated it twice and know what it is, what did you decide to do with 5s and 4s? ● Kendra said it can get ""funkier"" in free range -sometimes a 3.5 looks better than anything else. ● John E said he would cull them back in November. He had sufficient numbers and did not have to take

	<p>anything less than a 3. They discussed each tree as they went along and took their time as they were learning. Kendra will work with Fred more on this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wayland is basically done except for a few that will be eliminated later. ● Lincoln a has few trees ● Wrentham - started pruning and culling trees to help maintain because it looked disordered. Where culling was done in Wayland 6 in one line and 7 in another that were left - maybe around 3 - 4 will be left in all ● Lincoln 10 - 12 per line left - morphological study of trees was done ● KG how many yeses on list of 16 traits. She screens for blight resistance first, then look for Chinese/American characteristics ● Jamie found trees that looked Chinese because of hairs
Rouging out trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jamie said in terms of rouging out the orchard, trees are being taken out in 3 stages: first the branches then cut the tree 3 ft up then take a chain saw to the stump. ● John Emery has not gotten a chipper yet, but probably should - there's no rush
Damage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mike Novak's trees got frosted as they were leafing out and lost their flower buds.
Brush Removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How to get rid of brush - chip, stack RVB says you can get a lot in a truck if you load it properly Logs could be given to Rich Giordano at OSV.
Pollen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Any B2 pollen? Charlotte Z says she usually gets a pedigree with the pollen – Kendra G has a list of what is what. Either BC3 or BC4
Fall Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● John E says 2011 will bring a good crop of nuts from his orchard - he has lots of male blooms now, but not too many females. ● Tower Hill is iffy as Brad did not get to emasculate each plant at the right time.

<p>Fall Planting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jamie D says fall planting may be better ● Kendra G said the only fall planting she saw was seedling. ● Rufin said direct planting in the fall is not the way to go due to rodents. Vole population tunneled right under the nut/ ● High density planting can cause huge losses ● MN ways we have to find a good way to protect the nuts after they are planted ● KG says even tree protection did not always work. ● Jamie D asked whether we should stay with the same method we used to use for research orchards. ● Mike N says that when they are pretty far apart, but at high density animals could learn this. ● Kendra G says Penn planted the same way, direct seeding using 2 foot rigid plastic centers. They mark each source with fiberglass stakes RIGID PLASTIC SHELTER JD says blue ex maybe better ● Sarah says bare root is easy but takes 2 people. ● JD says the volume of nuts is greater than anything we've ever done so far, so ● Kendra G says go with our standard planting practices for now. ● Guy S asked if hardware cloth works better KG says that when branches grow through his it difficult to handle. ● At this density deer fencing is better MN ● Electric fence solar powered like for horses - KG says don't use horse fence because deer can jump this - don-t make it very visible.
<p>Irrigation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Roy sent email said that irrigation is partially done and orchard has been extended for second line - work still needs to be done westerly solid tubes are in - still need connectors ● CZ says Adam can help with adding to irrigation one or two days a week on Wed & Fri he is off from his other job then - just let Charlotte know.
<p>Intern/volunteer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stephanie is looking for more hours for her internship for her Master's degree – will do data entry - give Charlotte some input - asked if orchards Conway, Stockbridge have not been rated like – may need help fertilizing with organic fertilizer ● Rufin talked w. Craig and orchard is getting mowed

	<p>and trees are all above deer browse. Hollytone will work in an organic orchard. If we can give moral support to this orchard it would be good.</p>
Database Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● KG says date base project is back on track and they need to know how to get chapter data inputted into the database. This should be wrapped up by the end of August. WE still have hand written data, this must be changed and entered/.
AFTERNOON MEETING	
<p>Motion was made to approve the minutes of the spring meeting. Minutes are mailed out via email and are on the website.</p>	
Treasurer's Report	<p>Revenue statement is not entirely correct - look at balance sheet - outstanding liability is due to credit card bill which does not get to Mike N before this report was printed. Jamie D bought fertilizer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We are up close to \$2000 we are getting more memberships than in the past. ● Intern was granted a dollar amount rather than a time - it would be approx 3 months. He is going back to Suffolk U but will be able to take time off to work more if we need it/. ● Jamie D wanted to know if we would have money left over next year. We've spent \$900 for about one month of work. Do we transfer into general funds quarterly or annually? ● Jamie D prefers quarterly, or before each board meeting. ● MN says that all our expenses for inoculations are during one quarter. Last quarter has no expense. We should do a 3rd quarter. ● Chain saw cost will go under inoculation. Under \$400 does not go under capital expenses and the cost was \$220.86. ,k
Secretary's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We have 315 members as of June ● Worcester County Conservation Assn. gave \$30

	<p>from sale of chestnut trees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is a fee of \$185 for permission to mail at a non-profit cost. Otherwise we should have to the only list we are sending is the newsletter maybe we should see the presorted rate rather than pay \$185. It depends upon how many mailing we do in one year. We decided not to renew for now.
Trustees of Reservations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rufin said that the Trustees of Reservations (demonstration orchard that they were interested in us using was surrounded by large trees, another area was a field that is overgrown with bittersweet and needed quite a bit of site
ACF Journal & Newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jamie would rather use the Bark and the Journal for getting news out, rather than do our own newsletter. Kathy says that many people would prefer a digital newsletter. It was decided to skip this and see if national can get the info out through these other sources.
Misc. orchard news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A note from Luella King from Guilford Ct Conservation Commission had news about a tree near museum in RI ● Frank Vanderberg from Blanford, MA who planted chestnuts, will be culling this fall - these are 7' + and he wondered if anyone wanted to look at these trees. They were probably planted by Susan and Gerry Cormier. Blandord is the lowest point on the MassPike. Mike Novak says this will eventually be very important. Cold hardiness seed is hardy, however southern grown plants are not ● Conway - DCR has gotten this into fairly good shape. There are very different sizes of trees. It's in good shape and CZ says that trees were growing through wire cages - a very old planting of BC2 from 1999, CZ has data from 2 years ago, now we have to check again and schedule for inoculating.
Recognition sign for members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Signs – made to recognize people in the foundation - what size would we like to make them? Jamie says a plaque 8 ½ x 5 would be good. Guy can come up with anything we want. We should decide by the fall meeting. ● Mike N says the board does not have to vote on the artistic design. Rufin mentioned utility companies that we should use.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Grid, Nstar Boston, and Tree Preservation should all get plaques. Guy can send Kathy a wood burned sign. These will be personalized for each individual. ● National Grid & contractors will get photos of pollination which can be printed in their newsletters. Make sure pictures are OK before sending them out. We should get in touch with their PR department so that when we get the plaques we can get this to them so they can publicize this. We should be able to do this at our annual meeting.
<p>Restoration Chestnut Plantings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 59 nuts were sent to us and have been planted. ● We could plant these out at least 3 in each location so they produce. If it's a good visibility, we could plant 4 - 5 in high visibility to plant. ● Bruce says that Worcester would be a good place to plant. Parks in Worcester may be good/ we have to worry about the germplasm agreement, then getting information back about the trees that we give them. We will probably have to keep the data on these .We can do 10 plantings of 5. ● Rufin says there will be lots of nut available as time goes by. ● We should start a list-other states have a priority list of these nuts - 2 nuts were raffled off at the branch mtg. criteria was set for plantings ● OSV has sites for chestnuts and Rich Giordanno of OSV has an orchard. We could offer more nuts to OSV ● Other locations include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tower Hill - honoring John Trexler we could donate 5 seedlings to Tower Hill. Tower 2. OSV- Lois 3. Worcester Jamie 4. Moore SP - Lois 5. Fish & Wildlife - Rufin 6. Arnold Arboretum -Kendra 7. Walden Woods - John Emery 8. Gilbert Stuart -Yvonne 9. River bend farm -Lois away from the seed orchard 10. Sudbury Valley foundation - John Emery <p>Our e minimum qualifications are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We know where they are 2. Germplasm agreement is signed

	<p>3. Someone will report annually on size, height, diameter, and blight; and will fill out a reporting sheet once year for 5 years, then every five years after that.</p> <p>These trees will have to be tracked over a long time.</p>
Other possible locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sudbury Valley Trustees - cover Assabet and concord rivers on small pieces of property - headquarter is on Sudbury River ● Guy L sits on a board of forestry and they may not be interested from the standpoint of another tree they would have to take care of - maybe urban forestry may be a better place or group, at least have a conversation with them ● Freetown Forest has lost all its oaks 4000 5000 acres have big open areas and chestnuts would do well there. ● Yvonne F has been in touch with someone near the Scituate River where lots of trees had to be taken down. Maybe this would be a place for a forest planting. Jamie D says we can use open pollinated nuts. If we do several hundred trees, some of these may be resistant. We have plenty of nuts for mass plantings Kendra G will get more information about plantings to us. Designs for plantings will be talked about at the national level and there should be some intermediate ground for these test plantings. There are many things they will be looking at. ● The Sudbury Foundation should not be over looked; they may have sites that are suitable, like at an office or something.
Election information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yvonne will be president for the next 3 years and the Board representative. Lois will be vice-president and will work with Yvonne and Jamie to put together a committee for this.
Annual Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ANNUAL MEETING November 13, 2010 ● Where and who will speak? ● Would Brad like to do a newcomers meeting again? ● Last year we tried to have Sara Fitzsimmons come and talk about the trip to China. She is willing to plan her trip around our annual meeting. Brad has a small chestnut presentation of Europe. Kendra said that Lynn Risky Kenney was going to be a Ct speaker. She is in Kentucky and Kendra will send her contact information.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sturbridge - could we approach OSV for an annual meeting? Lois will ask – about this and also check with the Doyle Center in Leominster, a property of Trustees of Reservations.
Seed Orchards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We need folks to coordinate seed orchard efforts; this is up in the air. ● John Emery was recruited as a breeding orchard coordinator who could work with John Mirick on this. John E. said he could use help with the legal side. Jamie D said we will need someone especially for next year. Jamie will be freed up next year and will be available. ● Moore S.P. could use a nudge on the seed orchard, possibly a call to the Director. We had sent a formal letter to someone who is now retired. <p>Jamie could send another letter - is concerned about timing. Let's find out what they need to answer their concerns and see what we need to do. (NOTE, THE DCR COMMISSIONER CAME TO MOORE S.P. RECENTLT TO CHECK OUT THE PROJECT – NEXT STEP IS TO GET DIRECTOR GEIGIS/LEGAL TO SIGN THE MOU.</p>
Science Coordinator Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National main office has a new membership called “donor perfect” online. It will take about a month to get up and running. Presidents may be getting reports in a different manner. ● Tree database project has updated and we have a grant to cover the cost of this. It is moving along, but will be about a year before this is ready. ● New magazine is replacing the Bark. There will be an online place to send info, with email sign up. The new magazine will be coming out every other month and will be looking for articles. (there was a question about volume and issue number) Bryan want to do 2 science based articles per year, the others will be more basic. The bark will be a chapter activity letter. Meghan is in charge of articles for this ● Judy A sent TACF merchandise to have on hand and Kendra said we can borrow things and use them at events and she will revamp merchandise Jamie D said it would be great to have this merchandise for the annual meeting. ● Do we have new brochures? We should order some for the annual meeting

Inoculums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● When Sarah comes in November her and Kendra will work on using autoclave and inoculants cultures that they can keep alive during the inoculation process.
Old Sturbridge Village planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We met with Rich Giordano on May and 2 restoration chestnuts were planted upon a bluff right on a trail. A rough hewn cage was built to keep wildlife. The nuts came from Greg Miller in Ohio and had gall wasp, Greg sent out information about what to do about this. The trees are about 2 feet from each other. There are other trees on the OSV common that are dying and they may need more trees to plant. The planting was part of their tour that day and we got the chance to talk about our mission and they have some great signs. Could they sell the book? We should talk with their bookstore about this. We may want to think about the burs before putting them on the common. Rufin said there are other good sites in the village for plantings. ● OSV has a great research lab and we should see if Rich would be willing to give a talk how did chestnut fit into agrarian lifestyle in the past. The Pequot Museum would also be a good resource for that
Restoration Branch events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elizabeth Hammond and John Mirick hosted a branch event at John's home in Princeton, MA. This was put together by E Hammond and. about 10 people came, tickets were \$40. Brad gave a presentation then they toured John's orchard. Everyone involved wants to do this again year.
Rhode Island news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The South Kingstown folks are doing a talk for some people who were donors sin the past - this is a great orchard all done with donations. Not quite sure about what they are looking to expand, a seed orchard? ● Westerly is still difficult, and deer are a new problem there. ● There's the issue of adding RI to the official title of our chapter. Do we need a motion to do this? There's some red tape with MA and we need to talk with National - what is the benefit for us? ● Mike N said that when I file in the spring, we are allowed to include bylaw change, for not extra fee. Form PC (public charities) John Mirick may be the

	<p>person to ask about this. JD said we should bring this to National to see what we must to this. CZ said just get in touch with national; M.Miexell said the name change would change the charter. The state of mass and federal would have to know about this - it is a bylaw change - we may need a different quorum for voting</p>
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53 nuts so far -

Tower Hill planting should be done on September

Trinity College

UPDATES FROM FALL MEETING OF OCTOBER 24

Short meeting and update from things like how lab is going and there was not too much covered. One of the charity orgs said there has to be 3 meetings a years and not too much was covered.

Janet Griffin has a property on Long Pond and has a CR with the

YF asked where nuts will go - possibilities are RI and Grafton

Conway orchard? Working on critical stuff like cutting trees

RVB says Quabbin tree had a backhoe back into it and it got blight from that.

JE should have 6 lines

Worthington is a very small orchard with just one line, Charlotte will contact them. This was a duplication orchard. Next year at least 2/3 of the orchards will be ready to be inoculated.

Meeting ended approx. 4pm