



CHESTNUT CHAT SERIES:
CHAT 08: USING DRONES TO BENEFIT CHESTNUT RESTORATION
DATE: FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2020

ORIGINATOR	QUESTION / COMMENT
Jim English to All panelists	Have him dial in by phone and use that as his audio.
Jim English to All panelists	He may then need to mute the audio on his video connection if he uses his phone for audio to prevent feedback.
Sara Fitzsimmons	https://photos.smugmug.com/photos/i-9VtpJxS/2/09072349/1920/i-9VtpJxS-1920.mp4
Robbie to All panelists	Thanks Sara... you're coming in just fine. and Drone Video was AMAZING
Sara Fitzsimmons	Thanks, Robbie!
Doug Gillis to All panelists	Japanese are experimenting with using soap bubbles treated with pollen to pollinate plants. "I'm for every blowing bubbles..."
Steve Johnstonbaugh to All panelists	Helium in a balloon above the drone - good idea Sarah! Adds lift, easier to control - just don't shoot the drone
Alex Young to All panelists	Lift the helium will interfere with the drone flight controller.
John Wenderoth	After some brief attempts to get aerial photos of the Tyler orchard, I had a conversation with Dick Will, who is a past president and board member of TACF. Dick also piloted small aircraft in the past. Dick had made earlier comments about flying over forested area at appropriate times to locate larger surviving chestnuts during the flowering season. Dick's suggestion to me was to locate are promising area where chestnuts might be surviving and pilots who would help explore a forested area in exchange for the cost of fuel. I've asked other friends who are pilots, if paying for fuel would be an incentive to encourage pilots to help us explore a potentially search in the area where they fly.
Jack Rogers	Which drone control software are you guys using?
Powdermill Nature Reserve to All panelists	Fixed wing drones can be \$5k to \$ 30k
Sara Fitzsimmons	https://photos.smugmug.com/photos/i-9VtpJxS/2/09072349/1920/i-9VtpJxS-1920.mp4
Powdermill Nature Reserve to All panelists	FYI: Here at Powdermill Nature Reserve, we have actually flown drones equipped with a multispectral camera over a chestnut grove in Westmoreland County, PA on Chestnut Ridge. We are hoping to analyze this data to determine if it can be used for quantifying chestnut health and growth. more to come hopefully.
Donna to All panelists	In high school we raised and sold certified crown vetch seed. My father always said he wanted the plant to be near death because it stimulates seed production. The urge to procreate is paramount in all species.
Donna to All panelists	An ultra-light is a small air craft that does not require a full pilot's license.
Scott Laseter to All panelists	Is the increased risk of blight associated with any human interaction with the trees? Is there a way to cut down that risk?



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Hannah Pilkey to All panelists	Fun fact about chestnut honey and bees! The nectar bees collect is found in the male flowers and not female flowers, which is typically where we think of nectar being located in most flowering plants. I've read in the literature somewhere that nectar in the male flowers could be a remnant of being previously insect pollinated, but chestnut transitioned to being wind pollinated with evolution.
Hannah Pilkey to All panelists	Sorry for the delay, slow typer
Steve Johnstonbaugh to All panelists	Sara, will you please send me the contact info for the Powdermill person - or ask them to contact me. gsjbaugh@verizon.net

