

Woodland Owner Notes eNewsletter



Cogongrass forms large root mats with "silky" white seed heads.

Cogongrass, Even Worse than Kudzu

[Cogongrass](#) is native to Asia and has become invasive in every continent except Antarctica. It is suspected to have first arrived in the U.S. near Mobile, AL in the early 1900s as packing material for oranges shipped from Japan. It was later intentionally introduced for animal feed and soil stabilization. Today, Cogongrass continues to spread across the Southeast.

The first detection of Cogongrass in North Carolina was in Pender County in 2012. Subsequent finds in Stanly, Martin, Scotland, Wake, and the two additional sites in Pender County indicate that this weed is not going away without a fight. At each location, the NCDA&CS and NC Forest Service attempt to eradicate the weed using a combination of herbicide, fire, and mowing. For more information about the hunt and fight against Cogongrass, visit the [NCDA&CS Cogongrass webpage](#).

According to Charlotte Glen of the NC Cooperative Extension Service in Pender County, exotic plants like Cogongrass can '*...invade natural areas and replace native plants, wiping out the animals that depend on those plants for food and shelter. They quickly dominate large areas and don't let go, permanently reducing biodiversity and degrading natural ecosystems. Some further threaten human and animal health by harboring insect pests or creating fire hazards.*'

So, if you see those silky white seed heads, under your trees or in nearby openings, please consider reporting a suspected Cogongrass infestation to the NCDA&CS Weed Specialist, Bridget Lassiter at (919) 707-3749, newpest@ncagr.gov; or to your local [NC Forest Service county office](#).

Article and photo sources: Bridget Lassiter, NCDA&CS; Kelly Oten, NC Forest Service; Charlotte Glen, Pender County Cooperative Extension Service.

Yes, Santa, Christmas Trees do Grow in Eastern North Carolina!

Are you a Christmas tree grower in the Piedmont or eastern region of North Carolina? Or, have you ever considered becoming one?



The [Eastern North Carolina Christmas Tree Growers Association \(ENCCTGA\)](#) members are Christmas tree growers with businesses east of the mountains of North Carolina. In addition to current growers, membership is open to vendors and employees of public agencies serving the industry.

ENCCTGA will hold its Fall Meeting in Pittsboro, NC on September 9, 2017. This will be a great opportunity for established growers along with those interested in this type of business. Christmas tree species adapted to the flatter and warmer areas of North Carolina are a viable business. Although this type of tree farm is not considered a forest product, this type of land use supports "Real Trees NC" and the overall health of green business in North Carolina.

Fall Meeting Details

Registration will begin at 8:30 located at Meadowview Farms, 1282 Hanks Chapel Road, Pittsboro, NC. All money for registration and / or dues will be collected at the farm location only. After the farm tour at Al and Teri Phillips farm we will proceed with the meeting at the Chatham County Library in Pittsboro, NC for the remainder of the day. For details and to register, please call Sherry Peele at 919-437-6546 by September 5, 2017.

Noteworthy Forestry Publications

Available to download, print and share - just click the title and read on.



[Southern Foresters' Observations of Threats to Forest Health and Implications for Continuing Education](#)

The Southern Forest Futures report details that southern forests experience several threats to health and productivity (e.g., warming temperatures, invasive plants, pest infestations), and suggests that these threats are expected to increasingly stress forests through the 21st century. Threats to forest health exact an economic, conservation, and aesthetic toll on southern forests with impacts to the wood products industry, ecosystem services, outdoor recreation, and threatened and endangered species. This publication addresses the specific observations and the resulting concerns that scientists have for forest health in our region. These observations translate into specific priorities for forest landowner education in the future.

[Sample Timber Sale Contract \(Part 2 of our Selling Timber Publications\)](#)

This publication offers an example of a timber sale contract to remind sellers of the importance of a legal contract for selling timber - a real property asset when sold in standing condition. When selling a valuable asset, like timber, always know what you are selling and seek professional advice to ensure that you receive fair market value, are improving the future condition of your woodlands



and have the proper legal and tax advice to ensure that your tax bill is correct and adequate protections are in place. Check out this publication to make sure you have your investment covered!

Coming Events of Interest to Woodland Owners

September 13, 2017 - [Bioenergy Research Initiative Field Day](#), Mill River, NC. The NC Department of Agriculture will tour folks at the Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center along with a lunch. Free event, but please register in advance for the lunch headcount [using this weblink](#).

September 15, 2017 - [Forest Stewards Guild Southeast Regional Meeting: Innovative Silviculture in Piedmont Hardwood Forests](#). Durham, NC.

September 15-16, 2017 - [Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo](#), Laurinburg, NC. Online registration is required to attend at no charge. \$20 per adult fee at the door. [Exhibitor Guide](#) is available for download.

September 16, 2017, 8 AM to 1 PM- [Tree Farm Breakfast and Tour](#) at Preston and Susan Floyd's tree farm in Kittrell, NC. Recognition will be given for various county and tree farmer of the year. In addition, a tour of the Floyd farm will feature fertilization, hunting leases, access path management, pond management, and warm season grasses. Contact Leslie McCormick to register at nctreefarm@gmail.com, DEADLINE 9/6/2017.

September 21, 2017, 3 PM to 7:30 PM - Sustainable Pinestraw Production Workshop. Harnett County Extension, Lillington, NC. Low-impact production, nutrient management, Ips beetles in longleaf stands, and catered dinner included. Advanced registration required call Matt Jones at 910-814-6024 or fill out the form at: <http://go.ncsu.edu/pinestraw917>

September 21-23, 2017 - [Resources: The Agencies, Organizations, and Professionals Who Support Family Farms](#). Greensboro-High Point Marriott Airport Hotel. Call Minority Landowner Magazine at 919-215-1632 for full details including registration fee financial assistance.

September 26 - September 28, 2017 - [Longleaf Academy Understory Restoration 201, Lake Waccamaw State Park](#), Lake Waccamaw, NC. The [Longleaf Alliance](#) routinely offers workshops for active landowners interested in longleaf pine.

September 27, 2017, 9:00 am -12 pm - Financial Assistance for Forest Landowners at the USDA Service Center, Edenton NC. Contact Alton Perry, 252-539-4602 for additional information.

September 28, 2017, 9:00 am -12 pm - Financial Assistance for Forest Landowners at the Martin Community College, Windsor, NC. Contact Alton Perry, 252-539-4602 for additional information.

September 28, 2017, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm (ET) - "Green Value, A tool for simplified financial analysis of forest-based initiatives," a free and easy to use tool designed to help family forestland owners and conservation land managers analyze their forest operations costs and potential profits. This is a free webinar on the ForestryWebinars.net online portal.

October 3-5, 2017 - [4th Biennial Shortleaf Pine Conference](#), Galloway, NJ

October 4-6, 2017 - [NC Forestry Association Annual Meeting](#), Wilmington, NC. Call 1-800-231-7723 for more information or [download details here](#).

October 14, 2017 - NC Tree Farm Program 2017 Annual Meeting, Wagram, NC
The annual meeting will include a field tour focusing on wildlife management. More details coming next month.

October 16-17, 2017 - NC Forest Service Prescribed Burner Course. Montgomery Community College, Troy, NC. [Registration form here.](#)

Looking Ahead - Please save the date!

October 25, 2017, 6-8 pm - Onslow County Present Use Value Meeting, Jacksonville, NC

Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2017, [Bottomland & Swamp Forest Symposium](#), Wilmington, NC
This is a 1-1/2 day symposium plus full day field tour for those interested in managing forestland in swamp and bottomland areas of the Southeastern USA. Sponsored by NC Forest Service.

November 1, 2017 - Franklin County Forestry Meeting and Tour (details coming).

November 2, 2017 - Johnston County Forestry Meeting - Smithfield, NC (details coming).

November 16, 2017 - Hoke County Forestry Meeting - 5 pm - Raeford, NC (details coming).

Woodland Owner Notes E-news is an email newsletter from Extension Forestry at NC State University. This newsletter is made possible through support from Renewable Resources Extension Act and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The 2017 editors are:

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