



Woodland Wordsmith

January 2009

*Serving Landowners of
Southwest Louisiana*

Issue #1

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DeRidder, LA 70634

Upcoming Events

Private Pesticide Applicator

Training: If you need to **RECERTIFY** your license, the AgCenter will hold **FOUR** different applicator training classes for your convenience at the War Memorial Civic Center, February, 23rd, 1 PM **OR** 7 PM, March 2nd, 1 PM **OR** 7 PM.

Beauregard Annual Meeting & LSU AgCenter Forestry Forum:

Saturday,
February 28,
2009, 9 AM- 3 PM,
Beauregard Parish
Fairgrounds.
Please go to the
last page for
registration
information.

New Herbicide to Control Chinese Tallowtree

The Chinese Tallowtree was introduced into the United States in the 1700's in South Carolina. It was distributed in the Gulf Coast in the 1900's by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in an attempt to establish a soap making industry. Current distribution includes all of the Southeastern United States from Texas to Florida, North Carolina to Arkansas, and it was recently discovered in California.

This nuisance tree infests thousands of acres of Louisiana landscape and is the bane of most landowners who are looking for new ways to control this weed. Mr. Ray Erwin of BASF will discuss the results of trials of a new chemical called "Clearcast" and some of the unexpected, yet beneficial, properties of this new product. This presentation will be a part of the upcoming AgCenter Forestry Forum on February 28, 2009 at the Beauregard Parish Fairgrounds.

Carbon Trading & Forestry

Regardless of your personal opinion about this debate about global warming, trading in carbon credits is here. In fact, the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX, www.chicagoclimate.com) has been trading carbon credits since 2003. The commodity traded at CCX is the Carbon Financial Instrument® or CFI contract, each of which represents 100 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent. A metric ton is equal to 2205 pounds. CFI contracts are comprised of Exchange Allowances and Exchange Offsets.

Exchange Offsets are generated by qualifying offset projects which pay tree farmers to “sequester” or gather and store carbon in their trees. Eligible projects for forest carbon sequestration include forestation and forest enrichment, urban tree planting, and, in specified regions, combined forestation and forest conservation projects.

Mr. Ronnie Edwards of E&F Resource Management will talk about how landowners can derive some positive cash flow from enrolling woodlands for carbon sequestration. Mr. Edwards will discuss the costs, procedures and net benefits from this new market at the upcoming AgCenter Forestry Forum on Saturday, February, 28, 2009, 9 AM-3 PM, Beauregard Parish Fairgrounds.

Spring Pond Management

A frequent theme that the County Agent addresses concerns the management of farm ponds. Fortunately, the local extension office calls on Mr. Richard Johnson, Aquaculture Specialist for southwest Louisiana to assist with site visits and specific pond recommendations. Mr. Johnson covers Beauregard, Calcasieu, Allen, Jeff Davis and other parishes and has promptly responded

to help landowners.

Mr. Johnson is on the agenda for the Forestry Forum because fishery management is part of the assistance that the AgCenter can provide to forest landowners. Mr. Johnson will describe the normal potential problems facing landowners this coming spring and the solutions to these seasonal pond issues.

Prescribed Burning Workshop for Landowners

One of the challenges facing forest landowners is the management of vegetation and wildfire fuels in our southwestern woodlands. To address this issue Dr. Charles Shilling of LSU's School of Renewable Natural Resources will present information on how he brings his prescribed burning workshops to Louisiana's rural citizens. This is **NOT** the actual training itself, but an overview about the time and effort needed to successfully complete this workshop. Dr. Shilling will be a part of the Forestry Forum on Saturday, February 28th. One of the purposes of this presentation is to gauge the interest in a future prescribed fire workshop for southwest Louisiana, and your counsel on this question is welcome.

Forestry Updates

Mr. Buck Vandersteen, Executive Director of the Louisiana Forestry Association, and Mr. George Giltner, President of the Beauregard Forestry Association, will each discuss state and local forestry issues. Buck can address the relevant forestry topics coming up in our state and national legislatures. George will describe the activities of the BFA during the past year. Both gentlemen will be speakers at the Southwest Louisiana Forestry Forum on Saturday, February 28th.

REGISTRATION

FEE: \$20 per household including annual membership in BFA

NAME(s):

Email:

Attending: _____

\$ Amount Enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to: **“Beauregard Forestry Association”**

Mail payment & this form by **February 13, 2009** to: Keith Hawkins, LSU AgCenter, POB 609,
DeRidder, LA 70634

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call: 337-463-7006 or

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