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Timber Tales

No. 129 News and Ideas for Forest Landowners from Ricky Kilpatrick, Area Forestry Agent 3rd Quarter 2009

Louisiana 4-Her's Earn 3rd Place in National 4-H Forestry Contest

I just returned from Weston, West Virginia, and the National 4-H Forestry Invitational. Our Louisiana team placed third at the national event which is held at Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp each year. Our team consisted of Amanda Wolff and Laura Wolff of Baton Rouge, Morgan Smith of Sulphur and Karl Simon of Broussard. I, along with Lauren Smith, coached and chaperoned the team. Lauren is Morgan's older sister and is about to complete a degree in forestry from LSU's School of Renewable Natural Resources.

The 4-H members compete for overall team and individual awards. Three of the four Louisiana 4-Her's were in the top 10 for the individual award. Morgan Smith was fourth, Laura Wolff was 7th and Amanda Wolff was 9th.

Events included a written test, tree identification, tree measurement, compass and pacing, insect and disease identification, topographic map use, a forestry quiz bowl and forest evaluation. Although individual event awards are not given, we know our 4-H'ers were at the top on the written test. This is because the pairings for the quiz bowl are based on total team scores on the written test, and Louisiana and Alabama both received a bye for the quiz bowl.

The Farm Credit System and the Cooperative Extension Service sponsored the event. More than 5.5 million young people participate in 4-H, and nearly 100,000 are part of the 4-H forestry program.

For more information on the National 4-H Forestry Invitational, go to www.aces.edu/n4hfi. However, as of today, this year's results and information haven't been posted yet.

For additional information, call Area Code 318 and . . .

BIENVILLE	263-7400	BOSSIER	965-2326	CADDO	226-6805
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Forestry Field Day in Caddo Parish

There will be a forestry field day on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. until noon in Caddo Parish at the tree farms of Ted Bryson and Ann Bryson Shocklee.

We will convene at 9:00 a.m. at Ms. Shocklee's home, located at 10386 Blanchard-Furrh Road in the Longwood community, which is 2.5 miles west of the Longwood Store at the intersection of Highway 169 and Blanchard-Furrh Road.

We will look at first and second thinnings of pine plantations and seeded pine stands and various other management practices. We will discuss the Conservation Stewardship Program and what it provides for forest landowners.

We will conclude with lunch. Please RSVP to Alison Smith at 318/965-2326 or asmith@agcenter.lsu.edu by October 9 if you plan to attend, so we will have a head count for lunch.

Basic Needs for Deer Management

Generally, deer can exist under many conditions in huntable numbers. By following a few basic guidelines, you can usually improve wildlife habitat and increase numbers, depending on resources, time and finances. Some of the basic deer needs are:

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|--|---|
| a. Areas of dense underbrush and edge | e. Safe travel lanes between open areas |
| b. In pineland use frequent prescribed burns | f. Have isolation and protection |
| c. Favor oaks for mast | g. Have control of deer harvest |
| d. A variety of mast producing hardwood trees in bottoms | |

Many feel the range of deer to be roughly 640 acres or one square mile. To be able to control all factors in a deer's life, then theoretically one should have at least 640 acres of habitat a deer could range in to provide for all needs. This will vary greatly, depending upon land use, isolation, adjoining areas, etc. At 40 acres per deer carrying capacity, 640 acres could provide a total deer population of 16 deer of which 4-8 could possibly be harvested annually.

Deer like dense underbrush for food and cover. A dense understory will produce more food and cover than one shaded out with too many larger trees. Therefore, timber thinnings and harvest cuttings can be important to increase deer populations and physical conditions. Small streams in uplands provide important food and edge effect and do not tend to have damaging floods as some larger lowland areas. Bottomlands have a more fertile soil and more vigorous undergrowth than dry uplands, so they are often better for deer when they are not subject to prolonged, frequent floods.

Mast is available mostly in the fall and winter and provides a good source of food when available. A variety of trees should be managed so that if one species fails, another will produce. Mast shouldn't be depended upon for a year around food supply. In pineland with larger trees prescribed burning can produce many benefits at a low cost. In planning for timber in bottoms, you should consider favoring oaks, blackgum, ash and yellow poplar because they can provide food, cover and valuable timber. When harvesting larger tracts of timber or where there is a large open area, it should be divided with strips of cover for travel lanes between forests.

It helps wildlife populations to have neighboring land uses that complement your plans. For example, a large shopping center is not as good for wildlife as an adjoining forest.

Any deer population is dependent upon wild plants for food. Deer eat many species of plants but favor some over others and feed on a few species throughout the year. Plant occurrence and deer preference may also vary with bottomlands and uplands. Some major deer foods in bottomlands are:

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|----------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| a. Honeysuckle | e. Acorns | i. Blackberry & Dewberry |
| b. Greenbrier | f. Ash | j. Asters |
| c. Hawthorns | g. Sumac | k. Sunflowers |
| d. Blackgum | h. Polkweed | l. Hackberry |

Some major deer foods in pinelands are:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| a. Honeysuckle | f. Oaks | j. Persimmon |
| b. Yellow Jessamine | g. Yellow Poplar | k. Asters |
| c. Blackberries | h. Crabapple & Haws | l. Sunflowers |
| d. Blackgum | i. Sumac | m. French Mulberry |
| e. Dogwood | | |

Acorn Production for Wildlife and for Oak Regeneration

Acorns of oaks in the white oak group mature in one growing season, those of the red oaks take two growing seasons. The red oaks all have bristle-tipped lobes on their leaves; the white oaks do not. The white oak group includes such common Louisiana species as white oak, bur oak, overcup oak, post oak, swamp chestnut oak, and chinkapin oak. Common Louisiana members of the red oak group include southern red oak, cherrybark oak, Shumard oak, black oak, Nuttall oak, blackjack oak, willow oak, water oak, and laural oak. Live oak is usually grouped with the red oaks on the basis of wood characteristics, but its acorns mature in one year.

Most oak species produce a good crop of acorns every three or four years. Insects get most of the acorns in poor or moderate years. Some species of oaks are better acorn producers than others, and different species tend to produce good crops of acorns in different years. Only a relatively small proportion of trees of a given oak species are inherently good seed producers.

Trees with large crowns exposed to the light produce more acorns than trees with shaded crowns. Trees of large diameter produce more acorns than trees of smaller diameter, all factors being equal, but production peaks and then declines with increasing size in some species.

In a study of oaks in the southern Appalachians, white oaks produced an average of approximately 150 acorns per 10-inch diameter tree and peaked at approximately 2,200 acorns per 26-inch tree before declining. Black oaks that were 10 inches in diameter averaged approximately 300 acorns per tree and continued to increase at a steady rate to approximately 2,100 acorns per 36-inch tree. Northern red oaks produced approximately 50 acorns per 10-inch tree and peaked at about 1,600 acorns per 20-inch tree.

Trees can be ranked by counting acorns with binoculars in mid-August. Those that are identified as good acorn producers can be favored later by thinning to expose their crowns. Retaining a mixture of species will help level out year-to-year fluctuations.

New Conservation Stewardship Prog. Provides Opportunities for Nonindustrial Private Forest Lands

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced the sign-up period for the new Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), heralding a new and exciting opportunity for farmers, ranchers and other landowners and is now accepting applications on a continuous basis. The first sign-up period runs through September 30, 2009.

“The new CSP program represents a real opportunity for those agriculture producers and other landowners who practice good stewardship on their land,” NRCS State Conservationist, Kevin Norton, said. “Unlike traditional conservation programs that cost-share with producers on improvements, this program will actually give a per acre direct payment to producers based on how well they are managing their natural resources. This represents a real opportunity to help the bottom lines of Louisiana producers.”

CSP is a voluntary conservation program that encourages producers to address resource concerns in a comprehensive manner by:

- Undertaking additional conservation activities; and
- Improving, maintaining, and managing existing conservation activities.

Through CSP, NRCS will provide financial and technical assistance to eligible producers to conserve and enhance soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their land. Eligible lands include cropland, pastureland, rangeland, and nonindustrial private forest lands on which resource concerns related to agricultural production could be addressed.

CSP offers participants two possible types of payments:

1. Annual payment for installing and adopting additional activities, and improving, maintaining, and managing existing activities.
2. Supplemental payment for the adoption of resource-conserving crop rotations.

Mr. Norton, in consultation with the State Technical Committee and local work groups, will focus program impacts on natural resources that are of specific concerns to Louisiana and the specific geographic areas within Louisiana. Applications will be evaluated relative to other applications addressing similar priority resource concerns to facilitate a competitive ranking process among applicants within Louisiana who face similar resource challenges.

You'll find a fact sheet on CSP and a self-screening checklist to help determine if this program may work for you at Louisiana's NRCS website: www.la.nrcs.usda.gov.

The NRCS will make CSP available nationwide on a continuous application basis. Just remember, the first sign-up period ends September 20, 2009. To learn more about CSP, contact your local NRCS field office.

Louisiana 4-H Hall of Fame Inducts Twelve New Members

Twelve new members of the Louisiana 4-H Hall of Fame were inducted at the grand opening of the Louisiana 4-H Museum in Mansura in July 2009. The museum displays treasures of thousands of current and former 4-H'ers from across Louisiana to showcase the history and importance of Louisiana 4-H.

4-H is the youth development and outreach program of the nation's land-grant universities and is operated in Louisiana by the LSU AgCenter. It involves young people in educational projects, camps, activities, trips and school enrichment programs that foster development of life skills in science, engineering and technology, citizenship, healthy living and much more.

The museum at 8592 Highway 1 is near where the first Corn Club for Boys was formed in 1908. That club and other boys' agricultural and girls' domestic clubs formed in the early 1900s eventually evolved into what now is the Louisiana 4-H program.

Hall of Fame inductees for 2009 are:

Virginia Shehee – Shehee of Caddo Parish was recognized in 1974 for purchasing the champion market hog at a record price for a special needs youth. The pig provided the youth support to enable him to learn

to walk as a result of cerebral palsy. Shehee later was recognized on Paul Harvey News for her impact on the youth and his compelling story with his pig.

John Stamper – Stamper of Bossier Parish was an avid supporter of 4-H throughout his career as an educator and continued to support Bossier Parish 4-H as a volunteer leader after his retirement. He conducted educational and competitive events at the annual National Hunting and Fishing Day at the Bodcau Wildlife Management area each fall.

Billy B. Nutt – Nutt of Bienville Parish began his career in Extension in 1966 in Lake Providence as an associate county agent. He transferred to Lincoln Parish and in 1972 moved to Bienville Parish as county agent and parish chair. Now retired, he assists in garden contests and beautification activities at his church, library and the courthouse.

Diane Duhe – Duhe served St. John Parish 4-H from 1976-2005. Each year she led the St. John 4-H/St. Jude Wheels for Life Bike-A-Thon promoting cancer research for children and raising thousands of dollars. She served as 4-H Club leader, 4-H Junior Leader coordinator, 4-H Foundation board secretary/treasurer and 4-H Club leader coordinator. Her award will be presented posthumously.

Charles Lesley “C. L.” Flowers – Flowers of East Baton Rouge Parish began his career with 4-H in DeSoto Parish in 1937, specializing in the livestock project. He retired from the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service in East Baton Rouge Parish in 1972 after serving as county agent and parish chair. Between retirement and his death in 1999, Flowers continued to maintain a strong presence with 4-H, especially the livestock program, as a volunteer and philanthropist. In 1984, Flowers and his wife donated \$10,000 to the Louisiana 4-H Foundation.

Loretta Guidry – Guidry of Lafourche Parish has been a 4-H leader whose club won Achievement Day in its division 15 years in a row. A large number of her club members won state and national contests. She was a teacher at Larose-Cut Off Junior High School for 30 years. She now devotes her time to helping her grandchildren with 4-H record books, contests and activities.

Mable Yvonne Lorenz – As a school bus driver for 15 years (1973-1988), Lorenz of Beauregard Parish volunteered her time and fuel to transport 4-H’ers to the annual Beauregard Parish 4-H Achievement Day, where she also served as a contest judge. For three years, she held summer workshops for 4-H’ers at her home, teaching girls how to sew, cook, complete handicraft projects and work on 4-H record books. During her 48 years as an adult leader, she hosted 4-H exchange students from South Carolina and Kansas.

Nancy W. Marceaux – Marceaux of Vermilion Parish served as a leader at Kaplan High School for 30 years. She was named State 4-H Alumni winner in 1999. She has been an active member in the parish 4-H advisory committee, serving as chair for five years. Her four children were active in 4-H and are now serving as adult volunteers.

Marleen Mayfield – Mayfield of St. Bernard Parish organized one of the first 4-H clubs to return to St. Bernard after Hurricane Katrina at Andrew Jackson Elementary. She received a Toyota Prius after Hurricane Katrina from Phoenix Suns basketball player Amare Stoudemire and was recognized with Gold 4-H Club Awards in 2003, 2004 and 2005.

Mansel S. Slaughter – Slaughter of East Baton Rouge Parish has served on the parish 4-H livestock sales committee, on the LSU AgCenter’s Agribusiness Council and as superintendent of the parish swine show. Posthumously, he continues to give because of the Mansel S. Slaughter Memorial Fund through the East Baton Rouge 4-H Foundation.

Lafayette Fearn Swoope Jr. – Swoope of Calcasieu Parish joined the Cooperative Extension Service in 1957 as an assistant county agent in Caldwell Parish. In 1958 he transferred to East Carroll Parish and then served as county agent in Calcasieu Parish from 1967 until retirement in 1989. He now serves as a

volunteer leader in the 4-H livestock program. Through his advisory committee, Calcasieu Parish was the first to conduct a fundraiser, which has continued for 45 years. Swoope has raised 4-H club lambs for 50 years.

Denise Turner – Turner of Lafayette Parish began volunteering with 4-H when her sons Chad and Cody joined their local 4-H clubs. She enters data into the 4-H enrollment program and manages the hundreds of project books delivered to Lafayette 4-H members each year. She received training in the Louisiana 4-H Sportsfishing Program and has served as an angling skills instructor for seven years and helps plan and coordinate the annual 4-H “Let’s Go Fishing” clinic each year.

Other members of the Louisiana 4-H Hall of Fame include:

W. C. Abbott, Sr. Ascension Parish/State 4-H Office	Carroll Adams St. John Parish	Josephine C. André Pointe Coupee Parish	John Andrews Morehouse Parish
Jack Bagent Bossier Parish/State Ext. Office	Joseph Baronet Acadia Parish	James Baudoin Vermilion Parish	Crawford Alexander Bishop Ascension Parish
Joanne Bolding West Carroll Parish	Mark Bonner, Jr E. Baton Rouge Parish	Carroll Boudreaux Iberia Parish	A. J. Brackin Lafayette Parish
Harriet Bridges East Carroll Parish	Emma Dell Broussard St. Mary Parish	Beverly Bruce DeSoto Parish	Brenda Bulot Plaquemines Parish
William T. Burton Calcasieu Parish	Carroll Charpentier Terrebonne Parish	Kathy Colson Richland Parish	Kermit Coulon St. James Parish
Bobby Culpepper Jackson Parish	Austin Daniel West Feliciana Parish	Beth Langlois Dawson East Feliciana Parish	Charles Dill, Sr. Vermilion Parish
Albert Doughty Bossier Parish	Sheila Farmer Sabine Parish	George I. Fawcett Lafayette Parish	Elvodus Fields Tensas Parish
Bobby Fletcher, Sr. St. Tammany Parish	Randall Fletcher Grant Parish	Sharon Fontenot Evangeline Parish	Virgie Foreman Vermilion Parish
Linda Lee Franks LaSalle Parish	William Freshwater Avoyelles Parish	Charles Fuselier St. Martin Parish	Conrad Gauthier St. Martin Parish
Wayne Gilmore St. Landry Parish	John C. Guidry Calcasieu Parish	Bernie Hambrice St. Bernard Parish	Rick Hargis Natchitoches Parish
Gary J. Hebert Iberville Parish	Laverne D. Hightower Claiborne Parish	Lan Hoang Orleans Parish	Robert R. Hoffpauir Jefferson Davis Parish
Melvin “Kip” Holden E. Baton Rouge Parish	Delos Jones Tangipahoa Parish	Stella Jones State 4-H Office	Donna Beth Adams Karl St. Helena Parish
Ann Keene Madison Parish	Kate Kilpatrick Ouachita Parish	Rena Labat Terrebonne Parish	Dalton Landry Lafourche Parish
Elliot E. Letlow Bienville Parish	Lou Ella Lognion St. Landry Parish	Jon V. Lowe Caddo Parish	Joan McCrory Acadia Parish/State 4-H Office
Mary McMahan Calcasieu Parish	Charles Miller Iberia Parish	Lina Ruth Miller Beauregard Parish	William Ulrich Miller Concordia Parish
Jean E. Mitchell Catahoula Parish	Michelle Price Mitchell Vernon Parish	Louis Mouch, Jr. W. Baton Rouge Parish	C. J. Naquin E. Baton Rouge/State 4-H Office
Nancy Nettles Red River Parish	Clara O’Sullivan Jefferson Parish	Maxine Olinde Pointe Coupee Parish	Adella Paul Concordia Parish

Durell Peloquin, Sr. Allen Parish	Carolyn Reber Phillips Winn Parish	Mary Poe Lincoln Parish	Joe Don Powell Red River Parish
Bill Querrey Madison Parish	Cecil Ramagos, Sr. Iberville Parish	Willard Rambo Grant Parish	Catherine Richard St. Charles Parish
Enaux Rivere Assumption Parish	H. P. "Sleepy" Roberts Union Parish	Stephanie Rodrigue Cameron Parish	Raphael "Pookie" Rodriguez St. Mary Parish
Victor Leander Roy, Sr. Avoyelles Parish/State 4-H Office	Patricia Russell Caldwell Parish	Willie W. Russell, Jr. Franklin & Ouachita	Clayton Matthew Samson East Feliciana Parish
Tom Scott Franklin Parish	Jim Shipp Evangeline Parish	Calvin Stewart Shirley Beauregard/State 4-H Ofc	George Simoneaux East Baton Rouge Parish
Idell W. Showden Natchitoches Parish	Margaret Lass Sorenson Livingston Parish	Mattie Rae Strong West Carroll Parish	James Templet Assumption Parish
Jimbo Thiels Rapides Parish	Sally Thomas Washington Parish	Rufus Walker Grant Parish	Joe T. Walters, Jr. Franklin Parish
Ivory Lee Williams Iberville Parish	Mary McKee Williams Caddo Parish	Wayne Williams Webster Parish	S. L. Winston Concordia Parish

Laurel Wilt Disease Found in Mississippi (8/24/2009)

Laurel wilt, a devastating disease of red bay (*Persea borbonia*) and sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) trees, was recently found in Jackson County, Miss. Laurel wilt is caused by the fungus *Raffaelea lauricola* and is transmitted by the red bay ambrosia beetle *Xyleborus glabratus* and can be spread long distances by the movement of firewood. Initial symptoms of laurel wilt are a reddish or purplish discoloration of wilted foliage. When the bark is removed, the outer sapwood is seen to be black and discolored, and evidence of beetle damage is visible. Although the ambrosia beetle and the disease have not yet been found in Louisiana, residents should be on the alert for them. It is important that they be aware of the potential danger posed by the movement of firewood. Report any suspicious findings on trees or firewood to your local parish extension office. For more information, go to the [Forest Service's Laurel Wilt](#) site and to the [APHIS site on invasive species and firewood](#).

Mark Martinez Named Outstanding Logger of the Year

Mark Martinez of Timber-Mark, Inc. was named the 2009 Louisiana Outstanding Logger by the Louisiana Forestry Association (LFA) and the Louisiana Logging Council. The award was presented to the Zwolle logger at the recent annual convention at the Capitol House Hilton in Baton Rouge.

Martinez and his crew of 11 were judged statewide winners by a team lead by Dr. Clyde Vidrine, retired professor from the Louisiana Tech University School of Forestry. Other judges were Terry Martin with the U.S. Forest Service and Jack McFarland, the 2008 Outstanding Logger.

Martinez is a third generation logger and his father, A.T. Martinez, was the first recipient of the Outstanding Logger award in 1987.

He was nominated for the award by Jody Woodard of Weyerhaeuser. "Whatever job we put him on, he will adapt to it and still get the production and the safety," said Woodard. Tony Sattler, another Weyerhaeuser forester who works closely with him, echoed the same sentiment. "He's the owner but he's hands-on," said Sattler. "You talk to Mark and he's on the job and he's very versatile."

Perhaps his best commendation comes from his son, Stephen, who works on the crew as well. "He gives 110 percent out here and at home on Saturday and Sunday, he's getting ready for the next week."

"All I know is to work hard," said Martinez, something he has done for over 30 years. The 48-year-old logger started full time in the woods at age 17 working for his father and uncle "Pie" Martinez.

Mark Martinez has two brothers who are loggers as well. Forestry consultant Steve Muslow, who is president of the LFA, said he has known the Martinez family for over 25 years. "This is a family that has an extreme amount of integrity," he said.

Mark and his wife Donna have two sons and two daughters. Donna is the company bookkeeper.

Dr. Snider Named Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year

Dr. Howard Snider of DeQuincy is the 2009 Louisiana Outstanding Tree Farmer for his forestland located in four parishes. The award was made during the annual convention of the Louisiana Forestry Association (LFA) August 26 in Baton Rouge, La.

Dr. Snider and his wife, Ruby, have more than a thousand acres in Vernon, Beauregard, Allen and Calcasieu parishes.

“He loves the land and he likes growing trees,” said Tim Cooper, his consulting forester from Rosepine who nominated him for the award. “His hobby is planting trees.”

Snider is a familiar face in the DeQuincy area, where he practiced dentistry for more than 30 years. Snider said his other hobbies of hunting and fishing now take a back seat to his work in the woods.

“I’ve planted 750-800 trees in a day sometimes, working six, eight or 10 hours,” said Snider. He’s also busy filling potholes, maintaining food plots for wildlife or working on erosion control projects for the land. One recent project filled in a washed-out area between Anacoco Creek and a lake on his property.

Dr. Snider’s love of the land and his trees is born from his general attitude of wanting to improve his environment — to leave a place better than when he arrived.

An important component of his diverse forestland is the wildlife population. Deer and wild turkey roam these woods encouraged by the food plots, feeders and natural browse that he maintains. On a tract in Vernon Parish where he has two lakes, there are also young mallard ducks being raised as pets.

The Snider’s children, grandchildren, friends and even youth and church groups frequently enjoy the larger lake’s sandy beaches and camping grounds.

“Forestry is a \$3.3 billion industry in Louisiana,” said C.A. “Buck” Vandersteen, LFA executive director. “Family forests are the lifeblood of our state where 81 percent of the forestland is owned by private non-industrial landowners like the Snider’s.”

Larry Riley Named Future Forest Winner

You have to drive through a lot of corn, cotton and soybeans to get to Larry Riley’s home and forestland near Winnsboro. The former farmer has become very knowledgeable about growing trees in the last eight years and his success has garnered him the Future Forest Award for Louisiana.

The award is given annually to a private landowner who does a good job reforesting land after a harvest or planting a forest on land that had been in other uses. Riley accepted the award at the Louisiana Forestry Association annual meeting held today (Aug. 26) at the Capitol House Hilton Hotel in Baton Rouge.

Riley’s Dad farmed the old homestead part of the land from 1962-69 and then Riley himself moved there in 1970 cultivating cotton and soybeans on the property. “There are a lot of rolling ridges here,” said Riley, who is a broker for his real estate company specializing in land for sale. “It’s highly erodible soil and I even tried contour farming for awhile.”

In 1980 when a farmer wanted to lease his land for farming, Riley completed the deal.

By 2001 he had a new plan in place –to grow a forest on his land with the advice of the local Natural Resource Conservation Service. The first 45 acres near his home were enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program. He continued to plant more acreage in 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2008.

“I’ve learned a lot over the years,” Riley said. He now has 630 acres in forestland, some pine, some hardwood and some mixed stands.

His objectives are clear: to provide future family income, wildlife and recreation, to conserve the soil on highly erodible rolling ridges and to clean the water running into Deer Creek on his property.

District Conservationist Jason Hardie said he nominated Riley because the landowner “wants to address all the resource concerns” on the property. “Back before funding was available he was dedicated to doing any type of conservation,” said Hardie. “He wanted to take care of the land and he was dedicated to getting the most out of every acre of land. He was conservation-minded and production-minded. He wanted them both to mesh.”

His projects include acreage enrolled in the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), and the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) along with the Lower Mississippi Watershed Project.

"I bought this land when I was a kid," said Riley. "The land became a part of me."

Riley is very involved in the forest work and even paid for extra plantings under the federal programs that paid for lesser amounts.

Hardie said agriculture is still king in Franklin Parish but other landowners are showing some interest in forestry as well. Part of that reason is the success exhibited by their neighbor Larry Riley.

The Louisiana Forestry Association is a 4,000 member group devoted to promoting the health and productivity of Louisiana's forests through the practice of sustainable forestry. For more information, see the website at www.laforestry.com.

Events, Thoughts and Tidbits

*** The LSU AgCenter's Hill Farm Research Station will host an educational field day October 1st. Registration will begin at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon, and the program will begin at 1 p.m.

The Hill Farm is located south of Homer at the junction of U.S. Hwy 79 and Louisiana Hwy 9. Tours of Hill Farm research sites and discussions of research projects will include external and internal parasites of beef cattle, clover management, advanced families of pine trees, tube versus radiant heat in poultry houses, validation of best management practices for beef and poultry and antimicrobial resistance of bacteria from agricultural sources.

Dr. Mike Strain, Louisiana Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry, will open the event with a talk on "Agriculture Today" followed by the field tours from 2 to 6 p.m.

Agribusiness representatives also will display products and equipment in a trade show setting. Beef, poultry, dairy, forage and forestry producers as well as any other interested persons are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Bill Owens at 318/927-9654, ext. 226.

*** The LSU AgCenter's Calhoun Research Station Field Day will be held on October 29th. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. with lunch at noon. The program begins at 1:00 p.m. The research station is located 1.2 miles southwest of I-20 at exit 103. The theme is "Innovative uses for forest and forage biomass."

The tour will include demonstrations and presentations on producing composite poles from small-diameter trees, producing new chemicals and products by recycling preservatives and wood fiber of decommissioned telephone poles, partially harvesting an unmanaged forest to improve its growth and to produce wood chips for energy, and growing miscanthus grass for biofuel.

*** The Louisiana 4-H Museum Now Open!! Explore the rich history of Louisiana 4-H from a 1908 corn club for 300 rural boys to an informal educational program with a wide variety of projects, camp experiences and curriculum affecting more than 225,000 girls and boys in rural and metropolitan areas throughout Louisiana. Visit the Louisiana 4-H Museum located at 8592 Highway 1 in Mansura, Louisiana, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$3 and free for children under 3 years of age. For special arrangements, you may contact the museum at (318) 964-2245 or 4HMuseum@agcenter.lsu.edu.

Sincerely,

Ricky Kilpatrick

Ricky Kilpatrick
Area Forestry Agent

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It is the policy of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability. If you have a disability which requires special assistance for your participation in a meeting, please contact the Bossier Parish Extension Office at (318) 965-2326 three days prior to the meeting.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
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Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Dr. William B. Richardson, Chancellor
Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, Dr. Paul Coreil, Vice Chancellor and Director
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