

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

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NOTE:

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Serving North Central Louisiana Through Forestry Education

Program Highlights Fall Semester 2004

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Forestry Landowner Educational Programs

Parish landowner meeting – Oak Grove – 23 landowners attended, learned about CRP and WRP federal Programs criteria and guidelines and were made aware of the efforts of the Black Bear Conservation Committee to enhance Black Bear populations in order to remove from endangered species list. Also learned of landowner assistance programs available for Black Bear habitat improvement.

Parish landowner meeting – Oak Grove – 10 landowners attended an Basic taxation meeting where a tax attorney discussed forestland taxation issues. Participants learned basic principles of tax rules which affect forest landownership. They also received a copy of the Federal Tax Guide for Forest Landowners, including forms for filing.

Regional Meeting – Calhoun – 45 forest landowners participated in a workshop “Volumes and Value of Timber”. Landowners were made aware of how industry converts tree weights and measurements used in timber purchases and valuation. They learned how to determine volumes, weights, and values of their timber.

Regional Field day – 7 landowners participated in a follow-up field day to the “Volume and Value of Timber” workshop. Participants measured and determined volume, weights, and values of logs cut for delivery to mill.

Regional Meeting – Ruston- All day Forest Taxation Workshop was offered, focusing on the major tax laws that apply to forest landownership. Two nationally know forest taxation professionals presented the information and answered questions. This in-depth workshop provided an excellent opportunity to become familiar with the many tax forms used in filing, the new tax law changes, benefits of utilizing the tax laws to reduce taxes paid, and participants received the Tax Handbook for Forest Landowners.

31 forest landowners, resource managers, and tax accounts attended the workshop. Of those evaluating the workshop, 100% indicated the workshop met or exceeded their expectations and was very useful. The forestland acres represented at the workshop totaled over 4,355 acres and value of the workshop to the participants, as indicated by them, was \$83,500.

Parish Meeting – Union – Underserved Landowner Meeting “Making it Work for You” ninety(90) underserved Forest landowners,(minorities, women, ethnic landowners, other) attended this day-long meeting. The goal was to make them aware of the value of their timberland, the importance of ownership issues, and how they can become involved in and properly handle issues involving their forestlands. They learned the importance of forestry to the local economy, personal ownership issues (wills, deeds, contracts), how management can increase revenue for landowner, and assistance programs available for their use..

Multi-State Workshop – “Artificial Regeneration of Bottomland Hardwoods”, Two nationally know bottomland hardwoods resource managers presented information and demonstrated in field afforestation principles and practices for bottomland hardwoods. The workshop was designed for professional land managers from private consulting firms, forest industry and public agencies. 35 participated in the workshop, with 4 states (Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and Mississippi) represented.

The participants learned site prep methods, planting techniques, stand development principles, long-term stand monitoring, Setting objectives, evaluation of plans, and on-site inspection techniques. Evaluation indicated workshop was highly informative and the information will be used in the future management practices by the participants.

Thirty northwest and northcentral Louisiana forest owners gained knowledge on taxes at a seminar in November 2004 in Bossier City. All attendees said the seminar met or exceeded their expectations, and according to the evaluations, they valued the workshop at over \$2150 per person.

Nine forest owners from Bienville, Claiborne and Webster parishes gained knowledge about current forestry issues at a tri-parish meeting in Minden in August 2004.

Six forest owners from Bienville, Claiborne and Webster parishes toured a local Weyerhaeuser plant and learned how particleboard is made and how it impacts the market for their trees.



Seven individual property visits were made with forest owners in Bienville, Claiborne and Webster parishes during the fall 2004 semester.

LSU AgCenter forester Ricky Kilpatrick conducted a story on a bagworm infestation of baldcypress trees in Caddo Lake. The story was aired several times on a Shreveport news station.



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