Randy Johnson

Tree Improvement in the Pacific Northwest

Randy earned his B.S. degree in Forestry from the University of Illinois in 1978 followed by degrees from North Carolina State University in forest soils (M.S.) and forest genetics (Ph.D.) From 1980-81, he was a Tree Improvement Forester for JARI Florestal, Belém, Para, Brazil. He worked as a Geneticist with the Forest Research Institute in Rotorua, New Zealand from 1985-88 and was the Director of the New Zealand Radiata Pine Breeding Coop from 1988-89. From 1992-94, he was a Research Geneticist/Shrub Breeder for the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington D.C. Since 1995, he has worked as a Research Geneticist for the USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station.

Bruce Kelpsas

Advances in Site Preparation

Bruce Kelpsas has been a forest herbicide specialist with UAP Northwest for the last 15 years. He currently works with foresters throughout the Pacific Northwest on the use of forest herbicides in reforestation programs. He received his BS degree in forest management from Southern Illinois University and an MS degree from Oregon State University in forest science. Prior experience has included reforestation forester positions in Oregon with the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Sylvan Reforestation Consultants.

J. Scott Ketchum

Early Seedling Fertilization

Scott is a northwest native. He attended Linn-Benton community college receiving an A.S. degree in Electrical Engineering Technology. He later attended OSU and completed a B.S. inm Environmental Science with an emphasis on plant ecology and an M.S., In Forest Ecology. Since 1995, Scott has been the Assoc. Director of the Vegetation Management Research Cooperative in the OSU Department of Forest Science.
Bradley A. Knotts

Planning for Reforestation: Regulations and Costs

Brad currently holds the position of Policy Analyst in the Forest Practices Section of the Oregon Department of Forestry. He has been with the Oregon Department of Forestry for 20 years including work in the State Forest Program in timber sales and reforestation in the Grants Pass and Forest Grove areas as well as work as a Forest Practices Forester and Service Forester in northwestern Oregon.

Carole L. Leadem

Advances and Challenges in Seed Biology

Dr. Leadem received her Bachelor of Science as a Botany Honours student from University of California, Berkeley in 1973, and her Ph.D. in Plant Physiology from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, in 1978.

She has been working as a research scientist in tree seed physiology with the British Columbia Ministry of Forests Research Branch since 1978. Her primary research interests have been in seed dormancy, seed testing, and effects of environmental factors on seed biology. Some of her research includes: quick tests, pelleting western redcedar seeds, stratification-redry of Abies seeds, interactions between stratification and temperature on germination; seed respiration, and viability of buried seeds.

Dr. Leadem is the senior author of the recently published book “Field studies of seed biology”. This land management handbook includes topics such as: planning field studies, environmental monitoring, experimental design, determining seed production, breaking seed dormancy, and testing laboratory and field seed performance.

Brad Leavitt (Speaker only – Paper not included in Proceedings)

Reforestation Contracting

Brad Leavitt works for the Sweet Home Ranger District on the Willamette National Forest. His office is located in Sweet Home Oregon. Brad started working with the Forest Service in 1962 on the Targee National Forest in Idaho. He then moved to the Willamette National Forest and worked primarily in the preparation and administration of Timber Sale Contracts.

In 1994 Brad was a member of the steering group that developed the Sweet Home Project for the Jobs-in-the-Woods Program. He acted as the on-the-ground Project Coordinator for this multi-agency program, involving the Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Department of Forestry and the United States Forest Service.
Presently Brad continues to act as the project coordinator for the same collaborative group under the name of the Willamette Province Workforce Partnership, whose goals are to provide quality jobs as a result of Multi Agency Contracting.

Charles J. Masters

Nursery Pest Management

Dr. Charles J. Masters, Weyerhaeuser Company, Graduated from Purdue University in 1974 with a Ph.D. in Forest Tree Improvement. He began working for Weyerhaeuser soon after graduation in orchard management, and later as an orchard scientist. Later, after 14 years as Manager, Western Orchard Operations, he became Leader of Applied Technology, Western Tree Improvement/Genetics Research as a Senior Scientist. Currently, he is working for Western Timberlands, and supports the Western Regeneration organization in the area of nursery, orchard and seed technology development. Pest management has been a part of his job responsibility for most of his career. He is also a Commissioner on the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration.

Raúl Moreno

New Stocktypes and Advances in the Container Industry: A Grower’s Perspective

Born and raised in Guatemala, Raúl got his Bachelors Degree in Horticulture in 1979, from California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo. Shortly after graduating, he came to the Northwest to work as nursery manager for the J. Hofert Company bareroot nursery in Olympia, Washington. In 1983 Raúl received his first introduction to container seedling growing when he was hired to start a nursery for Syverson Seed Incorporated in Ridgefield, Washington. He worked there as nursery manager until 1990. Raúl then founded and built Microseed Nursery, which offers container seedling growing, seed services, and international consulting in nursery production. Microseed’s consulting work in Latin America has brought Raúl to Mexico, Guatemala, Chile and Argentina. Over the past ten years, Microseed has grown from a small nursery to a viable and modern operation providing contract seedling growing to clients throughout the Northwest.
Michael Newton

Managing Riparian Habitat for Fish, Wildlife and Timber

Mike Newton is professor of forest ecology with the Dep’t of Forest Science at OSU. During 40+ years with the department, he has led research in reforestation from the Tropic of Capricorn to the Arctic Circle, vegetation management, young stand development, wildlife habitat management, long-term site productivity, mature stand formation, environmental chemistry and riparian management and ecology. He was recipient of the National Society of American Foresters Barrington-Moore Award for Excellence in Research in 1998. He has authored some 270 papers on the above topics.

Dale Nolte

Wildlife Considerations When Planning Plant Projects

Dale Nolte is a wildlife ecologist with the USDA/APHIS/WS National Wildlife Research Center. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in range science from Kansas State University. He worked in Morocco to improve livestock production first with the Peace Corps and then as a Research Associate for Utah State University. Dale studied the ontogeny of foraging behavior while obtaining his Ph.D. from Utah State University, and conducted a post doctorate at the Monell Chemical Senses Center. At present, he is the leader of the NWRC Olympia Field Station. The directive of the field station is to develop non-lethal means to alleviate the negative impacts of foraging wildlife on forest resources.

Tony Ramirez

New Stock Types and Advancements in the Bareroot Industry

Tony worked as the Nursery Operations Forester for Lone Peak Nursery in Salt Lake City, Utah from 1983-97. From 1987-89, he was a culturist at the J.H. Stone Nursery, Central Point, Oregon, followed by four years as Nursery Manager at Humboldt Nursery in McKinleyville, CA. In 1993, he became the Nursery Manager for the Toledo WA nursery of IFA Nurseries. Since 1997, he has been the Nursery Program Manager for the L.T. Mike Webster Nursery (Washington Department of Natural Resources) in Olympia, WA.
Gary A. Ritchie

The Informed Buyer: Understanding Seedling Quality

Gary A. Ritchie is Senior Scientist, Western Timberlands R&D, Weyerhaeuser Company. He received an Associates Degree in music from Valley Forge Military Academy, a BS in wildlife management from the University of Georgia, and Masters and Ph. D. degrees in Forest ecophysiology from the University of Washington (1971). Following two years active duty in the United States Army, Dr. Ritchie joined Weyerhaeuser Company, Tacoma, WA in 1973. He worked initially as an environmental impact analyst then as a financial planner for Timberlands and Raw Materials research. Following this, having been awarded a AAAS Congressional Science Fellowship, he served as legislative assistant to U. S. Senator Pete V. Domenici (R-NM) where he was responsible for development of legislation on energy and water resources, Veterans affairs and Indian affairs. Upon returning to Weyerhaeuser in 1977, he joined the Timberlands R&D organization where he has conducted research on seedling production, seedling quality assessment, vegetative propagation, and other forest regeneration-related activities. He has published numerous refereed papers and serves as associate editor and referee for several international plant science journals.

Robin Rose

Fundamental Advances in Bareroot and Container Nursery Processes and Philosophies

Robin received his MS in forestry from the University of Vermont where he studied yellow birch fertilization. After Vermont, he moved to NC State Univ. where he took on the subjects of starch and mycorrhizae in eucalyptus seedlings for his doctorate degree. After graduation, he went to work for Westvaco Corporation in Summerville, South Carolina where he served for almost seven years as their regeneration scientist. In 1986, he became the Director of the NTC where he has done research on innumerable aspects of seedling quality and reforestation. In 1993, he also became the director of the Vegetation Management Research Cooperative. He travels as much as he can throughout the world, “preaching the gospel of the Target Seedling Concept” and the need to make better use of modern seedling technology to solve international reforestation problems. Currently, he is on sabbatical in Taiwan to write a book on propagating their native plants.
David B. South (Keynote)

Challenges and Predictions in Artificial Regeneration

A native of North Carolina, Dr. South earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in forestry from North Carolina State University. He came to Auburn University in 1975 and completed his Ph.D. in 1983, specializing in tree physiology. He is currently a Professor in the School of Forestry and Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station at Auburn University. Dr. South was instrumental in the development of the Auburn University Southern Forest Nursery Management Cooperative. His research interests are in forest nursery management and regeneration and includes weed control, seed efficiency, soil management, seedling morphology and regeneration economics. His efforts have helped register over 10 herbicides for use in forest nurseries, saving more than $2 million annually in weed control costs. His international experiences includes work in Australia, India, New Zealand, Scotland, and South Africa. He has authored and co-authored over 100 technical publications. He was recently honored as Auburn University’s Distinguished Graduate Faculty Lecturer.

John Trobaugh

Profits and Investment Analyses

John Trobaugh is the Manager – Western Silviculture for The Timber Company, located in Cottage Grove, Oregon. He is responsible for tree improvement, container nursery production, research, and silviculture support for the western timberlands. John has a B.S. in forest management from Oregon State University and a M.S. in soils/silviculture from the University of Wisconsin. Prior to returning to Oregon in 1996, John was responsible for company programs in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maine, and New Brunswick, Canada.

Kimberly K. Wagner

Managing Wildlife Damage to Timber Resources

Kim Wagner is a wildlife biologist with the USDA/APHIS/WS National Wildlife Research Center. She received her B.S in animal ecology from Iowa State University, and her M.S. in wildlife biology from University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She studied the impact of preventive aerial coyote hunting on sheep losses to coyote predation while obtaining a PhD at Utah State University. While at Utah State University, she also served as a member of the Jack H. Berryman Institute for Wildlife Damage Management. At present she is a research biologist at the NWRC Olympia Field Station. The directive of the field station is to develop non-lethal means to alleviate the negative impacts of foraging wildlife on forest resources.
Fred Zensen (Speaker only – Paper not included in Proceedings)

Green side up: basics of planting

Fred earned his B.S. from So. Connecticut State University and his M.S. from Michigan State University. He is currently the Reforestation and Nursery Program Manager for the USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region. He has previously worked as Nursery Manager at the J.W. Toumey Nursery and Assistant Nursery Manager at the J.H. Stone Nursery, Cultural Assistant. Other positions held include Cultural Assistant, Cones, Seeds, Inventory, Lift & Pack at the Coeur d’Alene Nursery in Idaho, Forester on the Manistee Ranger District of the Huron Manistee National Forest, and Assistant City Forester in Lansing, Michigan.