I once heard a wise man say that the only constant in life is change itself. As far as my current personal life is concerned, those words have never rung more true. I recently took a new job offer that requires my family and I to relocate. This difficult decision has certainly caused some stress and emotional pain for us, and it’s been hard to see how it could possibly be worth it. However, the prospects are good, and I have faith that a great deal of good will come of it in the end.

Change can be hard when managing fine hardwoods too. You’ve probably spent a lot of time, money, blood, sweat, tears, etc., planting and nurturing your trees. If so, then you’ve probably also faced difficult decisions such as how or when to thin your stands or harvest your timber. Or maybe the management regime you’ve implemented hasn’t worked and you’re contemplating taking on a new strategy. Whatever the case, we all understand the fear of the unknown in such circumstances. As tree farmers and foresters though, we can’t be afraid of failure. We must realize that in order to be successful, we have to be willing to assume some risk, and even be prepared to fail. But we learn from our mistakes, and we have faith that it will all be worth it eventually. If you’re struggling in your endeavors, simply try out a little bit of change. You might find it to be just what the doctor ordered.
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Melanie Grove
Facebook Page Manager
This past June, the University of Illinois Extension placed two Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD) traps in the Black Walnut plantation in the Tree Research Area at Forest Glen Preserve. This has been the site of National Walnut Council Meetings in 1998 and 2012. It has also been the site of several Illinois Walnut Council state meetings.

The traps are funnel traps, which gives the illusion of a tree trunk to the bark beetle. Inside the funnel, a pheromone which is an attractant to the beetles, hangs from the top. Once the beetles enter the trap, they drop to the bottom into antifreeze which not only kills them, but preserves them for later identification.

The traps will be left on site until mid-October to catch the late flush of beetles. The traps have been primarily placed in rest areas along interstates and in black walnut plantations. So far, no beetles or other insects were caught in Illinois that carried TCD. The closest positive outbreak to Illinois is an isolated case in southwestern Indiana on an Indiana Department of Natural Resources site, which was not even on a bark beetle. The nearest area of concern is the finding in southwest Ohio. Black Walnut trees that have TCD in Knoxville, Tennessee show some signs of new growth. It is believed that the recent drought may have affected the beetle population. The University of Illinois Extension plans to apply for funding to continue placing and monitoring traps next year.
Shiitake Workshop
Logs from trees thinned from a swamp white oak plantation were used at this workshop. Generally, 3 to 6 inch diameter logs were cut 40 inches in February.

Mark Ullrich drilling holes (1 inch deep; 5/16” diameter) into oak logs, while Felt looks on. Holes are spaced about 4 inches apart in rows about 2 inches apart, staggering hole creating a diamond pattern.

Ron Nalevanko inoculating logs with “spawn,” which is sawdust with the mycelium of the shiitake fungus. Once the holes are filled, they are then sealed with cheese wax.
Shiitake Workshop
Logs from trees thinned from a swamp white oak plantation were used at this workshop. Generally, 3 to 6 inch diameter logs were cut 40 inches in February.

Gary Fernald held a grafting clinic to Illinois Walnut Council members near Atkinson, IL. Gary is an Illinois nut tree enthusiast and has given many grafting demonstrations. Several of Gary’s comments are listed below.

**GRAFTING WORKSHOP**

- Select Rootstock
- Collect scionwood (February) wood to be grafted. Scionwood may be stored dry in ventilated plastic bags in a cooler or refrigerator at or just above freezing.
- The rootstock should be cut first. A slanting cut, approximately 1 1/2 inches long, should be made into the rootstock.
- Match diameter of scionwood to receiving stem/branch, connect scion to stem, matching cambium to cambium
- Once the scion is inserted into the stock, a red rubber budding strip should be wound (not too tightly) around the union area to prevent the graft from pulling apart.
- Parafilm*, a plasticized paraffin with paper backing may be used to seal the grafting area so that the scion does not dry out before the union is formed
- The most crucial condition required to promote grafting success in black walnut is the proper temperature during callusing and early growth. For maximum success, temperatures should be between 65 F and 90 F, with 82 F being optimal
Wayne James Plantation

The James farmstead was established in 1872 and has been in the same family ever since. A ½ acre walnut plantation planted in 1995. The workshop will focus on pruning and thinning. The workshop will end with a sawmill demonstration and a tour of a small woodshop allowing the owner to go from growing trees to manufacturing wooden objects. For those interested in staying overnight, camping, a wiener roast and campfire will follow in the evening and a pancake breakfast the next morning.

Roger Briggs Plantation

Planted about 20 years ago, there are two main areas: the first area is on a bottom-land site, the soil is somewhat poorly drained. Walnut and mixed oaks were planted in alternating rows. The second site is an upland ridge, soils are well drained. A mixture of oaks, ash, and walnut were planted. Some thinning, particularly ash, has been done.
Member News and Information

FINANCIAL REPORT
September 1, 2015

Checking Account
Beginning Balance (June 3, 2015) $5,293.98

Revenue:

TOTAL REVENUE: $0

Expenditures:

Purchase new checks and additional deposit tickets $27.75

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: $27.75

Expenditures over Revenue: $27.75
Subtract from Beginning Balance: $5,266.23
(agrees with bank statement)

Market Report

Hardwood Weekly Review (8/28/15)
Green 4/4 Lumber (IN) per 1000 bd. ft.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lumber Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ash</td>
<td>$808.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hickory</td>
<td>$711.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cherry, black</td>
<td>$908.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basswood</td>
<td>$434.44</td>
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<td>Maple, sugar (hard)</td>
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<td>Maple, silver (soft)</td>
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<td>Oak, red</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oak, white</td>
<td>$701.81</td>
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<td>Tulip poplar</td>
<td>$578.89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walnut</td>
<td>$1514.44</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Comments: Domestic market for logs is seeing a decreased in price because of supply and demand; export markets for logs and lumber is good. The price of white oak stave logs is actually competing with white oak veneer logs.

IWC Membership:

We would like to welcome the following new and renewing members to the Illinois Walnut Council who have joined the Walnut Council within the past year. We encourage you to participate in field days (and even host a field day), comment on newsletter articles, or make suggestions how we can make your membership worthwhile.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Susan Short</td>
<td>John H. Iverson, Dunlap, IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Babler</td>
<td>Sue Berberich, Putnam, IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Koch</td>
<td>Carrel Mayfield, Olney, IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mark Gannon, Port Byron, IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ron Nalevanko, Milan, IL</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Upcoming Events

Sept 12  IWC Annual Field Day & Meeting in the Argenta-Mansfield, IL area
Sept 12  Michigan Chapter Field Day near Leslie, MI
Sept 19  Black Walnut Field Day new Mt. Vernon, MO, Call 573-884-2874
Sept 25  Illinois Forestry Association Annual Meeting Ballard Nature Center near Altamont, IL
Oct 10  Wisconsin Chapter Fall Field Day, www.wiscwalnutcouncil.org
Oct 24  Crop tree release and pruning at Etheridge Tree Farm near Taylorville. Contact Steve Felt
Nov 7  Forest Management Workshop at Kennekuk County Park, near Danville, IL