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THE HOOSIER KERNEL

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INDIANA NUT GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Jerry Lehman and J.R. McKenna, Editors

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Scion Swap Meeting

Sunday March 27, 2011

Farm Bureau Office - Indianapolis

Special Guest Speaker: Dr. Ron Powell of Fox Paw Ridge Farm

Lunch 11:30 Business Meeting 12:30 Speaker 1:30 Auction 2:30-3:00

Scion Swap - All Day!

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Bring Scion Wood w/ Source Information & Auction Items

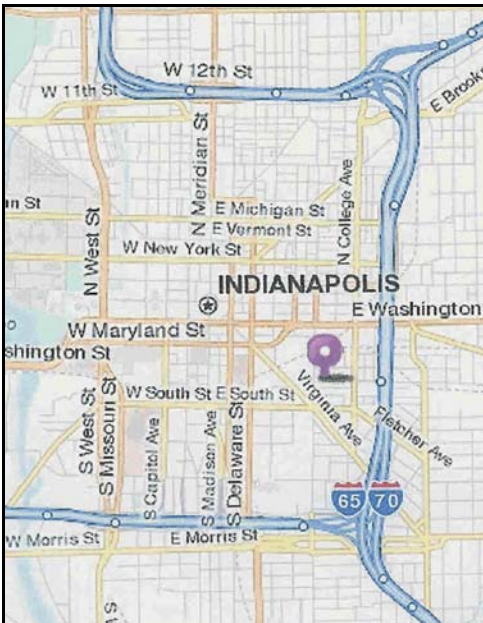
Volunteers Welcome for the Indy Flower & Patio Show:

Speaker: Ron Powell of Fox Ridge Farm

Our speaker is Dr. Ron Powell. Ron and his wife Terry own and operate Fox Paw Ridge Farm in Appalachia, growing pawpaws, persimmons and other unusual fruits. Ron has a BS – major in Plant Pathology and a MS – major in Agriculture Education He is Adjunct Assistant Professor at University of Cincinnati as well as at the Cincinnati State Technical and Community College in the fields of Entomology and Plant Pathology.

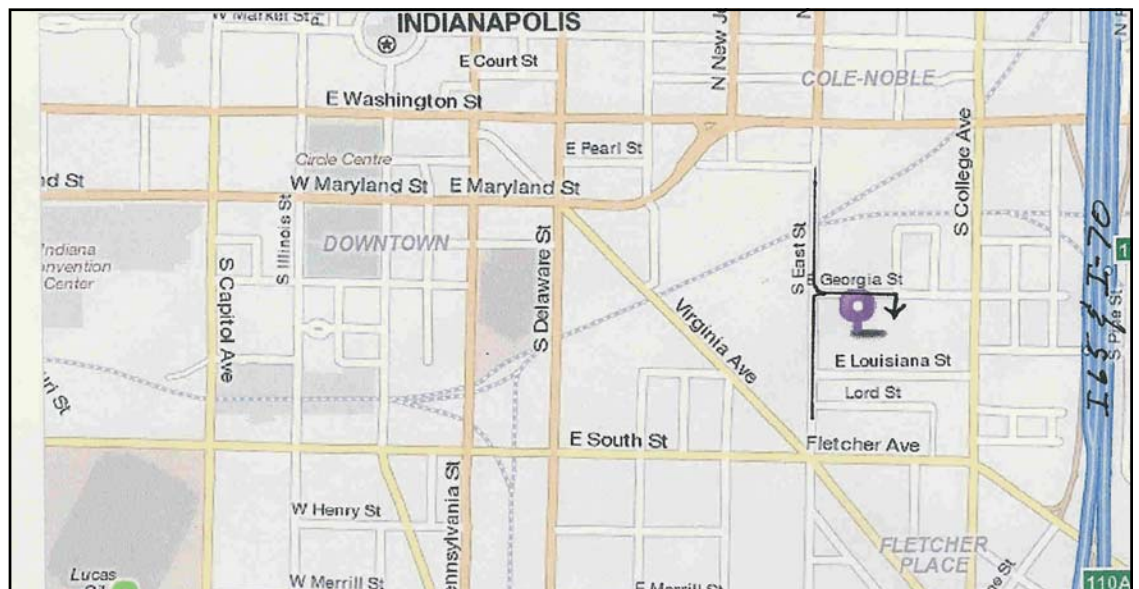
Dr. Powell is President of the Ohio Pawpaw Growers Assoc. (OPGA) and a Trustee and member of the Ohio Nut Growers Assoc. He is also active with the Pawpaw Foundation and the Northern Nut Growers Association. Ron will use PowerPoint to illustrate his orchard and Terry's marketing activities. Also discussed will be pawpaw cultivation and the research partnership with between OPGA and Ohio State Univ. to help improve processing methods for all pawpaw growers.

Directions –Farm Bureau Bldg. Indy



Location: 225 South East Street (not to be confused with Southeastern Avenue). The Farm Bureau building is a large brick, new building. It occupies the entire block between East Street and College on the West side, Georgia on the North and Louisiana on the South (see map). This is inside the I-65 loop (see small overview map at right). The streets are busy weekdays but quiet on Sundays. Drive to the north side of the building on Georgia St., pull in at the ground level employees parking area (see arrow) – there is a cement slab second story parking area overhead. There may be an arm blocking the way. If so talk into the speaker to identify yourself as a nut grower and the guard will raise the bar so you can enter and park. This is under roof therefore dry. The walk in entrance is on the right next to the guard station. Enter, sign in at the guard station, turn left at the first hallway and again left into our meeting room. Do not park in the visitor’s lot as you cannot enter from that front door. Watch for an INGA sign on the front, on S. East St.

- Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: You stay here; I'll go on a head. -



On the Stump

by Jerry Lehman



With the advent of all the free information on the Internet, membership in many organizations such as ours has been falling. While income is falling the cost of serving the membership with a written publication is ever increasing. Further it seems every time membership dues are increased new membership falls. This is a very real problem with the North American Fruit Explorers (NAFEX) and the Northern Nut Growers (NNGA). To reduce costs, both are being forced to make changes in their publications and publication schedules.

For quite a few years now our membership has fluctuated between 275 and 325, basically holding steady. We financially are in good condition and have been able to hold our annual membership dues at seven dollars for many years. NNGA is considering increasing the annual membership fee to \$45 and are now offering a free one-year student membership to help overcome this expensive hurdle that new beginners will face. Our membership fee of seven dollars even in these tight financial times is not prohibitive.

Our organization was founded 50 years ago to further nut growing in the north, and that still is our goal. However this narrow goal reduces by name alone the number of people that we attract as new members. Nearly all of our members grow fruit as well as nut trees. I frankly believe more Indiana citizens are interested in growing fruit than nuts. Can

we not entice their membership by appealing to their fruit growing interests? Would not their association with our nut growing members stimulate their interest to cultivate nut species? Would this then not serve to help succeed in furthering nut growing in the north?

At the December INGA Board meeting our membership numbers and goals were considered. Discussed was changing our name from the Indiana Nut Growers to the Indiana Nut and Fruit Growers. By show of hands the board was unanimous that this should be discussed and considered by the general membership. We would like each member to give this serious thought and the positives and negatives to a name change brought to the attention of everyone. The board agreed (without formal motion) that a name change should be discussed at each meeting and formally considered at the Annual Business Meeting in December and voted upon.

It is a continual problem to keep an accurate e-mail list of the members. Sam does his very best, but if you change your address be sure to inform Sam Dodd or myself. If you did not receive a test message from myself in December please forward you address to Sam and I. We try to protect your information, we don't sell lists. If something important comes up we can E-mail those members who we have in our roster.

Pecan Weevil Infestation of Carpathian Walnut Brought to the Attention of Researchers

by Ken Hunt and Marvin Harris

Bob Kussman of Keytesville, MO has been cooperating with pecan researchers on the distribution of pecan weevil in pecan and hickory. Bob presented a sample of pecan weevil larvae that had infested his Carpathian walnut (*Juglans regia*) yard tree to Ken Hunt, research scientist at the Center for Agroforestry, University of Missouri, which was then passed on to Marvin Harris, professor of entomology at Texas A&M. Marvin is a world authority on pecan weevil and quickly realized the importance of this discovery. The sample was confirmed through DNA analysis to be of the local strain of pecan weevil and is only the second published report on pecan weevil infestation of *J. regia*. The other report was in 1984 of a sustained infestation of a Carpathian walnut tree in Harrow Ontario, Canada.

Pecan weevil is quarantined in Far West Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, and Mexico, United States should be considered. We are now asking fellow NNGA members that have *J. regia* plantings if they know they have a weevil infestation or to be on the lookout for infestation of any trees. Samples of larvae can be preserved in rubbing alcohol in small glass bottles* and reported to and sent to Dr. Bill Reid (wreid@ksu.edu), Dr. Ken Hunt (huntk@missouri.edu), or Dr. Marvin Harris (m-harris@tamu.edu). This information will be invaluable to help understand the extent of infestation of pecan weevil in *J. regia*.

An excellent source to see information on pecan weevil is the website at Texas A&M on pecan pests: <http://pecan.ipmpipe.org>. The specific information of pecan weevil on that website is at: http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/toolbox/pest_profiles/pecan_weevil.cfm. Remember that you don't have to have pecan trees in your area to have pecan weevil as the weevil is capable of infesting all North American hickories. Dr. Harris can utilize any supportive information from NNGA members to help work out the relevance of the potential infestation of commercial areas of *J. regia* in the Western United States.

REFERENCES

Harris, Marvin K., Kenneth L. Hunt, and Anthony Cognato. 2010. "DNA Identification Confirms Pecan Weevil (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) Infestation of Carpathian Walnut."

J. Horticultural Entomol 103(4): 1312-1314.

ABSTRACT: Larvae found infesting fruit from a Carpathian walnut, *Juglans regia* L., tree in Missouri were confirmed by DNA analysis to be those of pecan weevil, *Curculio caryae* (Horn) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). The infested walnut tree occurs in the midst of pecan weevil-infested pecans, *Carya illinoensis* (Wang.) K. Koch; the larval haplotypes were found to be identical to pecan weevil larvae from the region, indicating that the walnut infestation arose by association with infested pecan. This is the first confirmed DNA analysis showing pecan weevil attacks *J. regia* and the second report that *J. regia* may be at risk of infestation by pecan weevil. The pecan weevil is a pest of pecan and seems capable of inflicting similar damage to walnut.

(* Jerry Lehman can supply you the bottles)

FALL MEETING, INGA NUT GROVE, JOHNSON COUNTY PARK



Members walking through the nut trees.



John Harrell, Nut Grove Chair, lead the tour.



Members at the meeting were offered free rides on the model rail road that runs through the grove. The rail roaders keep the area of the tracks well manicured. One of the model engines was an operating live steamer.



where the walnuts drop in and closest at the exit tray. The hulls drop out the bottom. This home made huller was on display at Bud Luers walnut orchard at the 2010 NNGA annual meeting, Wooster, OH.

Three point hitch walnut huller made using a small auto front wheel drive axil and powered with the tractor PTO. Walnuts are fed in the top try. Wheel in top picture turns CCW, bottom pix CW. Hulled walnuts come out the lower try, hulls drop out the bottom. The 5 rebar are spaced furthest from the tire

- There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did. -

The Walnut Lace Bug: A Potential Pest of Walnut, Heartnut, and Butternut

By, David Wees, Dept. Of Plant Sciences, Macdonald Campus of McGill Univ.

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A few summers ago, I noticed a small bug on the leaves of the heartnut and buartnut trees in the garden of my former residence, located in Pointe-des-Cascades, Quebec about 40 km west of Montreal. I have also noticed what seemed to be the same insect on several butternut trees on the Macdonald Campus of McGill University in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue about 25 km west of Montreal. In the summers of 1999 and 2000, the insects seemed quite numerous and I was concerned about potential damage to the trees. Sprays of insecticidal soap seemed to have little effect on the bugs. In the past two years, I haven't seen much evidence of the bugs on some young heartnut trees planted at the Horticultural Research Centre on Macdonald Campus.

After a bit of searching, I have tentatively identified the insect as the walnut lace bug (*Corythucha juglandis*). Lace bugs are members of the Tingidae family which belongs to the order Hemiptera or "true bugs". The nymphs (immature bugs) are black and quite small: they measure 0.5 to 2 mm long. The adults measure 3.5 mm long by 2 mm wide and have an unusual appearance: their translucent wings have been convoluted edges that had a lacy effect, hence the common name lace bug.

The adults overwinter on the trees and lay eggs in early June. The nymphs feed by sucking sap from the underside of leaves which, in a severe infestation, first turn white from lack of chlorophyll, then brown or bonze in mid-summer and then drop prematurely, often in August (Rose and Lindquist, 1997). The underside of the leaves may be covered with tiny black dots of excrement. Both adults and nymphs crawl slowly although the adults will fly short distances if disturbed.

Interestingly, most authors of books or bulletins on nut growing never mention the walnut lace bug as a pest. An exception is Duke (1989) who states that it can be a serious pest on the Eastern black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) but makes no mention of other *Juglans* species such as heartnut, butternut, buartnut, or Persian walnut. In fact, it seems

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that
is
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mologists who pointed out its importance Osborn and Drake (1916) mention *Corythucha juglandis* as a, "common species found on walnut and sometimes basswood". Drake and Ruhoff (1965) list butternut, black walnut, and heartnut as well as service berry, hickory and basswood as hosts of this lace bug; they state that insect is distributed from New Brunswick south to Georgia, from New England west to Iowa and southwest to Texas. According to Rose and Lindquist (1997), the walnut lace bug is found wherever walnuts and butternuts grow in Canada and the United States; however, Maw et al (2000) state that it is found only in Quebec and British Columbia. According to Stephanie Boucher, Curator of the Layman Entomological Museum at McGill University, specimens have been collected in several locations in south western Quebec. I have found lace bugs (although perhaps a different species) on the leaves of hazelnuts and raspberries.

Several questions arise. Is the walnut lace bug a serious pest of nut trees in Canada? Do large populations occur only sporadically or in particular locations? Is this a new pest that we will have to deal with in the future? I would be interested in hearing from Southern Ontario Nut Growers members if they have encountered this insect. If so, on which species: black walnut, heartnut, butternut, or buartnut? Did you see severe damage such as leaf browning and defoliation? Maybe you even have some insight as how to manage this insect in a nut grove.

Adult lace bugs on the underside of a heartnut leaf.

This article was first printed in The Nut Shell, publication of the Northern Nut Growers. The author and NNGA have granted permission to reprint.
