



Cooperative Extension Program

Silvopasture for Multiple Incomes

May 19, 2018

472 Pecan Road, Plantersville, AL 36758



Field Day Information

Silvopasture is a sustainable agroforestry system that involves an intentional integration and management of trees, forages, and livestock in a single management unit. This system offers more economical, environmental, and social benefits compared to the sole operation of its components. Well-managed silvopasture systems provide economic viability through regular, short-term incomes from hay and/or livestock components, and long-term incomes from trees. Most of the Southeastern forest consists of pine trees, which require 20 to 30 years to mature. Landowners with sole pine plantations have to manage the tree stands (thinning, pruning, and burning) several times before trees are harvested, and pay property tax annually; similar scenario is true with non-pine woodland. However, they cannot get much regular incomes from the woodland to support these costs unless agroforestry practices are adopted, which is possible after the first thinning and pruning that open up more ground surface and allow more sunlight penetration to the ground for understory vegetation growth. Livestock farmers can get more forages/grazing if a silvopasture system is practiced and grazing animals may have a more comfortable environment while in the silvopasture compared to where there are no trees. The purpose of this field day is to educate livestock farmers, landowners, and extension educators on developing and managing silvopasture system and familiarize with the basic goat-herd management techniques. The host farmer has 40 acres of 20-yr old loblolly pine silvopasture-goat system where the participants can visit and have a close insight about the system on the field day.



Major topics/activities

- Income options from silvopasture operations
- Tree management in silvopastures
- Raising goats in loblolly pine silvopasture
- Economic benefits of silvopasture system vs. forestry or pasture
- NRCS support available for farmers and landowners for improving silvopasture/pasture/woodland grazing
- Basics of managing a healthy goat herd



Site tour and hands-on activities:

- Collect and composite soil samples, tour the silvopasture site, observe fencing, and facilities (shelter, watering, and feeding)
- Identify good and problematic trees, take care of problematic trees, and estimate the timber biomass and expected price
- Hoof trimming, FAMACHA use, measuring body condition score and temperature, collecting fecal samples, determining age of goats
- Poster presentation on silvopasture research

Registration fee: None

Pre-registration by May 4 is required for the management purpose. Working lunch will be provided for the first 30 registrants.

Please reserve your place today by **registering online** visiting this link

<https://www.tuskegee.edu/programs-courses/colleges-schools/caens/cooperative-extension-program/agroforestry>, clicking the “**upcoming event**” tab, and completing the registration form for this event. Alternatively, you can mail the completed registration form to Ms. Yvonne Wright, 204 Morrison-Mayberry Hall, Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension Program, Tuskegee, AL 36088; or, email or fax the registration form to Ms. Wright ywright@tuskegee.edu, fax: 334-727-8812.

Driving direction from Montgomery

Take I-65 N/US-82 W/AL-6 W toward Birmingham, **Take EXIT 179** toward US-82 W/Millbrook/Prattville, Turn left onto US-82 W/Cobbs Ford Rd/AL-6 W (39.6 mi), **Take the AL-22 E/AL-22 W ramp (0.1 mi)**, **Turn right** onto AL-22 (9.0 mi) **Turn left** onto Pecan Rd. (0.2 mi). **472 PECAN RD** is on the right. (There will be **Field day sign**).

Driving direction from Demopolis

Take US-80 E/AL-8 E towards Selma (48.9 mi), **Turn left** onto N Broad St/AL-22 (16.4 mi), **Turn right** onto Pecan Rd. (0.2 mi), **472 PECAN RD** is on the right. (There will be **Field day sign**).

Contacts for further information:

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<https://www.tuskegee.edu/programs-courses/colleges-schools/caens/cooperative-extension-program/agroforestry>