



STS NEWSLETTER

A bimonthly publication of Street Tree Seminar
Your Los Angeles/Orange County Regional Forest Council

Palm Pests with Ricardo Aguilar

In response to the COVID 19 pandemic, we continue to hold our meetings online in lieu of in-person meetings.

Our October speaker was Ricardo Aguilar with Aguilar Plant Health Care in San Marcos. Ricardo gave an informative presentation on palm pests and diseases. *Disclaimer - the presentation was not a PCA recommendation - the intent was to share best management practices in a plant care practice.*

Ricardo began with **fusarium oxysporum**. Symptoms usually appear mid-canopy and presents with a one sided death. "Nearly" always spreads to pruning tools, especially chainsaws. Can also spread through roots, and can survive in the soil for up to 25 years. Management through removal of infected trees.



"New" fusarium has been reported, fusarium oxysporum f. sp. Palmarum. First reported on queen palms in 2019, the fungus destroys vascular tissue and is 100 per cent fatal, causing rapid death in 2-6 months. A lab test is necessary to confirm.

New"ish" pest– Invasive Shot Hole Borers



Discovered in 2003 in LA County and first misdiagnosed, it was correctly identified in 2012 as polyphagous shot hole borer (PSHB). In 2013, the Kuroshio shot hole borer (KSHB) was identified. ISHBs attack a variety of species, with 66 species currently listed.

Symptoms include excessive bleeding and pink rot. Death is slow, with pink rot usually winning. Management includes monitoring for early signs of bleeding, systemic insecticides for preventative care, and contacts/systemic insecticides/fungicides for curative care.

New(er) pest– Banana Moth



Life cycle is 3 months long, at 60+ degree temps. Banana moths are weak flyers, and are attracted to freshly-cut or wounded petioles and leaf bases. Larvae can feed on new growth as well. Creates additional stress on the palm. Management

includes insuring proper nutrition and watering, pruning only as needed, and 1-2 preventative insecticides per year.

NEW Pest– South American Palm Weevil

First detected May 9, 2011 in the San Ysidro area, 7 additional were found July-August in the same region. All were within 2.5 miles of the US/Mexico border. Traps were monitored from 2011 until 2013 when federal funding ran out, with one hundred eleven SAPW captured during that time.



Ricardo's top three takeaways:

- 1) *Monitor! Make pest and disease monitoring part of your routine.*
- 2) *Have a "toolbox" approach to PHC.*
- 3) *"SAPW is coming!" Have a prevention or action plan in place before it does.*



To learn more contact Ricardo www.aguilarplantcare.com

Join us IN PERSON for our Annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon and Officer Installation

December 16, 2021 - 10:30am to 1:00pm

Victory Park Center, 2575 Paloma Street, Pasadena 91107 Room 3

MASKS ARE REQUIRED!!

Great Trees of the LA/OC - *Emina Darakjy* *Agathis robusta*



The *Agathis robusta* at the Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens received the honor of being designated as a California Big Tree. The tree measures 112 feet tall with a 27-foot-6-inch average crown spread and a 235-inch DBH.

This tree may also be the oldest man planted tree on the property. It was planted in 1890 near

what was then the home of J. De Barth Shorb family the previous owners of the Huntington property. The tree was moved to its present site in the Rose Garden in



1908 in order to build the present Huntington mansion. The tree was 40 feet tall when it was moved.

These photos were taken during a dedication ceremony that took place at the Huntington on November 5th 2021.

You can read more about this species on page 8 of the 3rd Edition of the Street Tree Seminar's publication "Street Trees Recommended For Southern California"



L-R, Dr. Nicole Cavender the Telleen/Jorgenson Director of the Huntington Botanical Gardens, Donald R. Hodel, Emina Darakjy and Dr. Matt Ritter

To order a copy of the third edition of "Street Trees Recommended for Southern California", visit our website at www.streettreeseминаr.com, or call Heather at 714.639.6516

STS 2022 Slate of Officers

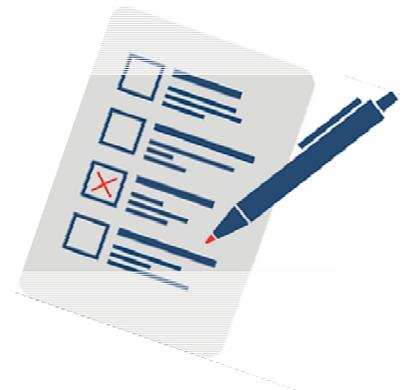
Please join us in welcoming our 2022 Street Tree Seminar Slate of Officers. We look forward to a fun-filled year of education!

Check your email for the ballot to vote for our 2022 Officers - Voting will close December 3, 2021.

- President***
- Vice-President***
- Treasurer***
- Secretary***
- Past-President***
- Director 1***
- Director 2***
- Director 3***

- Lucas Mitchell***
- Rachel Malarich***
- Dawn Fluharty***
- Adrian Sanchez***
- Emina Darakjy***
- Ernesto Macias***
- Wister Dorta***
- Cristina Basurto***

- City of Rancho Cucamonga***
- City of Los Angeles***
- Arborjet***
- City of Los Angeles***
- West Coast Arborists, Inc.***
- City of Santa Monica***
- Koreatown Youth and Community Center***



** please see page 3 for bios on our 3 new board nominees*

STS 2022 Director Nominees

Street Tree Seminar would like to introduce our nominees for the three open Director positions. We are excited for new faces and new ideas, and look forward to growing and learning together in the coming year. Check your email for the ballot to vote for our 2022 Officers - Voting will close December 3, 2021.

Wister Dorta is an Urban Forest Supervisor for the City of Santa Monica. He moved to California August of 2014 to assist Santa Monica with updating their Urban Forestry program. He has conducted a Carob population follow-up study, updated the 'Tree Preservation around Construction' document, scheduled planting of ~6500 new trees, reviewed over 7000 plans, consulted on a few new parks, multiple capital improvement projects, supervised Santa Monica Beach Maintenance for almost 1 year and closed out the new Metro line leading to the SM Pier.



Prior, Wister worked with City of New York Department of Parks & Recreation as a Forester in Brooklyn, ran 2 tree procurement contracts for MillionTreesNYC and Forestry Permit Manager for the 5 boroughs from 2008-2014. Wister was also a Red Carded Ranger with the National Park Service at Gateway National Recreation Area – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge and The African Burial Grounds National Monument in 2007. He is energetic about leadership, staff development and operations efficiency.

Ernesto Macias serves as Vice President of Risk Management, Labor Relations for West Coast Arborists, Inc. (WCA), Anaheim, CA. In his current role, Ernesto analyzes daily work processes and workplace environments to identify and mitigate potential risks to employees' safety and health. He writes policies and programs that prevent injuries to employees, mitigate risk to the company, and ensure compliance with all federal, state, local laws and other governing bodies. He is responsible for all legal actions involving the company and reduces future risks associated with the legal system. Manages and is responsible for all lines of the company's insurance coverage. As the Labor Relations representative, he oversees all union business and relationships with government bodies and agents.



Ernesto has been in the industry for nearly 26 years, starting as a Groundman with Davey Tree in Northern California and working his way up the ranks to an Area Manager overseeing operations in California and Nevada. While in Nevada, Ernesto served on the Nevada Shade Tree Council and the Southern Nevada Arborists Group (SNAG) as a board member. He holds the following professional credentials: ISA Certified Arborists, ISA Municipal Specialists, ISA Utility Specialist, ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ), TCIA Certified Safety Professional (CTSP), and Society of Human Resource Certified Professional (SHRM-CP).

Cristina Basurto is an ISA Certified Arborist and the Senior Community Engagement Coordinator at the Koreatown Youth and Community Center Environmental Services Department, where she oversees staff implementing urban forestry community engagement and planting programs that plant over 1200 street trees a year and provide establishment care through staff crews for over 5000 young trees. Having worked in urban greening for the last 16 years, including over ten years at TreePeople, her passion for the field first came from seeing the social and health benefits trees brought to her children. She is passionate about learning from the communities around her and equitably growing Los Angeles' urban forest.



Building a Better Forest — outsized outcomes in tiny spaces

by Helene Seifer for the Larchmont Chronicle (reprinted)

As we grapple with pollution, climate change, soil erosion and threats to biodiversity, we should remember a lesson every child learns in elementary school: trees are good for the planet.

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, as quoted on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) website, “In one year a mature tree will absorb more than 48 pounds of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and release oxygen in exchange.” Mindful of the value of trees beyond their beauty, we plant greenery in parkways and along freeways. However, evidence exists that there is a more efficient protocol for aiding our planet and improving the quality of our lives.

Theory- In the 1970s the Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki began thinking of forests as tree communities. He developed a reforestation approach of densely planting a mixture of native trees, the types that would have grown there before human influence. After preparing the soil with locally sourced supplements and analyzing historic and contemporary data on indigenous vegetation, the next step in the Miyawaki approach to a better forest is to plant a multiplicity of species in four distinct layers: lower shrubs, sub-tree layer, tree layer and taller-growing trees to form the forest canopy.



Children measure growth in Netherlands

In direct contrast to traditional row plantings, used by loggers to replace the trees they cut down in the forest, the Miyawaki method imitates how trees develop in the wild, randomly spaced in heterogenous groupings, which encourages healthy competition among the greenery. Compact, diverse forests take hold very quickly, maturing 10 times faster than trees planted on a grid, and creating 20 times more biodiversity, an outsized outcome in a tiny space. After two to three years of human caretaking, the new forests become self-sustaining, making them very practical additions to urban, rural and traditionally forested landscapes, even in places with depleted, barren soil. At least that’s the theory. Winner of the Blue Planet Prize, given by the Asahi Glass Foundation to recognize contributions to environmental science, Miyawaki put his theory into action, planting over 40 million trees in site-specific forests in Japan and 14 other countries, including China, where he oversaw restoration of the forest along the Great Wall.

Impressed by Miyawaki’s ideas, Shubhendu Sharma, an engineer for Toyota in Japan, created a standardized guide for the Miyawaki Method. His company Afforestt has advised on, and planted, reforestation projects worldwide. The TED Talk given by Sharma emphasizes that a forest of 300 trees can “grow on an area as small as the parking spaces of six cars — for less than the price of an iPhone.”

Sharma is not alone in picking up the tiny forest mantle. Nonprofits, corporations and governmental infrastructure programs worldwide have experimented with tiny space planting. The Miyawaki Method has been extensively tested in dry and alluvial tropical zones in Asia, South Asia and the Amazon, and tiny forests dot Europe, as well.

Since 2009, over 100,000 trees have also been planted in North America using the dense and diverse forestry concept, but only one has been tested in California’s Mediterranean climate. The Yokohama Tire Company Forever Forest initiative planted 3,900 trees in Fullerton on the grounds of what was then their headquarters.

Hancock Park Garden Club

Los Angeles soon will have a local opportunity to test the efficacy of the Miyawaki Method. The Bette Davis picnic area of Griffith Park, named for the actress who lived on nearby Rancho Drive, has been selected as a site for a new compact forest. In April 2021, the Board of Commissioners of the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) approved a proposal to plant a 1,000-square-foot circular micro forest with a bifurcating path for hikers to enjoy.

The [Hancock Park Garden Club](#) has provided RAP with the means for implementing the plan. Garden Club volunteers will install and maintain the forest for two years, by which time it should be fully established and self-sustaining, building a better forest for our community. There soon will be more to see and learn at this latest, local implementation of the Miyawaki Method.

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SITE OF FUTURE FOREST in Griffith Park. Photo by Zach Grossman



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MEETING SCHEDULE 2021/22

Dec 16 *STS Scholarship Awards/Officer Installation*
Victory Park Center, 2575 Paloma Street, Pasadena 91107 Room 3

2022 Program forming now - stay tuned!

TBD	Winter WTMS - Pests
Mar 17	TBD
May 19	TBD
TBD	Summer WTMS
Aug 18	TBD
Oct 21	Trees of El Dorado Park with Don Hodel

Interested in hosting a program in your community? We are interested in hearing from you!
Contact heather@streetreeseminar.com

INDUSTRY EVENTS

December 1	Investigative Visual Tree Assessment www.wcisa.net	online
December 5	ASCA 2021 Annual Conference www.asca-consultants.com	Incline Village, NV
December 17	Pest Fest focusing on Palms www.wcisa.net	online

AMPlifying the Urban Forests is coming to a community near you on March 12, 2022.



On this day, 2,000 urban trees will be planted in 30 communities across California by local grassroots volunteers. These trees will provide numerous environmental and public health benefits to the communities. They also beautify local neighborhoods. Sign up for updates and announcements related to the event by visiting our website at investfromthegroundup.org.

MISSION

“To provide a forum for professionals to share their experience, knowledge and expertise for the benefit of the membership and the enhancement of Southern California’s Urban Forest”.



EST. 1968
California Urban Forests Council

Street Tree Seminar is your Los Angeles / Orange County Regional Forest Council

VISION

“To enhance the health and beauty of Southern California’s Urban Forest”.