

The American Chestnut Foundation – Ohio Chapter
September 10, 2016 4-H Camp Palmer
Meeting started at 1:15pm
Business Meeting

Carolyn Keiffer described the first round of grants and the groups funded

Other plantings

Oberlin planted 25 B₃F₃ in March 2016, wet spring caused mortality of 14

Dawes Arboretum 2011 progeny planting 70 % survival, added more 2014 with 73% survival

Vinton Furnace demo plot 20 seedlings planted, mortality on 5, need to plant 5 Japanese chestnut and 5

Allegheny chinkapin

Ryan Homsher presented the treasures report

Joe Reardon discussed Eagle Scout project that planted seedlings in 2 locations

Possible to work with outer boy scout troops in future plantings and maintenance of existing plantings

Joe also looking into planting 6 Restoration1.0 seedlings at Schoenbrunn Village. There is a sign asking for trees to be planted and Joe plans to talk with the manager of the property.

Stephen Rist gave presentation of plantings of chestnuts in ODNR sites

December 2015 plantings, all trees have shelters on them to be protect

400 seedlings at Mohican State Park at the Gorge Overlook

325 seedlings at Scioto Trail State Forest at the fire tower

275 seedlings at Waterloo Wildlife Area

March 2016, all trees have shelters on them to be protect

2000 seedlings planted at Hocking State Forest

Mortality is estimated to be 15-20%, more exact numbers will be determined in the growing seasons to come

Keith Gilland and others are collecting site data and mortality on the Hocking State Forest planting

American Chestnut Hybrids plantings at Miami University Ecology Research Center by Olivia Owens

Adding amendmets to the soil and recording seedling growth

4 groups created with 8 seedlings per group

Compared: control, aluminum sulfate and sulfur, aluminum sulfate only and sulfur only

Height and caliper was measured at planting and end of 1 growing season

Data collection on surviving 25 seedlings will continue in years to come

Carolyn Keiffer recommended watching the TED talk “Reviving the American forest with the American Chestnut” by William Powell

She talked about the work the New York chapter is doing

SUNY has been able to take the oxalate oxidase gene from wheat and put into the American chestnut, allowing the tree to fight off the canker

Group walked outside to tour the chestnut demonstration site at 4-H Camp Palmer

Walt Lange lead the tour, showing the kiosk and growth of the 25 trees protected by fence around each tree

5 trees of each of the following: Chinese chestnut, Allegheny chinquapin, pure American chestnut, Japanese chestnut and Restoration 1.0 from TACF