



Asa Hutchinson
Governor

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Wes Ward
Secretary of Agriculture

G.5

November 8, 2019

The Honorable Cecile Bledsoe
Arkansas Senate
State Capitol

The Honorable Jeff Wardlaw
Arkansas House of Representatives
State Capitol

Re: Arkansas Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division's monthly activity report for
October 2019

Dear Senator Bledsoe and Representative Wardlaw:

Per Section 33 of Act 544 of the 2019 General Session, the Arkansas Forestry Commission (AFC) is to report monthly fiscal and agency activities to the Arkansas Legislative Council. Please find attached the report for October 2019.

The 2019 Rural Fire Show was hosted on Saturday, October 5, at the Conway Expo Center. This event is held each year to show appreciation to the many firefighters in the state of Arkansas.

This year, a total of 46 vendors (100 vendor representatives) were present to show off their wares and state of the art equipment to over 650 firefighters and family members that attended the event. These 650 firefighters represented 135 fire departments. Some lucky participants received door prizes that ranged from generators to bicycles.

Altogether, there were 775 participants involved in this year's event. Plans for next year's event have already started to take place.

Arkansas Department of Agriculture
Forestry Division

Joe S. Fox
State Forester

cc: DFA Director Larry Walther
Secretary of Agriculture Wes Ward



FORESTRY DIVISION

**Arkansas Department of Agriculture
Forestry Division
October 2019 Activity and Fiscal Report**

FIRE PROTECTION

Wildfires: During October a total of 43 wildfires were suppressed for a total of 355 acres burned. Ten-year average for the month of October is 116 wildfires with 1,364.72 acres burned.

Search and Rescue Assistance: Division crews in Pulaski and Faulkner County aided in the search for two missing girls in Pulaski County. The girls were found safe about an hour after arriving.

Storm Damage Assistance: Jonesboro crew assisted in tornado cleanup for the City of Tyrone in Poinsett County.

Rural Fire Protection: Rural Fire Protection (RFP) assists fire departments (FDs) with organization, training and equipment. RFP provides interest-free loans, secures firefighting and emergency service equipment from the federal government, and administers a federal grant to assist approximately 1,000 fire departments. The RFP shop provides maintenance to property destined for FDs and repairs Department equipment as well.

October 2019

- Seven Wildland Fire Suppression training classes were conducted with sixty-two FDs represented (132 firefighters), including five minority departments and three Forestry personnel in attendance.
- RFP received the following through the Fire Fighter Program/Federal Excess Property Program (FFP/FEPP) programs: Eight UTV's (valued at \$90,920.00), a cargo trailer (valued at \$2,525.00) and three pick-ups (valued at \$50,388.06).
- The following was issued this month; a cargo trailer to Forestry-D7 (valued at \$2,525.00), two 15 kw generators one to Fulton FD and one to Fair Hills FD (valued at \$52,668), two UTV's to Forestry D8, and one UTV to Forestry D4 (valued at \$34,095.00) and a 5kw generator to Pangburn FD (valued at \$23,738.00).

- Received 1,022 items in Department of Defense (DOD) Recycling Control Point (RCP) (valued at \$56,279.93) items received for redistribution to FDs this month included rescue wraps, flashlights, national flags and door handles.
- The RFP shop completed maintenance on five Forestry vehicles (Labor savings of \$7,565.00).
- Hosted the 2019 Rural Fire Show on Saturday October 5. Over 650 attendees and 46 vendors/sponsors participated. A birthday celebration for Smokey Bear's 75th birthday took place at the show. Several door prizes were handed out to adults and children. Door prizes included: generators, firefighting helmets, jackets, flashlights, Smokey Bear gift baskets, gift cards and two bicycles.
- The contract for the 2020 Rural Fire Show has been signed with the Conway Expo Center. It is to be held on Saturday, October 3, 2020.
- Fifty-nine counties have turned in and cleared FFP/FEPP inventory.
- The first draft of the Health and Safety Plan has been submitted for review to Department management. This is due to AWCC by November 10th for the Rule 32 program placement.

Firewise: Firewise staff and district personnel work with fire departments and civic organizations to make communities safer from the threat of wildfire through mitigation projects and community education initiatives. Arkansas leads the nation with 85 active Firewise communities. Recognized communities display Firewise signs at the city limits.

Firewise achieved the following in **October**:

- Conducted initial program presentation at three fire departments.
- Assisted one fire department with required renewal paperwork.
- Hosted informational booth at Rural Fire Show and assisted with the expo.
- Presented national program recognition signage and trophy to one new community.

Law Enforcement: ADA has the authority to enforce the laws of the State of Arkansas, but primarily on unlawful dumping, timber theft, forest fires, and forestry equipment theft and focuses vandalism. ADA aggressively seeks prosecution of violators to deter such crimes. ADA Investigators and district law enforcement officers opened two dumping, one fire related, six timber theft and one forestry equipment theft. They closed two dumping and one timber theft.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forest Stewardship/Rural Forestry Assistance Programs: Forestry Division works with a diverse group of partners and professionals to conserve, protect, and enhance the forests of Arkansas. The Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) is an opportunity for non-industrial private forest landowners who are interested in managing their property for wildlife, recreation, soil and water conservation, agro-forestry and/or for timber production to get a comprehensive multiple use forest management plan that is prepared by private consulting or Division foresters, private consulting or AGFC private lands wildlife biologists, and USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service soil and water professionals. Arkansas has 375,088 acres of private land actively enrolled in the Forest Stewardship Program. Landowners that implement practices under their FSP management plans become Certified Forest Stewards. There are 1,264 Forest Stewards owning 283,459 acres in the State.

For October nine FSP plans were prepared on 1,887 acres. In addition, Division personnel provide technical assistance through the rural forestry program to landowners that are enrolled in USDA tree planting and forest management programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Wetland Reserve Program, and Division Southern Pine Beetle Prevention and Restoration Program. Division foresters prepared 59 forest management practice plans on 4,527 acres. Division personnel conducted 14 prescribed burns on 510 acres.

Urban Forestry Assistance: Urban Forestry Program staff provide assistance and training to communities, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, developers and homeowners on urban tree care, inventory and management.

Urban achieved the following in October:

- Staff conducted a Mini-STOP workshop in Northwest Arkansas, five schools participated and will receive three trees each to plant on their school grounds.
- Staff conducted a tree care workshop for the City of Gentry's maintenance staff.
- Staff attended River Valley Horticultural Products Fall Celebration.
- Staff conducted a tree inventory at UALR Cooperative Extension campus.

Reforestation: The Forestry Division's tree improvement program strives to provide landowners with the highest possible genetic gain in pine and hardwood seed. One method The Forestry Division employs to achieve this objective is by establishing the highest genetic gain material in our newest pine and hardwood seed orchards. The Forestry Division's Baucum

Nursery then makes available to landowners the improved varieties of pine and hardwood, which are the net result of the tree improvement program.

Reforestation Manager, Dave Bowling and Administrative Assistant Krys Newnum attended and worked a booth at the Arkansas Forestry Association's annual meeting in Little Rock on October 8 - 10.

Reforestation Manager, Dave Bowling attended the Southern Forest Nursery Management Cooperative Advisory Meeting at Auburn University on October 30 and 31. The purpose of this meeting is to review accomplishments by the research staff during the previous year and to approve, deny, modify and make recommendations for research projects for the upcoming year.

Baucum Nursery: The Forestry Division's Baucum Nursery produces hardwood and pine seedlings for reforestation and afforestation efforts.

Regular season seedling sales began on July 16. Year to date through October 31, there were 237 online orders and 91 paper orders. Total sales of 1,165,800 pine and 7,222,750 hardwood.

Comparatively, during the same period in FY 19, there were 366 online orders and 91 paper orders. Total sales of 821,325 pine and 5,470,075 hardwood.

During the month of October, Baucum Nursery staff completed the following:

- Continued the following cultural practices for the 2020 crop:
 - plowed between beds in all planted fields to aerate soil and stabilize beds.
 - Disked layout fields 2 and 7.
 - Completed final preparation for methyl bromide application in field 2 and 7 with use of the do-all implement.
- Spread mulch in layout field 7.
- Collected soil sample in all fields.
- Finished installing culvert for entrance to cooler.
- Completed Methyl Bromide fumigation.
- Completed field inventory on the following species:
 - Loblolly Pine
 - Shortleaf Pine
 - Southern Red Oak
 - Bald Cypress
 - Bitter Pecan
 - Black Walnut
 - Button Bush
 - Red Mulberry
- Collected the following pounds of seed:
 - 197 Chinese Chestnut

- 4,254 Sawtooth Oak
- Received the following pounds of seed:
 - 797 Chinquapin Oak
 - 3,286 White Oak
 - 1585.5 Persimmon

Tree Improvement: The Forestry Division's tree improvement program provides landowners with the highest possible genetic gain in pine and hardwood seed.

During the month of October, the Bluff City Tree Improvement staff completed the following:

- Marked rootstock in orchards 1718 & 1719 to be removed.
- Applied potassium fertilizer to transplanted grafts in orchard 1721.
- Lined crates with netting for shortleaf harvest.
- Marked trees in orchard 1715 & 1716 for removal.
- Measured 20-year-old shortleaf test in Washington County.
- Started pruning and chipping lower limbs in orchard 1714.
- Delivered Loblolly cones to Idabel OK.
- Harvested cones from controlled crosses of 18 families.
- Harvested 493.5 bushels of loblolly pine cones for Forestry Division seed production.
- Harvested 141 bushels of Advanced Generation Shortleaf Pine for Forestry Division seed production.
- Harvested 525 bushels of loblolly pine cones.
- Harvested 60 bushels of Improved Shortleaf Pine cones.

Best Management Practices (BMP): Forestry Division provides BMP training to loggers and timber companies, conducts courtesy exams prior or during timber harvest operations and addresses logging complaints.

Staff accomplished the following in October:

- Prepared BMP Overview report.
- Checked Hempstead, Clark and Ashley County logging complaints.
- BMP Program review by Southern Group of State Foresters Committee.
- Completed BMP FY 2019 report.

Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA): Forestry Division in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station is responsible for collecting scientific data from permanently established plots located all over the state. The plots, each representing 5,937 acres, are strategically located on a three-mile by three-mile grid. The inventory plots have been generating data since they were established in the 1950's. Natural resource managers use the data to make management decisions and follow Arkansas's natural resource trends through time.

FIA completed 72 plots for the month of October. We are now 76% complete with the 2019 Inventory.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	Balance	
4020014000 TIMBER SEVERANCE	(381,545.53)	
** SR (3.0) - Taxes	(381,545.53)	
4030002000 ACREAGE TAX	(282,781.90)	
** SR (1.5) - Taxes	(282,781.90)	
4038001000 TIMBER SALES	(574.20)	
4038003000 SEEDLING SALES	(10,955.00)	
** SR (1.5)- Sales of Agency Produced G	(11,529.20)	
4042001000 FINES	(40.00)	
** OR - Fines and Penalties	(40.00)	
4044002000 FACILITIES RENT	(800.00)	
** OR - Rents	(800.00)	
4046002000 NON-OP DONATIONS	(986.50)	Fire Show Donations
4047002000 OTHER SALES	0.00	
4047041000 VOLUME REBATES	0.00	
4047099000 MISC REVENUE	(100.00)	Garnishment overpayment
6200003000 Other Donations	(8,200.00)	Tug Tractor; Forklift
** OR - Miscellaneous	(9,286.50)	
4047001600 PAYMENT FOR SERVICES	(7,414.00)	Prescribed Burn/Fire Lane
4048001000 SALE COPIES PUBS	(533.25)	Trees of AR
4048019000 RESALES	(739.61)	Fire Equipment
4053001200 NBR SALE OF GDS & SV	0.00	
** OR - Sales of Goods and Services	(8,686.86)	
4049003000 INTEREST DISTRIB	(0.24)	
** OR - Investment Revenue	(0.24)	
4050003000 OTH REFUNDS/REIMB	0.00	
4057003000 UTILITY REIMBUR	0.00	
** OR - Grants and Reimbursements	0.00	
4050004000 FED GRANTS/REIMBURSE	(78,477.93)	

4050004100 NBR - Grant Rev.	0.00
** Federal Grants and Reimbursements	(78,477.93)
4090010000 3% SPECIAL REV FEES	11,446.36
4090020000 1.5% SPL REV FEES	4,414.66
4090030000 ADDITIONAL SR FEES	528.71
** Treasury Charges	16,389.73
5010001000 00 Regular Salaries	765,742.31
5010001100 NBR - Personal Svs.	0.00
5010001600 NBR - Emp Benefits	0.00
5010002000 01 Extra Help Sal	13,261.32
5010003000 06 Overtime Salaries	2,305.74
5010005000 03 FICA & Medic Exp	56,001.85
5010006000 03 Ben Ins Exp HAL	118,860.00
5010006500 Agency Cost of ARCAP	3,791.01
5010007000 03 Retirement Exp	117,467.11
5010008000 03 Unemploy Comp Exp	1,430.21
5010009000 03 Worker Comp Exp	21,166.44
5010011000 16 Fixed Uniform All	400.00
** Salary Expense	1,100,425.99
5020001000 Postage	443.34
5020002000 Telecomm Wired	11,809.94
5020003000 Telecomm Wireless	10,056.79
5020004000 Network Services Exp	6,711.01
5020005000 Freight	145.01
5020006000 NBR Com & Trans Com	0.00
** Communication & Transp. of Commoditi	29,166.09
5030001000 Printing	5,760.36
5030002000 Bind Copy Collate	0.00
5030003000 Advertise Clip Svc	0.00
5030004000 Film Processing	0.00
5030004100 NBR Printing & Adv.	130.79
** Printing & Advertising	5,891.15
5030005000 02-Bldg & Grds Maint	6,427.29
5030005100 Pest Control CI 02	202.70

Incident Response Pocket Guide;
Business Cards

5030006000 Pub Facility M&O	147.35
5030008000 Office Equip Maint	0.00
5030010000 Pub Safety Eq Maint	752.58
5030011000 Ind Inst Equip Maint	48,996.86
5030011100 02 Farm Equip/Repair	266.61
5030012000 02 - Vehicle Maint	19,003.96
5030014000 Mar Avi Equip Maint	4,810.01
5030017000 Software Maintenance	0.00
5030021000 NBR - Repair & Serv.	436.59
** Repairing & Servicing	81,043.95
5040001000 Electricity	11,172.96
5040003000 Water & Sewage	7,644.25
5040004000 Natural Gas Propane	1,446.51
5040005000 Rent of Facilities	10,526.10
5040006000 Lease Private Land	1,080.00
5040007000 Rent of Office Equip	2,014.20
5040010000 Rent IndMarine Equip	0.00
5040011000 Other Rent & Leases	4,024.32
5040012000 NBR -Utilities & Ren	160.84
** Utilities & Rent	38,069.18
5050001000 02 Mileage	1,586.74
5050003100 02 - Meals	2,443.86
5050003200 02 - Lodging	9,254.65
5050004100 09 - Meals	271.01
5050004200 09 - Lodging	761.81
5050005000 02 Common Carrier	1,118.60
5050009000 02 Ground Transport	80.06
5050010000 09 Ground Transport	121.49
5050011000 02 PRKNG FEES TRAVEL	106.39
5050012000 09 PRKNG FEES TRAVEL	24.00
5050013000 02 Other Travel Exp	60.00
5050014000 09 Other Travel Exp	60.00
5050017000 02 Conf Seminar Fees	2,905.00
5050018000 09 Conf Seminar Fees	920.00
5050019100 Board Member Expense	33.48

5050020400 02BdMbr Trvl Mileage	492.24
5050023000 NBR Travel/Sub CI 02	0.00
5050025000 02 GAS PURCH-TRAVEL	0.00
** Travel & Subsistence	20,239.33
5060001000 Professional Adm Fee	210,932.00
5060001400 02 WC ADMIN FEE EXP	0.00
5080015000 02 MiscTech SrvNonIT	0.00
** Professional Services & Fees	210,932.00
5070002000 Vehicle Insurance	0.00
5070003000 Bld Contents Ins	(5,866.00)
5070007000 Other Insurance	0.00
** Insurance & Bonds	(5,866.00)
5080001000 M&R Service Fees	8.00
5080006000 Assoc Member Dues	11,800.00
5080014000 Trash Pickup Service	1,531.47
5080019000 Veh Lic Title Fees	115.00
5080020500 02 NONEMPL BCKGRD CK	88.00
5080022000 Other Expenses Svc	(43,563.00)
5080027000 Oth Cnt Svcs NonSt	300.25
5080029000 NBR - Other Exp, Svs	(8,332.51)
5080031000 02 Empl Screen Cost	414.25
** Other Expenses & Services	(37,638.54)
5090002000 Natural Res Supps	4,812.26
5090003000 Special Purpose Supp	176.04
5090004000 Tires	5,571.44
5090005000 02 GASOLINE PURCH	36,662.86
5090005100 02 DIESEL FUEL PURCH	23,790.27
5090005200 02 AVIATION FUEL	12,849.94
5090006000 Office Supplies	4,793.48
5090006100 02 Furnish/Accessory	0.00
5090007000 Educ Supplies Mats	50.07
5090011000 Photo Supps Mats	5.41
5090013000 02-Pub Safe,Mil Sups	1,644.80
5090014000 Drugs & Medicines	0.00

Henry's Aerial Service; Stewardship;
Land Appraiser

Southern Forest Nursery Management Group

Correction made

5090016000 Shop Indust Supps	15,233.22
5090018000 Subscriptions Pubs	1,522.02
5090019000 Food Purchases	3,637.83
5090020000 02-Clothing,Rel Item	561.12
5090022000 02-Kit,Jan,House Sup	1,903.13
5090023000 Seed Fert Cont Agent	27,875.32
5090025000 Agri Hort WL Supps	1,743.12
5090026000 DP Supps	5,676.67
5090026100 02 Cartrdg,Toner,Ink	0.00
5090026300 02 Dsktop,Laptop,PDA	0.00
5090027000 Software/Licenses	0.00
5090030000 Other Comm Mat Supp	4,614.83
5090036000 NBR - Comm, Mat, Sup	44.68
5090037000 Equip Fire Vehicles	26,908.43
5900004000 LVA Exp (Modified)	1,656.26
5901070000 LVA Exp Full	1,656.26
** Commodities, Materials & Supplies	183,389.46
5100001000 04 Assist Grants Aid	76,805.07
** Assistance, Grants & Aids	76,805.07
5110002000 02 Other Refunds	1,050.00
5110008000 License & Permits	0.00
5110015000 NBR Ref Taxes Claims	112.22
** Refunds, Taxes & Claims	1,162.22
6080001300 RefExpSlesTaxRebate	0.00
** Refunds	0.00
5900003000 Capital Outlay	35,945.05
** Capital Outlay	35,945.05
5901020000 Depr Expense (Full)	134,794.10
** Depreciation/Amortization	134,794.10
6091000000 Revenue FA (Full)	0.00
6100002000 GainLoss FA(Full)	4,222.23
** Gain/Loss on Fixed Assets	4,222.23
5130030300 Inter fedxout-warr04	0.00
6060003100 INTER XFER IN REBATE	(5,183.87)

RFP Loans for Tanker, Skid Units and other like equipment

2 Laptops

Law Enforcement Truck,
Donated Tug Tractor; Forklift

6060004500 IntraAgy GR Tran-In	(735,000.00)
6060006800 FS Adj Op Trans In	0.00
6060007200 M & R Transfers In	(3.75)
6060009000 Motor Veh Tfr In	(25,993.00)
6061004100 GR RECLAIM XFER OUT	0.00
6061006800 FS Adj Op Trans Out	0.00
6061006820 Tran Out to CompUnit	0.00
** Transfers In/Out	(766,180.62)
6990001000 Prior Yr Warr Outlaw	(387.29)
6990002000 Prior Yr Warr Cancel	0.00
6990003000 Prior Yr Ref to Exp	0.00
** Prior Year Adjustment	(387.29)
*** BALANCE	0.00