

Invitation to a New Jersey
American Chestnut Meeting
Saturday March 11, 2006
Prallsville Mills, Stockton, NJ



The Pennsylvania Chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation (PA-TACF) invites you to a general informational meeting for those who would like to assist in Chapter activities in New Jersey.

As part of The American Chestnut Foundation's (TACF) mission to restore the American chestnut tree to its original range, we are backcrossing the American with the Chinese chestnut tree to breed blight-resistance into the American tree. Although most American chestnut trees died in the early 1900s from an exotic fungus known as the chestnut blight, some of their roots still live and, if undisturbed, will send up new shoots. Typically, these sprouts get blight after a short time and die again. Our objective is to overcome the fungus, *Cryphonectria parasitica* and bring back what was once one of the largest hardwood species in North America. More information is on our web site, <http://www.patacf.org>

We will give a history of the American chestnut tree, its uses to man and wildlife, as well as an

overview of our current backcross program. After lunch, we will make a short trip to the Jarboe field owned by the New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF) where we have started four small plots to test the soil. It is in this field that we want to plant several blocks of fifth generation (BC3F2) Graves source of resistance material. At that generation, we expect to have trees with high amounts of blight-resistance, including an estimated 1.6%, or 1 of 64, of the trees to harbor full blight-resistance.

For those who wish to see a second field, we will visit NJCF's Bruce field with 3 year old fourth generation chestnut trees from the Graves source of resistance. After visiting these locations, one should have a better idea of the necessary maintenance required in maintaining a chestnut orchard. We also hope you will learn how you can help us bring a new food source to man and all wildlife. At the same time we will be creating jobs for industry and bring the largest tree in the east back from the brink of extinction.

Place Prallsville Mills in Stockton, NJ 08559 (Directions attached).

Date Saturday March 11, 2006

Agenda 10:00am – 10:45am - PowerPoint slideshow presentation

10:45am – 11:00am - Questions and Break

11:00am – 12:00pm - What we are doing where in NJ; where you can help and the potential for a chestnut chapter in the Garden State.

Lunch 12:00pm - We ask that you bring \$5.00 to help cover expenses.

Tour 1:00 pm Visit NJCF orchards, weather permitting.

If the weather is good or bad we will probably be walking in mud. Please dress accordingly.

For additional information, please contact
PA-TACF's Pennsylvania Chestnut Research
and Operations Center at Penn State University:

Phone: 814-863-7192

E-mail: sko2@psu.edu (Sue)

Address: 206 Forest Resources Lab

University Park, PA 16802

Stockton is on the Delaware River north of Washington's Crossing and the Mill is approximately one mile north of town. A map and directions to the Prallsville Mills site are below, but they may also be obtained at the Delaware River Mill Society's website <http://www.drms-stockton.org>. Click on "Directions".



The Prallsville Mills is located in Stockton, New Jersey, 13 miles north of Trenton on Route 29.

Directions from New York — 95 South

1. Take 95 South, Take Lambertville/Trenton Exit (last exit in New Jersey).
2. Follow signs to the right for Lambertville—Route 29 North
3. Continue along Route 29 (for approximately 20 minutes) as you come up to the town of Lambertville you will come to a traffic light—Nicolo's Pizza Restaurant will be on your right. Make a left at this light and then a right hand turn at the first light—this is still Route 29. Take this through to the end of town.
4. Continue on Route 29, you will come to the small town of Stockton—you will pass The Stockton Inn on your right—the Prallsville Mill is on Route 29 approximately a mile or so past the town of Stockton.

Directions from New York — 78 West

Take 78 West to I 287 South—follow signs for Somerville, exit onto Route 202 South toward Flemington. At the Flemington Circle continue around circle and follow signs for 202 South Lambertville. Watch for Lambertville/Stockton Exit. This will bring you to Route 29. Make a right—take 29 North approximately 2 1/2 miles to the town of Stockton. You will pass the Stockton Inn on your right and The Prallsville Mill is approximately a mile past the Stockton Inn.

Directions from Philadelphia

Take 95 North—In approximately 30 minutes you will pass New Hope/Yardley Exit (last exit in PA)
Continue on I-95 North across the Scudder Falls Bridge and you will see exit for Lambertville.
Follow signs for Lambertville—Route 29 North.
Follow directions as for number 3 above in NY directions (I-95 S)

Directions from Princeton

Take Route 206 North to Rocky Hill (4 mi) at light turn left onto Route 518 to Lambertville and Make a right on Route 29 North.

As you come up to the town of Lambertville you will come to a traffic light—Nicolo's Pizza Restaurant will be on your right. Make a left at this light and then a right hand turn at the first light—this is still Route 29. Take this through to the end of town.

Continue on Route 29, you will come to the small town of Stockton—you will pass The Stockton Inn on your right—the Prallsville Mill is on Route 29 approximately a mile or so past the town of Stockton.