

Dolman Ridge (Borthwick) Nut Grove Activities Report - 2008



**Eastern Chapter – Society of Ontario Nut Growers (ECSONG)
Ottawa Stewardship Council (OSC)
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR)
October 2008**



Joffre Côté
ECSONG Dolman Borthwick Nut Grove Coordinator
Ottawa Stewardship Coordinator, Kemptville District
3889 Rideau Valley Drive Box 599, Manotick, ON K4M 1A5

Table of Contents

Activities Summary	3
Future Management / Activity Recommendations	5
Appendix : Planting Activity Press Release	6

NOTE: Ce rapport scientifique est disponible en anglais seulement.



Activities Summary:

- Investigated the American Chestnut stand's (n=8) tree mortality factors (1 tree died in 2007, 1 tree showing symptoms; in 2008, the latter tree died and another tree died in early July.).
- New Butternut and Black Walnut plantation at Ridge Road.
- Reconnaissance work to locate shagbark hickory at old Forestry Canada trailer park and Nut Seed Collection.
- Invasive Species (i.e. Buckthorn) Eradication in the American Chestnut and Red Oak Plantations.
- Painting of American Chestnut Tree trunks with white latex exterior stain to mitigate against winter frost cracks, the determined cause of tree mortality.
- Continued project partnerships with National Wild Turkey Federation / Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and with Boisés Est.



Future Management / Activity Recommendations:

1. Focus on Black Walnut and American Chestnut
2. Undertake thorough thinning operations to effectively release the Black Walnut, Red Oak and Bur Oak plantations; harvest approximately one third of the existing trees within the plantations.
3. Monitor growth rates (i.e. DBH, Height and Crown Diameter) every 3 – 5 years.
4. Undertake subsequent thinning operations as required – not status quo.
5. Continue Buckthorn eradication, monitoring and maintenance in all plantations, if applicable, including in the American Chestnut / Shagbark Hickory stand.
6. Allow natural regeneration (by native species) to populate under storey, if this addresses the plantations' goals.
7. Monitor for diseases and parasites, often common in monocultures.
8. No thinning of any American Chestnut, Shagbark Hickory or competing mature trees should be undertaken in or adjacent to the American Chestnut / Shagbark Hickory stand.

