

CENTRE FOR NORTHERN AGROFORESTRY AND AFFORESTATION STATUS REPORT

<http://www.saskagroforestry.ca/>

The **VISION** of the Centre for Northern Agroforestry and Afforestation is to advance a sustainable agroforestry industry that contributes to developing better communities, a growing economy and a healthier environment.

Mission:

To facilitate the coordination and collaboration of scientific research activities, both biological and socio-economic, among the stakeholders in Saskatchewan for using woody plants in agroforestry/afforestation systems on agricultural land for farm diversification, fibre production and other environmental purposes.

To facilitate the incorporation of the biological and socio-economic knowledge related to agroforestry/afforestation systems into the University of Saskatchewan's College of Agriculture curriculum and into extension programs for stakeholders on the land base.

To network with various agencies to develop Saskatchewan as a knowledge centre in Agroforestry/Afforestation.

Goals and objectives of Centre:

1. Develop research capacity in the area of agroforestry/afforestation by partnering with other interested organizations.
2. Develop and deliver a strong research program concentrating on growing woody crops for agricultural land.
3. Increase funding from Tri-council and other provincial and national agencies towards research in this area.
4. Provide leadership in developing a strategic plan for creating an agroforestry industry in the province of Saskatchewan for the provincial government.
5. Enhance agroforestry curricula through the teacher-scholar model.
6. Provide undergraduate and graduate training in this field.

Types of activities undertaken to achieve mandate: Members of the Centre are currently involved in research projects funded by NSERC and ADF dealing with willow as a potential feedstock for biomass energy.

There are several Ph.D., M.Sc., undergraduate summer assistants and postdoctoral fellows being trained by researchers associated with the centre.

Student Experience; Programming; Outreach

The Centre does not offer any programming for graduate students. One member (Anthony Kimaro) with the Centre is teaching EVSC 430.3 Agroforestry for Environmental Management in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources.

Graduate students participate in a field day each year related to the research programs of various members to the general public and user groups.

Governance:

Director: Ken Van Rees, Soil Science

Dean Responsible: Mary Buhr, College of Agriculture and Bioresources

The Centre has a Director which reports to the Dean. As part of the Director's responsibilities as the AFIF Chair in Agroforestry and Afforestation he also participates in an annual meeting with a Steering Committee which is chaired by the Associate Dean Research in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources and this committee is updated on the Centre's activities as well.

Membership:

Nicolas Belanger, UQAM

Anthony Kimaro, Soil Science, U of S

Mark Johnston, SRC,

Graham Scoles, Plant Sciences, U of S

Yugaung Bai, Plant Sciences, U of S

Vladimir Vujanovic, Food and Bioproduct Sciences, U of S

Hayley Hesseln, Bioresource Policy, Business and Economics, U of S