JANUARY 2023

SONG NEWS

The Newsletter of the Society of Ontario Nut Growers and

The Eastern Chapter of the Society of Ontario Nut Growers

WWW.SONGONLINE.CA

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NUTS ABOUT HEARTNUT COOKING

This unique cookbook is the only book dedicated solely to the heartnut. The book is priced at \$12. Please add \$3.50 for mailing. For special quantity price, contact: Gordon Chinnick, Treasurer, 722 6th Concession Rd, Walsingham, ON NOE 1X0

SONG Website: www.songonline.ca Be sure to check it for updates on meetings, read about nut farming, post your nuts or nut products to sell online. Send your free posting to: Ernie Grimo, Past President, 979 Lakeshore Rd, RR3, Niagara/Lake, On LOS 1JO or: nut.trees@grimonut.com

| Inside This Issue | Page |
|---|---------|
| | 2 |
| Coming Events | 2 |
| Phragmites by Martin Hodgson | 2 |
| ECSONG Winter Meeting | 3 |
| Presidents Message | 3 |
| Librarians Corner by Gordon Wilkinson | 4 |
| A thank you to ECSONG members by Justin Reeves | 5 |
| by Justin Recves | J |
| Grimo Cleft Grafting Machine | 5, 6 |
| Varmints by Martin Hodgson | 7, 8, 9 |
| Classifieds | 10 |
| | |

Library Corner - Gord Wilkinson

Membership Form

This part of the page is now open to members who would like reference information or articles written by NNGA or SONG/ECSONG members. Gordon has a nearly complete set of NNGA Annual Reports and a complete set of SONG News issues to research.

10

SONG/ECSONG Archive

Have you visited ECSONG? Click the tab at the bottom of the SONG website to see the work that was done there? If you click on the SONGNEWS tab, you will be impressed to find all SONGNEWS issues from the beginning of SONG in 1972. Enthusiastic members of ECSONG did this for all members and visitors alike. There is plenty of reading there for the new as well as old members. Enjoy!

Have you renewed for 2023?

It's time for your annual membership. Check your envelope for the year you are paid up. You can renew for 2023 now! <u>Please renew now!</u>

SONG NEWS Page 2

Coming Events Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Conference

When: February 22 and 23, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Where: Niagara Falls Convention Centre, Niagara Falls, Ont. (Hazelnuts presentations are on Thursday).

Ontario Hazelnut Symposium 2023

Date: March 2nd, 2023

Time: 8:30 – 3:00

Location: Brant Sports Complex 944 Powerline Road Brant, ON N3L 0B2

Contact: contact@ontariohazelnuts.com

SONG WINTER TECHNICAL MEETING

<u>FEATURING:</u> A day of presentations from professionals, farmers, and hobbyists. Anyone wishing to speak at this day long nut growing adventure are welcomed to call Bruce Thurston at 519-740-6220 or email: thurston@bell.net. All members and visitors are welcomed to attend. The only prerequisite is an interest in nut growing. There will be a short business meeting, elections, and potential motions to be voted on.

DATE: Thursday, March 16, 2023.

<u>TIME:</u> 9:30 a.m. Registration. 10:00 a.m. meeting start Pizza Lunch, coffee and drinks provided at 12:00 to 1:00 4:00 p.m. meeting over.

LOCATION: The Simcoe Experiment Station Hall, on Blue Line Rd at Highway 3, Simcoe, Ontario. From Hwy 3 on the east side of Simcoe, drive north to the open gate turn left to the parking area and side entrance.

COST: Registration at the door, \$25.00 includes pizza lunch.

Phragmites

OIPC BMP Phragmites April302021 D10 WEB.pdf (ontarioinvasiveplants.ca)

These are the "Best Management Practices" that guide our work in the industry. These documents are created in a collaborative effort by various professionals/organizations and are updated every 5 - 10 years. Page 59 details biological control of Phragmites, though it mainly talks about insects.

This local article actually has goats eating Phragmites

https://www.therecord.com/news/waterloo-region/2019/09/01/goats-enlisted-to-battle-invasive-weed-at-cambridge-reserve.html

Congratulations to John Sankey

John Sankey, a long-time and very active member of ECSONG, its Immediate Past Chair and SONG's Webmaster, has been chosen by the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club to be the recipient of the Conservation Award for a Non-Member for the year 2022. This award is being made to recognize his contributions to local green space improvements, and in particular, his service as the stream watcher for Hunt Club Creek

 $(see: \underline{https://ottawacitizen.com/opinion/boswell-reimagining-the-rideau-the-stream-watcher-of-hunt-club-creek}).$

They also noted his involvement with rare nut tree preservation.

This award represents well deserved recognition of his work on natural history conservation in the Ottawa area. Congratulations John and thank you so much for these important contributions.

ECSONG Winter Meeting

By: John Sankey

The ECSONG Winter Meeting held on January 21st was the first in-person since Covid began and was a welcome get-together of 27 friends and newcomers, ranging in age from toddler to almost 90, at the Hunt Club Community Centre. Two special guests were Linda Grimo, President of SONG, and Gordon Chinnick, Treasurer of SONG.

We heard presentations on the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority's Butternut Recovery Program including its offer of free DNA tested butternut, the Canadian Soils Survey, now converted to a consistent base coast to coast and online, and from three heartnut growers located in Eastern Ontario, their experiences with growing and grafting, but mostly with the need for squirrel control. (Encouraging weasels seems to work!)

Many members brought their favourite nut treats for all to enjoy, while coffee, juice and water lubricated conversation during breaks.

President's Message

By Linda Grimo

I was pleased to be able to attend the ECSONG meeting last month. The meeting agenda and speakers were fantastic. There is always so much to learn and the community is warm and welcoming.

There are several other fantastic meetings coming up that I am looking forward to attending as well:

- Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Conference in Niagara on February 22-23
- Ontario Hazelnut Association meeting in Brantford on March 2
- Upper Mid-west Hazelnut Conference in Iowa on March 3-5
- SONG meeting at the Simcoe Station on March 16

SONG is a 50 year old organization that is run by volunteers who are nut enthusiasts. We are grateful to those who are able to share of their time to make this such a successful group. We have a website, Facebook page, newsletters, and meetings that are made possible by these wonderful volunteers.

In order to continue to thrive we need additional volunteers to work on Outreach, Membership, Events to attend to promote SONG and ECSONG, and activities to engage others to think about the incredible nut trees that are growing in their communities. If you have ideas, please don't hesitate to let us know. Perhaps you have ideas, but not time...that's ok too. If you have some time, but don't know how you can help our organization grow... that's ok, we can find you a place at the table!

We are also currently seeking both a Financial Reviewer and an Editor for the Newsletter. There is a team to assist the Editor with content for the newsletter.

I am especially looking forward to seeing everyone at the SONG meeting on March 16. I find the sessions valuable learning opportunities regarding the important aspects of growing nut trees, and the networking of this fantastic community to be highly engaging. We have planned a fantastic meeting to cover Integrated Pest Management, Tree Crop Insights, Drought Conditions and Irrigation, Processing Nuts, Grafting, Animal/Pest Controls, and much more. The Board and I hope to see you there.

Linda Grimo

Song.president@yahoo.com

Librarian's Corner

By Gordon Wilkinson

Squirrels have been plundering my heartnut crop for several years. This past season they took every single nut from my two largest and most productive heartnut trees – two grafted "Imshu" - while I was attending the annual conference of the Northern Nut Growers Association in Pennsylvania from August 7th to 10th. Most of the nuts on my remaining grafted and seedling heartnut trees had disappeared by the time I returned from a three-week visit to Halifax on September 14th. I quickly plucked the six remaining buartnuts from an isolated seedling tree growing a considerable distance from my main orchard before they too were completely plundered by the furry bandits.

Two weeks later – on October 1st - I encountered a most pleasant surprise on one of my heartnut trees. It caused me to wonder whether I discovered a new secret weapon in my war against squirrels (apologies to those who think more kindly about them than I do!). While brush cutting I noticed an abandoned wasp nest in one of my young "Simcoe" heartnut trees (Photo 1). I was shocked to see three large clusters of heartnuts hanging from this tree which grew in the midst of heartnut trees previously raided by squirrels. I immediately harvested the clusters and put them in the back seat of my car (Photo 2). My conclusion is that during their waves of pillaging the squirrels avoided harvesting from this tree because they were harassed by the wasps protecting their nest. If someone knew how to encourage wasps to regularly nest in our nut trees perhaps we could greatly lessen nut predation by squirrels! Of course, this is said in jest.

I include below a number of references to more conventional "tried and true" methods of control. The first reference focuses on the control of chipmunks, which presumably can be applied to squirrels, and was published in the September 2022 issue of the Song News, page 3. There is also a very concise but comprehensive Q and A paragraph on squirrel control in the September 2016 issue of the Song News, page 8. Reading this paragraph reminded me that the single row of 400 Norway spruce trees that I planted singlehandedly in 2000 to act as a windbreak for my nut trees also unfortunately provides "my squirrels" with a safe and secure home and a protected corridor of travel to more distant nut trees. A more detailed discussion on squirrel control can be found in Ernie Grimo's book "Nut Tree Ontario: A Practical Guide", pp. 24-25. The articles in the NNGA annual reports listed below also provides useful information on squirrel control as does the chapter on *Wildlife Damage Control* in "Nut Tree Culture in North America", edited by Richard Jaynes, p. 312. If there are any articles you would like me to scan and email to you please let me know.

Slate, "Shall We Raise Nuts to Feed Squirrels", 1941, 32:42-47.
Berhow, "Bluebirds As Squirrel Chasers", 1962, 53:129-130.
Hartman, "Controlling Deer and Squirrels", 1979, 70:71-72.
Christisen, "The Second Crop for Nut Growers", 1985, 76:56-60.
Forbes, "Wildlife Damage in Nut Groves", 1989, 80:71-75.
Huggins, "Managing Squirrel Depredation of Pecans", 1993, 84:65-66.



Photo 1: Empty Wasp Nest in "Simcoe"

Heartnut Tree – October 1, 2022



Photo 2: Three Nut Clusters from "Simcoe"

Heartnut Tree – October 1, 2022

A Thank you to ECSONG members

By Justin Reeves

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big Thank You to all the ECSONG members, family and friends who came for the farm tour. For the past 12 years we have worked hard to promote a healthy agricultural ecosystem on our farm here in VanKleek Hill. Nut trees are at the heart of the perennial woody crop agricultural system we are creating, which aims to imitate natural ecosystems to provide food for humans and livestock while capturing carbon and increasing biodiversity creating a refuge for wildlife as well as ourselves. We hope this can be an example of an alternative to current conventional farming practices. The design of our water management system is based on Mark Sheppard's Keyline adaptations (I highly recommend reading his books Restoration Agriculture and Water for any Farm). We have a budding Nut tree nursery (pun intended), and are excited to offer selected Hazelnut and Heartnut seedlings from trees proving successful here at our farm as well as importing nursery stock from Forest Agriculture Enterprises in the spring of 2023. If you would like to learn more about restoration agriculture or would like a consultation for design/implementation of earthworks, water management system, contour plantings, or restoration plantings for your property, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at

Justin@meadowlarkrisefarm.ca. Looking forward to seeing you all at future events!

The Grimo Cleft Grafting Machine by Linda and Ernie Grimo

The Grimo Cleft Grafting Machine is modelled after the Heitz grafting machine, no longer available. It has an aluminum framework to make it rust resistant but strong enough for the hardest grafting jobs. The tempered blades were made by the Peter Hay Knife Company in Cambridge Ontario, Canada. The machine is a big improvement over any other grafting machines in its class. A novice can make grafts as well as an expert with little instruction and no experience.





It was designed to make grafts using two different methods. The first uses the machine for both "V" cuts on the scion and the rootstock producing the kind of graft as shown in this figure to the right. The two



parts are joined and held with paraffin stretch wrap or Buddy Tape™ and/or rubber grafting strips. The tip of the graft can be sealed with grafting wax, a pruning compound or even carpenter's glue.



The second method is more versatile and can be used on mismatched sizes of rootstock and scions. The blades of the machine are designed to make a long narrow "V" wedge shape. This makes the machine capable of producing cuts in sizes of scion wood from as small in diameter as 3/16" to as large as 3/4" (5-19 mm) with no machine adjustments.

Continued on Pg.6

Song News Page 5

Continued from Pg. 5



The grafter's skill is to make certain that the scion is centered correctly between the blades in making the "V" cut. One scion bud should be positioned on the top of the cut as this surface will be placed in the rootstock cleft with

the cambiums of both the rootstock and the scion meeting. The next cut is to be made into the rootstock with a knife to a depth that matches the length of the "V" of the scion. The knife blade can be a guide to determine the depth of the cut.

The scion is inserted into the knife cut to match the cambium of both stock and scion. The rootstock has a natural tendency to hold the scion in place. In fact, on larger diameter rootstocks the scion may

need a light tapping to set it. This is a strong graft that holds well even in windy conditions, but for outdoor grafting a brace is recommended. If both sides match that is best for final results, but one side matching will heal all around during the growing season.

The final step is to wrap and finish the graft as illustrated below.



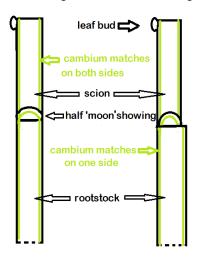




Depending on the hardness of the wood being cut, some maintenance after several thousand cuts may be needed. Light oil should be put on moving parts. The blades may need touching up. They are beveled on the outside edge only.

If the blades are removed or go out of adjustment, they need to be replaced carefully. The bottom edges of the blades need to be as close as possible to the anvil without touching. The top of the blades needs to be open, away from the anvil. The blades still need to pass through the opening at the anvil. This tilting placement of the blades will prevent damaging or pinching of the scion as it is being cut. If there is still pinching at this setting, one blade should be lowered 1-2 mm at the tip compared to the other blade. There is enough clearance in the bolt holes to allow for adjustments.

A Completed Cleft Graft Showing the Cambium Meeting



Varmints by Martin Hodgson

We have been growing hazelnuts on our farm near Tillsonburg Ontario for about 30 years now. Most of my trees are unique varieties that I have nurtured from the hundred or so survivors of the large planting (5000 over 25 A) of <u>seedling</u> trees that I set out in the 90's. The planting was devastated by EFB by 2000 which killed about 97% of the trees. Since the trees are all seedlings their size, shape and yields are quite varied. The yields from individual trees vary with many of them dropping more than 10 lb. per year and a few over 20 lb. some years.

For the last decade or so we would routinely have a nut drop that occurred in Sept. that trailed off into early Oct. The nuts would collect on the orchard floor for several weeks after which we collected them for drying.

We have always observed some "shrinkage" in the hazelnuts in the trees each year but always had a "crop" of some sort. The shrinkage was never thought to be severe.

In 2022 we started noticing a lot of nut shells around the base of certain trees starting in early Aug. In some cases the entire tree was stripped in a matter of a day or two. The nut meat development within the shells could be as low as only 10% and was always well before the nuts were ready to pick.

It was evident that the nuts were being shelled by squirrels for the most part by the irregular tooth marks observed on the empty shells. This unwanted harvest seemed to progress into the orchard further and further, moving away from the forest's edge (some 100 ft or so away).

In a few cases, to a much lesser degree, clean split open shells were also found at the base of the trees indicating crows were dining out. Blue jays were also commonly seen as well but I do not think they are a major problem (yet).

There was no indication of raccoons being involved as they normally would break a lot of branches off in there reaching out to the furthest nuts.

I had always noted that the "in tree" volume of observable nuts seemed to always decline starting in early August but had never stopped to study the problem in any degree.

In 2022 we never had a nut drop like we have had every other year for the last decade or more. **No nuts** accumulated on the orchard floor over the harvest period. This condition occurred across my oldest two orchards totaling about 6 acres in all. Conversely we did get a nut drop, though reduced in volume, in Sept. in my youngest 2 acre orchard located quite far away from the forest .The orchard also had a major highway on one side of it. This I believed reduced the squirrel pressure somewhat.

So, we have a problem. The squirrels have attacked the hazelnut crop with a vengeance this year (2022). Casual observance seems to indicate that the near total lack of acorns and black walnuts may have forced the squirrels into the hazelnuts. So this may be a onetime problem? However, now they have found the hazelnuts, they will be back.

How do we reduce the pressure of these and other varmints on our crop? First we need to identify the culprits taking the nuts and then focus on reducing the feeding pressure.

I had initially identified chipmunks as the problem seeing that they actually lived within the orchard and as such were always around. You do not necessarily see them all the time as they are quite skittish. They also for the most part tend to take the nuts away and hide them leaving little trace of the theft. Squirrels being far away from their home tend to eat in and leave the evidence at the base of the tree.

In 2020 I started trapping chipmunks in small wire traps using bird seed. This works in the spring and early summer until the nuts start to fill then they lose interest in the bird seed bait I use. As did I by Aug I had removed about 40 individuals but then the birds started to be a more common capture than chipmunks and I was focusing on other activities, so I closed the trap line. Squirrels were seen but rare and did not appear to be very active in the orchard.

It should be noted that I tried about 5 different types of traps. I found that the cheap (30-40\$) wire traps worked best for chipmunks. More expensive ones were virtually unsuccessful. Squirrels are too smart for these traps. All traps need to be firmly secured to the ground or they will wander off. Determined raccoons or coyotes will cart them off great distances or occasionally destroy them in place in attempts to get at the captured animal.

In 2021 I started in March to trap chipmunks using the small wire cages. By year end I had removed 140 of them Continued on Pg.8

Continued from Pg. 7

over about 4 acres. Few squirrels were seen, and none were trapped in the wire cages. A number of them though succumbed to some high-speed lead but these were quite infrequent.

We had a nut drop that year and were able to leave the crop on the orchard floor for over a week or more before we swept it up. It should be noted that there was a big crop of black walnuts in 2021 along with ample acorns. 2022 started along about the same as 2021 but the chipmunks captures were much more rapid than before. I captured about 140 of them by year's end with the majority coming in June (92). I thought that the early spring would bring in a lot to the traps due to food shortages but not necessarily. Few were caught after Aug.

I started seeing massive assaults on individual trees in late July with a number of those closest to the forest being stripped totally by Aug. 1. One promising tree I was watching had dropped 22 lb. of nuts by Aug. 28 in 2021 but by Aug. 10 it had been totally stripped of its crop. Hard to do any yield analysis when this happens.

I could see the destruction passing slowly and deeper through the orchard day by day even as the nuts were still nowhere near ready to pick. Some squirrels were coming through over 100 ft of standing corn to get to the hazelnuts I took active steps to put out larger, "better", more expensive traps but no squirrels seemed to be interested in them even if they contained hazelnuts.

The only way I had any success in removing squirrels was using a 12 gauge shot gun with #4 shot. I managed to remove about 40 of them from June to Nov. but I think a lot of their buddies came to the funerals as the losses continued to where I had no nuts dropping on the orchard floor at all in 2022.

The problem with hunting the squirrels is that it takes a lot of time- 3-4 armed patrols at 20 minutes each and any you miss you just make them more cautious. I also found that squirrels can out run a golf cart and a Labrador retriever (at least mine)

So, I am at a loss as to how to grow a small acreage of hazelnuts and expect to get a crop when there are squirrels (and chipmunks) around. I am certain after watching a number of YouTube videos that squirrels can overcome any barrier you put in front of them eventually.

I understand that if you have many acres you can afford to lose a certain percentage to feed the neigbourhood and will still get a crop.

Also, I am hoping that the natural wild nuts come back to distract the varmints away to some extent. I will be continuing on with the small wire cage trapping of chipmunks. Just think of how many hazelnuts 140 chipmunks could pack away.

I am also going to try ultrasonic emitters (battery or solar powered) placed around specific trees that always get stripped at the start of the year to see if they have any effect.

What needs to be done is find an acceptable spray that could be blasted into the orchard that would be harmless to the nuts and consumers but leaves an awful taste in squirrel's mouths. I can only hope.



Carrying on Martin Hodgson, from Butternut farm.

Continued on Pg. 9

Continued from Pg. 8

Please Note

We can go on and on with cautions about these activities but the responsibility is on you to ensure that your activities do not contravene any government regulations. The previous statements are first hand experiences for informational purposes only and should not ever be considered as approval or direction for your activities. You are on your own.

The hunting of squirrels is controlled by the MNR. Non-farmers should check with the MNR to be informed and familiar with the regulations regarding such activities. According to the MNR the removal or killing of squirrels by farmers to protect their crops is not considered hunting and is allowed. Such activities can be conducted to the point that the losses are basically reduced to a tolerable level. Participants in such activities must have current gun permits if using one and follow all regulations.

Types of traps

Note – <u>all traps</u> need to be tied down or secured in some way to prevent larger predators from carrying them off and out of the orchard. Position the traps in the shade of the trees to reduce stress on the "guests" Note-trapping of animals is controlled by type of animal and type of trap used by the MNR. Common "rat trap" types are allowed to trap squirrels according to the MNR, presumably because they quickly kill the trapped animal.

<u>Leg hold type traps and traditional fur trapping traps are strictly controlled and typically not allowed in this application. Check with the MNR.</u>

<u>Live trap</u> — Wire cages that capture the rodents live. The traps range from cheap, small 4 x 4 x 12" light wire/screen cages for chipmunks and squirrels (~\$40 on Amazon) to large 12 x 12 x 24" or larger, more expensive heavy steel wire cages for bigger creatures like raccoons. The inexpensive, smaller, light wire cages work best, from personal experience, for chipmunks. You must maintain these traps daily at a minimum to deal with any creatures that become trapped. Birds tend to be collateral captures that can be released un-harmed.

Lethal traps – (See note above)

There are a variety of traps available that will actually kill the chipmunk or squirrel. Simple rat traps come in many variations but all are intended to kill the animal outright. These spring type traps are single shot units that either hit or miss when activated.

There are ramped up rat traps heavy duty units. (~\$60-90 on Amazon). These are sold as rat/squirrel traps but may get close to the restricted side of things.

Good Nature A24 Pneumatic piston eliminators have a gas cylinder propelled bolt that fires when the squirrel attempts to retrieve the bait. These units are safe with the actuator located within an open ended cylinder. The squirrel must enter in about 1/3 its body length to actuate the trigger. Mounted on a post, they will semi automatically cycle through about 40 shots per cylinder refill in *warmer weather*. (~\$250 on Amazon)

Wanted

I have been the editor for well over 20 years and I would like to find a replacement to take this position over. You will have 4 newsletters to produce per year. If anyone is interested please contact myself. H. 519-740-6220, C. 226-922-9764, brewster113@yahoo.ca, or Linda Grimo at song.president@yahoo.com Bruce w. Thurston

CLASSIFIEDS

GRIMO NUT NURSERY LTD

In business since 1972, we are the only nursery in Canada that specializes in grafted and layered nut trees and a selection of grafted "orphan fruit trees". All listed cultivars are tested in our own orchards before we offer them for sale. While trees can be picked up at the nursery, we ship fresh dug bare root trees in the spring across Canada and the United States. A selection of potted trees is available during the summer growing season. Free consultation is offered to customers.

Own rooted (layered or cloned) hazelnut trees are available for commercial growers. Grafted and seedling trees are available of heartnut, Persian walnut, black walnut, butternut, sweet chestnut, hazelnut, pecan, hickory, pine nut, and more including a selection of rare hybrids. Fruit trees offered include pawpaw, persimmon, mulberry, fig and small berry plants such as aronia, kiwi, saskatoon berry and more.

We also sell harvesting equipment, tree shelters, nut crackers & Ontario nuts & nut meats.

Our on-line catalogue is updated daily as items are available. For information or ordering: www.grimonut.com

nut.trees@grimonut.com phone: (905)-Yeh-nuts (905-934-6887) Fax: 905-935-6887 or write: Grimo Nut Nursery 979 Lakeshore Rd, RR #3 Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON LOS 1J0

RHORA'S NUT FARM AND NURSERY

We have been in active business for over 39 years and Offer cold hardy trees (Climatic Zone 4) and all of the trees were tested in our orchards before offering them for sale. We are the only nursery in North America that offers as many Different varieties of Edible Nut Pines ranging from climatic Zone 1-9. We also offer our selection of nut trees and minor fruits. Trees of Persian Walnut, Japanese Heartnut, Japanese walnut, Black Walnut, Butternut, Buartnut, Chinese Chestnut, Japanese walnut, American Chestnut, Hazelnut (bush type), Trazel, India Tree Hazel, Chinese Tree Hazel, Turkey tree Hazel, Hickories (4 different types), Northern Pecan, Beech, hybrid sweet Oak, Ginkgo and others. Edible nut pines that we offer are: Korean, Armand, Swiss Stone, Swiss stone var. Siberica, Dwarf Siberian, Jeffrey, Russian cedar (Pinus siberica), Pinus Siberica f. humistrata, Pinus Siberica f. coronans, Pinus Siberica f. turosa, Macedonian, and others. Minor fruit trees offered include Paw Paw, Persimmon, Beech plum, Mulberry, Chinese Dogwood, Elderberry, Sea Buckthorn, & Cornelian cherry. We also offer a variety of Rare & Unusual trees & Shrubs. We also offer solid state pest controls and harvesting equipment for sale. We only Spring ship freshly dug bare rooted trees. Pick up can be arranged as well. Please visit our website for our online catalogue for more detailed information about the above listed trees. Those wanting a printed 22 page catalogue are available for \$5.00 which is refundable when placing an order. To contact us about ordering:

www.nuttrees.com / rhoras@nuttrees.com, phone or fax 905-899-3508, or write us: Rhora's Nut Farm & Nursery, 33083 Wills Road, R. R. #1, Wainfleet, On LOS1V0

...MEMBERSHIP benefits in the Society of Ontario Nut Growers (SONG) & ECSONG (Eastern Chapter of SONG) include three yearly newsletters, along with 3 annual meetings in two regions, set to satisfy the needs of both the commercial growers and the hobbyists. For an added bonus, **new members** will receive SONG'S own nut growing manual, *Nut Tree Ontario, A Practical Guide*, a \$20 value, **free**, when you take out a three-year, \$45 membership. Simply ask for your free copy when joining SONG. For added information, view the ECSONG handbook at: http://www.songonline.ca/ecsong/. Fill out the tear off below and send to: **SONG/ECSONG, Gordon Chinnick, Treasurer, 722 6th Concession Rd, Walsingham, ON NOE 1X0.** Your cancelled cheque is your receipt. **Dues can also be paid by e-transfer to: song.treasurer@yahoo.com**.

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