



## Natural Resources Management and Engineering

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### NRME ON THE ROAD

This spring, Dr. Miller and graduate student April Hiscox will be taking their show on the road. Starting in early February the two will start a three month research trip to Las Cruces, New Mexico with the University of Connecticut miniature elastic Lidar. The Lidar (Light Detection and Ranging) uses a laser and a telescope in a setup similar to radar to look at small particles in the atmosphere.

The trip will start with a drive from Storrs to Iowa City where the system will undergo some upgrades at the University of Iowa. The drive will then continue on the Las Cruces where it will find a temporary home in partnership with the University of New Mexico.

For one month the Lidar will be used in a study to determine how much and what kind of particulate matter is generated in cotton planting processes. Once the cotton is in the ground, the Lidar will once again be on the move to the Jornada Research Ranch located about 12 miles north of the Las Cruces where it will be used in a study to measure plume dispersion as a tracer of wave-turbulence interactions in the stable boundary-layer.

Once complete, the Lidar will return home here to UConn for a summer rest before a return trip to harvest the cotton late next fall.

### UConn SUGARHOUSE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

*By Geoff Picard*

Welcome back everyone to the year 2005. There is much in store for this semester. The latest and biggest news to speak of is the arrival of the new UConn Sugarhouse. The sugarhouse was delivered as a prefabricated building designed to be a working sugarhouse. It is located near the old sugarhouse by Farm Services. We are now in the process of moving our equipment in there and setting up.

I would like to take some time to thank the people who have been so helpful to our organization. First, I'd like to thank the Undergraduate Student Council (USG). They have granted us funds to purchase a brand new evaporator, the sugarhouse, buckets, taps, finishing equipment, and more. USG has been very generous to our organization and we would not have been able to get this far without their kindness and support. We would like to express a great deal of gratitude to the USG. Another bit of appreciation goes out to the faculty, staff, and students of the Natural Resources Department for being so supportive of our operation. We have a lot of great people in the department that have been so kind and helpful along the way. Thanks everyone.

So last year we made 3 gallons of maple syrup. Not bad for the first year. Hopefully this year we will surpass last year's total. This coming sugaring season, we hope to be in full throttle with our new sugarhouse. Instead of buckets, this year we set up tubing in our sugar bush. We are also planning on having the sugarhouse open to the public on weekends. So please stop by and check out our operation. Steam and Smoke will be a good indicator to tell if we are open.

All in all, it is about time that the College of Agriculture at UConn has its own sugaring operation. In doing so, we plan to represent ALL the Connecticut Maple Syrup Producers the best that we can. It is foreseen that we will become the voice of CT maple syrup producers and with a little hope, we will try to help put Connecticut a little higher on the map for making maple syrup. We also believe that this will be a great project to get students involved and to work together.

There's so much to do and so little time. Let's just have fun! For more information, contact Geoff Picard, Vice President of the UConn Forestry and Wildlife Club at [Geoffrey.Picard@huskymail.uconn.edu](mailto:Geoffrey.Picard@huskymail.uconn.edu).

## REFORESTATION -- REVERSING THE ECOLOGICAL TRAGEDY IN CENTRAL AMERICA

By: Mark Hood

Rural Guatemalans depend heavily on forest resources that are being rapidly depleted, with tragic consequences of water source loss and soil erosion, among others. On Wednesday, February 23rd at 7-9pm in the Student Union room 304, the UConn Soil and Water Conservation Society and the Undergraduate Student Government is hosting an event meant to raise awareness on these issues and inform students of ways in which they can become involved. The event will feature two guest speakers:

Dr. Robin L. Chazdon (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology professor) will be discussing her reforestation work in Costa Rica through a presentation on Regeneration and Recovery in Mesoamerican Rainforests

Katy Barlow (UConn undergraduate student) spent this past summer working in Pachaj, Guatemala with Chico Mendez, a local initiative association dedicated to cultivating trees from seed of the nearby forest to reclaim deforested land. She will be giving an informal presentation on her experience with Chico Mendez, interviews she has had with other organizations, and the general causes and damages associated with deforestation in Western Guatemala.

Door prizes and free Guatemalan food will be provided. For more information contact Mark Hood at [mark.hood@huskymail.uconn.edu](mailto:mark.hood@huskymail.uconn.edu)

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Now is the time to start thinking about summer employment and building your resume. Dr. Schroeder maintains a bulletin board of career opportunities and seasonal job openings outside of his office Room 308 in the W.B. Young building. Browse through the listing, who knows your dream job may be available!

### DATES TO REMEMBER

February 21	President's Day
March 5	Last Day of Classes Before Break
March 14	Spring Break Ends, Classes Begin

## NRME DEPARTMENTAL HAT FOR SALE

*Show your NRME Pride!*

The new NRME departmental ball cap is dark blue featuring the NRME logo in green, a preformed brim, and is adjustable to fit all. The hats are \$5 apiece and can be purchased through Deb Horton in the main office on the third floor of the W.B. Young building.

### WHERE'S THE NRME HAT NOW?

*A pictorial series of our new departmental hat traveling throughout our planet! As you, our faculty, students, alumni and supporters venture out on expeditions, research, outreach or vacations, take the NRME hat with you, snap a photo of the hat in it's exotic location and submit it to NRME News and we'll try to post it. Please include the location, date and those present with your submission. For ease, please submit either in a digital or developed photo format.*



**CAUGHT IN THE WIND.** Wind Cave National Park, South Dakota. The NRME hat is to the right of the Park Service Logo. May 2004.

### SUBMISSIONS

To submit articles or information to NRME News by faculty, students, clubs or organizations contact: Christopher Renshaw, Room 5 W.B. Young or see Deb in the Main NRME Office.