

**Notes from the
Thousand Cankers of Black Walnut National Conference
November 3-4, 2009 - St. Louis, Missouri
Doubletree Hotel—St. Louis at Westport**

This is based on notes taken by Julia Thompson and David Johnson (both of the Missouri Department of Agriculture) and typed by J. Thompson (CAUTION: This is not a transcript, but notes. Remarks are often paraphrased and may have been accidentally omitted or misunderstood by the note-takers. It has not been compared with the event recording to check for accuracy.)

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Key to some abbreviations used:

WTB = walnut twig beetle = *Pityophthorus juglandis*

TCD = thousand cankers disease

Gm = *Geosmithia 'morbida'* ('*morbida*' is proposed species name of this newly discovered species)

BW = black walnut = *Juglans nigra*

Brian Hammons (Hammons Products)- The Importance of Nuts From Black Walnut Trees to Industry as Well as To Consumers, Harvesters, and May Towns in Rural America.

- 3rd generation walnut business
- 25-30 million lb wild black walnut (nuts) /year

- BW important to consumers, food processors, industrial processes, harvesters, growers, small businesses, rural America
- Has an economic impact in 15 states
 - 65% from MO 80-120 jobs
 - 1.5-2 million lbs nutmeats
 - 15-20 million lbs ground nutshells
- Priceless impact
 - Rural harvesters of nuts
 - Food traditions; nutmeats used in a variety of food products
 - ◆ Recipes can be found on Hammond's web site
- Loss of BW would be a loss of opportunity
 - Potential income from improved varieties
 - 5000 acres of improved varieties could produce as much as currently produced which could be worth \$5 million annually to landowners
 - Expects orchards to be the future of nuts in MO
- 260 hulling operations; Sikeston, MO home base
 - Shells abrasive with many uses

Showed DVD

Question: Are the shells all used? Answer: yes; used a lot in oil drilling; hull used some

Comment: hulls used in leather tanning, stains

Comment: Encourage government to help

Question regarding forest health Answer: Hammonds has 240 acres of BW orchard
Loose some to lightning strikes or which blow over when soils saturated
Has not looked at wild crop in depth

Question: are there other commercial operations? Answer: there are also some small crackers