

# Oak News & Notes

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL OAK SOCIETY, VOLUME 10, No. 1, SUMMER 2006

## 2006 International Oak Conference Oct. 29-31

Dear Friends,

The 2006 International Oak Conference is just around the corner. For those attending this Conference please register for your hotel room by September 28 to receive the group discount. The hotel is located near plenty of restaurants which are within walking distance. There is also a Starbucks coffee shop located across the parking lot for those needing a little extra boost. Transportation to and from Texas A&M will be provided from the Conference Hotel. If anyone needs a registration circular mailed to them, please let me know.

The Dallas Fort Worth metro area is located on the prairies of north central Texas. The Metroplex cities are young as compared to other U.S. cities. The native oaks of north central Texas include our bottomland trees such as *Quercus macrocarpa*, *Q. muehlenbergii* and *Q. shumardii*. Oaks that occur in sandy and transitional areas include *Q. marilandica* and *Q. stellata*.

The oaks that grow on rocky hillsides include *Q. buckleyi* and *Q. sinuata* var. *breviloba*. *Q. fusiformis* grows in the western part of the Metroplex on rolling hillsides. The dominant oaks used in landscapes are *Q. shumardii*, *Q. fusiformis* and *Q. buckleyi*. *Q. macrocarpa* and *Q. muehlenbergii* are beginning to be used a lot more as well. Other oaks such as *Q. laceyi* and some of the Mexican oaks are beginning to be used some too. The Mexican oaks include *Q. canbyi*, *Q. polymorpha* and *Q. rhysophylla*.

The Conference tours will include a one day pre-Conference tour of Texas A&M Dallas, Cedar Ridge Preserve and The Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park. The post-Conference tour will take us to Stephen F. Austin State University's Mast Arboretum and a tour of their many woody plants. We will then tour the amazing plant collections of Peckerwood Gardens. They will have some acorns and seedlings available for sale. These seedlings were grown from acorns collected in habitat in northeastern Mexico. Of the eight or so *Quercus* species collected, three of those

Continued on page 4, col. 2

## Dallas Seed Exchange

We are holding the Fifth Oak Conference late enough this year that every participant should be able to find ripe seed to bring to the exchange. For those who have not participated in an Oak Society triennial conference in the past, be aware that these seed exchanges are massive and a highlight of the event. The exchanges held during some of our conferences have included more than 100 oak taxa, plus some hybrids and a few related species or other taxa (*Castanea*, *Lithocarpus*, *Fagus*, *Carya*, *Juglans*, etc.). Here are some guidelines for you:

1. Positively identify your source trees, preferably selecting trees growing in monotypic groups or natural forests to assure proper pollination.
2. Document all seed source locations using country, state (or county), elevation, street address, GIS coordinates, and similar data as appropriate and available.
3. Select good quality seeds with no evidence of insect damage, and refrigerate them (do not freeze!) in sealed plastic bags until conference time.
4. Divide each seed lot into small plastic bags of about 6-12 seeds. This is important – please do not bring large bags of un-separated, unlabelled seed because there is not enough time at the exchange to process such lots.
5. Label each small bag with the scientific name of the tree, the source location data, and your name (so the recipient can contact you for more information if needed). The label can be inserted into the bag or fastened securely to the outside. Be sure it will not smudge.
6. Perforate the bag with very small holes to facilitate air exchange before mailing them or carrying them to the conference at room temperature. For additional protection against mold, include a small amount of activated charcoal. If the seeds are already beginning to sprout, add some very slightly moist sphagnum moss to each bag. Do not apply toxic fungicides or insecticides that might harm someone who opens the bag.

Continued on page 6, col. 1



## IOS Board Election in Progress

In early June, postal services around the world delivered to current Society members fat envelopes containing election materials for the 2006-2009 term of office for the Board of Directors of our Society. Members are surely impressed by the qualifications, diversity and energy displayed by this slate of volunteer candidates. The election committee is pleased with the steady flow of returning ballots and proxy forms.

Members joining or renewing after the first of June will receive election packets and are encouraged to participate. Ballots returned up to the time of the general meeting in Dallas will be included in the election results, which will be announced on October 30th during the membership meeting at the Conference.

Thanks to everyone who has participated in this election!

*Diana Gardener, Chairperson,  
Election Committee*

*Don't forget to vote!*

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*Oak News & Notes*  
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## New International Oak Society Tours Committee Formed

Just in time to be ready for the upcoming International Oak Conference in Texas, a "Tours Committee" was founded. So far, four IOS members have agreed to work on this committee. They are Jo Earle, England; Anke Mattern, Germany; Barry Denyer-Green, England; and Shaun Had-dock, France. Other members who are interested in this committee are welcome.

If you are interested, please contact me: (eike.jablonski@education.lu). The "Tours Committee" shall coordinate and help to organise future IOS excursions and tours, Oak Open Days, and other events. Hopefully suggestions about these events can be presented to the Committee at the conference in Texas this autumn.

*Eike Jablonski,  
IOS President*

## IUFRO Oak Conference Scheduled

The 2006 International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) Oak Conference: *ADVANCES IN THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF OAK SILVICULTURE AND GENETICS* will be held at Stevens Point, Wisconsin from September 21-30, 2006. This Conference is a joint meeting of two IUFRO Working Groups, 1.06.00 -- Improvement and Silviculture of Oaks -- and 2.08.05 -- Genetics of *Quercus*. All scientists and managers who have an interest in oaks are invited to attend. Complete and current information about this meeting can be viewed at the following web site: <http://www.uwsp.edu/forestry/oak2006>.

### *E-Mail List*

If you are at all interested in this meeting, please enter your e-mail address at the following site so you can receive up-to-date information about the conference: <http://www.uwsp.edu/forestry/oak2006/IUFROOAK2006.ASP>

### *Objective*

The objective of this conference is to bring together forest scientists and managers from throughout the world to exchange information regarding current research and practices concerning the silviculture and genetics of *Quercus*.

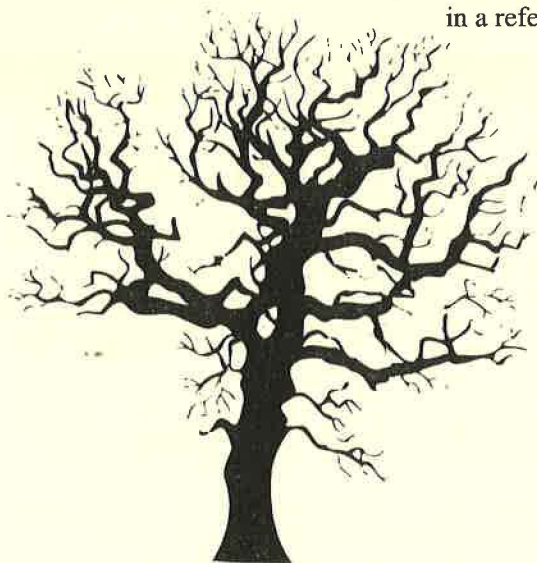
### *Subject Areas*

Forest scientists and managers are invited to submit proposals for either oral or poster presentations in subject areas that are consistent with, and related to, the themes of the conference. Joint and concurrent sessions will be featured. See Author Guidelines at <http://www.uwsp.edu/forestry/oak2006> for instructions.

### *Publication*

All abstracts of oral presentations and posters will be published and will be available at the time of the conference. Authors of oral presentations and posters will be invited to submit written papers which will be peer-reviewed and published in a refereed publication.

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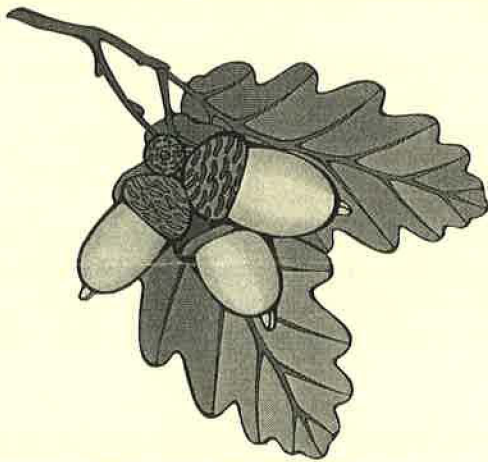
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## Oak Symposium To Be Held in California

This coming October, three weeks before the International Oak Society Conference in Dallas, the Sixth California Oak Symposium will be held in California. This Symposium, titled *Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Opportunities*, will take place in Rohnert Park from October 9-12, with fields tours scheduled for the first day.

The focus of this meeting will be the science, management, conservation, planning, and policies related to California's oak woodlands. Topics will include monitoring, restoration, regeneration, livestock relations, utili-



zation, recreation, ecology, fire, wildlife, conservation easements, and pest and diseases. It is targeted for academics, planners, conservation practitioners, foresters, arborists, and oak enthusiasts interested in learning about the latest research findings and policy directions aimed at conserving this critical natural resource. •

There will be over 60 scientific papers presented as well as a poster session with approximately 25 posters. In addition, there will be several panels addressing subjects such as policy, planning, land management and restoration. As with previous oak symposia, the Proceedings will be published as a USDA Forest Service General Technical Report.

To learn more about this Symposium, including how to register and where to stay, please visit the Symposium web site at: <http://danr.ucop.edu/ihrmp/symposium.html>

*Continued from page 3, col. 2*

## IUFRO Oak Conference Scheduled

### *Conference Schedule*

Registration and a social mixer will start the conference on Sunday evening, September 24th. Joint and concurrent sessions of oral presentations will begin on Monday, September 25 and continue through noon, Wednesday, September 27th. Poster presentations are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, September 25th and 26th. A conference field excursion will be featured on Wednesday afternoon, September 27th.

### *Accompanying Persons' Program*

A program is being planned for people who will accompany attendees of OAK 2006 and will include Pre-and Post Conference Excursions. A pre-conference excursion to southwestern Wisconsin will take place from September 21 to 24. A post-conference excursion to northwestern Wisconsin will take place from September 28 to 30. Details of these excursions are currently being planned.

### *Questions*

Feel free to contact me if you have questions about the conference.

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## International Oak Conf.

are *Q. canbyi*, *Q. polymorpha*, and *Q. rhysophylla*. Do not miss this chance to add to your collection. Peckewood Gardens is a must if you are interested in the Oaks of northeast Mexico and has many other plant treasures as well.

I am looking forward to meeting all of you!

David Richardson, Conference Host & Coordinator  
E-mail: [David.Richardson@UTSouthwestern](mailto:David.Richardson@UTSouthwestern)



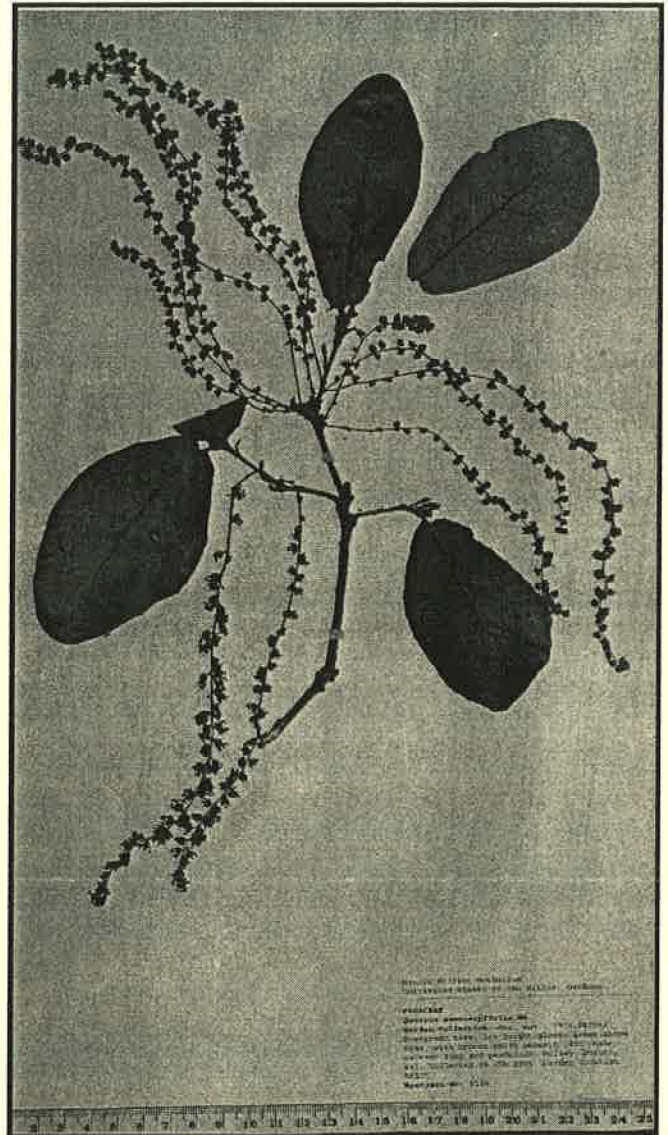
## More On *Quercus x warburgii*

Allen Coombes, Sir Harold Hillier Gardens

The article on *Quercus x warburgii* by J.R.P. van Hoey Smith (International Oaks 17, 71-2) suggested the parentage *Q. robur* x *Q. rugosa*. I had already proposed this some years earlier in the Hillier Manual of Trees and Shrubs (2002). The author's observations on seedlings of *Q. x warburgii* seem to confirm the parentage, but I am of the opinion that the best way to prove it is to recreate the hybrid by sowing seed of *Q. rugosa* when it is grown in cultivation with *Q. robur*. Unfortunately *Q. rugosa* has never borne fruit at the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens but is more likely to do so in warmer parts of Europe. I would urge anyone who has a fruiting tree of *Q. rugosa* in cultivation to sow the seed from it and make observations on the resulting plants. In recent years some publications give the plant cultivar status as *Q. 'Warburgii'*, however, *Q. x warburgii* is a validly published hybrid binomial that applies to both the original clone and any backcrosses with the parents, such as *Q. robur*, and the best way to distinguish the original from its seedlings would be to give it a new cultivar epithet under *Q. x warburgii*.

## The Harold Hillier Herbarium

Located at the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, the Harold Hillier Herbarium is the official herbarium of the International Oak Society. It aims to document oak species, hybrids and cultivars of the world and contains collections from many countries and gardens around the world. Although the collection is large (about 1800 sheets) we are still looking for many species, hybrids and cultivars. Details of what we currently hold can be found on our website at <http://www.hilliergardens.org.uk/plant-collection.html>. If you have access to any species, hybrids or cultivars not represented, please consider collecting a specimen. We are particularly interested in any species not represented, first generation plants of known parentage, or the original plants of cultivars. For further information please contact me at [allen.coombes@hants.gov.uk](mailto:allen.coombes@hants.gov.uk). More details of the Herbarium will be available at the Texas conference.



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## New "National Collections of Oaks" Proposed in France

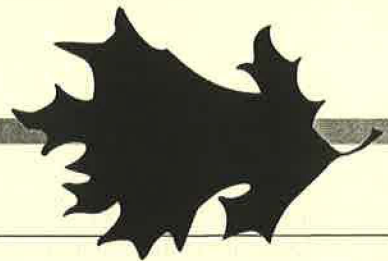
Eike Jablonski, IOS President

This summer, two private collections of oaks in Southern France have been officially proposed as "French National Collections". In France (like in other European countries), interest in oaks grows. One of the reasons is that many American and Asian oak species have recently been introduced into cultivation in Europe through collectors like Allen Coombes and Thierry Lamant. A small group of International Oak Society members from France, England, Spain, Luxembourg and Mexico (including the President and the Vice-President), together with the Mayor and second Mayor of Saint Sardos, assembled recently at the private oak collection of Shaun Haddock at his "Arboretum de la Bergerette", Saint Sardos, near Toulouse. Shaun, a well-known member of the International Oak Society, has planted about 150 oaks in 100 different taxa, many of them unusual and unique, such as *Quercus eugeniifolia* and *Quercus baloot*. Other rare species include the Californian *Quercus pacifica* and *Q. john-tuckeri*. The eldest of these plantings are around 20 years old and have been collected by Shaun Haddock himself; others have come from collections made by Allen Coombes and other oak enthusiasts from around the globe. The climatic and edaphic factors at "La Bergerette", with high summer temperatures and dry summers and winters make this a unique place for shrubby and xerophil oaks. As a result, this col-

lection was officially proposed as "French National Collection of Oaks of Arid Regions" by Franklin Picard, Vice President of the National Collection Scheme in France.

The second collection — of Michel Duhart — also a member, is situated in the "Pays Basque" near the Atlantic coast, only 9 km from the Spanish border, in the Atlantic part of the Pyrenees. Mild winters and a high amount of rainfall make this location quite different from Shaun's Arboretum. Michel also has collected more than 100 different oak taxa, with many from Mexico and Asia. A huge 25 year-old specimen of *Quercus rhysophylla*, along with oaks from the Japanese islands, such as the vigorous *Quercus acuta*, are planted. Other rare oak species from Asia are the Chinese *Quercus liboensis*, as well as *Quercus copeyensis* from Costa Rica. These and many others are growing freely and vigorously. This collection will be proposed as the "French National Collection of Subtropical and Tropical Oaks".

Congratulations to our two members who have built up such interesting collections, and for the honour that these collections have received by being officially proposed as National Collections.



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## Dallas Seed Exchange

7. We cannot give you specific instructions at this time regarding legal importation of seeds from outside the United States. Be aware that carrying undeclared seed into the United States can result in confiscation and perhaps a fine. Import permits (green and yellow labels) can be obtained from the USDA-APHIS office, but regulations are evolving and may be extremely cumbersome. Many people simply clean the seeds, removing all seeds with any signs of infection, and successfully mail them in small packets with a cautionary notice placed inside that they should be inspected and treated by the recipient upon arrival, but we are uncertain of the legality of doing this. If you choose this method, do not label the package as "seeds" or place a phytosanitary certificate on the package and do not include any seeds that show evidence of fungus or insect infesta-

tion. If you mail seeds, please send them (with prior approval from the recipient) to a member in the US who can treat them, keep them refrigerated, and carry them to the conference for you. Guy Sternberg has volunteered to do this on a limited basis for those who do not have another contact person. His address is 12000 Boy Scout Trail, Petersburg, Illinois 62675 USA. For additional guidance, we suggest consulting with others who successfully import seeds.

8. Be prepared to have a wonderful time at the seed exchange. If all participants bring seeds from their home regions, this can be the best exchange ever!

See you in Dallas!