

OAK NEWS & NOTES

The Newsletter of the International Oak Society
Summer 2001

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Oak Voted National Tree in the U.S.

The people of the United States have selected the oak as their choice for America's National Tree in a nationwide vote hosted by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Results of the Vote for America's National Tree were announced April 27 at a tree planting ceremony on the Capitol Grounds in Washington, D.C. "The oak is a fine choice to represent all of America's trees and to exemplify the importance of trees in our lives," stated John Rosenow, president of the Arbor Day Foundation. "People of all ages and backgrounds responded enthusiastically to the vote, which was the first time that the entire American public has been able to state their pick for a national emblem."

People were invited to vote for one of twenty-one candidate trees, based on broad tree categories (genera) that included the state trees of all 50 states and the District of Columbia, or to write in any other tree selection. There were over 100,000 votes for the oak out of nearly a half of a million votes that were submitted. The redwood, maple, pine, and dogwood rounded out the top five choices. An oak was planted the same afternoon at Arbor Day Farm in Nebraska City, Nebraska—the birthplace of Arbor Day in 1872.

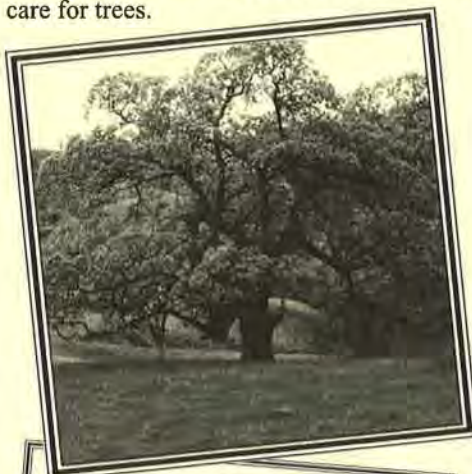
"We undertook this vote to remind Americans of just how vital trees are to us all, and to emphasize the history and grandeur of our trees," Rosenow said. "By any standard, oak merits the distinction of being named the people's choice for America's National Tree."

Among the many strong attributes of oak, Rosenow cited its diversity, with more than sixty species growing in the United States. "This magnificent tree is significant in sheer numbers alone," he said, "with oak trees being America's most widespread hardwoods. From the earliest settlement of our country, oaks

have been prized for their shade, beauty, and lumber.

"Oak's amazing strength and longevity have also made this tree a central part of our history," he added, "with leaders as diverse as Abraham Lincoln, William Penn, and Andrew Jackson being associated with them. Another early 'hero' of American history, 'Old Ironsides,' or the USS Constitution, was famed for repelling British cannonballs thanks to its thick, live oak hull. The American people have chosen wisely in so honoring the oak."

The official website of the National Arbor Day Foundation, <http://www.arborday.org/>, offers an opportunity to learn more about the candidate trees and the final vote tally for each tree. The Arbor Day Foundation is a million-member, nonprofit education organization that helps people plant and care for trees.



From the Editor: We wish to thank the National Arbor Day Foundation for allowing us to reprint portions of the announcement, which appeared on their web site, that the oak was the winner of the Vote for America's National Tree.

Calendar of Events

AUG 22-SEPT 1, 2001

Chihuahuan Desert Region Oak Trip

Northern Mexico and New Mexico

For additional information contact:

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email: BUYOAKS@aol.com

Arboretum Tome & Trees That Please
Nursery and Farm

9 Gilcrease Lane

Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031

SEPT 9-12, 2001

The Eighth Workshop on Seedling Physiology and Growth Problems in Oak Plantings

Hiawassee, Georgia, USA

For additional information contact:

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Athens, Georgia 30602

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OCT 22-25, 2001

Oaks in California's Changing Landscape



San Diego, California, USA

For additional information contact:

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Browns Valley, CA 95948, USA

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OCT 26-28, 2001

Oak Open Days

Spain and Portugal

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President's Message...

The new century is now well upon us, mostly devoid of the calamities forecast, but that does not mean we should pay no attention to new forecasts. When I ponder over what might lie ahead for a wide variety of things, it becomes clear that we have too many things to ponder over, and the need for information to ponder more efficiently seems to increase exponentially. Even among comparatively simple oak-affiliated concerns, we can always use new information to paint a clearer picture. So, my point here is to use your membership to learn and correspond! Find out the details on oak mortality in California, oak reforestation efforts in Turkey, Mexican oak woodland ecology, and all the other topics that parade through the newsletter, journal, and internet connections of the International Oak Society to better your worldly knowledge of oaks and of people who know them well.

Perhaps many of you in the U.S. have heard of the vote for oak as the National Tree of the United States, and legislation to make it an official symbol. If not, read details in the lead article in this Newsletter and consider contacting your Senators or Representatives and encouraging their support. I have written the sponsors of the bill, Senator Ben Nelson and Congressman Bob Goodlatte, on behalf of the International Oak Society commending their efforts and offering the assistance of our Society. The public vote to select a National Symbol is not commonly done, but interestingly it reflects an earlier poll back in 1991. In a National Survey conducted by the International Society of Arboriculture that year, the Oak received over 75% of the vote, among 53 genera considered. The National Tree Bill never made it through the official political channels that time, so let's hope our politicians see the light this time and give the oak the recognition it deserves!

The International Oak Society recently changed its Board of Directors, with several positions filled by different but hardly "new" faces from within the organization. Following the triennial general membership meeting, this new board is charged to continue the management of the quality and service of the organization to its members.

As your newly elected President for three years, I will attempt to fill a position vacated by someone intrinsically known among oak people since the beginning days of the International Oak Society. Guy Sternberg has been your President since the first membership meeting of 1994; indeed, he has been a partner in the instigation, promotion, and governance of the organization across all of its formative years. Guy has become perhaps as widely recognized as the figurehead of the IOS as an acorn is recognized to represent an oak! I will therefore fill his position in this organization until 2003, but expect not to fill his shoes (figuratively and especially literally—if you have ever seen Guy, you know why). As a member since 1992, I express my own gratitude to the excellent leadership that Guy has provided over the years, and to his monumental efforts in the development of the International Oak Society. Now I can also extend recognition to him on behalf of the Oak Society. Thank you, Guy, for your service and guidance of the International Oak Society, and for your patience (in advance) regarding the inevitable requests for advice that are to come your way over the next three years!

The Third International Oak Conference is over, and now time rolls toward the Fourth one in 2003. For the first time, we will gather in a non-U.S. location for the International Oak Society's triennial conference in 2003, an exciting opportunity for the United Kingdom to show off its oaks and oak expertise to the members that travel there. I encourage all

members with Internet access to visit the web site of the Society often to keep abreast of developments and news of the approaching conference. Dick Jensen manages the web site at: <http://www.saintmarys.edu~rjensen/ios.html>.

In retrospect of the Third International Oak Conference in North Carolina, it seemed all who attended had a memorable experience and came away with new information, friends, or at least acorns. The unseasonably warm weather of late October 2000 in the Southern Appalachians provided an additional and comfortable surprise, even to the natives of this region. The weather was especially nice for the tours. The 112 total registered attendees of the conference originated from 18 different nations, and 40% of the total was from outside the U.S. Thanks to generous donors, the conference concluded without red ink, and over \$2600 in scholarships was awarded. Look for details and published presentations in your copy of the Proceedings of the Third International Oak Conference, in the next edition of the International Oaks journal.

All members in good standing receive one free copy of the journal, as well as other benefits, so if your membership has expired, I urge you to renew or investigate your options with the membership director, Dick Jensen. Membership in the International Oak Society is still the same low fee as in previous years, a real bargain that hasn't changed amid fees changing nearly everywhere else. Hope you enjoy this newsletter, a product of Doug McCreary's efforts from which we all continue to receive benefit.

- Ron Lance, **PRESIDENT**

OAK NEWS & NOTES

The Newsletter of the International Oak Society
8279 Scott Forbes Road
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In Memoriam

Thierry Lamant sadly reported that member Dr. Friedrich (Fritz) Duhme died this past year on September 24, 2000.

Fritz was a great lover of oaks and widely recognized for his scientific work. He had attended the last European Oak Open Days meeting.



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Asheville, North Carolina 28816, USA

Seeding the Future

Professor Emeritus John Tucker of the University of California, Davis, recently gave \$500,000 to the campus herbarium and arboretum. Dr. Tucker, who played a leading role in developing these facilities, is helping to ensure the future health of both facilities with the gift.

The donation from the botany professor emeritus will be divided equally between the campus's two vast collections—one consisting of mounted and labeled dried plants residing in Robbins Hall, and the other of living plants that grow along the Arboretum Waterway. The money will enable the herbarium and arboretum staffs, among other things, to maintain world-class collections of oak trees that have been the subject of Tucker's intellectual passion for most of his life.

The arboretum's share will establish the John M. Tucker Oak Collection Endowed Fund to maintain its oak trees, particularly those in the Peter J. Shields Oak Grove. The grove contains more than 80 kinds of oaks, many grown from acorns collected for Tucker's research from throughout the United States and northern Mexico.

The portion for the herbarium is the first major gift towards construction of a two million dollar facility to house its more than 200,000 dried plants. Many of those specimens, including an extensive oak collection, were acquired during the 39 years Tucker directed the herbarium.

Tucker, who turned 85 earlier in the year, said he has been interested in these facilities his entire career. "Both of them, at least in the early years, have been tough-going

financially. Things have changed in recent years very much for the better. I just wanted to help things along."

Tucker joined the UC Davis faculty and began overseeing the Botany Herbarium in 1947 while completing research for his doctorate from UC Berkeley. When he started at the herbarium, the specimens numbered fewer than 10,000. During his tenure, he started an exchange program and vastly expanded collections of weeds and California flora, as well as oaks. By the time he retired in 1986, the facility was renamed in his honor.

Hundreds of people a year visit the herbarium to use its library, look at its specimens and identify their own plant specimens. The majority of those visitors are UC Davis students, faculty members and staff employees; others include visiting university researchers, government biologists, private consultants and members of the public. The herbarium staff also identifies plants as a public service, most often identifying weeds for farm advisers throughout the state or poisonous plants for veterinarians trying to determine what sickened or killed an animal.

Ellen Dean, the herbarium's director and curator, said Tucker's gift is a demonstration of his "vision for and a true belief in the importance of the herbarium."

— From *Dateline*, UC Davis

ADVERTISING POLICY:

The International Oak Society accepts advertisements for oak-related enterprises in the *Oak News & Notes* Newsletter. A camera-ready, card-size ad costs \$25.00 per issue.

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Oak Open Days 2001 to be held in Spain and Portugal

This coming October, the annual Oak Open Days of the International Oak Society will tour the oak forests of Spain and Portugal. These forests have a high level of biodiversity, with many endemic species of plants and animals, along with other species common to the Mediterranean region. The primary trees of these ecosystems are oaks that generally grow slowly, but are intensively managed.

The structure in these forests is an upper level with oaks, a middle level with scrubs such as *Cistus*, *Erica* or *Genista* species, and a lower level with many herbs of the *Poaceae*, *Asteraceae* and *Fabaceae* families. In many areas the middle level has been destroyed by man for the exploitation of the grassland. Commonly, the density of the trees has also been reduced from approximately 120 trees/ha to 40 trees/ha. The name of this forest system is the "Dehesa" (or "Montado" in Portugal), and is the typical forest type of the southern Iberian Peninsula. The forests along rivers and in the coastal and middle-high mountains have different oak species. These areas also have many micro-habitats and transition sites and are colonized by large numbers of oak hybrids.

Our tour will include a variety of sites in the southern Iberian Peninsula and we will see a great diversity of habitats, species, hybrids

and vegetation types where oaks grow. We will also visit different management systems for oaks: forests of *Quercus suber* managed for the extraction of the cork; woods with holm oak (*Quercus ilex*) that produce acorns for consumption by domestic animals; mixed forests of pine and cork oak for both cork and wood production; forest of *Pyrenean* oak for the production of wood and acorns; as well as other unmanaged systems.

— Francisco M. Vázquez Pardo

Approximate Cost of Tour

The approximate cost of the trip will be \$450 American for those arriving and exiting from Seville, and \$500 for those connecting in Lisbon or Madrid. The actual costs will be sent out in the second announcement which will be mailed in July-August 2001.

Taxa that we hope to see during Tour:

<i>Q. canariensis</i>	<i>Q. lusitanica</i> x <i>Q. canariensis</i>
<i>Q. canariensis</i> x <i>Q. faginea</i>	<i>Q. lusitanica</i> x <i>Q. coccifera</i>
<i>Q. alpestris</i>	<i>Q. lusitanica</i> x <i>Q. rotundifolia</i>
<i>Q. canariensis</i> x <i>Q. faginea</i>	<i>Q. lusitanica</i> x <i>Q. suber</i>
<i>Q. broteroi</i>	<i>Q. pyrenaica</i>
<i>Q. canariensis</i> x <i>Q. rotundifolia</i>	<i>Q. robur</i> subsp. <i>broteroana</i>
<i>Q. canariensis</i> x <i>Q. suber</i>	<i>Q. rotundifolia</i>
<i>Q. coccifera</i>	<i>Q. rotundifolia</i> x <i>Q. faginea</i>
<i>Q. coccifera</i> x <i>Q. faginea</i>	<i>Q. broteroi</i>
<i>Q. broteroi</i>	<i>Q. rotundifolia</i> x <i>Q. suber</i>
<i>Q. faginea</i> subsp. <i>alpestris</i>	<i>Q. suber</i>
<i>Q. faginea</i> subsp. <i>broteroi</i>	<i>Q. suber</i> x <i>Q. coccifera</i>
<i>Q. faginea</i> subsp. <i>faginea</i>	<i>Q. suber</i> x <i>Q. faginea broteroi</i>
<i>Q. lusitanica</i>	

OAK OPEN DAYS 2001
OCT 26-28, 2001
Spain and Portugal:
Lisbon, Badajoz, Huelva,
Seville, Cádiz and Ponte do Sor

TENTATIVE ITINERARY: OAK OPEN DAYS 2001

October 25 or earlier — Arrive in Spain or Portugal

Those attending the Oak Open Days can fly into one of three airports: *International Lisbon Airport, Portugal* (200 kms, 2 hours, to Badajoz city), *International Madrid Airport, Spain* (400 kms, 4 hours, to Badajoz city), *International Seville Airport, Spain* (180 kms, 2.5 hours, to Badajoz city)

NOTE: Transportation from these airports to Badajoz is easy by bus or rental car, with little traffic.

First Day (October 26)

6:30 AM	Leave for breakfast
7:30	Depart for Portugal (Due to the time change, clocks are set back an hour in Portugal)
8:00	Visit <i>Q. lusitanica</i> , <i>Q. suber</i> and <i>Q. rotundifolia</i> populations and their hybrids in Ponte do Sor (Alentejo region, Portugal)
11:00	Visit an artificial forest of <i>Q. suber</i> (Alentejo region)
12:30	Lunch and visit of <i>Q. coccifera</i> (close to <i>Q. calliprinus</i>), <i>Q. suber</i> , <i>Q. robur</i> subsp. <i>broteroana</i> , and <i>Q. rotundifolia</i> populations and some of their hybrids in Arrabida Natural Park of Setubal (Estremadura region, South Lisbon, Portugal)
17:00	Visit the Institute of Agrarian Research (Badajoz province, Spain): Plantations of <i>Q. rotundifolia</i> , <i>Q. suber</i> , <i>Q. broteroi</i> , <i>Q. faginea</i> , <i>Q. coccifera</i> and <i>Q. robur</i> and Nursery with seedlings from American and Iberian <i>Quercus</i> species
19:00	Finish Tour and return to hotel for dinner
20:00	Exchange of seedlings and seeds in the hotel
21:00	Oak presentations at hotel

Second Day (October 27)

7:00 AM	Typical Spanish Breakfast
8:20	Visit "Dehesa" exploitation of <i>Quercus rotundifolia</i> in Valle Matamoros (South Badajoz province, Spain)
10:00	Visit "Dehesa" exploitation of <i>Quercus suber</i> in Jerez de los Caballeros (South Badajoz province, Spain)
12:00	Visit the most southern European forest of <i>Quercus pyrenaica</i> in Tentudia mountains (South Badajoz province, Spain)
14:00	Lunch and visit to wood production forest: <i>Quercus rotundifolia</i> , <i>Q. suber</i> , <i>Q. faginea broteroi</i> and <i>Q. canariensis</i> group in Santa Ana la Real (North Huelva province, Spain)
17:00	Visit National Park "Doñana" in Almonte (South Huelva province, Spain). Forest of cork oak in the Atlantis coastal with <i>Q. coccifera</i> and specific and endemic scrubs of the South Iberian Peninsula
19:00	Dinner
20:30	Oak presentations in the hotel

Third Day (October 28)

6:00 AM	Leave for Cádiz province
7:00	Breakfast
7:30	Continue on to Cádiz
8:45	Visit river forests of <i>Q. canariensis</i> in Alcalá de los Gazules (Cádiz province, Spain)
11:00	Visit Atlantic coastal forests of <i>Q. suber</i> , <i>Q. canariensis</i> , <i>Q. lusitanica</i> and their hybrids in Algeciras, southernmost Europe (Cádiz province, Spain)
13:30	Lunch and tour of coastal Mediterranean habitats with different shrubs species in coastal Cádiz
16:30	Coffee and visit to forest of <i>Q. pyrenaica</i> , <i>Q. suber</i> , <i>Q. coccifera</i> , <i>Q. rotundifolia</i> and <i>Q. faginea broteroi</i> and some hybrids in Monesterio (South extreme of Badajoz province, Spain)
18:30	Visit "maquis" forest (<i>Q. coccifera</i>) in Alconera (Badajoz province, Spain)
20:00	Arrive in Badajoz City—Dinner soon afterwards

REGISTRATION FOR OAK OPEN DAYS 2001

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____

INSTITUTION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

COUNTRY: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Please send this Registration form before July 15 by email to: frvazquez50@hotmail.com or by mail to: Francisco M. Vázquez, Department of Forest Production/SIDT-EXTREMADURA, P.O. Box 22, E-06080, BADAJOZ (SPAIN)

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