

A Web Site Review

{www.springvalleyecofarms.org}

by

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I've never written a website review. As a matter of fact, I've never even read one written by anyone else. My total lack of experience will probably be obvious, but it also eliminates any bias.

A few months ago Dr. Carl Jordan; American Paulownia Association (APA) member, University of Georgia (UGA) Professor, and moderator of the 2004 APA conference in Dublin, Georgia; wrote and said he had a new website that might be of interest as the subject of a newsletter article. So, I visited the site: www.springvalleyecofarms.org. Wow!

Now, this is not a website dedicated solely to Paulownia. Spring Valley EcoFarms is a unique concept blending private not-for-profit flexibility with major landgrant university resources. Spring Valley EcoFarms has both research and educational missions. UGA students can take courses in ecology and organic agriculture in a setting where they can get some dirt under their fingernails. Non-students can do much the same—even getting university credits if desired.

www.springvalleyecofarms.org has one page devoted to "Trees & Plants." This page describes some of the work of Dr. Jordan growing Paulownia trees in the Georgia piedmont. Dr. Jordan is a forward-thinking researcher. You may remember some of his experiences related at the Dublin conference, and you may be surprised by others.

The website itself has an elegant balance of text, pictures, and graphic content. I stumble through a lot of internet websites. Occasionally, I will abandon one that is just too difficult or confusing. This site is friendly, informative, and entertaining. I especially liked the slideshow, continuing no matter which page one might be viewing.

www.springvalleyecofarms.org is not just about Paulownia. But it does have some interesting information on Paulownia. Why don't you visit it and learn something new. That is the mission of Spring Valley EcoFarms. And it is not a bad mission for you and me. 



IN MEMORIAL



We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Family of R.B. "Bear" Brown who passed from this life October 2007. "Bear" Brown was a greatly appreciated asset to our Association, serving as Alabama State Director in addition to organizing and hosting the Annual Conference in 2002. Over the years, as a member, he enthusiastically promoted Paulownia and we will miss "Bear" Brown.

