



## On the Calendar

### Jun 1-3:

Oklahoma Pecan Growers Conference;  
Cox Convention Center, Tulsa, OK

### Jun 15-16:

Tri-State ArkLaMiss Pecan Conference;  
Location TBD

### Jul 30-Aug 2:

Texas Pecan Growers Conference;  
Embassy Suites, Denton, TX

### Aug 24-25:

Arizona Pecan Growers Conf.  
Hilton Double Tree, Tucson, AZ

### Sep 6-8:

Dia Del Nogalero  
Delicias, Chihuahua, MX

*From your friends at Savage Equipment*

## Shiny new Savage machines on parade at March pecan conferences.

Two of the biggest three annual pecan conferences are held in March each year. The Western Pecan Growers Conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico and the Georgia Pecan Growers Conference in Perry, Georgia were held Mar 5-7 and 28-30, respectively. It was prime time for Savage Equipment and other vendors to show off the latest in pecan equipment to hundreds of growers from across the U.S. and from several other countries. The next big pecan conference is the Texas Pecan Growers', which will take place in Denton, Texas from July 30 through August 2nd.



Western Pecan Growers Conference, 2023

## India lowers pecan tariff significantly.

The National Pecan Federation had some welcome news for the industry in a February 1 press release. India's Ministry of Finance had just released their proposed budget along with tariff updates which revealed a reduction in pecan tariffs from 100 percent to 30 percent. It's a big deal and something the National Pecan Federation (NPF) has been working toward for years with several members of the U.S. Congress and other entities in Washington D.C. The tariff reduction should have a significant impact on the pecan industry's ability to market pecans within this enormous south-Asian economy. With a population of roughly 1.4 billion and a relatively large middle class, India represents an immense potential market for pecans. In fact, India is on track to overtake China this year as the world's most populous nation.

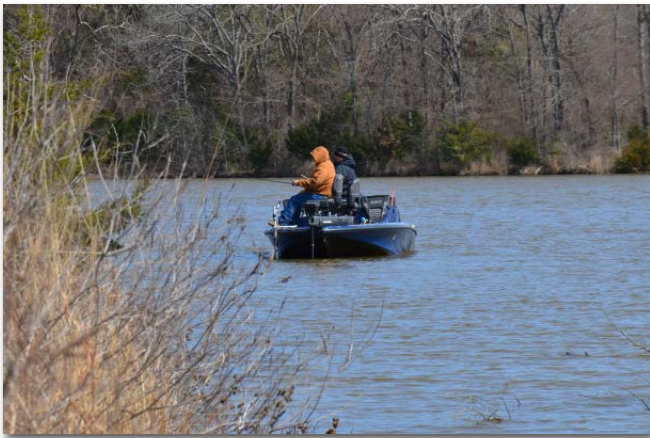
NPF Chairman, Larry Don Womack had this to say: "This is great news for the pecan industry. NPF has worked hard over the last few years on reducing this tariff to open the U.S. pecan export market to India. Pecans are grown in 15 states and have a significant impact on these rural economies. Opening the India market will be a great opportunity for our industry to expand and grow." In 2018, pecan growers and shellers established the NPF to enable the industry to speak with a united voice to representatives and agencies of the U.S. government.





## Hauani Creek Fishing Days return.

Perhaps some of our readers will recall a newsletter article from a couple of years back about a vigorous, U.S. Marine veteran and pecan grower by the name of Joe (“Nobody calls me Mr. Ihle.”) Ihle. The Savage Family recently had the honor of, once again, hosting this now 100-year-old World War II veteran, along with his son, two grandsons and a great-grandson. They drove down to our part of southern Oklahoma for the annual Hauani Creek Ranch Fishing Days. Mr. Ihle—I mean Joe provided undeniable



### Never too old to fish

proof for the ancient saying “You’re never too old to fish.” And, if that’s not an ancient saying, it ought to be. Also, Oliver Wendell Holmes was probably right when he said, “Men do not quit playing because they grow old—they grow old because they quit playing.”

It’s obvious from the heavy jackets that the days were unusually cold for mid-March, but several nice fish were caught and fun was had by all.

## A wonderful friend and great employee passes.

Many of our readers, especially those in the southeastern U.S., will be familiar with the friendly voice and above-and-beyond customer service delivered by Savage of Georgia’s own Nancy Pinson. Nancy was the reliable



foundation of our Baconton, Georgia office for over thirteen years. Below are excerpts from Nancy’s obituary published by Parker-Bramlett Funeral Home in Camilla, Georgia.

Nancy Kay Smith Pinson, 61, of Baconton, slipped peacefully into eternity surrounded by loved ones, on Tuesday,

March 14 at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida.

Nancy was born January 16, 1962 in San Rafael, California and spent her youth growing up in Melrose, Montana on the family’s hunting and fishing guest ranch, where she developed a lifelong fondness for Montana and a strong work ethic, a trait that she passed along to her sons.

Watching her boys play baseball brought her joy. She was a cheerleader not only for them, but also for their teammates, and quite often, for friends on opposing teams.

She held deeply to her faith, openly shared her love for the Lord, and sought to instill in her children the importance of seeking God’s plan in all things.

Nancy was a dear friend to many in our Savage Equipment offices, and was a precious member of this company’s extended family. We will all miss her warm personality and all that she brought to Savage Equipment and our pecan community.





## News you can use!

Here's a sampling of pecan-related news available on the internet and in some of our favorite pecan publications.

### **Storm season: Hope for the best. Prepare for the worst.**

All the guys out there that spent any time around the Boy Scouts of America will be familiar with the Scout's century-old motto, "Be prepared." It's a succinct reminder that we should anticipate and plan for what is often called "the unexpected" and a great idea for everyone as we approach another storm season in the southern U.S. The information provided below came from a Natural Disaster Preparation List provided by the USDA's Farm Service Agency last year. The first part is getting your property prepared for dangerous weather and the second part is making sure your records are in order and knowing how to file claims when natural disasters wreck your trees and other stuff.

First the physical preparation:

**Develop an Emergency Plan** - Ensure your household and employees know your hurricane plan, including meeting points, emergency contact lists, and alternate evacuation routes in case infrastructure is damaged.

**Remove Debris and Secure Large Objects** - Clean out culverts, ditches, and other drainage areas, especially before and during peak hurricane season to reduce water damage. Most injuries to animals, people, or structures during a hurricane are caused by flying objects. To lessen the risk, minimize the presence of equipment, supplies, and debris that may become airborne during high winds or encountered in floodwaters.

**Gather Supplies** - Have drinking water, canned food, a generator, batteries, a flashlight, and fuel available in case you lose power. For extended, widespread outages, credit and debit cards may not work, so have cash handy.

Then the paperwork preparation:

**Secure Important Records and Documents** - Pre- and post-hurricane documentation is extreme-

ly important for insurance compensation and recovery assistance. You'll want to have thorough records of damages and losses sustained on your farm as well as documentation of your cleanup and recovery efforts. It is critical to document inventory of farm buildings, vehicles, equipment, and livestock before a disaster occurs. Take photos, videos, or make written lists with descriptions. Keep copies of this inventory in multiple places: computer, off-site in a safe location, and on a cloud-based server where information is transmitted and saved weekly.

**Know Your Insurance Options** - Regularly review your insurance policies with your agent to be sure you have adequate coverage, including flood insurance, for your facilities, vehicles, farm buildings, crops and livestock. Note, there are limitations on how soon insurance coverage will take effect. Generally, insurance policies will not cover damage if the policy was not in place before a disaster.

**Access Real-time Emergency Information** - Download the FEMA app for free on the App Store and Google Play for safety tips on what to do before, during, and after disasters. Subscribe to the text message and emails service to receive real-time, local operational and recovery information for the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Risk Management Agency.

**Timelines to file notices of loss and submit applications differ by program or coverage:**

**Tree Assistance Program:** File a program application with your Service Center within 90 days.

**Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program:** File notice of loss with your Service Center within 15 days, except for hand-harvested crops, which should be filed within 72 hours. NAP forage producers with the intended use of grazing who elect to use independent assessments or other approved alternative loss percentage methods to establish their loss are no longer required to file Notice of Loss with FSA.

**Crop Insurance:** Contact your agent within 72 hours of discovering damage and follow up in writing within 15 days.



## A shift in Orchard Equipment Manufacturing

In February, Flory Industries of Salida, California announced that it had acquired COE Orchard Equipment, Inc. of Live Oak, California. Both of these companies have deep roots in the agricultural equipment business, especially in the tree-nut category. Both companies are deeply rooted in California agriculture and both have expanded in recent decades to enjoy a solid national and international reputation. While Flory has a more extensive product line, their core product has long been tree-nut harvesting equipment. The foundation of COE's business is aligned with self-propelled tree shakers and catch frames employed in harvesting a variety of nuts and other farm produce.

Under the new arrangement, COE is now a subsidiary of Flory and will retain the COE brand and



workforce. The deal enables Flory to expand into other agricultural commodities and a greater variety of functions within the orchard environment.

Our readers are likely aware that for several years now, Savage Equipment, Inc. has been a distributor of COE equipment within the pecan community, and will continue to offer these quality orchard machines.

## What happens to all that irrigation water?

The March 2023 issue of Pecan South holds an interesting explanation of where all the water ends up that we so diligently spread across our orchards. This article is written by New Mexico State University, Extension Pecan Specialist, Dr. Richard Heerema, and is entitled "Deep Percolation—One of Irrigation Water's Forgotten Fates." In this piece Dr. Heerema describes five distinct fates, or "destinies" of our irrigation water. The first in the series is also the primary purpose of irrigation, and that is, the water that gets taken up by the desirable root systems present. This includes especially the tree roots but also the cover crops and "intercrops," if present. Most of this water eventually transpires out of the leaves. Second, is the water that gets used in similar fashion by the undesirable weeds. Third is the water that evaporates directly into the atmosphere from standing water or water droplets in the air, on leaves and other surfaces in the orchard. Fate number four is the main subject of the article. It is called deep percolation. This term applies when the water in the

root zone of the pecan trees is so great that it "moves down through the soil past the reach of the pecan trees' roots before they have a chance to catch up. The fifth and final fate is the irrigation water that runs off because it cannot be absorbed by the soil.

After describing each fate, the article takes a more detailed look at Fate #4, deep percolation. The goal of irrigation is usually to maximize Fate#1 and minimize the rest, but deep percolation is often overlooked and is especially hard to avoid for those who practice flood irrigation. The other point this article conveys is that deep percolation is not necessarily a bad thing. It can help recharge aquifers and it can help leach out soil salinity. NM State University and the University of AZ both have extension publications that "may be helpful in determining the leaching requirement to manage salinity in your orchard." We still have much to learn about managing deep percolation, but it's good to know the science is moving forward. NMSU is currently investigating this issue through a USDA-funded grant called "Secure Water Future" so a greater understanding is sure to follow.

## Bad news for Mississippi pecan thieves.

The state of Mississippi now has a new law on the books to help thwart those scoundrels who would steal pecans. The announcement looked like this:

Your MS Pecan Growers Board is pleased to announce that as of yesterday, March 21, 2022, SB2523 PECAN HARVESTING BILL HAS NOW BEEN SIGNED INTO LAW!

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Chuck Freeman and your willingness to engage a lobbying firm to act on the Growers' behalf, we now have a Pecan Law that grants restitution to our growers in cases of stolen pecans.

The law specifically changes the dates of harvest for purposes of criminal actions to September through January to better reflect the current pecan practices in our area. The law continues to call for \$100 fine and up to 30 days in jail for pecans taken during season (September through January) from public roads and right of ways. However, in the case of pecans stolen from private property, the law now follows petty larceny and grand larceny statutory penalties. Restitution is now granted under the law for any stolen pecans.





# Featured Equipment

## Savage adds a great new feature to their orchard sweeper.

Savage's versatile and popular side sweeper now comes with a helpful new upgrade. The 7510 Sweeper has been a labor-saving, harvest-accelerating workhorse for many years. Now, it's even better. For all those long days of harvest season, the Savage Sweeper now comes with two bright LED light-bars to help operators get after it earlier and stay on the job later.

The picture at right shows a John Deere tractor sporting a Nelson Manufacturing Orchard Cab. These safety-enhancing cabs are designed to fit many models of low-profile orchard tractors (John Deere, Kubota, New Holland, Massey Ferguson, Case/IH). They are air-conditioned to protect operators from the elements, and they are certified as Roll-Over Protective Structures (ROPS). If you'd like learn more about getting a Nelson Orchard Cab, contact Savage of Georgia at 229-787-5115.

If you'd like to learn more about how the new Savage

Sweeper can help speed you through the 2023 harvest, please give us a call or send us an email at [info@savage-equipment.com](mailto:info@savage-equipment.com). By phone it's 866-572-8243 for Madill, OK and 575-233- 2964 for Savage Southwest in Mesquite, NM.

**This John-Deere tractor features a Nelson Orchard Cab**



The newly enhanced Savage 7510 Side Sweeper

## The Savage Grayline has a new Stone Remover.

Take a look at Savage's freshly redesigned Grayline Stone Remover. The Savage Grayline has become the industry standard for pecan-cleaning equipment in the U.S. and countries around the world. The new Stone Remover is the latest addition to this extensive line and a significant departure from the previous version. This machine conveys the raw product on a metal mesh belt under an aspirating vacuum channel. Heavier objects continue past the aspiration channel and fall below, while lighter material (including the nuts) travels through the redesigned

vacuum chamber. Within this upper chamber, light trash flows out the top and nuts are deposited on a cleated belt which elevates them toward the next stage of cleaning. The enhanced air chamber smooths out airflow and makes the vacuum pressure more consistent and efficient. The follow-on machine will often be an aspirator, as shown in the depiction below. Both the Savage Stone Remover and Aspirator are available in widths of 36-inches, 48-inches and 60-inches.



Stone Remover 3360C

Aspirator 3748

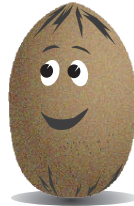
Enhancements to the shape of the Stone Remover's vacuum chamber bring it more in line with Savage's Aspirator (shown at left) which underwent a major redesign about three years ago.

# Just Plain Nuts



*Is there a tastier cookie on this planet than a fresh pecan sandy, Dez?*

*Not in my book, Gloria. Even better with a cold glass of milk or a hot cup of coffee!*



## Did you know...?

*...April 14 is National Pecan Day, but there's also a National Pecan Sandies Day. It's June 23rd.*

*...a sandie (sometimes spelled sandy) is a type of shortbread cookie made from simple ingredients that has a crumbly sand-like texture and color.*

*...a traditional pecan sandie has a toasted pecan pressed into the cookie.*

*...the origins of the sandie can be traced back to Normandy in the 1600's and is sometimes referred to as sablé, which is the French word for sanded or sandy.*

*...the name "Sandies" was registered by the Keebler Company in 1955 and their version of the cookie became very popular in the United States. They now offer a couple of variations on the original Sandie.*

*...a style of pecan sandie where the dough is rolled into a ball and coated with powdered sugar is popular in many regions of the world and goes by a variety of names: snowball cookies, Mexican wedding cookies, Russian tea cakes and Danish wedding cookies.*

*You probably already have a recipe for pecan sandies, but just in case, here's a couple of promising websites.*

*thepioneerwoman.com (traditional Pecan Sandies)*

*thestayathomechef.com/pecan-sandies (Mexican Wedding Cookies)*

## Peppy Pecans



*This one is definitely worth a try—a spicy-sweet snack to carry with you on your next great adventure or put in a decorated Mason Jar and give to a special friend. The recipe comes from the National Pecan Shellers website, [ilovepecans.org](http://ilovepecans.org) and it's courtesy of Popoff Enterprises.*

### Ingredients

- 4 cups pecan halves
- 4 Tbsp. unsalted butter
- 3 Tbsp. Dark Brown Sugar
- 3 Tbsp. Light Brown Sugar
- 1 tsp. dried ground orange peel
- 1 tsp. cayenne pepper
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 2 tsp. water

### Instructions

1. In a dry skillet, toast the nuts for about 4-5 minutes over medium heat. Stir the nuts occasionally until they begin browning.
2. Add the butter stirring to coat the nuts as it melts. Toast and stir for about a minute until the nuts brown further.
3. Add the brown sugar and spices and distribute them in the pan.
4. Stir for about a minute then add the water to create a syrup and stir to coat the nuts.
5. Cook for another minute stirring constantly.
6. Remove from the heat and spread on a piece of parchment paper over a cooling rack.
7. Serve as a garnish, snack, or package as a gift.

If you've got a pecan story, a good, clean joke or a pecan recipe you'd like to share, send it along to [pecancountry@savageequipment.com](mailto:pecancountry@savageequipment.com). We love to hear from our Pecan Country neighbors.