

# PECAN COUNTRY NEWS

Volume 23

Spring 2018

## On the Calendar

**Jun 14-16:**  
OK Pecan Growers Conf.;  
Quapaw, OK

**Jun 21-22:**  
Tri-State Pecan Growers  
Conf.; Monroe, LA

**Jul 15-18:**  
Texas Pecan Growers  
Conf.; San Marcos, TX

**Jul 20-22:**  
4-State Farm Show;  
Pittsburg, KS

**Sep 5-7:**  
Dia Del Nogalero  
Delicias, Chihuahua, MX



We hope you'll  
come visit with us at  
one of these events.

## Savage Southwest, LLC is open for business.

It's been a long, tough journey, but Savage's newest location is finally a reality. We're proud to be members of the community in the heart of Southwestern pecan country. The shiny new facility is just a little south of Las Cruces, New Mexico and north of El Paso, Texas. Refining it down a little closer, it's a couple miles west of Interstate 10, on Highway 478 between the small towns of Mesquite and Vado, New Mexico.

The Savage Southwest team is now able to support the thriving pecan growers, accumulators and processors of the western region. Drop by for a visit and you'll find a friendly and knowledgeable staff along with a wide variety of pecan equipment to examine. Savage Southwest will maintain a large stock of parts and supplies for Savage, Nelson, Coe and equipment by other manufacturers. We couldn't be more excited to finally be starting this next chapter in the story of Savage Equipment and our long history with the pecan community.

### *Dawn of a new day at Savage Southwest*



## National Pecan Shellers Association celebrates a significant milestone

This year, 2018, The National Pecan Shellers Association celebrates an anniversary few married couples will ever see. It's sometimes called the Diamond Anniversary, and like the precious stone, the 75th is pretty rare. The roots of today's organization were planted way back in 1943, and as you can see by the early photo on the following page, many of the founding families are still going strong in this industry. Maybe because pecan trees themselves remain fruitful for such a long time, staying power seems to be a common theme in the pecan business, from growers to shellers and the folks somewhere in between. The NPSA has fulfilled an invaluable role over the years, building industry unity and providing statistics on crop production, cold storage, imports and exports. They've also coordinated significant funding for pecan nutrition research.



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# Pecan Folks



## NATIONAL PECAN SHELLERS AND PROCESSERS ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 16, 1944

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Top row, left to right--E. Fields, W. Martin, M. Krouse, A. M. Thames, S. G. Simons, F. L. Fackler, A. Sternberg, J. G. Moore, J. L. Bloodworth, A. S. Moake, H. F. Alexander, F. A. Kilgo, J. B. Miller, F. W. Foutz, W. Roberts.

Middle row, left to right---B. Adler, B. P. Black, C. Graziano, S. Pearlman, C. Karchmer, J. Fisher, F. Myers, H. A. McCord, L. V. Ellis, W. J. Ernest, H. J. Bergeron, G. Wunderlich, B. B. Black, J. H. Brown, G. Azar, B. M. Marks.

Bottom row, left to right--- W. M. Durham, J. Massalli, R. E. Fritz, J. W. Woldert, T. Huckabee, M. M. Monroe, E. M. Funsten, A. Barsotti, F. Coari, R. J. Fleming, J. E. Schaumburg, J. Mauro, J. B. Sanfillippo, P. Pendolo, A. R. Keller.

Styles for shoes, socks and ties have changed, but many family names have remained constant over the decades.

## Meet our new truck driver

As you might imagine, Savage Equipment is frequently in need of transportation services. With our own facilities in three states and customers from the Carolinas to California, we have equipment moving across the highways of North America constantly. While we often contract with transport companies to help get it all delivered, we also have our own "big rig" and trailers and our very own driver.

One of the latest additions to the Savage Team is Mr. David Bumpass (rhymes with compass, more-or-less). David grew up in the local area (south-central Oklahoma), so he fit right in with the Savage Equipment clan. He's been driving a truck for about 35 years--everything from oil field work to hauling chickens and eggs.

One interesting sidelight of David's life is that he raises



and rides mules. He tells us he's had a fascination with these unusual animals since he was a young man and bought his first mule about thirteen years ago. He rides them with other mule enthusiasts for a variety of activities, but mostly just for the sheer enjoyment of it. Mules certainly are interesting creatures, the offspring of a male donkey (jack) and a female horse (mare). They played a significant supporting role in the history of Western expansion in the U.S. and were preferred by many explorers and pioneers for their endurance, sure-footedness and ability to do more on less food and water than a horse. Kit Carson traveled most of his thousands of trail miles on the back of a trusty mule.

So the next time you're taking delivery of some Savage machines and the delivery truck happens to have a Savage logo on the side, you might want to get to know our truck driver, David Bumpass and ask him about his mules.

# Pecan Pieces

## News you can use!

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

### Late-season cold takes a toll in the central pecan region

Two April cold snaps swept through the pecan-growing areas of the central U.S. We reached out to several growers in Oklahoma and northern Texas to see how cold temperatures had affected their crop. One grower near Wichita Falls, Texas took a hard hit on the first wave of cold. His trees were out of dormancy far enough that the crop will likely take a severe loss. Farther north the buds weren't as well developed and trees fared better during the first wave. According to pecan horticulturist, Dr. Mike Smith, damage was minimal, but low-lying trees probably had some injury. The second cold threat occurred about a week later (mornings of April 15 and 16). By then trees across Oklahoma were in a more vulnerable stage—especially many improved varieties. Temperatures of 26 to 28 degrees were recorded in northeastern Oklahoma. There will likely be a range of damage percentages throughout the state. One degree of temperature change and even a few feet of elevation can make all the difference. Dr. Smith stated that if the primary buds are lost and the trees are relying on a secondary bloom, the crop would tend to be about 20% of what it might have been otherwise. It's a tough blow for those affected.

### Pecan crop exceeds USDA forecast

A Western Farm Press article by the above title (Cecilia Parsons, Feb 14, 2018), shines a light on production statistics for the 2017/2018 U.S. pecan crop.

In spite of hurricanes and a few pecan weevils, the 2017 U.S. pecan crop managed to exceed the USDA's estimate of 277.4 million in-shell pounds.

Philip Arnold, a member of the American Pecan Council, says he feels that given the numbers of regional production, the U.S., crop hit very close to 300 million pounds this year.

Mr. Arnold attributes the strong production figures to new plantings that have come into production and great weather in some sections of the U.S. pecan belt. Of course not all areas exceed-

ed expectations. Georgia was particularly hard hit with hurricanes taking out a significant percentage, perhaps as much as thirty percent of the anticipated pecan crop. The native crop in the central region was also "skimpy" while most pecan growers in the west did well.

New Mexico and Texas exceeded early crop estimates. Arnold says New Mexico harvested about 95 million pounds, Arizona added another 26 million to 27 million pounds, and Texas came in at 45 million pounds.

The crop in California was down about fifteen percent from last year, with about five million pounds harvested. The pecan crop from Mexico was also down from last year with about 220 million pounds harvested, 60 million short of last year's crop.

Arnold anticipates that about 60 to 70 million pounds will be exported from the U.S. this year.

### Latest happenings with the American Pecan Council

If you've been wondering what's going on with the Federal Marketing Order for Pecans and its operating group, The American Pecan Council, an article in the February issue of Pecan South can answer a few questions (by editor Catherine Clark). Recently, twenty-five members of the council attended a two-day series of meetings held at a Dallas-Fort Worth Airport hotel.

One of the more important tasks accomplished during the meetings was creating the "Identifying the Handler" document that helps clarify whom should be reporting and paying the assessment for a given lot of pecans. Apparently, there has been a fair amount of confusion on this important subject, and this document is designed to answer a lot of questions. The document is included in the magazine and is available online at the American Pecan website, [www.americanpecan.com](http://www.americanpecan.com). Once you're there, it's in the "For Industry" pages, then Pecan FMO pages, then the Handler Portal page. Or you can get directly there at this web address: [www.americanpecan.com/for-industry/handler-portal/](http://www.americanpecan.com/for-industry/handler-portal/) You will also find all the forms you need to file your

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# More Pecan Pieces

American Pecan Council (cont. from page 3)

pecan assessment report.

The article goes on to describe the board's creation of a nutritional brochure.

The brochure showcases the nutrients that make pecans a "supernut" and also relies on scientific research to back these claims. For more information about the pamphlet and how to get copies of it, contact the APC office via email—[info@americanpecan.com](mailto:info@americanpecan.com).

The pecan marketing team from Weber Shandwick was also on hand at the meetings to present the latest information on the national marketing campaign. To date the team has been working on the "pre-launch" phase which includes social media content and building partnerships with food bloggers and other influencers.

The full marketing campaign will launch nationally in March, which is earlier than expected. The Weber Shandwick team wanted to use the momentum pecans have already gained through the holidays and the pre-launch phase to push the campaign forward.

Check out the February article to learn more about what your American Pecan Council has been up to.

## What are these various tiers of diesel engines all about?

If you've been in the market for a tractor or other agricultural machinery that includes a diesel engine over the past couple of years, you've probably heard folks talking about the transition to Tier 4 engines. You have also probably noticed that prices for these items are up. The reasons why are complicated. According to the website [dieselnet.com](http://dieselnet.com) in a section called "standards".

The first federal standards (Tier-1) for new non road (or off-road) diesel engines were adopted in 1994 for engines over 50 hp, to be phased-in from 1996 to 2000.

Then in 1996, a Statement of Principles (SOP) pertaining to non road diesels was signed between EPA, California ARB and major diesel engine manufacturers. This SOP was finalized by the EPA in 1998.

The 1998 regulation introduced Tier 1 standards for equipment under 50 hp and increasingly more stringent Tier-2 and Tier-3 standards for all equipment with phase-in schedules from 2000 to 2008.

The Tier 2 standards were phased in by 2006, and the

more stringent Tier 3 standards were implemented from 2006 to 2008. These standards applied to engines from 75 to 750 hp.



In 2004, the EPA signed the final rule introducing Tier-4 emission standards, which have been phased-in since 2008. The Tier 4 standards require that emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx) and particulate matter (PM) be reduced an additional 90% over Tier 3. These kinds of emission reductions are achieved through the use of advanced exhaust gas after-treatment, similar to the 2007-2010 standards for highway diesel engines.

Up through Tier-3, diesel fuel did not have to change to meet the standards. However, because sulfur is destructive to the necessary catalytic particulate filters and NOx absorbers, the EPA mandated reductions in sulfur content from 3000 ppm in non road diesel to 500 ppm effective June 2007 and 15 ppm (ultra-low sulfur diesel) effective June 2010. There were a couple of years during which the interim Tier-4 standards were acceptable, but full-blown Tier-4 is now the law of the land for new diesel farm equipment.

The emission standards are increasingly stringent as engine horsepower increases. Engines from 75-150 hp have tighter restrictions than 50-74 hp engines. Engines over 150 hp have even tighter requirements. And it's not just farm equipment that is changing. The standards also apply to construction and mining equipment, marine vessels, locomotives and stationary engines found in industrial and power generation applications

Of course, all this trouble and expense is for a good reason, right? According to the [dieselnet.com](http://dieselnet.com) website article it will save lives.

When the full inventory of older non road engines are replaced by Tier 4 engines, annual emission reductions are estimated at 738,000 tons of NOx and 129,000 tons of PM. By 2030, 12,000 premature deaths would be prevented annually due to the implementation of the proposed standards.

To end on another positive note, haven't you noticed that diesel engines aren't as smelly as they used to be? That's a plus.

# Featured Equipment

## Whatever your orchard spraying need, Savage has you covered.

One of the most important investments an orchard manager can make is getting a good sprayer. It's true whether you're growing pecans or peaches. The threats to bringing in a good crop are many. Besides the weather, (We STILL can't change it!) there are voracious insects, tree diseases, fungi and mineral deficiencies lurking in the shadows. Any one of them can spell disaster for a promising nut crop.

Fortunately, Savage Equipment has the remedy, offering rugged, capable sprayers for every size of orchard, tractor and budget. We have a wide array of sizes within the Savage line, and we offer a range of Nelson Hardie

sprayers that expand the possibilities even further. At the smaller end, there's the Savage 5525 Sprayer that only requires a 45 hp power take-off. At the other end of the spectrum is the Nelson Hardie Super 92, a 1000-gallon sprayer sporting a 325 hp diesel engine and dual 46" cast-aluminum fans. Then there's everything in between. Give Savage Equipment a call and we'll help you get the right sprayer to protect those precious trees.



## The story of chestnuts and Savage Equipment

For centuries, chestnut trees and their seeds played an important role in the history of North America. Like pecans, chestnuts were a big part of the Native American diet, especially in the eastern areas of the continent. For a couple of centuries after the arrival of Europeans, most barns and houses east of the Mississippi were built of strong, durable chestnut wood.

Almost all of us can sing along with the holiday tune about "chestnuts roasting on an open fire", but most of us have never actually tasted them. Why is that? The one-word answer to that question is blight. The classic Christmas song was written in 1945, about when the American Chestnut was nearing extinction. That's because, throughout the first half of the twentieth century, a fungus known as "chestnut blight" swept through North America and almost completely wiped out the widely spread chestnut stands. Three-to-four billion trees were destroyed within a few decades. Prior to the blight, chestnuts were one of the most common hardwoods from Maine to Mississippi and made up about twenty-five percent of hardwood trees growing in the Appalachian region along with a few other areas.

What does this have to do with Savage Equipment? Well, the chestnut tree is making a comeback thanks to a small number of American Chestnut trees that survived the blight and some genetic help from blight-resistant

Asian chestnut varieties. Growers in the eastern U.S. and Canada are starting to grow chestnuts commercially with some assistance from Savage machines. Most of these growers are small, harvesting just a few acres, and the trees are fairly young. Several of them use the Savage 8042 Harvester to pick up the nuts, and at least one grower also uses the 8261 Harvester.

We've corresponded with growers in Florida, North Carolina, Virginia and Ontario, Canada about their use of Savage machines in chestnut harvesting. Besides harvesters, at least one grower is using a Savage sprayer. Chestnuts, like pecan trees, often grow to be very old and can get quite tall, so a good orchard sprayer will be essential for more growers as their trees mature. Also, a grower in Florida, recently purchased a Savage Sweeper and 3-point Blower for his chestnut orchard.

Who knows—maybe it won't be long before most Americans will, once again, become familiar with the taste and smell of chestnuts roasted on an open fire.



# Just Plain Nuts

## Pecan nutrition information

If you haven't checked out the new "American Pecan" website yet, it's about time to get over there. If you grow pecans or process pecans commercially, you probably helped pay for it, so you might as well discover all that's available to you and the general public at "americanpecan.com". It's a website full of useful information and some really beautiful photographs.

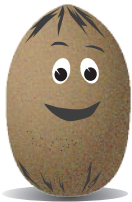
Under the section called "Health & Nutrition" you'll find links to several medical studies that prove the healthy benefits of eating pecans. If you don't feel like reading abstracts from medical studies, you'll still find some important tidbits of information about how healthy it is

to eat pecans such as the following.

A handful of pecans – about 19 halves – is a good source of fiber, thiamine, and zinc, and an excellent source of copper and manganese – a mineral that's essential for metabolism and bone health.

In each 1-ounce serving you'll get 12 grams of "good" mono-unsaturated fat, with zero cholesterol or sodium. Compared to other nuts, pecans are among the lowest in carbs (4 grams) and highest in dietary fiber (3 grams) per serving.

To top it off, pecans contain phytonutrients, specifically flavonoids (10 mg per ounce). Flavonoids in foods are listed in the USDA Database for the Flavonoid Content of Selected Foods.



*National Pecan Day is...*

*...uh, well--it's either March 25th or April 14th. You will find both dates if you search the internet (the fount of all knowledge and truth). The April date seems to be the most common of the two, and National Pecan Month is April, so we're going to go with that one. April 14th it is!*

*In case you were curious, September 21st is **National Pecan Cookie Day**. (There is one!?)*

*It turns out **National Pecan Pie Day** is July 12th. Some wise person decided to give us one more date on the calendar that we can enjoy the scrumptiousness of pecan pie relatively guilt free. (C'mon, it's National Pecan Pie Day!) Being in July means you only have to wait about 4 ½ months after Pecan Pie Day until Thanksgiving and then 6 ½ months after Christmas until your next excuse to eat a delicious pecan pie.*

*Actually, that's still way too long.*

*Who needs an excuse anyway! Somebody bake a pie!*

*If you'd like a copy of Pecan Country News delivered to your email in-box each quarter, send an email to [pecancountry@savageequipment.com](mailto:pecancountry@savageequipment.com). Feel free to pass this newsletter along to friends and family.*

## Toasted Pecan Caramel Sauce

This recipe comes to us from the label on a jar of good old fashioned "Grandma's Molasses".

### Ingredients:

- ½ cup pecan halves, toasted
- ¼ cup butter
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ¼ cup Grandma's Fancy Molasses
- ¾ cup whipping cream
- 1 tsp cornstarch mixed with 1 tsp cold water
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 Tbsp rum (optional)

**Directions:** Combine butter, brown sugar, molasses and whipping cream in a saucepan and stir to combine. Bring to a gentle boil and stir until sugar dissolves. Whisk in cornstarch & water mixture and stir until mixture starts to thicken. Remove from heat, stir in vanilla, rum (optional) and pecans.

Serve over cake or ice cream.

