



# In the Shade

## President's Message

Being from Texas, we know to never expect what we expect from the weather. In that regard, the Texas Tree Climbing Championship was not only in a beautiful setting, it went off without a hitch.

Ok, maybe one or two hitches. But, in spite of raining most of Saturday, the planned day of the event, everyone had a great time for the new three day event. Thanks to the many volunteers, sponsors and contestants and especially to Guy LeBlanc, event chair, for the hard work that made it all possible. It was very encouraging to me to see a number of new faces

involved.

As you run across your competitors and contemporaries at your local saw shop or supply house, talk up the competition and ISAT. Tell them what a great time you had and what you learned. Let's get more people involved.

Texas Tree Conference will be in Round Rock in September. Make plans now to attend. I think you will be impressed with the line-up of speakers.

I know that summer is a very busy time for everyone. You will be getting a ballot in the mail

in a few weeks. It will only take a few minutes to fill in and mail back your ballot.



## ISAT Board Meets in Lubbock

The ISAT Board of Directors met in Lubbock, the home of our President, for the first time. The meeting was held on May 21 and there were 12 board members present.

The treasurer's report showed that we have bank

balance of \$27,636.36; a scholarship fund investment of \$23,412.41; a CD of \$13,463.26; and a second CD of \$13,705.35.

The International Society of Arboriculture has hired Jim Skiera as its new

Executive Director upon the resignation of Paul Harter. ISA has also hired a Director of Science and Research, Juan Carlos Cervantes.

Work on the 2004  
*Continued on page 3*

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- Urban Forest Modeling (UFORE)
- West Texas Update
- Job Announcements
- TCCC Thank You's

2003-2004

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# ISAT Board Meets in Lubbock *continued from page 1*

Conference to be held at the Round Rock Marriott is progressing well. The featured speaker will be Tom Smiley of Bartlett Research Laboratory. Jim Skiera will represent ISA at the Meeting.

The Texas Tree Climbing Championship had some problems with rain, but was completed and showed a good profit this year.

The Board of Directors has decided at least temporarily not to support the TREE Fund (the old Research Trust of ISA) because the overhead for the fund was 78%. Instead we will support our own research and \$10,000.00 was moved from the checking account into a Research Account. In addition the profit from the Oak Wilt Workshop (which will be around \$4,500.00) will be put into the Research Account.

You may wonder why we make a profit at these events. By making a profit we can keep you Chapter dues low and still conduct special programs.

A CD is now available that has the entire history of ISAT from its inception. It will be available for purchase at the 2004 Convention.

ISAT has furnished a \$1,500 scholarship at Texas A&M University and Stephen F.



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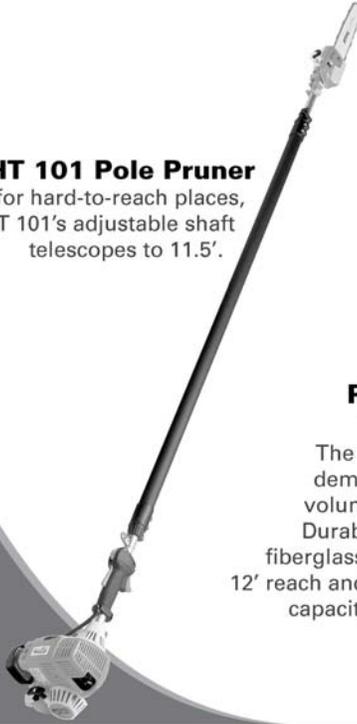
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# Thank You!

The Texas Chapter of I.S.A. thanks all of its sponsors, exhibitors, contributors and volunteers for making the 2004 Tree Climbing Championship a huge success.

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Our ***Fantastic*** Staff of Volunteers:

Chris Pierce	Louie Hampton	Keith Brown	Nevic Donnelly
Don Gardner	Gene Gehring	Jeff Quinters	Karen Smith
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Neil Mitchell	Sara Bjornson	and former World Champion Mark Chisolm	

***With Special Thanks to:***

**Kevin Bassett, Steve Barrett, Steve Houser, Onecimo Carlos, Bryan White & Melinda Adams.**

**And the Forestry Students' Arboricultural Associations of:**

**Stephen F. Austin (under the supervision of Dr. Mike Fountain)  
Texas A & M (Jessica Ciomperlink, President )**

**With Tree Pruning Provided by Employees of:**

**Sam Hill Tree Care  
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# Utility Arborists Association

Pruning and removing trees near power lines and managing vegetation on rights-of-way, within substations, and around power plants requires a great deal of training, knowledge, and skill. Utilities and their contractors work hard to train their employees. But did you know there is an organization out there that understands the difficult job you do everyday and has the resources to help? That organization is the Utility Arborist Association (UAA).

The UAA works to ensure the highest level of quality in utility arboriculture through leadership, education, research, training, and networking. UAA members include tree workers, ground crews, herbicide applicators, foresters, arborists, equipment and herbicide suppliers, engineers, landscape architects, university educators, regulators, and interested individuals. These are the professionals who actively ensure or support the efforts to maintain safe, reliable electric service to customers.

UAA membership is open to anyone who has an interest in enhancing the quality of utility arboriculture. Annual dues for a full member are \$25.00. UAA member benefits include:

- Access to the secured area of the UAA website which includes updated on line member directory, the complete newsletter, and numerous articles covering critical research and hot topics that can help you. **Check us out at [www.utilityarborist.org](http://www.utilityarborist.org)!**
- Four issues of the UAA Quarterly – the UAA member newsletter. This newsletter is full of the latest information about our industry as well as educational articles to help you do your job.

- The UAA membership directory – contact information for over 1600 of your industry colleagues.
- Discounts on UAA meetings and workshops – the best networking opportunities in our industry.

The UAA is working hard to support our members. Current initiatives include:

- Offering regional training workshops to bring focused training and information to your front door.
- Development of a national ANSI standard for integrated vegetation management.
- Continuous enhancement of our new and improved website, [www.utilityarborist.org](http://www.utilityarborist.org) with current industry news, articles, access to valuable information and references and links that make UAA **the** industry resource for you.
- Development of training materials for utility arborists such

as the *Utility Specialist Certification Study Guide* and the brand new *Utility Pruning Best Management Practices*.

UAA is also an aggressive industry advocate for you by responding to inquiries from regulators, federal and state agencies, municipalities, media, and individuals on behalf of the mutual interests of the vegetation management community. UAA's response to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission investigation of the East Coast blackout is a prime example.

If you see your job as more than just a job... If you recognize Utility Arboriculture and Utility Vegetation Management as a profession and a career... UAA is your organization.

For more information and a free copy of the newsletter, please contact:

Derek Vannice, UAA Ex. Director  
Ph. 217-355-9411  
Email: [dvannice@isa-arbor.com](mailto:dvannice@isa-arbor.com)



**AD RATES**

<b>Full Page</b>	<b>\$ 90</b>
<b>Half Page</b>	<b>\$ 60</b>
<b>Quarter Page</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>

# ISAT History *by Renee Burke-Brown*

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*The following write-up comes from papers found in the chapter's history file. It tells of the beginnings of the ISA Texas Chapter. Further excerpts will be included in future newsletters.*

## History of the ISAT 1978-1986

By Bob Dewers, written in 1987

### 1982

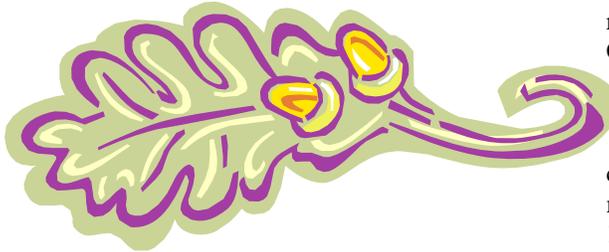
Financial and member status in January of 1982: \$7,940.54 in the bank and 211 members including 5 student members and 1 life member.

The year 1982 should be remembered as the year that we landed an international conference. At the January board meeting President Rose announced that Sue Simpson and R. D. Younger were success in the bid for San Antonio as the site of the 1986 ISA Conference.

Sue reportedly put on a "terrific presentation" that sold San Antonio to the ISA directors. Results here contrasted sharply with efforts by Bob Dewers in 1969. At the Portland conference held that year, he gave a pitch for San Antonio for the 1974 ISA conference. Unknown to him at the time, the procedure was only a formality. Atlanta had already been selected in caucus for the 1974 event. Thanks to Sue Simpson, R. D. Younger and an organized Texas Chapter, we landed the big event this time.

Dick Bates resigned from his post as secretary-treasurer and Eric Ploeger was selected to fill the unexpired term.

The Fort Worth Hilton was the site of the April 15, 1982 executive committee meeting. (Note that "directors meeting" and "executive committee meeting" is the same throughout these writings.) The



secretary-treasurer reported a cash balance of \$9,032.32 as of April 3, 1982. Membership, however, shrunk to 173. The fee for incorporation was \$500.00. This step was primarily to allow the chapter to get liability insurance for jamborees.

Incorporation of the chapter meant new bylaws. This remained a task not to be completed in 1982.

From scanning 1982 newsletters, it was obvious that it was the year of discontented letter writing. This was an opportunity for the editor and the other officers to learn how some of the membership felt about sensitive subjects. The Texas Agricultural Extension Service came under fire for alleged competitive practices and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station was also criticized for its handling of publicity on oak wilt. The letter from Dr. Gene Himelick epitomized the activity when he concluded his letter by suggesting that live oak decline may be caused by too much Texas manure.

An educational aspect of the Austin convention was a field study of oak wilt. Sites visited where severe damage was observed included a Texas Instruments property north of Austin. Many participants will remember this trip for the chiggers that produced an aftermath of uncomfortable itching.

The subject of certification of Texas arborists remained alive in 1982. Sue Simpson was the chairperson of a certification committee. A detailed

report on Certification/Registration/Licensing by Sue was published in the October 1982 Texas Chapter newsletter. No move to seek the cooperation of state agencies was made however. At a November 17, 1982 executive committee meeting, chapter president Younger stated that the certification committee should make recommendations on guidelines. As of early 1987, no progress had been made on a certification program.

New officers for the 1982-1983 year were:

President, R. D. Younger, President-elect, Harold Wilder, Vice president, Sue Simpson, Secretary/treasurer, Eric Ploeger; Editor, Mike Walterscheid; ISA Liaison, R. D. Younger.

Directors: Mark Heil, Ann Holland, Henry Painter, Ralph Flowers, Debra Livengood, R.D. Younger.



# Letter to the Editor

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## Compromise or Fight?

*Susan Henson, Grand Prairie City Horticulturist and Arborist*

Every tree professional should know the facts and research that support the removal of the wire and burlap from a B&B tree at the time of planting. The tree should be placed in the planting hole with the wire and burlap on the ball or it (wire & burlap) can be removed before placing the ball in the ground. The ball is stabilized by covering a third of the ball with native soil, the wires snipped away and removed and the burlap cut back and removed. The wire and burlap impede the growth of lateral roots.

Professionals write specs that indicate the tree should be planted properly and invariably the wire or burlap or in many cases both are left on. The evidence is covered up by dirt and

bark mulch in some cases and you need to dig for the truth. When making an inspection always carry a shovel and check the planting area. Was the ball big enough in the 1<sup>st</sup> place? Remember that a 3 inch tree would have a minimum of a 30 inch ball. The ratio is 1 to 10 meaning for each inch of tree there should be 10 inches of ball. Trees planted with wire or burlap left on should be rejected and new trees planted. If the trees were dug up and replanted their chance of living is greatly reduced. If the specs are properly written and the Contractor has signed the contract, then the contractor has agreed to meet your specs and should be held accountable.

Someone with tree planting knowledge should be on site when the trees are delivered, unloaded and planted. Trees not planted the day of delivery should be handled properly to ensure protection from high winds, west sun and drying

out. Most contracts carry a 1 year warranty for plant material. Trees planted improperly will usually survive that first year and die in year 2 or 3. The contractor is long gone and you are stuck with dead trees. Nothing upsets people more than dead trees, except paying for dead plant material. In most cases there is legal recourse but few pursue, for many reasons. We as professionals must seek legal recourse because; many times we are the only voice that trees have. We are stewards of our environment and have chosen a profession which expects us to protect and defend all trees.



## Sudden Oak Death *by Kim Camilli, TFS Oak Wilt Coordinator*

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**Current Situation:** Camellias infected from the sudden oak death (SOD) pathogen, *Phytophthora ramorum*, in the Monrovia nursery in California, were shipped in March 2004. This nursery ships nursery stock all over the United States.

**Surveys:** There are four surveys occurring throughout the United States. Here is the current situation for Texas.

1) In 2003 there was a pilot survey done that surveyed random nursery locations throughout the state to detect if SOD was present in the nurseries. This was completed by David Appel and Sara Service at Texas A&M University. They created a website

(<http://suddenoakdeath.tamu.edu>) detailing information on the pathogen and their surveys.

2) APHIS in 2004 has had local state agencies perform surveys and collect samples within the nursery that have received shipments from the Monrovia nursery out of California (Trace Forward Sites). These samples were collected and processed and Texas A&M University by Dr. Appel's lab and Larry Barnes Plant Diagnostic Center.

3) APHIS has included Texas in the national survey that will repeat the 2003 pilot survey.

4) The USDA in 2004 is having state agencies as well perform perimeter

nursery survey's that have received shipments from the Monrovia nursery out of California (Trace Forward Sites). Samples will be collected to see if the pathogen is on native vegetation. TFS is performing these surveys by Kim Camilli from TFS and Arnes Purdy from Texas A&M University. These samples will also be processed at Texas A&M University by Dr. Appel's lab. **Confirmed Locations:** Based on the 2003 surveys by APHIS and state agencies there are 11 states that have been confirmed positive for SOD in nurseries. They include Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, North Carolina, New Mexico, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia

*Continued on page 8*

# Sudden Oak Death *Continued from page 7*

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**Confirmed in Texas:** It has been confirmed in 5 nurseries in Texas to date.

**Hosts:** In Texas there are 10 plant genera that this pathogen are known to infect. They are *Acer*, *Aesculus*, *Arbutus*, *Pseudotsuga*, *Quercus*, *Rhamnus*, *Vaccinium*, *Viburnum*, *Castanea* and *Fagus*. These are the suspect hosts in Texas that we are looking at for the perimeter surveys for those nurseries that have received nursery stock from Monrovia.

### Symptoms:

For oaks the symptoms will include:

- Brown to Black Cankers on lower

trunk

- Occasional cankers on higher branches
- Oozing dark red to black sap
- Cankers on some species may not bleed
- Healthy appearing crown in the early stages
- Later stages: thinning or complete browning of crown
- Browning of leaves may occur over a period of weeks
- Beetles and Hypoxylon fungus often move opportunistically into SOD weakened trees

- Twig dieback on some species
- Spontaneous drooping of new growth on some species (tanoak)
- When the outer bark is removed, a dark zone line is evident delimiting healthy tissue from necrotic tissue

For Foliar hosts (non-oak) symptoms will include:

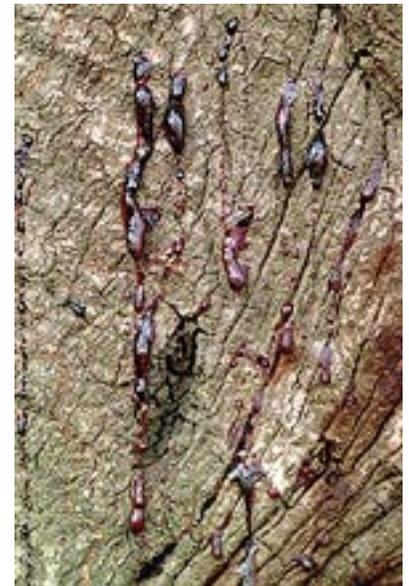
- Leaf spots
- Twig dieback

SOD on foliar hosts can only be identified by laboratory analysis



### Pictures and Further Information:

- <http://suddenoakdeath.tamu.edu>
- <http://www.suddenoakdeath.org/>
- <http://camfer.cnr.berkeley.edu/oaks/>



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## Urban Forests Effects (UFORE) Model

This new model, developed by scientists with the USDA Forest Service in Syracuse, New York, allows individual communities and cities to quantify their urban forest structure and functions easily, accurately, and cost-effectively. The model uses stan-

dardized field data to calculate multiple attributes of urban forests such as species composition, tree health, air pollution removed, carbon stored and sequestered, and many others.

For more information about UFORE visit:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/ne/syracuse/Tools/UFORE.htm>

For information about current studies involving UFORE visit:

[http://www.fs.fed.us/ne/syracuse/Projects/ufore\\_proj.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/ne/syracuse/Projects/ufore_proj.htm)

## Hypoxylon What? *From TBUFC newsletter*

**Hypoxylon Canker** has been noted in the death of many oaks in East Texas area over the last several years. This disease is not rare, but due to the stressful droughts of the last several summers, a large number of trees are being affected. The following is a description of hypoxylon canker in oak, taken from the [Texas Plant Disease Handbook](#):

"**Hypoxylon Canker** (fungus - *Hypoxylon atropunctatum* and other *Hypoxylon* spp.): The disease is first evident as a dieback of one or more branches. The foliage of the diseased limbs turns yellow and dries. This dieback continues from branch to branch through the stem until eventually the tree dies. This may require 1 or more years depending upon the environment and amount of stress experienced by the tree. Near death or shortly after tree death the outer bark sloughs off and exposes large masses of brown, dusty one-celled spores (conidia). These spores are gone within a few weeks and a grayish surface is visible. This is covered with numerous black fruiting structures. Mature fruiting structures (perithecia) can forcibly discharge sexual spores (ascospores) for distances of 60 mm. They are then blown to surrounding trees where infection occurs again. Entry appears to be through injured surfaces on limbs or trunk. The fungus grows best at 86 degrees F but can grow at 50 and 100 degrees F.



Hypoxylon canker causes a dark brown discoloration of the sapwood. With age the infected wood is lighter in color and has black zones or patterns in the wood when observed in cross section.

Hypoxylon canker occurs primarily on trees which are or have been in stressed conditions. Trees which have been damaged by excessive fill soil are often attacked by this organism. It is also suspected to be a fungus that can invade on oak wilt-infected trees.



Control is achieved by maintaining the trees in a healthy condition. Avoid injury to the trunk and limbs and never apply fill soil around the trees. Chemical treatments would not be effective because the fungus is located within the tree."

# FREE Urban Watershed Restoration Manuals

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Under a cooperative agreement from EPA's Office of Wastewater Management and Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, the Center for Watershed Protection has just published three manuals of what will be a series of 11 manuals, referred to as the "Urban Subwatershed Restoration Manual Series."

The manuals were written to organize the enormous amount of information needed to restore small urban watersheds into a format that can be easily accessed by watershed groups, municipal staff, environmental consultants and other users.

The first three were published in March 2004 and can be downloaded for free from [http://www.cwp.org/USRM\\_verify.htm](http://www.cwp.org/USRM_verify.htm) for the next six months by entering your name and address in their form. The manuals can also be ordered as a hard copy (which is NOT free)

Five additional manuals are scheduled for release later this summer and early fall, and the remaining three some time after that.

Urban Watershed Restoration  
<http://www.cwp.org/>

Chapin High School JROTC and the Cordova Middle School Treble Chorus also performed during the ceremony.

The Celebration also included presentations by Oscar Mestas, lunch and a raffle of trees donated by the Memorial Park Improvement Association, Lowe's, Nakase Brothers, and Trees USA. Smokey Bear also attended the festivities.



Arbor Day Tree Planting

## WTUFC Receives NTT Grant

(an article by Georgina Maldonado, "Los Tree Amigos," Newsletter of the West Texas Urban Forestry Council, Spring 2004)

The WTUFC was recently awarded a National Tree Trust (NTT) Roots Grant. The Council was one of thirty-one recipients. The \$20,000 grant will enable the WTUFC to help the City of El Paso establish the City Tree Farm.

The project is called Rancho para Alsegurar Mas Arboles (RAMA). Through project RAMA, the WTUFC will provide financial and organizational support to the Tree Farm and will develop and implement educational programs based at the farm.

Project RAMA will address El Paso's growing need for trees. This need will be addressed by providing the City with a steady reliable source of native and adapted trees along with community education programs.

The Roots program grant funding is targeted at projects designed to engage the community and improve the health of their urban and community forest.

## West Texas Update *by Oscar Mestas, TFS El Paso*

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### Tree Board for El Paso

Tuesday, December 9, 2003 made history for the City of El Paso when City Council voted unanimously to accept a new ordinance for the establishment of a Tree Board. The Tree Board is charged with overseeing the needs of the city's community forest.

The Tree Board will develop an Adopt-a-Median program, establish a Memorial Tree program, create a list of recommended trees and plants, and draft a tree care ordinance for City Council approval. It will also support programs educating the public about trees, coordinate an annual city-wide Arbor Day celebration, and prepare a plan to have El Paso certified as a Tree City USA.

The Tree Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the second Monday of every month at 3:30 p.m. at posted locations.

### El Paso Arbor Day Celebration

El Paso celebrated Arbor Day on Saturday, May 1, in Memorial Park. Twenty Arbor Day trees were planted in memory of El Paso military personnel who gave their lives in the war on terrorism. The dedication was accepted by Col. Heidi Brown.

The 2004 Arbor Day trees were Chinese Pistache (*Pistacia chinensis*) donated by the Desert Hills Garden Club and Afghan Pine (*Pinus eldarica*) by Alan Serna of Desert Pines Landscaping.

The City's 2004 Arbor Day Celebration was a success due to the efforts of the West Texas Urban Forestry Council, the El Paso Green Sweep Committee, the El Paso Tree Board, the office of the Mayor, and the Texas Forest Service.

The Arbor Day ceremony included speeches by Mayor Joe Wardy; WTUFC President, Daphne Richards; Green Sweep Chair, Dee Wardy; and District 2 Representative Robert Cushing. The

## Fungi and Fertilizers *from TAMU Ag News*

Experiment Station horticulturists Dr. Fred Davies and Dr. Michael Arnold and former graduate student Lucila Amaya Carpio recently completed studies of mycorrhiza (my-co-RIZE-ay), a microscopic fungus in the soil, incorporated with either synthetic or natural fertilizers and applied to bush morning glory. Their findings show that mycorrhiza mixed with synthetic fertilizers yielded better plant growth and nutrition, contradicting previous notions that the fungi work better with just organic, slow-release fertilizers. A

report on their research will appear in the Journal of the American Society for Horticultural Sciences later this year.

Mycorrhizal fungi evolved with plants over thousands of years and formed a beneficial relationship. Now available under several product names, these fungi are used to ease plants through stressful times. Though somewhat beneficial under a variety of conditions, this plant "upper" seems to work best when blended in with a synthetic, controlled-release fertilizer, the study

found. Davies pointed out that mycorrhizal fungi are not a panacea, and not all plants benefit from adding the fungi to the soil. But he hopes this research is a start toward helping growers and gardeners use economical best-management practices for the environment.

Click here

<http://agnews.tamu.edu/dailynews/stories/HORT/Jun1604a.htm>

To learn more about mycorrhizal fungi.



### MIZELL'S TREE SERVICE

5225 Pensacola Drive  
Garland, TX 75043

**Now Hiring.**

*\*Mail to above address or e-mail resume to:*  
[mizelltreeservice@earthlink.net](mailto:mizelltreeservice@earthlink.net)

*We are looking for tree care professionals who possess the drive for excellence and quality. We offer excellent pay and benefits, including paid holidays and vacations.*

*Responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:*

**CREW SUPERVISOR: Min. 4 yrs. exp. in tree care industry or related field.** Possess excellent comm. skills in English / Spanish. Knowledge of tree care industry practices (climbing, fertilization, removals, etc). Work with / supervise foremen and crews to ensure job quality and safety. Certified Arborist or able to obtain certification within 1 year. Must be willing to assist in any of the positions if necessary. Valid Texas Driver's License a must.

**FOREMAN/LEAD CLIMBER: Min. 4 yrs. climbing exp.** Start jobs and maintain crew productivity, ensure quality and safety at all times. Drive company truck (valid Texas Driver's License a must). Exp. in tree care industry practices (climbing, fertilization, removals, AirSpade™, etc.). Must be able to communicate in English / Spanish. Map-reading skills necessary. Tool maintenance and inventory control. Resolving situations as they arise and reporting them.

**APPRENTICE: Will train in all aspects of the tree care profession to eventually fulfill a position of CREW SUPERVISOR.**

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**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ISA  
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## Webworm Control in San Antonio

San Antonio saw the worst webworm infestation in the area during the 2003 growing season, and 2004 could be just as bad.

Webworms are small yellow or green caterpillars that spin webs around sections of leaves, and then eat those leaves, reducing the tree's ability to create food. Webworms prefer pecan trees, but will also munch on mulberry, hickory, oak, willow or redbud.

"Webworms usually aren't a significant threat," said Mark Peterson, urban forester with the Texas Forest Service, "but when more than 50 percent of the tree canopy is eaten by webworm for several years, the tree's health is at risk." Webworms do not sting, but their hairs may cause an irritating rash if they contact human skin.

Summer and fall leaf loss caused by webworms can be prevented in the spring with the release of trichogramma wasps, microscopic insects that penetrate and destroy webworm eggs. Trichogramma wasps cannot sting or harm humans, and are so small that five can fit on a pinhead.

"Releasing these wasps is a non-toxic control method that people can do at home," Peterson said. "The best time to release the trichogramma is the 3rd week of April and again during the first week in June. This 'one-two punch' seriously dents the population level in the beginning, and consequently the webworm population does not fully recover for that year."

Trichogramma wasps are sold through local insectaries for release in home gardens for landscapes.

The Texas Forest Service, the city of San Antonio, Texas Cooperative Extension, Bartlett Tree Experts and City Public Service are studying the effectiveness of releasing trichogramma wasps to slow the spread of webworms. Wasps were released this week at four city park areas that have been selected as testing sites.

