



*For Immediate Release*

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## Kenneth Bogach Named Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year

Kenneth Bogach from Scottsville, Kentucky was recently honored as the 2005 Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year at the Kentucky Forest Industries Association (KFIA) 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in Lexington, KY. John Jackson with the Kentucky Division of Forestry in Elizabethtown, KY nominated Bogach for the award. In addition to a plaque recognizing his achievement, a full set of safety equipment and a Stihl 029 chainsaw were presented to Bogach on behalf of National Tree Farm Program sponsor Stihl Incorporated. Bogach was selected from a number of nominations submitted from throughout Kentucky to the state Tree Farm Committee.

Mr. Bogach's 98 acre tree farm is located in Allen county, Kentucky and is managed for a wide range of benefits including timber production, wildlife and recreation. The farm has been certified as a tree farm since 1990 and has been improved every year since entering the program. Improvements on the farm include timber harvesting, timber stand improvement, tree planting and maintenance of all boundaries and roads. The management of the tree farm has improved wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities on the property.

Bogach's active forest management program has resulted in 75 acres of timber being selectively harvested and timber stand improvement on the area to remove the low quality trees. Other activities have included installation and management of over 1.5 miles of roads and tree planting on three acres. Bogach has also hosted field days and tours and has been active in promoting good forest management through conservation. He is a member of the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association and the National Woodland Owners Association and won both the Master Conservationist and Allen County Forest Stewardship Awards.

The Kentucky Tree Farm Committee is sponsored by the Kentucky Forest Industries Association which is the statewide trade association dedicated to serving and promoting the forest products industry of Kentucky. Founded in 1965, it has over 1,200 members in the areas of primary and secondary wood industry, supplier and service industries, wholesale, loggers and landowners. The Tree Farm Committee oversees the program in Kentucky and is part of the National Tree Farm Program that promotes sound forest management through sustainable forestry. For more information about the association or how you can become a certified tree farmer contact Bob Bauer at 502/695-3979.

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