



For Immediate Release

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Tim Freibert Named Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year

Tim Freibert from Louisville, Kentucky was recently honored as the 2007 Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year at the Kentucky Forest Industries Association (KFIA) 43rd Annual Meeting in Covington, KY. Robert Bean with the Kentucky Division of Forestry in Elizabethtown, KY nominated Freibert for the award. In addition to a plaque recognizing his achievement, a gift certificate in the value of \$350 was presented to Freibert on behalf of the National Tree Farm Program sponsor Stihl Incorporated. Freibert was selected from a number of nominations submitted from throughout Kentucky to the state Tree Farm Committee.

Mr. Freibert's 115-acre tree farm is located in Nelson 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 1989 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.

Freibert's active forest management program has resulted in 6 different timber sales on the property providing over a half million-board feet of logs that have been sold to local mills and processed to support the local economy. The timber harvests incorporated selective tree harvesting and natural regeneration to insure that the property is maintained as forestland that produces wood products for the future while also being used to provide improved wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities. Freibert has also hosted UK Forestry students for educational purposes and leases the hunting rights to his property. He is a member of the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association and has been a Stewardship Forest since 1984. He has been nominated for the Nelson County Tom Wallace Award winner multiple times.

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 800 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.



Tim Freibert (L) was presented the 2007 Tree Farmer of the Year by Chris Will, KY Tree Farm Committee Chairman



Mr. Freibert (R) with John Anderson, representative from the Kentucky Division of Forestry.