

Growing Less Common Fruits and Nuts



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Small orchard and Food Forest

Tulip Woods

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Indiana Nut and Fruit Growers Association

Since 1953



ABOUT

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Who are we?

The Indiana Nut & Fruit Growers Association (INFGA) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the culture of Indiana hardy nut and fruit trees, their

Benefits of Membership

Whether you are new to growing fruit and nut trees or have experience, INFGA offers a variety of opportunities each year to connect with fellow enthusiasts from all

Our Next Meetings

Sunday, March 24th

Farm Bureau

www.infga.org

North American Fruit Explorers

NAFEX
North American Fruit Explorers

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[Fruits of the Heartland Conference](#)

Connecting people with a passion for fruit since the 1960's

North American Fruit Explorers

Since the mid 1960s NAFEX has connected people with a passion for fruit including backyard growers, orchardists, researchers, and people from all walks of life. NAFEX hosts an national meeting annually, publishes

www.nafex.org

Fruit or nuts for market?

Creating value added products?

Supplying to other businesses for value
added products?

Agrotouristry, U-Picks?

Non-native and Stone Fruit Trees

Apples, Pears, Asian Pears, European
Plums, Peaches

Disease/pest pressure

Climate issues





Lots of niche possibilities
 $\frac{1}{4}$ – 5 acres

Food Forest on $\frac{1}{4}$ acre

Kevin Mathews, N. Illinois
Why grow small and unusual
fruits?

Huge bang for the buck

Low maintenance

Great landscape

Beautiful flowers

Extended harvest

e.g, raspberries from late June
to 1st frost



“Henry” – 25 year old apple tree
on M27 root stock

Vulcan Farm







Aronia Berries



Flowering Hazelnut



Chestnut



Currants



Photo Credit: © Olesiaru | Dreamstime Stock Photos & Stock Free Images



Source: *Currants and Gooseberries*, Richard A. Hayden, Michael N. Dana, and B. Rosie Lerner, 2001, Purdue Extension publication HO-17-W

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Currents

“The Forgotten Superfood”

Ribes genus

First introduced to the U.S. in 1629

□ Over 150 species

Red Current

Black Current

White Current

> Cultivated species originated in Europe

> Used for food and medicine
(berries, leaves, buds)



University of Illinois – test plots

Native Fruit Trees = climate resilient
and very little disease/pest pressure



Mulberries



Morus rubra – “red mulberry”
Native

Morus alba – “white mulberry”
(berries can be red, purple, or white)
INVASIVE in Indiana

Also dwarf and hybrids out there



Pawpaw...the Indiana Banana



**This is pawpaw,
*Indiana Banana***

Flesh as custard

Flavors

**Banana, mango
caramel**

Uses

**fresh eating
speciality deserts**



”RICHES ARE IN THE NICHEs”

Fruit or nuts for market

Creating value added products

Supplying to other businesses for value added
products

Potential: Farmers markets



Fruits newly ripened uses:

Ice cream, gelato, cheese cake, zabaglione, sherberts, wine, beer & ale and more.

Older darkened fruits potential:

Baked deserts

Cookies, cakes, bread and more.





Acornucopia



Extra Virginian
**HICKORY
OIL**

Wild-crafted from native
trees growing in the
Appalachian Mountains.
Oil flavor and color
will vary.

Ingredients:
A healthy environment, healthy
communities, healthy people,
"cold pressed" hickory oil

QTY • 8.5 OZ

KEEP REFRIGERATED

For more information about
this totally nuts project visit
acornucopiaproject.com

Potential: jams, jellies, sauces and more







Ferm Fresh / Terre Haute



”RICHES ARE IN THE NICHEs”

Agrotouristry >> create an experience

U-Picks

Agroforestry (timber, specialty woods)

The Possibilities are Endless

Apples

Pears

Peaches

Plums

Mulberry

Persimmon

Pawpaw

Serviceberry

Blueberry

Raspberry

Blackberry

Gooseberry

Current

Fig

Aronia

Grapes

Elderberry

Honeyberry

Goumi berry

Medlar

Strawberry

Cherry (Bush)

Hickory

Walnut

Butternut

Heartnut

Pecan

Hazelnut

Chestnut

Kiwi (cold)

Cranberry

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Tulip Woods

