



Virtually Wild Ginseng: A How-to-Grow Workshop

Date:

Saturday, February 3, 2001

Time:

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place:

Camp Mitchell, New Castle, VA.

Driving instructions to Camp Mitchell

From I-81 take exit 141 Salem/New Castle. Turn onto Rt. 419 towards Hanging Rock/Catawba. Turn right at light in Hanging Rock onto Route 311 North towards Catawba. Go about 20 miles to town of New Castle. Turn right onto Rt. 615 in New Castle. Go about 2 miles. Sign for Camp Mitchell is on right. Turn left into Route 689 to Camp Mitchell entrance. Park in gravel area near large building.

What to bring:

Bring your own lunch.

What to wear:

Come dressed for cold weather.

Cost: \$20 for training video on Virtually Wild Ginseng production

Contact for more information:

✦ **New Castle** Bonnie Cranmer, Craig Co. Rural Partnership
(540) 864-7540. Email: craigmain@excite.com

✦ **Roanoke** Ann Rogers, TAP (540) 345-6781 ext. 4359.
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✦ **Blacksburg** Tom Hammett, Virginia Tech College of Natural
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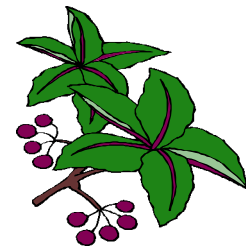
The workshop will consist of a morning lecture on virtually wild ginseng production -- Syl Yunker's method of spacing ginseng plants on the forest floor in a randomised fashion that imitates nature, thus inhibiting disease and preventing theft. After lunch, Syl will lead an excursion to the nearby

Jefferson National Forest where we will visit an ideal ginseng habitat that has been identified by examining the tools presented in the morning session.

The workshop is open to the public. Bring \$20 to purchase the training video on virtually wild ginseng, and your own lunch.

Syl Yunker has farmed ginseng for 14 years and has been involved with ginseng here and in Asia for 52 years. He is familiar with all aspects of virtually wild ginseng growing and harvesting and is founder of the Boone-Sang Ginseng Cooperative. Syl continues to research value-added possibilities for marketing ginseng.

The Appalachian Ginseng Foundation is committed to bettering the lives of Appalachian people by teaching about ginseng growing, an alternative income sources which is renewable, not detrimental to the environment, and encourages the preservation of the Appalachian forest.



YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE SECTOR!

At this meeting we will recruit persons interested in becoming first-time growers and receiving our training and guidance on finding forested growing sites, and growing, harvesting, processing, and marketing of ginseng, goldenseal, other forest-grown plants, and other special forest products.

Wild Harvest Sector is a program designed to foster the sustainable propagation, harvesting, value-added processing, and marketing of forest-grown medicinal plants and other non-timber forest products in southwestern Virginia.

The program is being offered through the support of Appalachian Regional Commission by a partnership among Total Action Against Poverty, Roanoke; Virginia Tech's Dept. of Wood Science and Forest Products, Blacksburg; and Craig County Rural Partnership, New Castle.

Wild Harvest Sector is dedicated to the conservation of all plant species grown for market. Therefore we encourage participants to learn to "grow their own" rather than to deplete natural plant communities.

We believe that the production and marketing of forest-grown medicinal plants and other non-timber forest products can help local residents boost their income -- while conserving our beautiful forests for future generations.

Wild Harvest Sector offers the following:

- ✦ training and assistance in planting, cultivating, harvesting, and marketing forest plants
- ✦ assistance with production of a variety of non-timber forest products -- floral products, mushrooms and other food products, horticultural products, specialized wood products, and a variety of forest-grown medicinal plants.