



Crowning Achievements

Research Results on Biostimulants and Transplanting Success

About 5% of plants in the urban environment die within the first year after transplanting. During very hot summers, mortality can reach as high as 20 to 25%. In particular, transplanting failures are due to the young root system not being prepared to adapt and survive in a new site condition.



In the study, "[Effect of root-stimulating treatments on physiologic and growth performances of *Platanus × acerifolia* and *Ulmus pumila* seedlings](#)" Dr. Manuela Baietto and Dr. Daniele Bassi (both University of Milan, Italy) sought to evaluate the effects of two biostimulants

(fertilizing products), on physiologic performances and growth rate of young London Plane and Siberian Elm trees, in order to help reduce the incidence of new planting failures in the urban environment during the first few years after transplanting.

Both biostimulants – fulvic acid and seaweed extract – promoted more uniform growth compared to water only. The application of both biostimulants promoted superior growth, although it was not always statistically significant. One application per year was generally considered enough to get positive results.

Get more details about this research and find other TREE Fund studies related to soil, planting, and establishment on the [Research Archive](#) page of the TREE Fund website.

“Nature welcomes inquiry. Nature does not hide its work. Just seek, and you will find.”

- Alex L. Shigo

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Would you like to receive a print version of the TREE Press?

Simply contact Karen Lindell at klindell@treefund.org.

Leading Thoughts

By J. Eric Smith, TREE Fund President and CEO

Before coming to TREE Fund, I served as Executive Director of the Salisbury House Foundation, which owned and operated an amazing historic house museum in Des Moines, Iowa. Salisbury House was built in the 1920s within a glorious 12-acre oak forest, and its owners – cosmetics magnate Carl Weeks and his wife Edith – worked diligently to protect the grand old trees around their 42-room manor home, most of which still provide shade to the house and gardens.



Carl Weeks was an extraordinary collector of rare books and documents, and one of the great delights in my work at Salisbury House was being able to study, work with, and teach from his 3,500-book library. One of my favorite objects in the Library collection was a 1664 first edition of John Evelyn's *Sylva, or A Discourse of Forest-Trees and the Propagation of Timber in His Majesty's Dominions*, arguable the first great treatise in the English language on the science, care and importance of trees. It was a massive success then, and has remained in print for over 350 years.

While Evelyn appreciated the beauty of trees, his underlying call to action was an economic one: trees provided fuel, building supplies, food, defense, and a litany of other crucial day-to-day needs in pre-industrial England, and the island's forests were being denuded in the aftermath of the English Civil War. "We had better be without gold than without timber," Evelyn wrote, encouraging land owners to plant trees as a matter of patriotic obligation. His countrymen heard him, and many old English forests today are home to trees planted by *Sylva's* earliest devotees.

On April 27, millions of people across our own country will honor Arbor Day by planting trees, providing innumerable benefits, some that John Evelyn understood in the 1660s, but many others of which are known to us only through the types of modern scientific research empowered by TREE Fund. You can further this ongoing scientific legacy by making a gift to [TREE Fund's Arbor Day Appeal](#) today. We're proud to work on behalf of our trees and the people who care for them, and take pride in being a link in a chain of inquiry that spans centuries – and will benefit those who follow us for centuries to come.

2017 Annual Report Available

2017 was a very successful year for TREE Fund. Get details in our Annual Report now available at treefund.org/about/documents.



Join us at the TREE Fund After Hours Buckeye Bash

*and stay for
Toast with the Host*

Tuesday, 7 August 2018
Starting at 6:00 pm
Columbus, Ohio

FREE admission for all
ISA Conference
registrants*

- **Mini-Auction** – Trips and treasures for every budget
- **Golden Ticket Raffle** – \$100 buys a chance to win the auction package of your choice (only 75 tickets available!)
- **Ken Ottman Volunteer Award** recipient announced
- Appetizers and drinks

*Please sign up at [ISA registration](#) so we have a head count.

Learn more at treefund.org/tfafterhours

Lead Donors

We are grateful to the following people and organizations who contributed \$2,500+ to TREE Fund in March 2018. See the full list of 2018 Lead Donors who make our work possible at treefund.org/about/our-donors. Thank you!

- Anonymous
- Asplundh Tree Expert Co.
- ECI (Lakeside Environmental Consultants, Inc.)
- Indiana Arborist Association
- International Society of Arboriculture
- Jarraff Industries, Inc.
- The Davey Tree Expert Company
- Wisconsin Arborist Association

Seeking Nominations

The Ken Ottman Award honors a TREE Fund volunteer who has demonstrated a sustained high-level volunteer commitment to TREE Fund's mission and work.

Follow the instructions on the [TREE Fund website](http://treefund.org) to submit your nomination by **April 30**.

This year's Ottman Award recipient will be announced at the TREE Fund After Hours Buckeye Bash on August 7 in Columbus, OH.

Bike the Buckeye State

with the 2018 Tour des Trees

July 29 to August 4, 2018

[Register TODAY](#) for the 2018 Tour des Trees and take advantage of our National Arbor Day fundraising promotion.

For each \$50 Tour donation raised **April 23-29**, riders earn a chance to win a Black Bear Adventure cycling gift pack, courtesy of Tour Director Paul Wood and Black Bear Adventures (BBA). You'll be the envy of your fellow riders with your BBA-branded cycling backpack, jersey, water bottle and other cool swag.

AND...

Donors earn the chance to win a \$100 Amazon gift card for each \$50 gift to the Tour during that same time period. The prize drawing will take place on May 2 and the winner will be notified promptly. Thank you for supporting the Tour and good luck!



Volunteer Spotlight:

Ohio DNR Department of Forestry

We would like to thank the folks at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry for all their efforts in support of the 2018 Tour des Trees.

Tyler Stevenson and his team in central and northeast Ohio – Alan Siewert, Lisa Bowers, and Lola Lewis – are playing a crucial role in connecting TREE Fund with the right people and places along the Tour route to make our event a success. We are awed by their volunteer spirit and willingness to take time out of their busy schedules to help us. Thank you, Tyler, Alan, Lisa and Lola, for your important contributions and continued support!

To suggest someone for the Spotlight, please contact [Karen Lindell](#).



The Word on Webinars

May is blooming with TREE Fund webinars! Join us for one or both of these free one-hour programs offering 1.0 CEU from ISA, SAF, or NALP **(NEW!)**:

May 2 at 12:00 p.m. (Mountain) – “Invasive Insects of Shade Trees: A 30 Year Perspective from Colorado” with Dr. Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University.



May 23 at 12:00 p.m. (Central) “Utility Arborist Research Fund: Work in Progress, Work to Come” featuring J. Eric Smith, TREE Fund and Dr. Christopher M. Halle, Sonoma State University.



Pre-registration is highly recommended. Visit treefund.org/webinars to get details on these talks, register, see our full 2018 webinar schedule, and watch past broadcasts.

TREE Fund is a 501(c)3 nonprofit whose mission is to support scientific discovery and dissemination of new knowledge in the fields of arboriculture and urban forestry.

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