



For Immediate Release

For More Information Contact:

***Bob Bauer, Executive Director
502/695-3979***

Felix Taylor Named Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year

Felix Taylor from Annville, Kentucky was recently honored as the 2009 Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year at the Kentucky Forest Industries Association (KFIA) 45th Annual Meeting in Bowling Green, KY. Michael Froelich with the Kentucky Division of Forestry in Pineville, KY nominated Taylor for the award. In addition to a plaque recognizing his achievement, a gift certificate in the value of \$350 was presented to Taylor on behalf of the National Tree Farm Program sponsor Stihl Incorporated. Taylor was selected from a number of nominations submitted from throughout Kentucky to the state Tree Farm Committee.

Mr. Taylor's 200-acre tree farm is located in Jackson 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 2001 and has been improved through a number of active management practices. Improvements on the farm have included selective timber harvesting, natural regeneration of woodland areas and installation of over four miles of roads and trails for wildlife and recreational purposes. The management of the tree farm has improved timber production, wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities on the property.

Mr. Taylor has taken an active role in forest management on his property and has encouraged others to practice good forest management and stewardship. Taylor's farm has been used to host a number of field days including educational programs for Boy Scouts and Berea College students. His farm is made available for all types of recreational activities including bird watching, horseback riding and camping. Taylor is a member of the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association and serves on their Board of Directors. He is also a Certified Forest Steward and winner of the 2008 Outstanding Kentucky Forest Steward Award.

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 600 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.



Robert L. Volk, Kentucky Tree Farm Chair presents Felix Taylor the 2009 Tree Farmer of the Year award at the KFIA Annual Meeting. Standing with Mr. & Mrs. Taylor is Michael Froelich, forester with the Kentucky Division of Forestry Southeastern District who nominated Mr. Taylor