

Forest Sampling Workshop

January 12, 1999

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry,
Syracuse, NY

Sponsored by
SUNY-ESF Faculty of Forestry &
Office of Continuing Education

For many practicing foresters and other resource professionals, time has passed since they took a basic course in statistics or sampling. This one day workshop provides an opportunity to hone your sampling skills and statistical tools. It is structured to meet the needs of field foresters and others who need to characterize forest stand conditions. Although there is not a field component in this workshop, there will be in-class problem sets illustrating key points of sampling design and analysis. Reference materials will include additional problems with solutions furnished. **Please bring a calculator for use in the in-class problem sets.**

You should attend this workshop if you:

- routinely pop in 5 or 10 points for an inventory, and want to know what other options you have
- want to better understand summary statistics generated by NED or other cruise software
- wonder how good your timber cruise estimates are
- would like to do a more thorough inventory- but don't have the time
- want to increase efficiency and decrease the cost of inventory.

Instructors:

James Savage: Associate Professor, NY State Ranger School, Wanakena; SAF Certified Forester
Steve Stehman: Associate Professor, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Preliminary Workshop Schedule

8:00 Registration

8:30 Introductions

Sampling basics - why sample? Does it really matter how we sample?
Definitions: population, parameter, sample, statistic, sampling frame, sampling design.

10:00 **Sample methods and designs:** fixed-area plots, point sampling, unrestricted; random sampling, systematic sampling, what kind of data to collect, and how much? The high cost of cruising errors.

Sampling of forest features other than timber: woody debris, understory vegetation, regeneration. Special high value timber conditions.

Noon *Lunch*

1:00 **Analysis of different sample strategies** Summary statistics for different forest characteristics [BA, volume, dbh distributions, species distributions].

Variance, standard error, coefficient of variation, confidence intervals.

Relation of variance to precision and cost- how much will my estimate cost?

How good an estimate can I afford?

2:30 **Sample planning-**

Sample size and type [plot vs. point].

Choice of BA factor or plot size.

Preliminary information needed, where to get it.

Stratification.

4:30 **Summary and questions**

SAF Certified Forester Credits: This workshop has been approved for 7 Category I Continuing Forestry Education credits.

To Register: *Please preregister!* Simply fill out and mail the [registration form](#) with your registration fee. You may register by phone by calling ESF Continuing Education at (315) 470-6891; or fax to (315) 470-6890.

Early Registration Discount: Registrations *and payment* must be *postmarked* at least ten days in advance of the workshop you wish to attend to qualify for the early discount. Government or corporate purchase orders received by the deadline also qualify for the early discount.

Workshop Fees: Early registrations, postmarked 10 days in advance are eligible for the discount fee of \$125. If postmarked after ten days in advance, the full fee is \$145. The workshop fee includes lunch and refreshments, transportation, and materials.

Fees are payable to SUNY-ESF.

VISA or MasterCard also accepted.

Refunds: SUNY-ESF reserves the right to cancel any program in the event of insufficient registrations. A full refund will be given if a program is canceled. Participants who wish to withdraw must give written notice one week in advance to receive a full refund. After that date a \$25 cancellation fee will be charged. Substitutions are permissible at any time.

Questions? Regarding registration, call ESF Continuing Education at (315)470-6891.

Registration Form

Forest Sampling Workshop

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____ email _____

Register me for The Forest Sampling Workshop on January 12, 1999. Enclosed is my workshop fee,

Fees: **If paid** ten days in advance: \$125

If paid within ten days of workshop: \$145

Credit Card Payment: VISA Mastercard Account Number: _____

Signature : _____ Expiration Date: _____

Special needs: _____

Mail form to: ESF Continuing Education, SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Syracuse, NY 13210-2784

FAX: 315-470-6890