

2011 Torreyea Seed Distribution to Private Landowners

Approx 700 seeds distributed early November 2011

Note by seed distributor Torreyea Guardian: "The quality of the seeds is questionable. Some initially floated then sank. So I expect they are not the best. I had no choice but to send them out since I had so much energy invested in them. I hope they germinate."

NC – Waynesville, elev 3,400 feet, 20 Torreyas planted 2008

Sara Evans

- 20 seeds

Sara Evans s-evan@umn.edu Connie Barlow cbtanager@bigplanet.com
(Connie Barlow received seeds in her behalf, to plant onsite April 2012)

NC – Spencer, elevation 700 feet, 7 existing Torreyas

Jeff Morris

- 40 seeds

Jeff Morris jeffmorris28144@hotmail.com

T. Jefferson Morris, Attorney at Law
121 West Council St., Suite 101
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 647-0808
cell: (704) 232-4502

The environment onto which I would eventually plant the seedlings is "**Piedmont woodland**" **mostly hardwoods. It is a zone 7 climate, and the forest is semi-wild, having last been cut over in the 50's. Situated on a bluff overlooking the South Yadkin River**, there are perhaps two areas I would consider microclimates, which might support zone 8 plantings. Shading would be from Spring through late October, as the forest is primary deciduous. Soil is low pH, mostly sandy clay, so I'll be liming the trees twice per year, to maximize protection from the blight that has decimated the native stands. The contour of the land is rolling hills and bluffs, so pretty much anywhere I choose will be well-drained. Knowing that *T. taxifolia* prefers mostly shade, I doubt that I would attempt to plant any of them in clearings.

NC – Lake Junaluska, elev 3,400 feet, 8 Torreyas planted 2008

Janet Manning janet_manning@yahoo.com director of Garden

Cookie Callahan byronncallahan@gmail.com chair of board

Linda McFarland shortia56@hotmail.com

- 40 seeds

Janet Manning
36 Hounds Run
Alexander, NC 28701

"To be planted in our outdoor seed beds which are wire covered to deter rodents."

NC – Brevard area, elevation 2,450 feet, No existing Torreya

Buford Pruitt

- **10 seeds**

Buford Pruitt bpruitt570@gmail.com

c/o Ralph Miller
495 Williamson Creek Road
Pisgah Forest, NC 28768

Within the Gneiss Belt mountains at an elevation of appx 2450 ft MSL. The property is mature mixed pine and hardwoods, which cover all but the half-acre house pad and driveway. The parcel is within a low density residential area, with lots being 2 - 10 acres in size. My own lot is 2.24 acres. I am currently preparing to build a 1200 sq ft home on the house pad and leave the remainder of the property in forestland habitat. My lot is one of the last lots in the neighborhood that is undeveloped. Other houses are likewise sited within the same forested habitat. No one in the neighborhood has cleared their land, all preferring to live within woods. I have neither a will nor descendants, so in the event of my death my property will be inherited by my sister. I cannot say whether she will sell the property or keep and use it herself. I have become a snowbird, living in North Carolina May 1 – October 31 and in Florida the remainder of the year.

NC – Bat Cave, elev 2,200 feet, 5 acres, No Torreya yet

Cliff Dodd

- **10 seeds**

C D nlowii2002@gmail.com

386 212 6472 (cell)

No mailbox so 2011 must send seeds to neighbor:

Cliff Dodd
c/o Kim Gill
399 Middlefork Road,
Hendersonville, NC 28792

One acre has our vacation property on it and is partly landscaped with typical cottage type plants and a few more unusual species. The other half of this acre is part natural woods and part semi-natural woods. The land is sloped and faces east. We get 6-8 hours morning to mid-afternoon sun in exposed areas and filter shade in the wooded and semi-wooded areas. We have flame azalea native on the lot, as well as Cyrtopodium acaule, two evergreen Rhododendron species and some Triliums. Across the road we have about

4 acres, a small portion of which had been cleared by the developer and is being overrun with saplings, but most is thick forest, with dogwood, cucumber tree (magnolia), black oak, hickory, sourwood, and other local trees, most of which I am just learning about since I was born and raised in Florida. This lot also has a morning sun exposure, parts are very densely wooded and some of it is quite steep. We have dead and dying hemlock from the exotic insect that is killing them and I have slowly been replacing these with other conifers. There is as yet no Kudzu on the property. **I have a degree in Ornamental Horticulture** and have been growing plants for many years, mostly as a hobby (our family was in the motel business). I have grown many trees and shrubs in Florida and have planted various trees/shrubs/herbaceous perennials on the one acre site at Bat Cave.

NC - Watauga County, elev 2,400 feet, 10 acres, No Torreya yet

Chris Garriss

• **20 seeds**

Chris Garriss cgarriss@garriss.net

Mailing address: 1110 River Point Rd • Moncure, NC 27559

While I live most of the time in Chatham County NC, I have property in Watauga County NC. Much of it covered with (Hemlock Woolly Adelgid affected trees) Eastern Hemlocks. Part of my property faces south, part east, in the lower part is a year round stream in an area that remains damper even through the drought we experienced.

Property is 10 acres, mostly forested, but partially clear. Property is at approximately 2,500 feet elevation: 162 White Rock Rd. Boone, NC. (There is currently no mail delivery to that address since we are not yet there full time.) Zone 6b, facing east & south. Mixed forest: white pine, oaks, hickory, hemlock, chestnut, black locust, sourwood predominantly. Property is owned outright by my wife and I. Property is prevented from subdivision of less than 5 acres. It is going to be our retirement home eventually. I've grafted approximately 35 fruit trees being planted there: apple, cherry, pear, crabapple, plus rooted 3 types of blueberry. There are substantial stands of eastern hemlock being killed by the hemlock woolly adelgid. I would like to introduce trees to replace, to some extent, the hemlocks and to give a species in need a home.

NC – Asheville area, No torreyas yet

Zev Friedman

• **200 seeds**

Zev Friedman <zevkudzu@gmail.com>

www.livingsystemsdesign.net

828.279.2870

Permaculturist who landscapes for Asheville area forest owners; interested in Torreya as replacement for dead hemlocks. He will coordinate plantings in several lands.

"I'm finalizing my list of interested landowners for the seeds this fall, making sure that they're committed to staying on their land and to protecting, tracking and photographing the progress of the seedlings. It looks like I can take about 100 seeds as originally projected."

TN – Cumberland River near Nashville, elev 400 feet, 33 acres in conservation

Vicki Turner
● **40 seeds**

vtu1906101@aol.com
615 516 5578, 615 383 6571
mailing address: 196 Moultrie Park
Nashville, TN 37205

Property is located at 1063 Sunset Dr, Gallatin, TN 37066, owned by Vadis Larrabee Pierce (Vicki's mom). Largely surrounded by Old Hickory lake with a 230 acre farm to the east and acre-plus residences to north and west. Land is partially wooded by several glades and large trees; mostly deciduous. Mostly open areas with maples, redbuds, and white pines planted. Plantings include other imperiled trees: Franklinia, Georgia Plume, anise, wafer ash, and corkwood trees. The property also has 20 American Chestnuts growing as part of the back-breeding program with the Chinese chestnut.

TN – Growild Nursery
● **300 seeds**

OH - Cleveland, 5 existing Torreya
Fred Bess
● **20 seeds**

7600 W Pleasant Valley Rd.
Parma OH 44130-6108
boggardener@cox.net
440-725-2871

I planted it out spring of 2007. While it does not look like a nice conical/typical conifer, I attribute this to it being cutting grown from a lateral branch. It has survived and grown nicely with absolutely no wind or freeze damage, and in the winter of 2008/2009 it survived -13F. This gave me renewed interest in the species.

I found Woodlanders Nursery in Aiken GA offered for sale seed-grown plants of *T. taxifolia*, but only within the state of Georgia. I was visiting family in northwestern Alabama and decided to place an order for 3 *T. tax.* for pickup. Two of the trees I

kept for myself; the other I shared with a retired botanist from the University of Akron, Ohio.

I overwintered the plants indoors the first winter. The third plant was overwintered in an alpine greenhouse but developed Phytophthora or a similar looking disease problem and died.

The following year (December 2010) I made the same trip south and again ordered and picked up an additional 2 plants of *T. tax.* **The four seed-grown plants, as well as the cutting-grown plant, have established nicely.** Three are located in a prepared bed in a relatively exposed location. One is planted in a woodland situation, and the cutting-grown plant is in an open but protected area not far from a *T. yunnanensis*, which will have to be removed depending on the health and vigor of the *T. taxifolia*. [Editor's note: *T. yunnanensis* is an Asian species of genus *Torreya*; if it turns out to be a male tree, removal will ensure no pollen contamination of the *taxifolia* females.]

As of this writing (October 2011) **all 5 plants are doing quite well**, though I have noted a bit of deer browsing on one (protection is already in place!). I will send pictures of the plants after ALL have gone through an Ohio winter.

FL – Apopka, to test seed passage thru gopher tortoises

Lawrence Fisher

- **12 seeds sent Oct 19** (with seedcoats intact)

1800 Schopke Lester Rd.
Apopka, FL 32712
407-886-8128

Lawrence Fisher bumbycamp@yahoo.com

2011: "I am a teacher at Apopka HS and have a greenhouse and shade house available."

2011: Connie wrote: "Jack: Do you have any *torreya* seeds still with intact pulpy coverings? Paul Martin and I had speculated early on that large Pleistocene tortoises and surviving gopher tortoises might have been coevolved seed dispersers, swallowing the "fruit" whole, digesting the pulp and scarifying the seed coat so that germination would occur right after the first winter. If you do have some with pulp still, could you spare 10 to go to Lawrence so he can test germination rate of, say, 5 passing thru the gut and 5 as controls?"

On 10/18/07, "Lawrence Fisher" <bumbycamp@yahoo.com> wrote:
"I read at the 'rewilding' *Torreya* website about a little experiment to use **gopher tortoises as torreya propagators**. I am studying about **a hundred on my property**. Send me the details if you are interested in pursuing this. Lawrence Fisher, Apopka, FL

NE Georgia - near Clayton, lots of existing Torreya
Jack Johnston
• **200 seeds (planted in protected pots)**

Jack Johnston jack_georgia@hotmail.com

Russ Regnery, near **Franklin NC** will ultimately receive some as seedlings from this seed stock, to supplement his existing *Torreya taxifolia* plantings.