

Rules and Policies for Auburn University Forest Health Cooperative

Approved May 16, 2008

MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the Forest Health Cooperative (FHC) is open to anyone in the southeastern region of the United States.
2. Members are required to pay annual dues which are as follows:

Full Member	\$8000
Associate Member	\$4000
Sustaining Member	\$ 500
3. Sustaining Members receive access to FHC Webpage, annual Newsletter, Research and Technical Reports, Priority Email and Telephone Consulting, and participation in Members Only Workshops. Associate Members receive the benefits of the Sustaining Members, Field Consulting and Laboratory Diagnostics, and may participate at the Annual Advisory Meeting, but cannot serve on the Advisory Council. Full members receive all the benefits of Associate and Sustaining Members and serve on the Advisory Council and have full voting powers with respect to research program and budgetary decisions.
4. Membership is for one year beginning October 1. Membership may be terminated by either the member organization or by Auburn University by giving 60 days written notice before October 1.
5. Membership will be contingent on signing a memorandum of agreement with Auburn University.
6. After September 30, 2009, all new members at all levels will be required to contribute 1-3 x their annual membership dues in addition to their annual membership dues. The number of annual contributions will depend upon the year of membership beyond 2008.

Year of Joining	Contributions to Forest Health Cooperative
2008	1 Annual Membership
2009	1 Annual Membership + 1 Annual Membership
2010	1 Annual Membership + 2 Annual Membership

2011 and beyond	1 Annual Membership + 3 Annual Membership
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ORGANIZATION

1. The Dean, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Associate Director Agricultural Experiment Station of Auburn University in consultation with the Forest Health Cooperative Executive Committee, will appoint the Forest Health Cooperative's Director.

The Director will be responsible for:

- A. Directing the activities of the Forest Health Cooperative;
 - B. Employing a competent staff;
 - C. Developing the Forest Health Cooperative's direction in conjunction with the Advisory Council;
 - D. Ensuring each member participates to a threshold level; and
 - E. Reporting research accomplishments to the Advisory Council
2. The Advisory Council will have an annual meeting in the first quarter of each fiscal year .
3. An Advisory Council consisting of one representative from each full member shall be established to:
 - A. Act as a liaison between the organization and the Director;
 - B. Develop Forest Health Cooperative policies;
 - C. Advise the Director on the Forest Health Cooperative's direction;
 - D. Approve the annual budget and membership fee.
4. An Executive Committee consisting of three Advisory Council members and the Director shall have the authority to meet and conduct routine business in the name of the Advisory Council. One Executive Committee member will be appointed annually according to a rotating schedule and will serve for 3 years. The Advisory Council chairman will be the senior member of the Executive Committee and will preside at the Executive Committee and Advisory meetings.
5. Contact representatives will be designated by each cooperating member/organization. This individual may or may not be the same person serving on the Advisory Council. Contact Representatives will be directly involved in research established with each member organization.
6. All information will be available to all members in the Forest Health Cooperative.
7. All members agree to keep confidential the data and information given to them for future publications and limit the spread of information to non-members that would benefit without paying annual FHC dues.

DUES and BUDGET

1. Membership dues will be set by the Advisory Council at its annual meeting.
2. The Cooperative will operate on the fiscal year October 1 to September 30. Invoices for membership fees will be sent to all member organizations on October 1 of each year, or by special arrangement with the individual organization.

RULES CHANGES

1. Changes in, deletions from, and additions to the membership rules may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of advisory members in attendance at regularly scheduled or special sessions of the Advisory Council.

DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN AUBURN UNIVERSITY AND MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS IN THE AUBURN UNIVERSITY FOREST HEALTH DYNAMICS LABORATORY COOPERATIVE

1. Study plans will be developed by Auburn University in conjunction with the Cooperative's Advisory Council. Responsibilities for cooperative research will be delineated in individual study plans.
2. Auburn will do data analysis and processing, as well as manuscript preparation, and will insure timely distribution of results to cooperators.
3. Auburn University graduate students will be utilized to work on specific forest health problems.
4. All cooperators will be responsible for adhering to the study plans.
5. Information will be disseminated at annual Advisory meeting and in an annual Newsletter and Research Reports to members. A web site dedicated to Forest Health with the Cooperatives' research will be maintained by School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences.
6. Results will also be disseminated at local, regional and national forest related meetings.
7. Site visits for risk assessment and diagnostic evaluations will be conducted by Auburn University staff. Full members get 2 days/yr, Associate Members get 1 day/ yr. Additional days are \$1000 per day for all membership classes.

8. Laboratory diagnostic evaluations will be conducted by Auburn University staff. Full members get 10 sent in samples per year, Associate Members get 5 sent in samples per year. Additional samples are \$100 per sample for all membership classes.