

Arkansas Agriculture Department

ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION Arkansas livestock & poultry commission Arkansas state plant board



1 NATURAL RESOURCES DRIVE, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72205 | (501) 225-1598 | AAD.ARKANSAS.GOV

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 10/25/2018 Contact: Brooke Clanton, <u>brooke.clanton@agriculture.arkansas.gov</u>

Two Arkansas Trees Named to the National Register of Champion Trees

Statewide, AR – The National Register of Champion Trees has recognized two Arkansas trees for being the biggest in their respective species in the country. This year's winners from Arkansas include: red mulberry and American holly. Visit the <u>National Register of Champion Trees</u> website to view Arkansas's champion trees.

The register uses a Bigness Index to name the champion of 783 different species of trees. The truck circumference at 4.5 feet about ground, tree height and average canopy spread are measurements used to calculate the index for each tree.

"We are honored to have two Arkansas trees placed on the National Register of Champion Trees this year," said Arkansas Secretary of Agriculture Wes Ward. "These champion trees highlight the great diversity of Arkansas's scenic landscape and contribute greatly to Arkansas's reputation as the Natural State".

The red mulberry tree is located on land owned by Brian and Nancy Williams in Hamburg and towers 75 feet tall. Kim Floyd owns the land in Rose Bud where the 64-foot tall American Holly stands. A third tree, the Hercules-club (also known as the toothache tree), was also recognized by the register, but winds from a recent storm brought down the tree.

The Arkansas Agriculture Department's Forestry Commission (AFC) is responsible for submitting measurements of each tree in the National Register. To nominate a tree believed to be the largest of its species, contact your local AFC office or complete this <u>Nomination Form</u>. For additional questions about the National Register, contact AFC's Krista Quinn at <u>Krista.Quinn@agriculture.arkansas.gov</u>.

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