

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jeff Jensen

jeff@jenagres.com

515-320-6756

IA Nut Growers 2024 Annual Nut Judging

Send in your nut samples today!

Dallas Center, Iowa (Feb. 23rd 2024) — The Iowa Nut Growers Association (INGA) will be hosting the annual nut judging competition at the Brenton Arboretum located at 25141 260th St. Dallas Center Iowa Saturday, March 2nd starting at 9:30 am. A free pizza party lunch is provided, please register for lunch count at this link <https://forms.office.com/r/3hYF025v6w>

The INGA has been conducting the annual nut evaluation since the late 1960's. A formal process with scoring sheets is used to crack, process, and score the nut samples. Some of the best black walnuts available today came from amateur growers that submitted samples back in the sixties and seventies. Everyone is welcome to learn about how it is done and to help process some samples.

According to INGA President Mary Ellen Miller, anyone can submit a sample for the nut evaluation; you don't have to be a member and you don't even need to live in Iowa. She encourages anyone with samples to send them in for scoring. A proper sample for walnuts, hickories, pecans, butternuts, heartnuts, etc. is roughly 12 nuts; hazelnuts need a few more at 20. Select husk free and clean nuts for the sample.

Be sure to write your name and contact information on the sample bag for identification purposes. Please also include the variety name if it is known. Other information to include is whether it is a native or seedlings you planted.

The following species are scored - Black Walnut, Carpathian Walnut, Shagbark and Shellbark Hickory, Hican, Butternut, Hazelnut, Pecan, and Heartnut. Samples can also be mailed to Jeff Jensen, 3404 20th Ave, Fenton IA 50539

For more information about the nut evaluation and the Iowa Nut Growers Association, visit their website at <https://iowanutgrowers.com/>

Questions? Contact Jeff Jensen at jeff@jenagres.com or via phone at 515-320-6756 or Mary Ellen Miller, INGA President, at rosehaven1760@gmail.com or via phone at 515.783.6390.

###

Trees Forever is a nonprofit organization nationally headquartered in Marion, Iowa. We are dedicated to planting trees, encouraging volunteer and youth involvement and environmental stewardship. For more than 25 years, we've been planting a better tomorrow. For more information, visit www.treesforever.org or call 800-369-1269.