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*An evening on Chestnut Ridge at Coopers Rock State Forest  
Morgantown, West Virginia – July 12, 1992*

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## Foreword

When this meeting was held in 1992, nearly 14 years had passed since the previous International Chestnut Conference. The symposium held in 1978 provided the impetus for researchers in the United States to form a chestnut working group that eventually became a United States Department of Agriculture sanctioned, Regional Technical Committee (NE-140). The major objective of that Committee has been the biological improvement of chestnut. This international meeting was organized by the NE-140 Committee in an effort to bring together scientists from many nations to discuss the progress and challenges that are presented by the culture of various *Castanea* species.

The meeting was organized by topic into five sections that dealt with various issues, from the major pathogen of chestnut, *Cryphonectria parasitica*, to the many cultural and ecological aspects of chestnut production worldwide. This proceedings follows the meeting format closely; each of the five sections begins with one or two keynote (invited) papers, followed by research papers and abstracts. The Committee also chose to invite a scientific expert within the discipline but out of the chestnut research area to moderate each session and provide a written evaluation of the research presented in their session. The moderator's remarks are included at the end of each section.

The four-day conference was attended by 175 participants from 17 nations. During that period, both science and friendships were shared with the promise that these interactions would lead to greater international cooperation and progress to improve the genus *Castanea*.

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## Acknowledgments

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