

The Mount Rogers Christmas Tree Association Grayson Highlands Park Seed Orchard has sustained the flow of Mount Rogers Fraser fir seed since its establishment in 1980.

The health of these original seed trees is beginning to decline. Consequently, the Association has decided to establish a new orchard at the Old Flats site on Mount Rogers.

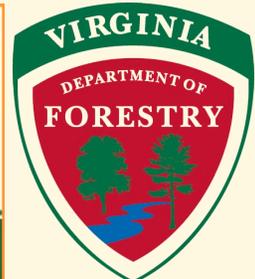
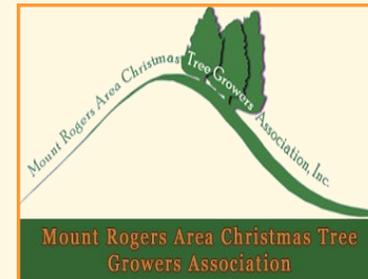
An additional goal is to improve the genetics of the Mount Rogers seed supply. In April of 2010, grafting rootstock for a new seed orchard was planted as a first step in this effort.

The next step is to identify the best of the best Mount Roger's seed source. The Mount Rogers Christmas Tree Association would like to invite you to participate in this effort.



Mount Rogers Area Christmas Tree Growers Assoc., Inc.  
P.O. Box 127  
Whitetop, VA 24292

## Mount Rogers New Seed Orchard "Superior" Christmas Tree Selection



**What is needed to establish this new Orchard?**

The Association needs your help in improving the quality of the trees produced from our Orchard seed. You can help by identifying outstanding **Mount Rogers seed source Fraser fir** trees.

These Christmas trees should have grown faster, have better color, and have better overall quality than the other trees in your field(s).

Those trees selected to be included in the new orchard will be named for the farm that produced them and **forever remain associated with the member’s farm (a branding of seed with the member’s name on it.)**

If you have one or several of these “Super trees” on your farm, the Mount Rogers Christmas Tree Growers Association would like to work with you in evaluating them for inclusion in the new Flats Orchard.

100 Fraser fir Christmas trees will be selected to graft into the new seed Orchard.

Selections will be based on height, color, and quality as compared to the eight trees adjacent to the “Super Tree”

It is preferred that the trees are not sheared before selection.

It is preferred the trees be six to nine feet in height in 2010.

The trees selected this year will be tested for needle retention beginning in November of 2010, and again in November of 2011. The trees will also be evaluated for bud break. These evaluations are crucial for the New Seed Orchard to truly be the best.

**In order to participate please return this form as soon as possible to the Mount Rogers Christmas Tree Growers Association at:**

**Mount Rogers Area Christmas Tree Growers Assoc., Inc.  
P.O. Box 127  
Whitetop, VA 24292**

**Or contact Della Deal at 336-372-2756 or DellaDeal\_SmokeyHoller@hughes.net**

**Farm Owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Farm Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_