THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Environmental Science Graduate Program Student Seminar Series

The Effect of Pawpaw Production Systems on Tree Health, Fruit Yield, Quality, and Marketability

Sarah Francino

- April 10, 2020 | 2:00-3:00pm
- Zoom Meeting ID 515-427-066
- https://osu.zoom.us/j/515427066

Abstract

Pawpaw (Asimina triloba) is a native understory fruit-bearing tree that produces fruits (of the same name) with tropical flavors. These fruits have become a new specialty crop with several inherent physiological hurdles impeding a stable value chain. While the majority of pawpaw fruits used commercially are sourced from wild patches, larger cultivated plantings are currently being developed. Management of woodland pawpaw stands could provide a new potential income source for landowners, offsetting some of the costs involved in forest management, and requiring minimal upfront costs. Orchard grown pawpaws require a large upfront investment, with each grafted tree costing at least $25, and not bearing fruit for 4 years. Protocols for woodland management will be proposed in this study, deriving from five years of collected data. Cultural practices, environmental conditions, and genetic differences between maturing and producing orchards will enumerate the best management practices and their associated costs.