

# **Hazelnuts in Wisconsin** **-Now and Future-**

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# Who am I????????

- **Horticultural crops**
  - **General use and culture**
  - **Woody perennials**
    - **Fruits, ornamentals, woodlot management**
    - **Theme: genetic improvement**
      - **Participatory plant breeding**
      - **Propagation**
  - **Instruction**
- **Environment and agriculture**
  - **Land management issues**
  - **'Family' farms**
    - **Maintain and increase diversity of operations and crops in Wisconsin**
    - **Resilient farming and food systems**

**This meeting is one of the few  
times**

**Jason's timing is off!!!!!!**

**According to Celtic astrology**

- **March 11-March 20 = Lime tree**
- **March 22-March 31 = Hazelnut tree**

# Present status in Wisconsin

- Jason's survey
- 60 to 80 growers
  - Less than 10% large (greater than 1000 planted plants)
    - But include leaders in industry
  - About  $\frac{3}{4}$  are below 100 planted plants
- In 72 counties in WI
  - About half of counties in Wisconsin
  - Four largest
    - Richland + Vernon (Driftless region)
    - Bayfield + Ashland (northern Great Lakes region)

# Present status in Wisconsin

- **Needs/hurdles**

- **Yields**

- **?????**

- **Learning curve**

- **Plants still young**

- » **Greater than 50% planted since 2005**

- **Huge losses of planted stock**

- **About 60% losses not unusual**

- **Learning curve**

- **Need for more responsive planting stock**

- **Other problems:**

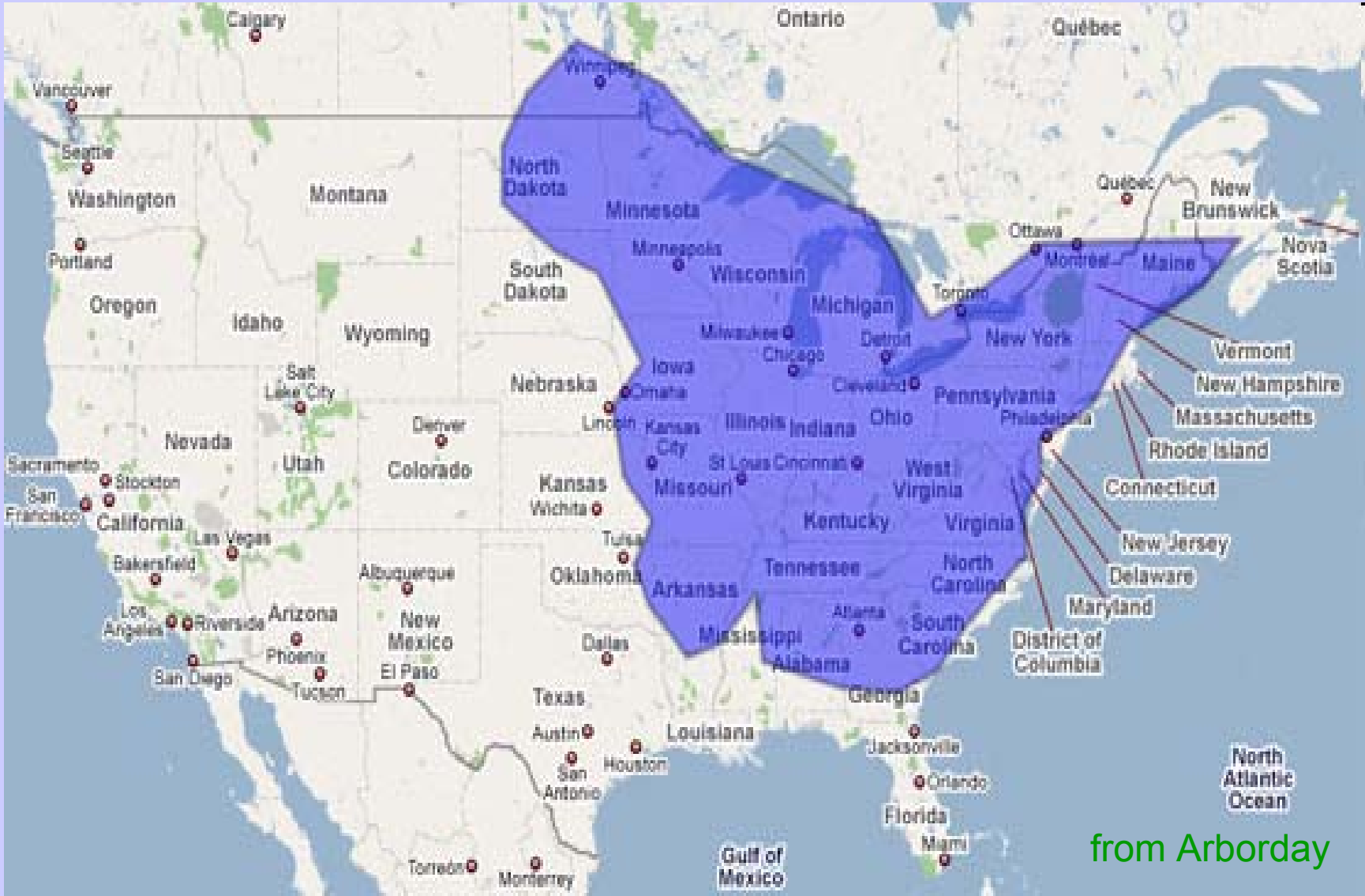
- **Little support available**

**Future????????????????**

**Huge potential to build on the use of native and local resources**

**–American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)**

# Native range of American hazelnut



from Arborday

# Future????????????????

## Huge potential to build on the use of native and local resources

–American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)

•Marketing subthemes:

–‘Northern Native foods’ + Driftless region

–Unique and high quality foods

»Wines, cheeses, fresh veggies, organic, ++++++

–Health and food

# Future????????????????

## Building a regional research and extension team

### –Team

- Fischbach, Demchik, Kern, McCown- (WI)
- In cooperation with other northern Midwest states (especially Minnesota)
- Grower networking and information exchange

### –Foci

- \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
- Superior plants to work with:
  - Evaluating our native resources
    - »Over 1000 plants tagged for observation
      - in natural areas and
      - in growers' fields
  - Propagation methodologies
  - Breeding
    - »Crosses of superior finds + selection

