



News Brief

Center for Urban Forest Research
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RESEARCH STATION

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Some Quick Updates

STRATUM workshop recap:

Thirty individuals from across the country participated in the very first STRATUM [hands-on-training workshop](#) in Davis, CA, March 28-29, 2005. Participants left with a new sense of how they can use [STRATUM](#) to assess tree benefits in their community.

STRATUM's future:

For most of this year [STRATUM](#) will be in the BETA testing phase. A limited release of the public version (v 2.0) will be this fall as part of the USDA Forest Service's suite of urban forestry software tools known as i-Tree. STRATUM, an integral part of i-Tree, will be administered by the Davey Resource Group. Contact i-Tree staff at: info@itreetools.org.

i-Tree coming soon:

[i-Tree](#) integrates STRATUM, UFORE, and MCTI along with several utilities such as PDAs. The unveiling of [i-Tree](#) is scheduled to occur at the National Urban Forestry Conference in Charlotte, NC in November. Davey Resource Group will administer i-Tree and is planning to conduct regional [training sessions](#) on the entire suite of i-Tree software tools in 2006. At the time of the full release later in 2006, toll free technical support and training programs will be in place. As new programs are developed and tested, they will be added to subsequent versions of i-Tree.

Reference cities coming to a location near you:

Reference cities are the science behind STRATUM. Each [Reference City](#) is the basis for the regionally specific modeling capabilities of STRATUM and also serves as the basis for our [Tree Guidelines](#) series. Reference cities are selected because they are representative of cities within a particular climate region. Nineteen regional tree-growth zones have been identified for the nation. See [climate region map](#). We have completed eight reference cities and work is nearly complete on our ninth and tenth – Charlotte, NC and Charleston, SC. Others that we have planned include: New York City (Queens), NY, Albuquerque, NM, Honolulu, HI, and Boise, ID.

Natural Inquirer features urban forest research:

The [Natural Inquirer](#) is a middle school science education journal. This edition is devoted entirely to urban forestry and urban forest research. See our Center's science and scientists in action on pages 17, 38, and 45. Topics include shade on paved surfaces, how trees help to reduce pollution, and benefits of shaded parking lots.

Tree growth animation:

See a tree grow and watch the benefits accrue. This very early stage of development will give you an idea of where we want to go with a visual representation of animating tree growth and the resultant benefits. Stay tuned for future versions. [Download the AVI file](#) from the What's New column (Tree Growth Visualization) on our home page.