Dr. Mark Ashton, Professor, Yale University, 360 Prospect St, New Haven, CT 06511, 203-432-9835; mark.ashton@yale.edu

Mark grew up for the first ten years of his life in Sarawak, Malaysia. His high school education was in the U.K. and his university education in the USA. He earned a PhD in silviculture and a Masters of Forestry from Yale University and a B.S. in Forestry from the University of Maine. He is the Morris K. Jessup Professor of Silviculture and Forest Ecology, the Director of School Forests, and the Principal Investigator for the Environmental Leadership and Training Initiative at the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University.

Ashton has conducted over thirty-five years of research on the biological and physical processes governing the dynamics of natural forests and on the creation of their agroforestry analogs. His long-term research concentrates on tropical and temperate forests of the Asian and American realms. His field sites within these regions were selected specifically to allow comparison of growth, adaptation, and plasticity within and among close assemblages of species that have evolved within forest climates with differing degrees of seasonality.

He has studied the species rich genera of the temperate Oak-hickory forests of southern New England and compared them with the species rich genera of Mixed-Dipterocarp forests of Sri Lanka and the seasonal rain forests of Panama. Findings from these studies have theoretical implications for understanding the maintenance of diversity of tree species in forested ecosystems and the adaptability of forests to change in climate.

The results of his research have been applied to the development and testing of silvicultural techniques for restoration of degraded lands and for the sustainable management of native forests through natural regeneration techniques. He is the author of over 150 peer reviewed journal papers; an author of two field guides to tropical forest trees; an author of the silviculture textbook used throughout North America; and an editor or author of twelve other monographs and books concerning the management of forests for a variety of social values.

Ashton has been recognized by twelve university awards for his teaching and advising and the UNESCO Sultan Quaboos Award for tropical forest conservation. He currently serves on scientific advisory committees for watershed management of the lands managed for drinking water supply for the cities of Boston and New York; and for American Forests, the Society of American Foresters and the US Forest Service.

Mark serves as the “Quiet Corner Initiative” coordinator—an exciting and innovative education, outreach, and research effort of Yale School Forests and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, focused in northeastern Connecticut. The initiative develops programs that connect masters-level courses and university research to real environmental assessment and management challenges in the region. Programs currently focus on a forest conservation and management, renewable energy, and sustainable agriculture.

Four relevant publications (from 137 peer-review publications and 15 authored or edited books)

Frey, B., Ashton, M.S., McKenna, J., Ellum, D. & A. Finkral. 2007. Topographic-related patterns in seedling establishment, growth, and survival among masting species of Southern New England hardwood forests. Forest Ecology and Management 244: 31-45.

Liptzin, D., & P.M.S. Ashton. 1999. Early successional stand dynamics of single-aged mixed hardwood stands in a southern New England forest, USA. Forest Ecology and Management.116: 141-150.

Ashton, P.M.S. & B.C. Larson. 1996. Germination and seedling growth of *Quercus* (section Erythrobalanus) across openings in a mixed-deciduous forest of southern New England, USA. Forest Ecology and Management 80: 81-94.

Covey, K.R., A.L. Barrett, & M.S. Ashton. 2015. Ice storms as a successional pathway for *Fagus grandifolia* advancement in Quercus rubra dominated forests of Southern New England. Canadian Journal Forest Research, 45: 1628-1635.