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## Forest Farming System

**Forest farming is an agroforestry practice defined as the intentional cultivation of nontimber forest products (NTFPs) underneath a forest canopy**

At UNH, two experiments were established to evaluate species survival, growth, and performance

### EXPERIMENTAL LINEAR GAP (ELG)

A forest gap created by tree harvesting generates a gradient of microclimates, from full shade to full sun, including diffuse light and partial shade

### ENRICHMENT PLANTING

Using a shelterwood system, we evaluate how species respond to shading and root competition. Plots are placed north and south of seed trees, as well as in open areas without shade

### SPECIES



Black walnut



Chestnut



Serviceberry



Elderberry



Persimmon

These species represent contrasting responses to light availability in forest systems.



### Hazelnut

Native shrub species produces nuts across a range of light conditions, making it suitable for forest edges and open areas

### Pawpaw

Native tree species adapted to partial shade to full sun that produces a fruit with high potential market value



This research will help evaluate how forest farming systems that incorporate a variety of different native tree and shrub species can balance production of valuable food crops with ecological functions and sustainability.

