

URBAN TREE CROWN CONDITION: TRAINING AND EVALUATION TOOLS

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ABSTRACT

The USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station in Blacksburg, Virginia is in the process of constructing a website that will provide web-based training to FIA crews, urban foresters, university scientists, urban and citizen foresters in the area of urban tree monitoring. Initially, the website will focus primarily on tree crown characteristics but will eventually contain information on site and bole characteristics as well. In addition to the training module, the website will also include a testing module and crown analysis software. The testing module will be used to examine the repeatability of observer estimates of crown measurements using controlled tree models. The crown analysis software will allow users to assess the health of urban trees using digital photographs.

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