

THE FOREST SERVICE BLACK WALNUT GENETICS PROJECT  
A PROGRESS REPORT

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The Forest Service Black Walnut Genetics Project at Carbondale, Illinois, is relatively new. It was made an official project just 2 years ago. Since the emphasis at this meeting is on hardwoods, I thought you might be interested in hearing about our personnel and facilities, the scope of our research assignment, and something about the studies underway.

Genetics is only part of the overall Forest Service research on walnut: We are also doing research on physiology at Ames, Iowa, and on silviculture and soil and water relations in Illinois and Indiana out of our Carbondale office. The genetics, physiology, and silviculture projects complement each other and are therefore closely coordinated; the latest silvicultural techniques are being used in our genetics research plots.

FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL

We have under lease from Southern Illinois University 40 acres for developing a walnut-breeding arboretum. On this tract we have built an irrigation pond and are now equipped with pump, lines, etc., for watering in the arboretum. Almost completed are two greenhouses with an adjoining headhouse. These facilities are shared with the Forestry Department of the University. We also have a small shadehouse, and construction will soon start on a storage building.

On the SIU Campus a new Forest Service Laboratory and Office Building is under construction. It will have laboratory and office space for all Forest Service scientists at Carbondale.

Dave Funk and I are assigned to the Genetics Project; and we expect to eventually have another specialist in the project.

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