

NOTES

A Note on the Tree Improvement Activities  
of The Armstrong Forest Company

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Plus-tree Selection. Location and field marking of plus trees has been carried out since January, 1957, in connection with crop tree selection and timber working activity. In 1 ½ years of this work we have discovered, marked, and recorded the location of 15 plus trees. In finding these trees, 5,094 acres were covered by the crews (or 1 plus tree per 340 acres). At the same time approximately 100,000 crop trees were marked, out of about 1 ¼ million trees examined (trees 6 inches and up). One plus trees, then represents the best of 83,000 examined. Detailed examination and recording for each plus tree will begin this month; perhaps in doing this we will find reason to reject one or two of those now selected. Superior breeding stock is of course the reason for locating these trees. The number of plus trees by species is as follows:

<u>Prunus serotina</u>	10	<u>Liriodendron tulipifera</u>	1
<u>Acer rubrum</u>	2	<u>Fraxinus americana</u>	1
<u>Magnolia acuminata</u>	1		

Norway Spruce Seed Stand. For genetic experiments, and for seed supply for forest plantations, we have begun the preparation of a Norway spruce seed stand. We have thinned a small plantation (0.4 acre) planted in 1909 with 3-year-old transplants shipped from Germany. The plantation had one previous thinning, at age 30, which removed only the poorer trees. This year we have eliminated all but 28 trees in the stand. Form and potential as seed producers were the main considerations in this final selection; so the 28 remaining trees represent the best of about 500 originally planted. The average of the residual trees was 12.2 inches d.b.h. and 61.4 feet total height; the largest tree was 15.2 inches and the tallest tree was 74 feet. Following a suggestion by Dr. Schreiner, we will cut the tops out of these trees at about 3 inches in diameter to make seed collection easier. The orchard is isolated from other spruce plots by over ½ mile of hardwood timber, so effective pollination will be limited to the selected trees.

NEFTIC Proceedings Quoted in Poland

In a Polish artical titled "Tizebiez selekcyjna w roznym ujeciu" (A different approach to selective thinning) by Eugeniusz Ilmurzynski (Sylvan 9: 7-12, 1958) the author reviews, in considerable detail, our Marking Symposium reported in the Proceedings of the Fourth Northeastern Forest Tree Improvement Conference at Johnsonburg, Pennsylvania. The authors English summary follows

Selective thinning is an effective means of preserving the most valuable stand constituents.

The way in which thinning is scheduled and its results depend upon interests of those responsible for implementation of the operation and who represent various professional groups i.e. silviculturists, exploitators, practitioners and scientists.

The Johnsonburg, (Penn., USA) conference and symposium held in August, 1956 is given by the author as instance of multifarious approach to the problem of improvement thinnings.

The author suggests that the need for a like convention followed by a practical performance of thinning is urgent in Poland and would facilitate the exchange and adaptation of views upon economic objectives set up for particular stands and connected silvicultural treatment.

#### RESOLUTIONS

The Conference, by unanimous vote, adopted the following resolutions submitted by the Resolutions Committee, David B. Cook, Chairman, T. S. DeLong, and Francois Mergen.

Whereas the Sixth Northeastern Forest Tree Improvement Conference has had a productive and enjoyable meeting at Beltsville; and

Whereas the success of this gathering has been due in no small measure to those who organized it;

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Conference expresses its appreciation to:

The Northeastern Forest Experiment Station of the U. S. Forest Service, the Plant Industry Station and the Agricultural Research Center for sponsoring this meeting and for the use of facilities;

The Institute of Home Economics (ARC) and Mrs. Bassford of the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks for organizing the very interesting program for the ladies, including the tour of Annapolis;

The Local Arrangements Committee, H. C. Buckingham, Chairman, I. C. Haut, and A. G. Snow, Jr., for an excellent program and local arrangements.