

Weyerhaeuser Highlights

Seedlings For Future Forests

Genetically superior seedlings which will become the future forests of the South are being gently lifted from their beds at Weyerhaeuser Company's nursery near Goose Creek in Beaufort County.

According to production manager Ron Ramsey, crews began taking seedlings from the beds on November 29 and the operation will continue until about the middle of February.

"We started slowly this year, Ramsey said, using only 20 member crew of lifters and packers. But now that we're getting some good, cold weather on a sustained basis, things will pick up," he concluded. A second 20 member crew has been added.

The seedlings are taken from the beds by a mechanical lifter developed by Weyerhaeuser and are then packaged in bundles which are in turn put in large bags for cold storage. About half of the 35-million seedlings in the nursery this year will be used on company owned lands and Tree Farm Family lands. The remainder will go to Weyerhaeuser tree farms in Mississippi, Alabama and Arkansas, and to lands owned by other companies and individuals across the South. Seedlings range from eight to 12 inches in height at the time they are lifted and reached maturity in about 25 years.

The cold weather we're having now (temperatures of 50 degrees and below are best) help the seedlings to go dormant; a condition necessary for their survival from seedling bed to forest. Interestingly, when most farmers are planning for the next growing season, tree farmers are getting seedling stock into the ground. The cold months—December through February—are best for planting loblolly pine. This

difference makes it possible for our neighbors, the local farm community, to provide the necessary part-time help. They have more time when it's cold.

The 106-acre nursery was opened in 1969, produced its first crop in 1970 and in given years has 50-acres in seedlings and 50-acres in cover crops (the other six acres are taken up by roads, buildings and packing). Seedlings are grown from seed produced at the company orchard also in Beaufort County near the original Washington.

"We're proud of the seedlings produced here," said administrative secretary Rose Faucette, who added, "our seedlings will help keep the south in the forefront of forestry. This year's crop is one of the best I've seen."

Safety Programs Complete

A series of safety meetings with a special touch has just been completed at Plymouth Fiber. The program was developed by Moe Matthews, Senior Project Engineer and Ronnie Thompson, NC-2 Superintendent for use in regular quarterly safety meetings.

Centerpiece for the meetings was a video tape featuring local, regional, national and international labor officials giving their views on safety programs, specifically, Weyerhaeuser's. The taped presentation, produced in-house by Weyerhaeuser Company, under the direction of Matthews and Thompson, emphasized the importance of good training, good education, and good communication to the success of any safety program. It also pointed to the importance of company and union working together to maintain good safety.

According to Matthews and Thompson, feedback was "excellent" from the 260 employees who attended. It

was an opportunity to hear union officials say in a "live" format what their views are on this important subject. The tape was shown at five safety meetings, including a special session in conjunction with installation of the new extended nip press on NC-1 linerboard machine.

Participants included Arnold Brown, Vice President and Region 4 Director; Reavy Irby, International Representative; Bob Frase, Director of Occupational Health and Safety; Jack Britt, Local President and Dick Lamb, Local Vice President, all of the United Paperworkers International Union.

Record Set At Chip And Saw

A new single day production record of 19-thousand-403 board feet per hour was set at the Plymouth Chip 'n' Saw on Monday, December 6, according to manager Bob Andrews, who said, "it was a significant team effort."

Showers at the Shrine Bowl

Charles Showers, Jr., a six-foot-one inch senior tackle at North Duplin High School selected to play in the annual North (Carolina) South (Carolina) game at Charlotte, produced four of his team's 10-points in a losing effort on Saturday, December 11.

Showers kicked a 26-yard field goal and tackled on an extra point following his team's only touchdown. He also kicked off the North Carolina Team in the regionally televised game.

He is the son of Charles Showers, foreman of the company's remote woodyard at Faison. The elder Showers has been with Weyerhaeuser for 10-years.

RALEIGH—Heman R. Clark, Secretary of the N.C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, announced the start of a unique program to diminish the number of drunk drivers on the state's highways.

"Starting January 1," Clark said in a news conference, "the Division of Alcohol Law Enforcement in cooperation with the Governor's Highway Safety Program will begin a program with owners, operators and employees of licensed alcohol outlets on how they can help curtail drunk driving in this state."

"This is an innovative program," Clark said. "We do a good job of apprehending drunk drivers in this state, but we need to do more to prevent people from driving drunk. This program addresses that issue."

Don Murray, director of the Division of Alcohol Law Enforcement, said, "The program is designed to sensitize people in the alcohol business and to encourage them to take responsible care in serving alcoholic beverages to their patrons."

"We will also encourage them to offer assistance to alcohol-impaired patrons to assure they do not leave the premises and drive. They can call a cab for the patron or get a friend to drive him home, for example."

"One way we will do this," Murray said, "is through a video tape program designed to alert licensed outlet employees to the signs of potential impairment in a patron. Most people can detect an obviously intoxicated person, but it's a little harder to detect the point at which a patron's next drink may impair him."

"This is a give and take for

mat video tape, too," Murray added. "The agent will run a scenario and then stop the tape to discuss with the employees what actions they'd take to stop it from getting out of hand. We also hope to learn techniques from people who work with these situations everyday on how they handle the problem so we can pass their solutions on to others who work in the business."

Murray gave an example to explain what he meant. "One scenario involves a situation at a convenience store. It's late at night. The clerk behind the counter is a small woman and she is alone. A large man walks in, pretty well intoxicated already, gets a six-pack of beer out of the cooler and puts it on the counter."

"What does the clerk do? By law, she can't sell the man the beer. If she refuses, however, what is the man likely to do. We'll sit down and discuss that situation with employees of convenience stores, offer our ideas and get theirs," Murray said.

Video tapes have been prepared for three different types of outlets: the convenience store type outlets, the restaurant-lounge type establishment and the beer tavern. About 24 ALE agents have been trained to make the presentations, and they will go directly to the establishments to give the program.

"We are notifying outlets of the program, and we hope to hit about 3,000 during the first year of the program," Mur-

ray said. Another phase of the program involves a survey of law enforcement officers about where people arrested for DUI got their last drink. "We have a form that we'll place at locations where there are Breathalyzers. We're asking officers to fill them out to give us an idea where the arrested person got his last drink."

"If we find one establishment turning up time and time again, we will make a special visit to the establishment to counsel with the operator," Murray said. Murray is highly optimistic about the potential impact the program can make on the drunk driving problem in the state. "It's a unique program," he said. "It's a source prevention program. We're trying to make sure that peo-

ple don't get impaired to the level where they are going to be a traffic hazard and wind up getting a DUI or killing someone."

"We ask the public for some understanding of the program, too. They must understand that when a bartender or employee of an alcohol outlet refuses to serve a customer, it's for that customer's own good. They are trying to help and protect their patrons," Murray said.

Murray said the program also is being well received by the industry. The program has been endorsed, to date, by the North Carolina Restaurant Association, the North Carolina Beer Wholesalers Association, the North Carolina Wine Wholesalers Association, the North Carolina Motel and Hotel Association and the North Carolina Association of Convenience Stores.

Opinions Are Stated On N.C. Taxes

Not that it matters very much, in dollars or in principle, but North Carolina seems to look a little silly of late in its discussions over at least a couple of specialty taxes.

Take the tobacco tax for instance, though few Tarheel legislators will—perhaps, and perhaps not, at the urging of their constituency. The last time North Carolina raised its tobacco tax on a pack of cigarettes was in 1969, to 2¢ per pack.

Since that time, some of the most venomous debates in our state government have been directed at those who would suggest raising the tobacco tax again. The tax has remained the lowest in the country.

Basically, tobacco supporters in the state have argued that additional taxes in North Carolina would precipitate tax escalation throughout the nation. But state tobacco taxes have increased regularly, without any North Carolina impetus, to the point where even tobacco growing states have state taxes several times the amount of North Carolina's tax.

The ultimate insult occurred this year when North Carolina legislators rejected out-of-hand any suggestion of a tobacco tax hike even under such adverse circumstances as a salary freeze for the state employees and teachers. Then, under a president who had campaigned for lowering taxes, and who had often chortled at Democrat Joe Califano in the Carter years, the federal tax on

cigarettes was doubled—to 8¢ per pack.

That tax hike incidentally, apparently pre-empted any possibility of North Carolina gaining any revenue from additional cigarette taxes any time soon. But it did not stop the tobacco manufacturers from raising their prices "in preparation for the tax hike" which takes effect on January 1st.

Just for the record, cigarette taxes don't generate that much revenue anyway; three cents more per pack would raise only enough for about a one per cent pay hike for state employees and teachers.

What makes us look really silly is this gasoline tax thing. You should remember last year's gas tax debate, when life or death and the governor's entire career rested on if and how much North Carolina raised its gasoline tax. After two years of a study commission and six months of hard debate, our legislators squeezed out three cents per gallon when the experts said we needed at least a nickel a gallon more.

According to the Department of Transportation, that three cents wasn't enough and North Carolina stands to lose up to \$200-million in matching

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Card Of Thanks

We would like to thank each one of you, our relatives, friends and neighbors, for the expressions of sympathy shown us during the sudden death of our loved one, John Raymond Dail. We appreciate so much of your loving concern, kindness and the many thoughtful things you did to help us at this very sad time in our life.

Thank you and may God Bless You.

Mrs. Elizabeth Dail
Arlyn and Paula Dail
pd

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- Little girl
- Masurium (abbr.)
- Hereditary factor
- Poker stakes
- Taut
- Heathen image
- Pronoun
- Lair
- Back talk
- Flit
- Miss
- Fonselle
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- Temperature rise
- Type of linen tape
- Sharp to the taste
- Plagues
- Wander
- Fatty compound

DOWN

- Biblical kingdom
- Extraordinary person
- Bones (anat.)
- German empire
- Rivers
- More sick
- Egyptian goddess
- Of the clergy
- Excuse
- Salt
- Sun god
- Hammer end
- Extent of canvas
- Circuit
- Resting place
- Earth as a goddess
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