

IT'S A FACT! by Miller

It's been estimated that 200,000 instant copies are "born" every minute, totaling 100 billion each year in the United States alone.



Some of the most recently introduced copiers have minds of their own. One smart copier, the "565", developed by 3M, uses micro-processors to tell the operator when problems are developing. The machine also "reads" the original and automatically adjusts its imaging system before a copy is made. This Sensitron system saves paper by insuring a good copy each time.

Though the "565" was designed for offices making 25,000 copies a month, other smart copiers have been designed for offices with a bigger load. The "787" makes 25 copies a minute and was designed for offices making up to 50,000 copies a month, and the "848" with an automatic feeder and collator is used in offices making up to 75,000 copies a month.



Annual Seedling Harvest

It happens every year just like clockwork. Crews of temporary employees go onto the Weyerhaeuser seedling nursery at Goose Creek in Beaufort County and begin taking tomorrow's trees from their beds. This year, about 30-million of the superior seedlings are headed for homes on forestlands of Weyerhaeuser and other owners both here in North Carolina and across the South.

"We got a bit of a slow start this year just as we did last year," said nursery production manager Ron Ramsey. "It's been a warm and wet fall, so we didn't get going this year until December 6th," he concluded. After some time off for Christmas, the 43 person crew will be lifting, grading and packing seedlings right up to Valentine's Day, according to Ramsey.

Weather is the controlling factor in nursery operations and has really had an influence on the 1983-84 crop of seedlings. The unseasonably warm weather we're now experiencing in Eastern North Carolina has the crew lifting only enough seedlings to fill existing orders so that the bagged seedlings have to spend only one or two nights in the cold shed.

"These little trees seem to take refrigeration better when they have been exposed to cold weather in the bed," said administrative secretary Rose Faucette, adding, "and we just haven't had any really cold weather yet."

Back at the beginning of their growing cycle, there were about 40-million seedlings headed toward a future in the high yield forest, but weather - too much

rain and a hail storm - reduced that number to 30-million. By mid-February, they will be gone and probably planted in the South's future forests.

About half the crop will be planted on Weyerhaeuser Company lands and Tree Farm Family member lands in North Carolina. The remainder will go to other companies and other individuals across the South.

The nursery opened in 1969 and has produced about 40-million seedlings each year since.

OSPREYS STUDIED

Birds of prey are solitary creatures. In pairs, they nest, feed and rear their young alone. Birds of prey populations had a tremendous downturn in the 1960's and have only recently begun to expand again.

This may be true about hawks, eagles and their kind in a general way, but it is certainly not true of the ospreys at remote Lake Ellis-Simon in eastern Craven County. There, these big fishing hawks live in a colony and prospered right through that population downturn in the 60's up to the present.

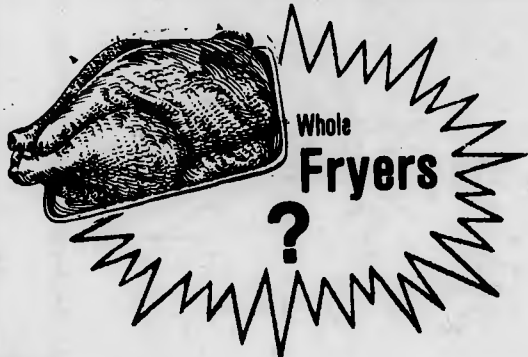
John Hagan, a doctoral candidate, has set out to see why this happened. He wants to see if osprey, when there are plenty of birds around, are truly social birds, not loners and whether special circumstances such as protection and community feeding of young produced the colony and allowed it to flourish while other ospreys were disappearing. He wants to see if these migratory birds return to the same nesting areas each year.

Hagan's study, which began last spring, will conclude in the spring of 1984 and is jointly funded by the North Carolina Wildlife Federation and Weyerhaeuser Company. During the past nesting season, Hagan has observed 40 nesting pairs at Lake Ellis and has banded chicks from each nest.

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