

S.C.S. Activities

F.O. Clark
District Conservationist

We have talked about growing wood crops as a farm job and establishing new wood crops. We conclude our series this week by examining conservation in existing woodlands.

By fitting woodland into your farming operation and using woodland conservation measures, you can increase the production of your wood crops, improve their quality.

You can speed up natural establishment of young trees by preparing a seedbed, leaving enough seed trees when harvesting, cutting small openings in dense stands, and "releasing" the desirable species. Dragging logs through the woods when harvesting, removing competing vegetation, and disking and harrowing are methods of preparing a seedbed. Cutting out the overstory, deadening "wolf" trees and using chemicals on small undesirable trees and sprout growth are methods of "releasing" the desirable species.

Quality wood crops bring the highest price. Improvement cutting and pruning improve that quality. By removing your poorest trees for furl, posts, and poles you improve your stand. This leaves, for later harvest, trees of the most desirable species and those having the best form, vigor, and spacing. This gives your future crop trees enough horizontal and vertical space so that they get full benefit of sunlight, air, and soil moisture.

Pruning is cutting off limbs on the trunk of a tree so that the wood formed later will be free of knots. First - grade logs to be sawed into lumber or cut into veneer are often worth about 4 times the value of second - grade logs and 6 to 20 times the value of lowest grade logs.

To grow wood crops faster, use the site most suitable for the species selected, thin the trees to give the best ones growing room and pick the fastest growing species when planting.

When thinning young stands leave enough trees to use the soil efficiently and still give the trees enough room to grow at a good rate for a few years - until the stand is ready for another thinning or for a harvest cut.

Protecting wood crops from fire is not difficult on most farms, particularly where woodlands are separated or surrounded by cultivated fields or grassland. The essentials are farm fire prevention measures and quick action to stop fires that start. Organized fire protection is available to woodland owners in most regions. In many states, the State Forester maintains a fire - protection system. In some states, owners organize fire districts and pay part of the cost of protection.

Fire - prevention measures that you as a woodland owner should consider

are fire lanes and trash disposal, which should be done in accordance with local recommendations. Some fire lanes are kept in grass and mowed periodically. Some are plowed and disked often enough to keep down vegetation.

Protection from livestock is essential to woodland conservation. In hardwoods usually this means excluding animals by fencing them into improved pastures. Livestock get little nourishment from the forage found in hardwood stands, and they can do great damage by browsing and trampling. They often browse on seedlings of the better species of trees in preference to other forage.

In some pine woodlands grazing is consistent with growing wood crops, provided the number of animals is adjusted to the amount of forage and the season. The young pine trees are seldom eaten as long as palatable grasses are available.

Healthy, rapidly growing trees are less likely to be damaged by insects and diseases than slow - growing, mature trees. If your stand is one of mixed species you are less apt to suffer total losses than if you have only pure stands. Some diseases and some insects attacks require community control measures. Removal of infested trees may be best control. The careful grower checks his woodland frequently for evidence of damage by insects or diseases.

Following are some of the conservation services a district cooperater may get through his soil conservation district:

1. Help of Soil Conservation Service technicians assigned to the district in preparing and carrying out a coordinated conservation farm plan that includes the farm woodland.
2. In many districts, help of State, county, and private foresters who may give assistance in education, management, marketing, fire protection, and disease and insect control.
3. In some districts, trained tree-planting crews.
4. In most districts, tree-planting machines and other specialized equipment.
5. Low-cost seedlings from State, soil conservation district, or private nurseries in most States.
6. In some districts, cooperative marketing and sawmilling operations.

School Menu

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

Pizza
Tossed Salad - A.C.
Easter Cake
Milk

Easter Holidays
March 31 - April 4

MONDAY, APRIL 7

Stew Beef w/Gravy
Rice
Candied Sweet Potatoes - A
Applesauce
Rolls
Milk

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

Macaroni and Cheese
Bologna Cup
Steamed Cabbage - C
Peaches
Cornbread or Rolls
Milk

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

Meat Loaf
Fluffy Potatoes - C
Green Beans
Rolls
Cinnamon Crispie
Milk

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Fish Portions
Slaw w/Carrots
Whole Potatoes w/Cheese Sauce
Cornbread
Chocolate Cake w/Marshmallow Icing
Milk



COMPLETE COURSE - Fred G. Plummer (right) is shown accepting his certificate from Howard Parker after successfully completing the American Feed Manufacturers Association Sales Management Course in Atlanta. Plummer, employed by Swift & Co., Feed Division, Yadkinville, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Plummer of Raeford.

Nursing Students Study At McCain

Students enrolled in the Practical Nursing Education programs at Technical Institutes in the Mid-State Lung area attended a one day institute on "Nursing Care of Tuberculosis and other Respiratory Diseases" at McCain Hospital, on Wednesday.

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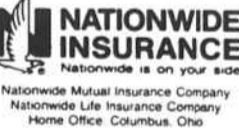
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