

DISCUSSION ON FIELD TRIP

Mr. Walker expressed his gratitude for being asked to serve as a panelist. He stated that any general and specific comments he cared to make on nursery production of hardwoods had been covered during the nursery tour that morning. He added that he would be glad to answer any other questions that had come up since the morning tour.

Q. How do you plant your redcedar?

A. (Engstrom) Our method is to sow from December 15 to 20. The seed are sown on top of the ground, covered with a little sawdust, and then wet down. We cover the bed with a film of polyethylene and then burlap. The burlap is more for shade, but it also holds the polyethylene in place. It is pinned down. Boards are set up along the side for wind protection. It's left that way over the winter and almost by the clock, the seed germinate by March 12 to 15. Between March 15 and 20, we lift off the polyethylene and roll snow fence over the beds. This is supported by side frames which are 6 inches high. We may put the burlap over the fence for a few days for shade. From there on, they are on their own. We've had consistently good results.

Q. Is it stratified?

A. (Engstrom) No. It's either dry stored seed or fresh seed.

Q. What would be the temperature under the plastic?

A. (Engstrom) A little below freezing to not over 50° in the day time.

COMMENTS by Mr. Engstrom:

All of the hardwood stock is mowed back to 14 to 18 inches prior to lifting. This way the cottonwood larvae is not taken out of the nursery.

Q. Have you tried a "bush-hog" to cut the hardwoods?

A. (Engstrom) Yes, but we couldn't raise the blade high enough. We use an old grain binder with a sickle. It throws the tops off to one side where we can handle them.

Q. Are your cedars always used as 2-0 stock?

A. (Engstrom) Yes, 1-0 is too small.

COMMENTS by Mr. Walley:

We have found that some Phomopsis blight of redcedar can be controlled with Puratized Agricultural Spray. The spray may yellow the tops of some, but it doesn't hurt the seedlings. We used Santomerse as a sticker.

COMMENTS by Mr. Peterson:

I experimented with the Puratized Agricultural Spray this year and got good control without a sticker but found out that you must be careful. We tried a couple of spreader-stickers and although we got control, we got damage. There is also the possibility you may have Cercospora blight as well. Bordeaux will control this but I don't know whether the Puratized Spray has been used on it. However, we do know that bordeaux does nothing for Phomopsis blight.

COMMENTS by Mr. Walley:

We had a recommendation from LSU to use Phaltan 75.

COMMENTS by Mr. Peterson:

Germ tubes are produced in 18 hours, long enough to get infection. So you can get infection after a rain even though it may take a few days for it to show up.

Q. What is this cloth covering that I heard mentioned?

A. (Smith) It's a woven material. You can get a weave for almost any percent shade. Write to Lumite for information folder on Lumite Saran Shade Fabric. (Chicopee Manufacturing Company, Lumite Division, Cornelia, Georgia).

COMMENTS by Mr. Engstrom:

Catalpa is better as a row-crop because of the fan-shaped roots.

COMMENTS by Mr. Bonner:

In our superior tree improvement program we put cottonwood seed in a dessicator over sulfuric acid to get the relative humidity down. We have found that you can store it for at least 2 years.

Some interesting seed handling machines were observed.

A good macerator for pulpy seeds, such as cherry, plum, and cedar, is the Dybvig. (Manufactured by Dybvig Company, Colton, South Dakota).

A machine, or macerator, for handling osage orange is made by: Peterson Machine Works, Freemont, Nebraska.

Another home-made machine was observed for cleaning dry seed.