

COMMENTS ON CHANGES IN NURSERY  
MANAGEMENT IN THE NORTHERN REGION

by

S. E. Evans\*

Silviculture Branch Chief.  
Northern Region  
U.S. Forest Service  
Missoula, Montana

Mr. Evans pointed out the massive changes that have taken place in the artificial regeneration program and, consequently, nursery management in Region One. In 1940 the Region planted ten thousand acres; now thirty-five to forty thousand acres are planted annually. The nursery output has expanded from about two million tree seedlings per year to around seventeen million. In this time sowing to match site and tree has meant that up to two hundred separate seed lots are sown a season rather than five or six as previously. In the same time the nursery budget has increased only ten percent in constant-value dollars.

It was, in addition, pointed out that the nursery operation was becoming increasingly diverse in scope. New and added emphasis is being placed on genetics and tree improvement, testing of field survival under various conditions, and the regeneration of native shrubs, forbs, and grasses for beautification (landscaping), wildlife food, watershed protection, construction disturbance healing, stream shading, and wild-fire burn rehabilitation. This multidisciplinary approach to nursery management in Region One in addition to increasingly complex forest tree seedling culture has placed heavy responsibilities upon the nursery. To meet these challenges sound technical skills and management must be maintained at the Regional Nursery.

\*being written in third person from shorthand notes. Not actual words.  
S.E.M.