

SOIL MANAGEMENT ^{1/}

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(Panel Moderator)

Last spring, Dr. LeRoy Jones contacted nurserymen throughout the region asking for suggestions for soil management topics. The following topics were suggested:

- A. Cover crops
 - 1. Organic matter replacement and levels
 - 2. Types of organic additives
 - 3. Pine bark
 - 4. Rotations
 - 5. Fertilization and cover crops
 - 6. Maintenance of structure in soils

- B. Nutrients
 - 1. Control of pH
 - 2. Maintenance of chemical levels
 - 3. Reducing excessive calcium content
 - 4. Addition of dolomite
 - 5. Major and minor elements
 - 6. Home-grown soil test kits

1/ Panel presentation. Papers of panel participants are included.

C. Water

1. Amount of water
2. Irrigation levels

D. Miscellaneous

1. Latest scientific information

At the last two conferences we had very thorough discussions of many of the above topics. In 1966, I discussed many of the problems associated with soil management. Dr. Lyle Nelson and Dr. George Switzer presented additional information regarding the residual effects of nursery practices on the field performance of loblolly pine.

In 1968, fertilization and soil organic matter requirements and techniques were discussed very thoroughly by Dr. George Bengtson and Dr. Charles Davey.

Many of the problems associated with organic matter and nutrition are associated with soils, pests, and fumigation. These have already been discussed very thoroughly.

Since nursery managers have not had an open discussion on soil management for several years, we decided to let some of them discuss their operations.

Howard Hartmann had one of the heaviest-textured nurseries in the region and a lot of headaches along with it. Leonard Bosch inherited a problem that would tax the "Patience of Job" and the "Wisdom of Soloman." Possibly, Clyde Gehron has the most sophisticated water control system in the region. Ted Sweetland is extremely efficient in making use of a La Motte soil and plant test kit.

I suggest that we let these gentlemen have the floor; and then we **Pill** try to cover any specific questions that are not yet answered.