INTERPROVENANCE CROSSES OF LOBLOLLY PINE

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A review of the current status of interprovenance hybridization in the southern pines reveals that loblolly pine (Pinus taeda L.) is the only species with which this technique is currently being used. Loblolly is a logical choice because loblolly seed-source studies definitely indicate racial differentiation in survival, growth, and resistance to infection by fusiform rust. Experimental results to date suggest that interprovenance crossing of loblolly pine results in parental traits being combined in the F_1 hybrid in an additive fashion. A most desirable interprovenance hybrid would combine the fast growth of Coastal provenances with the high survival and fusiform rust resistance of Western provenances.

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