

NATURAL VARIATION AND SELECTION OF SUPERIOR PHENOTYPES

I. Program Recommendations:

1. That a guide to the selection of superior southern pines be obtained from the Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, reproduced, and distributed by the Central Genetics Committee to interested agencies, groups or associations. Suggestions for improvement or modification should be requested,
2. The Central Committee should request cooperating agencies to actively engage in, the selection of superior trees and. make necessary progeny tests in accordance with procedures to be developed.
3. A Committee on progeny testing be appointed to collect and distribute information on acceptable procedures for progeny tests. This should be distributed in preliminary form to all cooperating agencies for comment so that the largest area of agreement may be achieved with respect to the principles involved.
4. The need for cataloging elite and other selected strains of southern pines should be recognized. information on existing selected strains should be collected *and* made available to the cooperators for their information and use in cataloged form by the Central Committee.
5. Cooperating agencies should be encouraged and requested to conduct studies on the reproduction of southern pines, both by grafting and cuttings to determine the cheapest method for vegetation propagation.
6. Arrangements should be made for the selection and development of arboretums, geographically and climatically distributed, to be used for the further propagation, testing, and holding of phenotypes selected by the cooperating agencies. It is thought that agencies such as the Forest Service, Forestry schools, TVA, and certain private agencies should assist in this project. At least four areas should be selected, one of which should be west of Mississippi river.
7. Cooperating agencies operating nurseries are urged to select, and test by outplanting, southern pine seedlings of superior characteristics (e.g. best 1 100 of 1%) from lots of seed of given size and weight for the purpose of determining the probability for making superior selections in this manner. This project is recommender as one which is available for immediate tests to determine possible superior strain.

Geographic Strains

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Superior Phenotypes

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Seed Source

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