

In districts which have a fairly heavy average rainfall and where it is difficult to give time to cultivation, satisfactory results will be obtained by placing a light covering of hay or straw around the tree for a distance of about one foot and giving no further attention to cultivation except to cut down weeds. The light mulch will prevent weeds from crowding the trees and keep the soil from checking and readily becoming dry close to their roots. Where the annual precipitation is scanty, shallow surface cultivation can be given for a few years until the trees are firmly established. Cultivation should not be continued after August 12th.

In an experiment with two plantations of mixed spruce and pine, one was planted and mulched as described above, while the other received cultivation for several years. The results at six years from the time of planting were somewhat in favour of the uncultivated one, which indicate that cultivation is not essential where an ample rainfall occurs.

The height growth of spruce when once well established is commonly from eighteen to twenty-five inches and the growth of pine considerably more.

Where it is intended to carry on the planting of conifers for a long period of years no better method of procuring stock can be found than by growing it from seed, but several years can be saved by getting the young tree to start the plantation with.

Pines should be transplanted at two years and spruce at three or four. Spruce which have been allowed to stand in thick clusters in the seed bed until they reach a height of two feet can be lifted in blocks and the soil soused in water until the roots come apart and then be planted with as good success as the smaller trees.

Instructions for the care of the seed bed can be obtained through publications treating of nursery work.

Size of Trees for Planting

A suitable size for planting is two to three feet. Trees of this height are more expensive to handle but

they will escape injuries from grouse and other agencies to which smaller ones are more subject.

Time of Planting

Conifers are usually planted in the spring before growth starts, but where time cannot be taken for the work at that season of the year, equally good results may be had by planting from the 15th to the 25th of August, as the height growth is finished that date.

Protection from Snows

Where the plantation is exposed to drifting snow it is necessary to erect a snow screen at a distance of sixty to seventy-five feet from the plantation during the winter.

WASTE AND THE SMALL JOBBER

"Noted improvement has taken place in recent years in logging waste, due to better market conditions and a growing market for inferior materials. This is not always the case, however, when logging is done by contract and one meets with considerable waste in high stamps, logs left lodged in the woods, oversized tops, etc. On some operations observed, this waste amounted to 5 to 10 per cent. of the stand.

"This could be prevented by a system of logging inspection and would not only pay for the inspection in increased stumpage but would be money saved for the operator. The fault is due largely to the fact that yearly contracts are made for logging, the logger trying to keep the cost per thousand at a minimum. The contractor's sole object is to make as much profit as he can (frequently little enough) and he will not take out difficult lodged trees or go to any particular trouble to cut low stumps unless checked up."

From Annual Report, Department of Lands, Fredericton, N.B.

CHESTNUT BLIGHT

Chestnut blight has already done damage in Pennsylvania estimated at from \$9,000,000 to \$10,000,000. No tree attacked by it has been known to recover, although dozens of fake remedies have been brought out.