Introduction To Forestry

FOREST APPRECIATION I

4-H Project Record Book

NAME ____________________ CLUB __________

COUNTY ____________________ YEAR 19 ______

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. W. E. Skelton, Dean, Extension Division, Cooperative Extension Service, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061.
Importance of Forest Appreciation Projects

Virginia is a timber producing state. Because of this we also have a large number of industries producing products made from wood. The paper and furniture industries use large amounts of wood from our forests each year. As our population increases we will need more and more trees for the many products manufactured from wood. With more timber available for industries to use, more wood-using industries will move into Virginia.

Unfortunately, most of our woodlands are not producing the right kind of trees or the best quality of timber. Neither are they producing as much timber per acre as they could. The result of this is that timberland owners are not getting nearly as much income from their forest land as they do from their crops and pastures.

Not all of us have woodlands to manage nor do we have open land to plant. However, as citizens of a state in which forestry is so important we should become acquainted with the value of forests to all of us, whether or not we own timber land.

In addition, the study of trees can be a most fascinating hobby. Not only can we learn to identify trees but we can also study their uses, how their seeds are spread, and many other interesting things about them.

The projects in Forest Appreciation may be taken by boy or girl, rural or city club member. They will open up an exciting new field of study for 4-H members.

Description of Forest Appreciation Projects

1. Forest Appreciation I - "Introduction to Forestry", V.P.I. Record Book 29 (R.B. 28 is designed for younger 4-H members taking this project). This is the beginning project in 4-H forestry. It should be taken by all 4-H members who want to get acquainted with our forests as well as those who plan to take other forestry projects. By taking this project you will learn what a forest is, the value of forests to all of us and some of the forest enemies. You will also learn how to identify the common trees in your local community.

2. Forest Appreciation II - "Individual Tree Studies", V.P.I. Record Book #39. We all know that trees go through many changes each year - on our hardwood trees the leaves come out in the spring, flowers and fruit are formed, growth takes place during the summer months and the leaves change their color and drop in the autumn. Most of these events take place in conifers also but are not so noticeable. The purpose of this project is to watch these things on selected trees throughout the year. It can become one of the most fascinating tree hobbies.
3. Forest Appreciation III - "Tree Identification", V.P.I. Record Book #44. 4-H members who have taken Forest Appreciation I - "Introduction to Forestry", have learned to identify ten trees. In almost every part of Virginia, even in the cities, there are from 25 to 50 species of trees which can be identified. This project is designed for you if you wish to learn to identify most or all of the trees in your neighborhood. In addition to making a collection of leaves you will also make a collection of tree twigs to help in your identification.
Forest Appreciation I

“Introduction to Forestry”

by

Carl J. Holcomb, Extension Forester

and

A. B. Lyon, Associate Extension Forester

Objective of Project

The objective of this project is to enable club members to learn what a forest is, the importance of the forests to man, and to learn to identify some forest trees. This is the first in a series of forestry projects and should be taken by all who intend to carry other forestry projects. It is designed to be taken by urban as well as rural 4-H members. Girls, as well as boys, can well complete this project.

Requirements

1. Take at least one trip to a forest to learn how forest trees differ from shade trees. Notice the difference in soil, ground cover and the kind of plants growing under forest trees. Compare with the soil and cover under a tree growing in the open.

2. Learn to identify by sight at least 10 species of trees in your neighborhood.

3. Collect leaves from at least 10 species of trees, press and mount in a notebook or make leaf prints of 10 species of trees and make into a notebook. Use a separate page for each leaf or leaf print. Label each specimen with the name of the tree from which it was taken.

4. Take the V.P.I. Tree Identification Contest or one prepared by your 4-H leader.

5. Complete all items in your 4-H project notebook (fill in the written part of requirement six after you have displayed your project book and a leaf or leaf print collection).

6. Display or exhibit your project notebook and the collection you have made at your county fair, during 4-H achievement day, or at some special function.
Suggestions for Judging and Scoring Project

1. Learn to identify at least 10 trees in your neighborhood  
   25 points

2. V.P.I. Tree Identification Contest  
   10 points

3. Leaf or leaf print collection  
   25 points

4. Exhibition of notebook and at least one collection  
   10 points

5. Completion of record book  
   a. Quality of work 15 points  
   b. Completeness 10 points  
   c. Neatness 5 points  
   TOTAL 30 points

   100 points

Awards

Club members who have completed this project may compete with other club members for a county forestry award.

References

The following references will be helpful to you in working on this project:

1. Forestry in Virginia, Bulletin 223 revised, V.P.I. Extension Service
2. How a Tree Grows, Chart D-4, U. S. Forest Service
3. What We Get From Trees, Chart D-6, U. S. Forest Service
4. What We Get From Forest Land, Chart D-7, U. S. Forest Service
   (Larger color charts of the above 3 are available for group use)
5. Virginia Trees--A Check List of the More Common Species, V.P.I. Circular #746
7. Tree Identification Contest for your region in Requirement No. 4
REQUIREMENT NO. 1 - Tell about a forest you visited.

1. What are the trees like?

2. What is the soil like?

3. What kind of plants are growing under the trees?

4. What animals and birds have you seen in the forest?
REQUIREMENT NO. 2 - List below the trees you have learned to identify correctly (use Virginia Trees - A Check List of the More Common Species, V.P.I. Circular #746 for correct names and spelling).

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<th>Scientific Name</th>
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1 Optional with leader
2 Forest, yard, street, or park
REQUIREMENT NO. 3 - List the names of the trees represented in your leaf or leaf print collection (see sample page on page 13).

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REQUIREMENT NO. 4 - Take the V.P.I. Tree Identification Contest or one prepared by your 4-H leader and record score.

Grade received ________________
REQUIREMENT NO. 5 - Answer the questions below.

HOW A TREE GROWS

What are the three main parts of a tree?

What purposes do the roots serve?

What purposes does the trunk serve?

What is the purpose of the leaves or needles of a tree? Describe briefly.

How can the age of most trees be determined?

Inspect a tree stump or the cross-section of a tree and record the name of the tree and its age.

Do trees have flowers?
WHAT WE GET FROM OUR FORESTS

Describe briefly five values of forests to man.

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Give an example of a product listed below that we get from trees.

Food

Medicine

Building Material

Paint Ingredient

Chemical

Name 20 products made from the wood of trees.

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
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____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
Name five trees which provide food for wildlife.

________________________________________________________________________

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ENEMIES OF FORESTS

Name five enemies of forests.

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________________________________________________________________________

If you have a historic tree in your locality, write a brief story about it. If you do not know of a historic tree near you, name your favorite tree and tell why it is your favorite.

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________________________________________________________________________
REQUIREMENT NO. 6 - Describe, in your own words, your display or exhibit and where it was exhibited; what prizes were awarded for the exhibit and by whom given. If your exhibit was awarded a prize, describe the prize.
Sample Page

This sample page is included to show how we suggest you arrange your leaf print or mounted leaf collection.

Common Name

Scientific Name

Name of Collector

Where Collected

Date Collected
Conservation Pledge

I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste the natural resources of my country — its soil and minerals, its forests, waters, and wildlife.
RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES

forestry • wildlife • fisheries • utilization • marketing
outdoor recreation • tourism • management • economics