

TIMBER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 1926

- OBJECT (1) To increase the rate of growth in dense stands by removing the excess trees, thus making available to the remainder the space, food and moisture necessary for their existence. Also to utilize such material before it dies or deteriorates.
- (2) To improve the composition of developing stands by removing the less desirable species and defective individuals of all species, leaving the more valuable ones to form a final crop.

ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE: County Agent will locate suitable areas and people interested enough in the well being of their timber to make the demonstration possible. Extension Forester will explain the principles involved and mark at least enough of the area to serve for the demonstration. The owner will carry out the project and keep records of the cost of the operation and the quantity and value of the material removed. A check plot on which no cutting will be done will be retained as a means of measuring the benefits of the operation.

NOTE: This project is particularly suited to the bright tobacco section where large quantities of wood are used for firing, to the vicinity of cities and communities where cord wood finds a ready market and to the territory near tidewater where tall, slender trees are in demand for pound poles.

TIMBER ESTIMATING PROJECT 1926

- OBJECT (1) To assist the farmer-timberland-owner in determining the amount of standing timber in his woods, as a means of enabling him to handle that part of his farm to better advantage and of enabling him to deal with a possible purchaser on more even terms.

ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE: The County Agent will arrange for a meeting of interested people at a suitable wood lot (one on which a sale is contemplated is suggested). The Extension Forester will explain the various standard methods of procedure in estimating standing timber and, after giving a demonstration, have those present go through the operation in order to familiarize them with the details.

NOTE: Advantage will be taken of the merchantable timber to discuss the means and advantages of cutting in such a manner as to encourage replacement of the mature stand with young growth of the most desirable species.

PLANTING PROJECT 1926

- OBJECT (1) To control or prevent erosion on areas too steep or too poor for economical cultivation or permanent pasture.
- (2) To supply wind breaks or shelter belts for truck crops, live stock or homesteads.
- (3) To secure a full stand of desirable species on idle land where natural reproduction of valuable species is not successful, or only partly so.
- (4) To arouse interest in trees, teach people that trees can be transplanted economically and will grow rapidly on their land.

ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE: Will consist of (1) County Agent to locate suitable areas and interested people, (2) Extension Forester to advise with the owner as to feasibility, proper species, costs and prospects; also to supervise the initial planting, (3) Land owner to supply the labor and permit access to the area for demonstration purposes.

NOTE

It is suggested that perhaps where the land owner is reluctant to undertake the work, he would be willing to turn over to his boy from a half to two acres which can not be successfully farmed and let him do the planting; the grove to be his.