

FURTHER NOTE ON POLYEMBRYONY

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In the August, 1954 issue of Tree Planters' Notes, Elmer Matson has a brief note on multiple embryos in ponderosa pine seed.

Polyembryony has been reported from time to time in various species of forest trees. Some reports in the Journal of Forestry are listed below. Baldwin states (1942) that polyembryony is of much more frequent occurrence in some species (e. g. sugar pine) than in others, and cites another author in stating that "unfavorable weather for seed formation may cause an abnormally high percentage of polyembryony in species where it is normally rare".

The maples apparently also produce seeds with multiple embryos. The writer found several of both Acer saccharum and Acer floridanum while weighing and sowing about 18, 000 viable seeds in greenhouse experiments. Sixteen albino seedlings were also found, and a number with three cotyledons.

Baldwin, Henry Ives, 1942. Forest tree seed. Chronica Botanica Co. ,
Waltham, Mass., p. 2.

Jacobs, A. W., 1924. Polyembryonism in sugar pine. Journal of Forestry
22: 573-574.

Nelson, Mary L., 1941. Polyembryony in seeds of southern pine. Journal
of Forestry 39:959-960.

Schubert, Gilbert H. , 1950. Quintuplet seedlings in a sugar pine seed. Journal of
Forestry 48:128-129.