THE FOREST GENETICS STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE INLAND NORTHWEST REGION*

Paul O. Rudolf 1/

In July 1950, a meeting was called at Missoula, Montana, to form an informal and continuing forest genetics steering committee containing representatives from all interested agencies, to stimulate interest in forest genetics and to coordinate research in this field within the region. This meeting provided an opportunity to review the current

1/ Forester, Lake States Forest Experiment Station.

status of forest tree improvement work in the Inland Northwest region, and out of it developed a committee composed of representatives of the following organizations:

Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine
Division of Blister Rust Control, Spokane, Washington
Forest Insect Laboratory, Couer d'Alene, Idaho

Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering
Division of Forest Pathology, Missoula, Montana

Montana State University
School of Forestry, Missoula, Montana

University of Idaho
School of Forestry, Moscow, Idaho

U. S. Forest Service
Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Missoula, Montana
Northern Region, Division of Timber Management, Missoula, Montana

Washington State College, Pullman, Washington
Department of Agronomy
Department of Horticulture
Division of Forestry and Range Management

This committee, in contrast to the Southern Tree Improvement Committee, contains no representative of industry.

The functions of the committee at the outset were listed as follows:

1. Compile literature on genetics.

2. Disseminate information, possibly through an unscheduled newsletter, to include reports of progress on local projects and work in other regions.

3. Prepare definitions of superior trees or stands **as** a guide for field men in selection.

4. Keep oriented on main problems, screening projects and setting priorities.

5. Direct projects to graduate students.

6. Hold meetings at appropriate times.

In 1952, the committee carried through Item 3 by issuing "A Guide for the Selection of Superior Trees in the Northern Rocky Mountains." This 10-page report was published by the Northern Rocky Mountain Station.