

Discussion on Recent Advances in Forest Tree  
Improvement in Other Regions

Most of the discussion concerned seed orchards and related topics. It was pointed out that progeny tests are under way for all material included in the seed orchards in the University of Florida program. Based on these tests poor trees will be rogued out of the seed orchards. Concerning the number of clones represented in seed orchards, it was stated that in the North Carolina State College program each seed orchard has a minimum of 15 clones all obtained from one company's selected trees, and there are many companies in the program. Also, wild stands are being used as seed production areas during the interval in which the seed orchards have not yet reached adequate seed production. Presently, for example, the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company is collecting all its seed from seed production areas, and they plant some 10 million trees per year.

It was pointed out that we may be overlooking the contribution that U. S. Forest Survey crews could be making to the tree improvement program. With just a little more training they could obtain valuable tree improvement field data from the plots they sample as a regular part of their work.