

MARKING BY LAURENCE E. STOTZ

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I marked this plot as a saw-timber rotation. To my knowledge we don't have any areas on the Allegheny National Forest that are dedicated exclusively to a pulpwood rotation.

I saw practically no sprout origin trees in the plot; they were probably removed in the first cut. Normally, I discriminate against them. I did discriminate against both the black birch and the yellow birch; I took them all. The reason is that I noticed some cankers on the black birch. This is common on both black and yellow birch. If you open up much around birch it seems to have a tendency to die. I have noticed a lot of mortality in birch on the Allegheny National Forest. Except on a very wet site they don't make much of a sawlog tree in this country because birch is pretty well out of its range.

From the standpoint of basal area, on this plot I cut 42 square feet per acre and left 76 square feet per acre. That 76 includes about 20 square feet in the less than 6-inch class. This amounts to a cut of about 36 percent of the basal area.

I left the two live hemlocks because we have to consider wild life on our forest under a cooperative agreement with the Pennsylvania Game Commission for habitat development, and hemlock is an important tree for wild-life cover. Another thing, there are practically no hemlock seedlings as far as I have noticed in the area, and this is probably due to an oversized deer herd. If we ever get the herd in balance with its food supply we need some seed trees to put a few hemlock in the composition of our stands. After all it is part of the climax type.

I took out four small sawlog trees, all black cherry with an average d.b.h. of 13.2 inches. I had to remove one cherry because it was almost completely girdled by porcupines; I wouldn't have marked it otherwise. It was a quality tree but its life expectancy wasn't good. That covers the main point of my marking. Any questions?

Bromley I was interested in your saying that there were no areas that might be put on a pulpwood rotation on the Allegheny National Forest. You might recall that in the beginning of your Forest Service Manual it states that one of the basic objectives of the Forest Service is to maintain local industries. What became of that concept I wonder? In the forest management plan for this forest you say that on all areas you are growing timber on a sawlog rotation. Where does this leave local pulp mills and the conception of maintaining local industries? Isn't there a possibility that some areas might be grown on a pulpwood rotation with just that objective?

Stotz I didn't say we wouldn't have any pulpwood areas. I said to date we don't have them.. At least in this first round we have an awful lot of area on which we can get a good cut, taking out pulpwood with the objective of growing saw timber. That doesn't rule out that eventually when our timber gets all sawlog size we wouldn't have any more pulpwood to put on the market.