

New York
Forest Owner



**GOOD FORESTRY
is GOOD BUSINESS**

Don't Slaughter Your Woodlot

ANNOUNCEMENT
17th ANNUAL MEETING
NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS
ASSOC. INC.

SATURDAY
April 21, 1979

S.U.N.Y. College of E. S. & Forestry
Marshall Auditorium
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

9:00 a.m. Registration
9:45 a.m. BUSINESS MEETING
10:30 a.m. P R O G R A M

J. LEWIS DuMOND, Secretary

MARCH-APRIL 1979

A FORESTER

You're closer to me in a forest than
anywhere else I know.
I feel your presence near me, because
you loved trees so.
The maples, and the birches, balsam,
oak you called by name.
As we trailed April yesterdays, and
wandered Autumn's flame,
For in these quiet, timeless groves
you helped me to explore,
The wonders of God's great design a
forest has in store,
The different patterns of a leaf, of
bark, where ground pine clings,
How fragile is the starry moss, the
changes seasons bring.
So now whatever path I take,
wherever I may go,
You're closer to me in a forest
Because you
loved trees so.

By Ruth Sterling Henry of El Paso, Texas in memory of her husband Edward H. Henry

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

GLENN L. ANDERSON
Youngsville, PA
ROGER R. BAROTT
Canastota, NY
EDWARD BERNALD
Weston, CT
CLARENCE BROOKS
Cortland, NY
THOMAS A. CONKLIN
Baldwinsville, NY
JOHN DILLON
North Salem, NY
RICHARD L. EDMOND
Locke, NY
WALLACE J. ENGARD
Rochester, NY
MR. & MRS. O. HAROOTUNIAN,
JR.

River Vale, NJ
JAMES R. HARRIS, JR.
Penn Yan, NY
J. MORGAN HEUSSLER
Buffalo, NY
MS CAROL R. HUFNAGLE
Martville, NY
DAN HULL
Horseheads, NY
DAVID C. HUNTER
Hunter's Christmas Tree Farms
Fulton, NY
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Plano, TX
MS JANET WEST
Fabius, NY
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Ridley Park, PA

NEW YORK FOREST OWNER



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NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS
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Membership Secretary

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Cover picture—is a timber stand in the Town of Newfield, Tompkins County, New York.

The man in the picture is James D. Pond, one of the first Extension Foresters. Pond worked with Josh Cope, first extension Forester from Cornell.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A new year is that time to be both reflective and predictive. The old was a year near perfect weatherwise here in the northeast — sunny and mild — and back-to-back to 1977 when we experienced a full year of very cool, wet weather for 50 weeks. Farmers and loggers alike contended with mud and more mud. I heard no complaints in '78 as conditions were ideal.

Last year brought steady markets for forest products, with continued opportunities for forest owners to harvest sawlogs and "cull" material profitably. The renewable resource from our woodlands has come into its own, pulled by a strong fuelwood demand. Over 100 different stove makers have successfully convinced untold thousands of N.Y. homeowners to buy, install and use wood stoves for primary or auxillary home heat. It is only the beginning of a boom period that will continue Ad infinitum in my opinion.

We can thank O.P.E.C. for this added impetus to substitute less expensive firewood for fuel oil. With #2 oil now selling for over 53¢ per gallon, the B.T.U.'s in a pound of hardwood increases in value automatically. Taking into account the relative efficiency of the average stove, it takes just under 25 pounds of wood to equal the heating value of one gallon of fuel oil. Wood as a fuel converts to over \$40 per ton as a substitute value to oil. A green, unpeeled 4'x4'-8' standard cord of hardwood weighs 5400 lbs. This can quickly be calculated to show that the B.T.U.'s in a standard cord of hardwood is over \$110. Yet it isn't all a downhill slide, for a great deal of human energy plus mechanical energy is expended in the preparation of a wood pile. A great deal of firewood is now selling throughout N.Y. for \$90 a full cord delivered to stove owners. In the cities where fireplace wood is in demand, the price is well over \$120 per cord. This whole firewood market is similiar to an iceberg where but 10% of the volume is visible. In just 10 years we'll look back and see that today's usage has grown a thousand percent or more.

I urge all forest owners to think "cull removal" as an opportunity to turn their renewable B.T.U.'s to useful and profitable forest income.

I am pleased to be able to announce the appointment of MARY S. McCARTY to our Board of Directors. Mary and family reside in Rochester. We welcome her and appreciate her willingness to serve this association.

Spring is fast approaching-the time of renewed growth for all living things. The greening of nature that brings fresh and vigorous growth to glade, glen and garden. The entire landscape seems to burst with supple vitality in hues of soft color - white, yellow, pink and green- that heralds a NEW SEASON.

April is the month of robust vigor. The time our N.Y.F.O.A. holds its annual meeting. The date: APRIL 21st. (Saturday) at Syracuse. Look for the formal announcement in this issue of the Forest Owner. Plan to attend. I know you'll find the day worth the time and travel.

I extend the wishes of the Board of Directors to all members for a Happy New Year, with good health to you and yours and a full and heaping measure of happiness in the months ahead.

Sincerely, *Bob Paul*

P.S. You'll note a new look to this issue of the FOREST OWNER. Our Editor, EVELYN STOCK has been encouraged to add new features we hope will be to your liking. Her efforts are tantamount to our growing success.



ON THE CALENDAR

FIREWOOD REGULATION

An official Public Hearing is planned for Albany, near the end of March to establish rules for selling firewood. For further information contact John Bartfai, USDA, Albany 12235 (tel: 518/457-3452).

*

LOG CABIN SCHOOL

Spend a week and learn to build your own at Log Cabin School, held April 30—May 5, or May 7—May 11.

For further information write R.B. Lacy, Vandercamp, Martin Rd., Cleveland, New York 13042.

*

LAKE PLACID FORESTRY CONVENTION

May 17-19, 1979 is the date set for the 25th Northeastern Loggers' Congress at Lake Placid Resort Hotel in Lake Placid, New York.

Educational technical sessions will focus on logging laws, wood for industrial energy and sawmilling techniques.

For registration information, contact George Mitchell, Executive Director Northeastern Loggers Assoc. Box 69, Old Forge, NY (tel.

*

ANNUAL DUES

(Please underline choice)

Junior Member, Under 21	\$1
Regular Member	\$7
Family Membership	\$12
Contributing Member	\$12-\$29
Sustaining Member	\$30-\$99
Supporting Member	\$100-\$499
Sponsoring Member	\$500 and up

(Please send to)

Mrs. Helen Varian,
Membership Secretary
204 Varian Road
Peekskill, NY 10566

Assorted Publications

Logger's Guide

Landowners doing business with timber harvesters may wish to ask them if they are aware of professional information such as "Professional Timber Harvester's 1979 Business Guide." If so please contact the editor, New York Forest Owner - 5756 Ike Dixon Road, Camillus, NY 13031. Free.

Growing Trees in Small Nurseries (30¢) IB 68, outlines non-commercial establishment, soil preparation, seed selection, and care.

Shaping Christmas Trees for Quality (45¢) explains pruning and shaping. Available from NYS Department of Natural Resources, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 14853.

ITINERARY

JOIN THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS TOUR TO FINLAND



A lone jogger emphasizes Karl Borgula's point that "Gutschwald" is a multiple-use forest.

If you've heard stories about the wonderful Forest Owners tour to Bavaria, Austria, and Switzerland, you won't want to miss this exciting one week visit to the forests of Finland.

You will have stops at a forest "efficiency and training center," to a forest machines company, and to a Finnish sawmill. You may enjoy most of all the Metsaliitto Forest Owner's Cooperative, a group we might get some inspiration from.

Ample free time will be provided too, for sightseeing, exploring restaurants (Helsinki has some great Russian fare), and shopping. We'll see some small towns near Helsinki.

The price? only \$779 per person. This price includes air fares, lodging, tour guides and private bus, continental breakfasts, baggage handling, tips and taxes, as well as transportation to and from airports. The price is based on 20 travelers. Some increase may be necessary if fewer participate, and rebate will be offered if 30 enroll.

By the way, if you can't make this trip, you may wish to sign up for the two week trip to Finland, Sweden, and Denmark in September. Details will be published soon.

Some Important Details

- * Depart New York on Saturday, May 12th. Return Saturday, May 19th.
* A deposit of \$100 per person is suggested before April 5th.
* A total of \$500 per person must be received by April 5th.
* The balance must be paid by May first.
* The \$100 is forfeited in the event of your cancellation.
* Late registration will be accepted (space permitting) as late as April 25th, but with a \$25 surcharge per person.

- Day 1 Friday, 11th NEW YORK/HELSINKI. Depart JFK International Airport on board your Finnair DC-10 jet flight AY-112, 20.00/11.35. Meals served aloft.
Day 2 Saturday, 12th HELSINKI. Arrive in Helsinki 11.35 pm. Transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Helsinki: Hotel Intercontinental or similar.
Day 3 Sunday, 13th HELSINKI. Continental breakfast. Three hour sightseeing tour of Helsinki.
Day 4 Monday, 14th HELSINKI/TAMPERE. Continental breakfast. Drive to Rajamaki, the Research and Training Centre of The Work Efficiency Association, Tyotehoseura: development of harvesting methods and tools and subsequently various types of silvicultural and logging machinery. Continue to the Foundation for Forest Tree Breeding in Finland: Haapastensyrja Tree Breeding Centre in Layliainen near Riihimaki, total area of the centre 185 hectares. Drive to Tampere where overnight: Hotel Rosen-dahl or similar.
Day 5 Tuesday, 15th TAMPERE/LAPPEENRANTA. Continental breakfast. Morning visit to Valmet Oy in Tampere, manufacturer of forest machines: feller-bunchers for thinning small trees, whole-tree chippers, trailers, etc. Total production capacity approx. 300 forest machines per year. Drive to Lappeenranta where overnight: Hotel Polar-Lappeenranta or similar.
Day 6 Wednesday, 16th LAPPEENRANTA/SAVONLINNA/HELSINKI. Continental breakfast. Visit Metsa-Saimaa Sawmill in Lappeenranta: yearly production 100,000 cubic metres of sawn goods, 50,000 cubic metres of block and lamin board, 10,000 cubic metres of plywood. Drive by private motorcoach to Punkaharju near Savonlinna. Visit the Punkaharju Tree Breeding Station: studies and analyses of the genetic structure of forest trees. A short sightseeing tour of Savonlinna before the afternoon flight back to Helsinki where overnight.
Day 7 Thursday, 17th HELSINKI. Continental breakfast. Morning visit to the Finnish Pulp and Paper Research Institute: in 1976 the research capacity was divided as follows: new raw material 5%, pulp 47%, paper and board 20%, converting of paper and board 15% and topics of general nature 13%. In the afternoon visit the Commercial-Industrial Cooperative of Forest Owners Metsaliitto, with the purpose of giving support to the marketing of timber by forest owners. The Metsaliitto Group has 25 production plants in 12 different parts of the country. Their total production capacity is 1.5 million production units, cubic metres and tons included. Overnight in Helsinki.
Day 8 Friday, 18th HELSINKI/NEW YORK. Continental breakfast. Morning is reserved for your own professional contacts. Departure from Helsinki on board Finnair flight AY-103, 11.55/17.00.

Please reserve ___ places for The NY Forest Owners European (No.) tour. I have enclosed a check for \$ ___ to cover the deposit. I have read and understand the conditions.

For Reservations Please make all checks payable to: NY Forest Owners Association

Mail to: Alan R. Knight Rural Route 1, Skunk Hill Rd. Hope Valley, R.I. 02832

Names _____
Address _____
Zip _____
Telephone _____

A WALK IN THE ALPINE FOREST

by Alan R. Knight

I'm a poor one to tell this story. I'm biased. You see, it was my idea in the first place to take this tour. It was my big mouth that started it when NYFOA President Lloyd Strombeck visited my home and spotted my book about hiking in the Austrian Alps.

"How come the Forest Owners don't run a tour to Austria," I joked. Looking at me with that half twinkling, half stern look of his, Lloyd says, "Well, why not. Go ahead and set it up." I don't know if either of us really took it seriously, but we both wound up in Austria about ten months later. Sometimes you just never know...

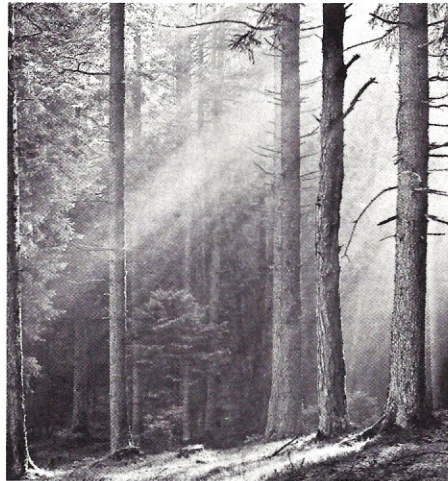
Luzern, or Lucerne if you prefer, is a neat place. It's simultaneously a tourist trap and one of the oldest medieval settlements in Europe. But our travelling forest owners were lucky, for our days here were to be filled with a minimum of conventional tourist activity and a good healthy dose of down-to-earth talk with a pair of warm, hospitable host foresters.

An old bridge crosses the river Reuss in Luzern, and has become the symbol of this ancient Swiss city. The Kapellbrücke (or Chapel Bridge) was built in the early days of the 14th century, and people still walk on it every day. Imagine, Columbus' voyage to the New World was almost two hundred years later!

Despite this heritage and despite our observations about the highly collectivized "Old Guild Forest" in Berne a few days earlier, Luzern had some forest owning patterns we New York Yankees could relate to. The Luzern area reverses the Swiss national trend. Whereas 70% of the forest land in Switzerland is state or federally owned, private land accounts for 70% in Luzern canton. The canton provides "service foresters", much as New York does, to serve the private owners. And, again like New York, the owners have a forest owners association.

Karl Borgula met us in the parking lot of Gutsch castle, or Chateau Gutsch, as they called it. Mr. Borgula, the forester in charge of the city owned forests in and around Luzern, is cut of a different cloth

than our host in Berne, Herr Fellenberg. With plaid shirt, light poplin jacket, and heavy hiking boots he stands in marked contrast to Fellenberg's dapper suit and tie and pressed felt hat. Already our travellers were getting the idea that it's hard to put these people in neat categories, like a file folder. But the forest... aah, the forest... unmistakably European. Tall, unbelievably straight fir and spruce; beautiful European beech laid out in piles of 25 to 30 foot logs. Signs of care and careful management were everywhere in this 162 acre recreational forest. Only a fifteen minute walk from downtown Luzern, this forest must be managed for recreation as well as timber.



"We have a good mix of species here," Borgula noted. Clumped by species, the trees are a concession to the armchair environmentalist, the recreationist. "We like to provide them some diversity in their forest." Maybe so, but it didn't seem to our visiting eyes that it cramps his style much. Franz Imfeld, a forest manager working for Borgula and actually in charge of this particular forest, told me that he uses 10 laborers all year and 30 more woodcutters in the winter. Since we had to depend on my rudimentary German vocabulary, I may have missed some important details. But Franz did make the point that the woodcutters operate on a commission basis. "They work by the cubic meter," he said, "If they cut only a little they

earn only a little." The regular laborers, on the other hand earn wages, 10 to 12 Swiss Francs per hour, or about \$5 to \$6 per hour.

As with almost every stop we made on the tour, we somehow get onto the subject of deer damage to seedlings. It's a real problem in Europe, including Luzern canton. "Since this is a recreational forest and so close to the city," Karl Borgula pointed out, "there is no shooting here. The only way we can keep the roe deer out is to build fences 1½ meters high." Don't forget, roe deer are small. If you "bag" one, you can literally put it in your rucksack.

"We are lucky, though," he adds. "There are no Hirsch (red deer, like an elk) here. They are very destructive in central Switzerland."

Travelling in a forest owners tour, we discovered, isn't all forests and trees, taxes and laws, chainsaws and saw mills. It was comederie, too.

Our hike through "Gutschwald" ended up back at the chateau for a magnificent look at Lake Lucerne and, much to our surprise, an invitation to step inside the lower levels, the deep dark, medieval rathskeller. There, spread out under the low, arched ceiling and German style hanging lamps, was a round table fit for knights, arrayed with scrumptious cheese cookies and a variety of wines.

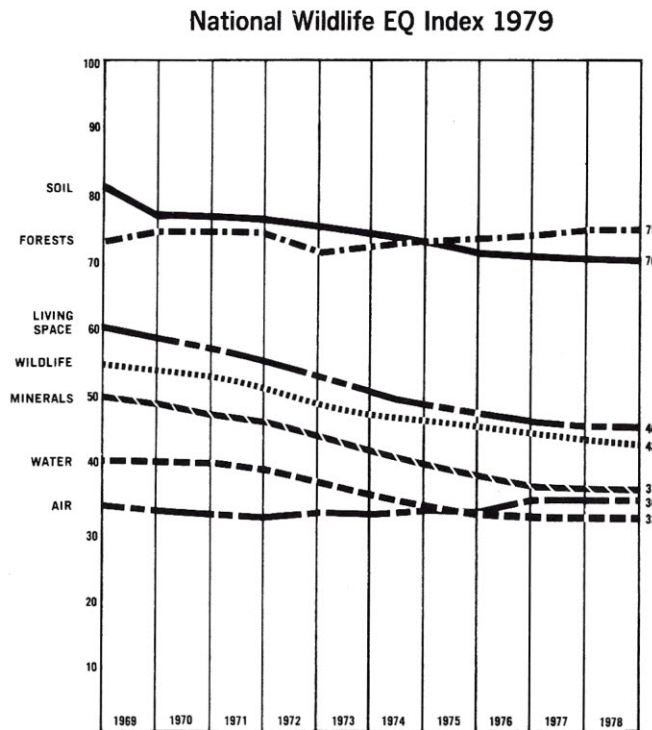
The cheese cookies, called haarkuche, if my notes are accurate, are like little mild pizza pies in cupped, English style pastry shells. They just melted in our mouths. What gracious hosts our new friends were! To return the gesture, Howard Ward presented Franz Imfeld and Karl Borgula each a jug of New York maple syrup. A recent issue of "American Agriculturist" which had a beautiful photo of "sugarin' off" was provided by Gordon Conklin. It took a little explaining to communicate the story of maple syrup and its uses, but wasn't that the whole purpose of going? Weren't we there to learn from one another?

"You have my card, you have my address," reminded Franz Imfeld as we parted company. "If you come back to Luzern, stay with me."

Forests Hold Their Own in Quality of Life Evaluation

The National Wildlife Federation's tenth Environmental Quality Index (EQI) shows that the quality of our forests has not declined although other aspects of our life has.

A graph of the changes as the Federation sees them is shown here.



1969-1979 EQ SUMMARY

WILDLIFE: DOWN

Though widespread habitat loss continues, important new laws and conservation programs have been established.

AIR: UP

Prodded by tough federal standards, air polluters have slowly cleaned up their act. But, in many areas, air is still not safe to breathe.

SOIL: DOWN

In the face of rampant soil erosion and urban sprawl, prime farmland has declined while the nation's food needs have grown.

MINERALS: DOWN

As the U.S. plodded toward a national energy and conservation policy, the days of cheap fuel and abundant minerals vanished forever.

FORESTS: SAME

A battery of tough forestry laws ushered in a new era of timber management, offering hope that the U.S. can avoid wood shortages.

LIVING SPACE: DOWN

Without effective land-use planning, vast stretches of America's land have remained vulnerable to topsy-turvy development.

WATER: DOWN

As cleanup efforts got underway, the complexities of the country's water pollution problems became more apparent.

CLEANING YOUR CHIMNEY WITHOUT A CHICKEN

Cleaning your chimney is quite a chore, but fortunately there are more practical and efficient ways to go about it.

The formation of creosote, notes the Cornell Energy Task Force, is a natural process that occurs when all wood burns. So throwing something on a fire to change that chemical reaction is of little value, whether it is potato peels, flashlight batteries or even the commercial products sold for this purpose.

Task Force experts say that the best way to clean a clogged chimney is with a wire brush. Available at most stove dealers, the brushes cost about \$20-\$30 and come in different sizes to fit your chimney.

In the past, some people have chosen strange ways to clean their chimneys, like stuffing a live chicken down a chimney flue to scratch off soot and creosote deposits, or throwing potato peels on fires to reduce the amount of creosote that is released in the smoke.

The "Do-it-yourself" operation is less expensive than a professional cleaning and can be done more often. Stretch the dollars you invest in a wire brush and share its cost and use with a neighbor.



Does It Pay to Grow Timber: a Success story

I have an interesting success story perhaps your readers would like to have to encourage them in their woods ownership.

In November, 1978 the Conservation Department forester referred me to three elderly farm owners who had some timber to sell.

There were 25 acres of woods. Several potential buyers had been after them to sell, and their top offer was \$10,000 in a lump sum. The woods had been cut 20 years ago, but no trees smaller than 20 inch D.B.H. (Diameter Breast High) 4 1/2' from the ground) were cut at that time. Their instruction to me was to not mark any tree smaller than 20", except beech, or defective trees.

Following their guide lines I marked 107,000 board feet (Doyle) of sugar maple, and 20,000 B.F. of beech and other miscellaneous species on the 25 acres.

I sent out requests for bids to 20 prospective buyers, and told the owners not to accept any bid unless it was at least \$18,000. We received 10 bids. The lowest bid was \$14,000, and the high bid was \$28,000! Needless to say, the sugar maple was absolutely gorgeous. The best I have ever seen. The quality of the site was the primary reason for the good timber, that and conservative cutting in the past.

So again the question: "does it pay to grow timber"? There is not much doubt in this case.

I guess Bob Sand wouldn't mind me revealing that he was the high bidder for Cotton-Hanlon Inc.

Best wishes,
Al Roberts

* * *

Moment of visitation...

Out of the swiftly flying loom—
out of the clear abyss of space—
In the forest stillness of Mind
Are fabrics that the poet leaves
behind
When he has gone.

And yet, the beautiful—
The words in patience written—
Are only shadows.
Of the things he sees;
For there are times
When Heaven opens wide
In blinding visitation.

The perfect word -- the deathless
phrase made clear. Julia Collins
Ardayne

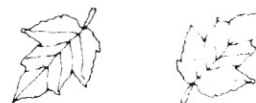
AVOID FALLS

NM Safety Tips—One in a series

They rack up one-fifth of all employees hurt on the job.

- Stay alert in dark, poorly lit areas that hide obstructions.
Look out for slippery spots, or objects on floors that can roll, slide, trip you up.
- Don't take shortcuts, such as climbing over stock or machines.
Don't wear floppy pants legs, sagging cuffs, worn-out shoes.
Don't tilt back in your chair.
- Make sure the ladder you're using is:
 - in good condition
 - the right length
 - securely anchored
- Use both hands when climbing.
- Don't overreach.
- Stay clear of platform edges.
- Hold handrails on stairs.
- Keep shoe soles free of oil, grease, mud when climbing in and out of vehicles outdoors.

Eliminating Odors From Creosote, Smoke, and Charcoal - David W. Taber



WOOD UTILIZATION

To eliminate the odor of creosote, smoke, or charcoal after chimney fires or houses fires, try washing or soaking the source of the odor with a diluted chlorine bleach solution used for household washing. The bleach should be mixed with about the same amount of water.

This suggestion for eliminating odors was made by Conrad Schuerch of the Chemistry Department at the State University College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse. Although this method has not been proven, the alternative methods of eliminating odors from fires are to scrape away the charcoal, creosote, or smoke contaminated material, or to wait so that the smell goes away by itself.

The reason for the probable success of a chlorine bleach in eliminating smoke, creosote, and charcoal odors, according to Schuerch, is that the odors are acid in origin. Therefore, the alkaline bleach will neutralize the acidity; and secondly, the chlorine will make some of the chemical groups that are odoriferous less volatile. When the compounds which yield odors do not vaporize because they have combined with chlorine, there will be less odor in the air.

If you have success or failure with this method of using chlorine bleach and water, Wood Utilization Service Specialist David Taber would like to know about it. He'd also like to hear from you if you know of additional techniques for eliminating odors of smoke, creosote, or charcoal. Taber's address is Wood Utilization Service, 13 Moon Library, State University College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY 13210.



A stiff wire brush reduces odors and unwanted fires by removing creosote and soot from the chimney.

Most property owners seldom worry about losing large trees to theft. As timber prices have increased, however, so has timber theft. The demand for a free Christmas tree has always plagued growers and landowners, but now landowners are also losing their roadside trees to firewood gatherers.

A number of factors contribute to the increasing timber theft problem. Many landowners in New York State are not aware that they own very valuable trees and that their values are increasing yearly. For example, over the last 20 years the value of veneer-quality black walnut logs has increased over 730 percent! A veneer-quality log is generally 18 inches or more in diameter and at least eight feet long with few surface defects; its value increases with its size.

Professional Thieves

Most timber thieves are well-equipped professionals. They use chain saws modified with several mufflers and trucks with boom loaders. Although most thefts occur at night and in isolated areas, thieves have been known to take trees from the front lawns of homes during daylight hours. Neighbors may see the thieves in operation but pay no attention because they think that it is a legitimate operation.

High-quality logs find a ready market. Thieves may haul logs hundreds of miles to sell them, and often these logs pass



TIMBER THEFT: A Growing Problem

J.P. LASSOIE

through several dealers before they reach the final processor, making it difficult to check their original source. In addition, individual logs are hard to identify unless the real owner has taken the time to mark them.

Thefts are commonly not discovered until several days after they occur. In fact, the logs may have been sold and on their way to an exporter before an investigation can begin. Although the forest products industry has organized to assist law enforcement officials in tracing stolen logs, the help of landowners is also needed.

Protection Methods

Nothing can completely protect valuable trees from a determined professional timber thief; however, there are actions that can act as a deterrent. A landowner can locate, describe, and record the valuable trees on his land. Trees can be numbered and recorded by species, location, diameter at 4.5 feet above the ground, and height to the first large branch of each. In addition, any distinguishing characteristics of the bole of the tree should be noted. If a landowner has trouble identifying valuable trees, he can get assistance from state foresters, consultants, and the local Cooperative Extension office.

Trees may also be marked with a characteristic symbol. If the appearance of the trees does not matter, a landowner should paint a stripe down one side of the trees. The stripe should begin as high up

as possible and go all the way to the ground. The paint should be a type that will not wash off, and it should soak into the cracks and crevices in the bark. Special tree marking paint is available from forestry supply stores, or phosphorescent paint can be used if appearance is important. Police agencies are equipped to read such markings.

It also helps if landowners join with their neighbors in a cooperative protection effort. Landowners should learn the location of their neighbors' valuable trees, and they should keep each other informed about when they will be away. Also, they might take turns patrolling areas not visible from their residences. Upcoming timber sales should be noted, and any timber cutting activity should be checked out.

Reporting Thefts

If a theft occurs, it should be reported to the State Police as soon as possible—early reporting is very important. The date, time, and location of the theft should be recorded. In addition, landowners should note any suspicious activity in the area including license numbers of strange trucks and descriptions of unidentified individuals. The best evidence to convict a thief is always eyewitness testimony.

The most obvious victim of timber theft is the person whose timber is stolen. The "fair market value" of the stolen timber **cannot** be written off against the federal income tax. The deductible loss is limited to the cost basis of the timber. However, we are all victims. Timber theft discourages landowners from growing timber, which eventually drives up the price of wood products. Careful planning and protection, however, can help reduce the loss of valuable trees from our state's woodlots.



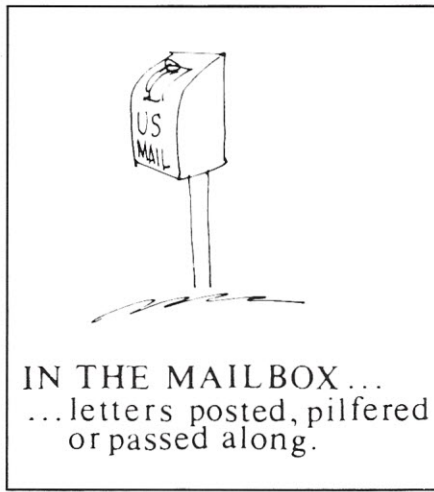
SNOWDROPS - this hardy little flower is the first in the spring. Found this year on March 5. My granddaughter Lisa tips up a blossom to see its interesting green and white pattern. Editor.

Nice Words and Advice

I appreciate your sending me the Forest Owner. This letter is to compliment you on the whole job- it is superb. I enjoy seeing what gives.

The whole area of forest holdings is so vital today with the state and federal forest folks wanting to take control of the whole thing. I fight that all I can because I feel that too much is being allowed to happen with no one protesting.

We have many areas of Schoharie County, taken out of the tax roles because taxes got too high- then the state has grown forests. We built a road up our Fox Vlie road past Pinewald, now the state owned forest folks give a contract to a pulp hauler who wears out our road. The tax payer paying through the teeth and how much does the state get for the pulp? -Ha. Ed Moot, Schenectady.



LANDOWNER LIABILITY AND RECREATION

Effective 9/1/78, cross country skiing was added by the Legislature to the list of recreation activities accorded limited liability protection by General Obligations Law 9-103. The intended effect of the amendment is to decrease the possibility of landowners being successfully sued because of injuries incurred by cross country skiers, and thereby to encourage landowners to open their lands to these recreationists.

The General Obligation Law cited above does not relieve landowners of all responsibility. However, assuming the landowner charges no fee, the law states that the landowner "owes no duty to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others" for various recreation activities, "or to give warning of any hazardous condition or use of, structure, or activity on such premises to persons entering for such purposes." To successfully sue a landowner, the burden of proof would be on the recreationist to substantiate one of the following: (1) that the landowner deliberately tried to harm the recreationist, or (2) that the landowner knew of an inherently dangerous condition on his property, knew that recreationists might encounter the hazard, and "willfully or maliciously" failed to guard against, or warn against this hazard. Typically, courts have ruled that naturally occurring phenomena (e.g. lakes, streams, trees) that have not been modified by man do not constitute inherent hazards.

Two other recreation activities, hang gliding and speleological activities, were added to General Obligations Law 9-103 in the spring of 1978. Activities previously accorded limited liability status under this statute include hunting, fishing, trapping, canoeing, hiking, horseback riding, bicycle riding, motorized vehicle operation for recreational purposes, snow-mobile operation, and training of dogs.

By T.L. Brown
— from Conservation News and Views

About the Forest Trust

The "Trust idea" mentioned by Fred Najer in the May-June issue was just what I have been looking for. Has such a trust actually been set up or is it still in the planning stage? It seems like such a good way to keep our forests intact and productive even after our death. Doug Lehnert, Baldwin, NY

BREAD FROM WOOD PULP

from Utica Daily Press
BY Sharon Gazin 11/9/78

You may think it's bread like grandma used to bake, but actually it's made from a variety of ingredients -- including wood pulp, according to Beatrice Trum Hunter, a food expert, consumer advocate and author of 13 books on the subject.

Besides the problem of food refining and food additives, a new phenomenon has arisen in the food industry -- the growing use of low value replacer ingredients, Ms. Hunter said.

An important way to understand what is really in food is to read labels, she told her audience. Ingredients are listed in descending order according to their percentage in the can or box. If the first ingredient listed is water this means there is more water than anything else in the container.

Many cereals, she said, contain more sugar than grain. "We should know that there are 25-30 different words for sugar, such as fructose, dextrose, sucrose, glucose, corn syrup, etc. These are among the key words that can be found on labels to indicate that foods are 'junk' foods."

According to Ms. Hunter, another shockingly important ingredient may be called "cellulose."

Certain so-called "high fiber breads" which are new on the market, list this as a major ingredient. What the manufacturers are really talking about, she said, is wood pulp.

Wood pulp is a cheap ingredient used as an emulsifying agent in many foods, according to Ms. Hunter. Because large amounts of water are needed to mix the pulp, water is the main ingredient in breads using wood pulp to supply fiber.

CHAINSAW DISAPPEARANCE

We recently lost a chainsaw out of our back yard. In reporting this to the police, insurance company and chainsaw dealer, I learned that the disappearance of chainsaws is getting to be a common occurrence.

They are most difficult to trace. When they disappear they are gone.

Therefore: do not leave chainsaws unattended in the woods, in the back of your truck, or in your back yard. In fact I've even heard of four chainsaws stolen out of shops.

This wood business is sure expensive.

NEW YORK
FOREST INFORMATION GROUP
P.O. Box 69, Old Forge, N.Y. 13420

The New York Information Group will be organizing a forest tour in the Albany area for New York State legislators in the late spring or early summer of this year. We are working with people in the Department of Environmental Conservation and Dave Taber and Ed Stana of the American Forest Institute in the organization of this tour. If any of you have interest in the development of this tour or want to work in the area of getting out New York State Legislators for this tour, I would be very happy to hear from you. Neil Gutches, P.O. Box 585, Cortland, NY 13045.

Coming —

James Plumb asked me to reply to your inquiry about the New York State productivity report. The New York report is presently in rough draft form. I have asked the staff of the Forest Industries Council's Forest Productivity Project to see that you receive a copy when completed. Marvin Katz, American Forest Institute.



Send your letter for The Mail Box to Evelyn Stock, Editor: 5756 Ike Dixon Road, Camillus, New York 13031



FORESTS HOLD THEIR OWN IN QUALITY OF LIFE EVALUATION

By George Fowler
Editor, Northern Logger

Few states can lay claim to harboring an organization like the New York Forest Owners Association. Active since 1962, the Association represents the interests of 255,000 forest owners of New York State. Numerous well-known New York forestry names have graced the leadership and Board of Directors of the Association.

One of the most famous was Dean Svend Oluf Heiberg of the State University College of Forestry at Syracuse University, internationally known for his work in silviculture, and credited with the founding of the New York Forest Owners Association. His first-hand observation of successful forest owner associations in Scandinavia sparked the movement.

At the Syracuse College of Forestry, Dean Heiberg headed up a faculty committee on Forest Land Owners Association comprised of Dr. William A. Duerr, Dr. Paul E. Graves and Prof. Ralph G. Unger. Under sponsorship of the New York State Forest Practice Board, two Forest Land Owners Forums took place at the College of Forestry, the first on November 9, 1961, and the second on October 8, 1962. At the first Forum, Ted Buckley, a member of the New York Forest Practice Board, Cambridge District No. 11, served as Chairman of Group IV, discussing "Pitfalls in Managing Forests and Selling Timber."

When the Second Land Owners Forum took place a year later, Ted convened and chaired the morning session. In the after-



Svend Heiberg at the Pack Demonstration Forest in 1963.

noon it was decided to organize a New York Land Owners Association. Sheriff Theodore T. Buckley of Cambridge, Washington County, N.Y., was elected President Pro Tem and Mrs. Barbara E. Pittenger of Marcellus, N.Y., Secretary-Treasurer Pro Tem.

The first meeting of the Pro Tem Board of Directors was called by President Buckley at Drumlins in Syracuse on January 12, 1963, and was followed by a number of monthly Board of Directors' meetings — on February 2 at the John Milton Motel in Syracuse and on March 9, 1963.

At the First Annual Meeting of the NYFOA held at the College of Forestry on April 27, 1963, the New York Forest Owners Association was formally organized. A Board of Directors was elected and Ted Buckley was voted President. An astonishing 50% of the membership turned out for the First Annual Meeting.

Ted put out the first edition of the *Forest Owner* in July 1963. That same month the Association was incorporated and Vol. 1 No. 4 for October 1963 stated "The New York Forest Owners Association is definitely committed to backing the Tree Farm movement in New York State."

The Association activities and actions continue to increase every year. The stated objectives of the Association are:

1. To unite the forest owners of New York in a common cause of improving their forest resources and forest opportunities.

2. To join with and support private, state and federal programs that strengthen forestry, such as the New York Forest Practice Act and Tree Farm Program.

3. To help make ownership of forestland more attractive as an investment.

4. To work toward an economic climate favorable to permanent forest industry.

5. To maintain a balance between timber growth and cut to assure raw materials for industry and steady employment in forest communities and rural areas.

6. To encourage education and research in forest management, marketing and use of forest products and services.

7. To manage forest land to enhance its natural beauty for the benefit of the owner, motorist, tourist and recreation.

To meet its objectives, the Association:

- Publishes six issues of the *Forest Owner* each year, providing free and friendly exchange of experience outlook and opinion among the members.



- Holds Annual and Fall meetings, tours and field trips to inform and inspire.

- Mails members helpful and instructive materials furnished by the NYFOA, state and federal agencies, and individuals.

- Promotes standards for timber harvesters that protect forest owners in the sale of timber and during logging operations.

- Fosters the training of skilled timber harvesters and forest workers.

- Works for the classification of forest lands into: timber growing, recreation, watershed, wildlife, summer home sites.

- Works for a forest land tax adaptable to conditions of timber harvesting.

- Recognizes and acclaims meritorious effort in the field of forestry, conservation and outdoor recreation.

- Conducts "Woods Walks" to stimulate enthusiasm for: growing timber, enjoyment of outdoor living and getting acquainted with NYFOA members.

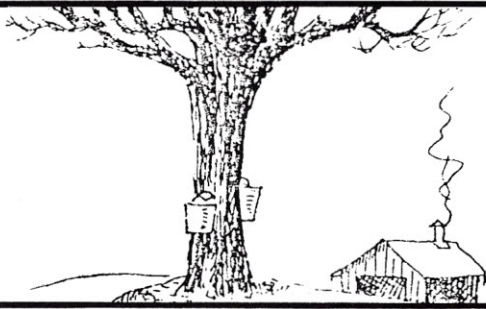
The Association's current president is Robert M. Sand of Odessa, New York. Bob invites anyone interested in joining the Association to write to membership secretary, Mrs. Helen Varian, 204 Varian Rd., Peekskill, NY 10566. The membership can bring you returns in the satisfaction of growing quality timber, stabilizing forest industries and markets, providing permanent jobs, increasing the value of your woods, enlarging areas of natural beauty across New York State, and leaving behind a monument in living trees to bless the tomorrows for the boys and girls today.

November, 1978 Northern Logger and Timber Processor.

ASK A FORESTER

Got a question?

We will send your questions on to the experts for answer in this column. Lets share our problems and their solution.



Tree Crowns in Relation To Maple Sap Sugar Concentration

How should the ideal maple tree look? Do the characteristics of particular trees make them yield sweeter sap?

Trees with small crowns use most of their carbohydrate material for growth, with little left for sap. The sugar percentage of the sap is higher at the base of the crown than at the base of the tree. This confirms results from crown size studies and suggests that ideally the tree crown should be kept near the ground by early and frequent thinning throughout the life of the sugar bush. This is why street trees are found to be so desirable, they have a lot of leaf area.

Several measures can be used to calibrate tree characteristics. The d.b.h. (diameter of a tree stem 4.5 feet above ground) and the rate of growth between tree rings at d.b.h. can be used. But these growth factors are closely dependent on the tree crown or "leaf area", which is also the source of sap sugar. Therefore the tree crown is a more logical place to measure. Several variables are available for measuring the tree crown: crown diameter, crown height, crown volume, crown surface area and live crown ratio (ratio of height to tree crown to total tree height). In most studies, crown diameter and live crown ratio are the two variables selected. They are easy to measure using conventional meth-

ods, and together they closely describe the condition of the tree crown.

Most studies have shown significant correlations between crown size and sugar percent but have varied because of differences in openness of the trees in the sugar bush. Large trees with large crowns generally have sweeter sap. The degree of openness plays an important part because trees in the open have more efficient light utilization in the lower part of the crown. In addition freezing and thawing, necessary for sap flow, is more rapid and frequent in more open areas.

Sugar maple trees exhibit great variation in sap flow as well as sugar percentage. The sweetness and flow of sap from one tree can vary greatly from another tree. But good trees remain better than the others throughout the season and from year to year.

Sugar content of individual trees varies widely. It depends on heredity as well as crown size and openness. Soil and age are possible factors. Therefore it is impossible to predict the sugar content simply by looking at a tree. But studies of average sugar concentration of sugar bushes show that those with larger crowns have more sugar -- varying from one or two-tenths of a percent to possibly 1 or 2 percent when comparing closed

and open stands. Even small gains are important. A 0.2% increase in a two percent sugar bush means a 10 percent gain in efficiency.

Percent sugar is also easily measured with a hand refractometer either with stirred sap or drops from a pile. Sufficient sampling (at least 3 times per tree per year) is necessary to account for seasonal changes in sap sugar concentration.

Syrup production is a combination of sap production and sugar percentage, so it is influenced by crown size and openness of a sugar bush. Syrup production per acre is about the same regardless of the size of the tree crowns. But increased sugar content results in considerable savings in costs, especially of fuel and sap handling.

Should sugar producers manage for the "ideal" -- a large-crowned, open tree? Sugar maple is a valuable lumber tree, but not with the many branches that are best for sugar. Some people may prefer forest-grown trees that will be less efficient, but produce both sugar and lumber. Probably it is better to thin early and often to develop good sugar trees in accessible locations near the sugar house. Young maple stands can rather quickly be developed for tapping and efficient production. More remote trees can be managed in denser stands for timber growth.

Wood Utilization

The new film **Home Heating with Wood** is chock-full of tips and precautions to insure safe and efficient heat from wood. Some topics discussed are:

- What types of stoves are best.
- Where to locate a stove for safety.
- Chimneys and their safe installation.
- The creosote problem.
- What to do for a chimney fire.
- Where and how to buy wood.
- Where and how to cut-your-own wood.

- Safety in wood harvest.
- How to store and season wood.
- How to ENJOY heat from wood.

Additionally, the film shows ways to increase the efficiency of an existing fireplace and how to install central heating using combination furnaces to burn wood and fuel oil or natural gas.

23 Minutes
Color, 16 mm

Home Heating with Wood is also available in videotape. Contact your local Cooperative Extension office for a companion bulletin.



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MAPLE SYRUP NEWS NOTES

Effect of PFA Pill

Russell S. Walters and Alex L. Shigo, writing in the Canadian Journal of Forest Research (Volume 8, 1978), states that PFA pills are sometimes used in tapholes in sugar maple to increase and prolong the yield of sap collected for making syrup and sugar.

Results of tests obtained from studies of 180 mature trees in six locations in Vermont, and from 75 trees in 3 locations each in New York, Vermont, Maine, Pennsylvania and Michigan indicate that repeated use of PFA pills will lead to rapid development of decay in sugar maple trees.

* * *

Maple Syrup

All aspects of maple syrup production are covered in LB 95, **Production of Maple Syrup and Other Maple Products** (50¢).

Successful sugaring also requires the sound management of the sugar bush. Both the quantity and quality of the resulting maple product depend on the health and vigor of the trees from which the sap is obtained. This publication, **Sugar Bush Management** 60¢ stresses the importance of proper stand thinning (weeding) to both the maple sap production and future timber quality of the woodlot.

Production and Profit

\$3,828,000 worth of maple syrup from the production of 330,000 gallons is the amount realized by New York State's maple syrup industry in 1978, according to the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Nationwide, New York's production is second only to that of Vermont; and it accounts for about 29% of the country's total production.

Vermont's production was 410,000 gallons in 1978 down some from the 437,000 gallons produced in 1977. Maple syrup production in Quebec was short. The average price of syrup paid at the farm in Vermont rose to \$12.90 in the gallon can. The average weighted price per gallon for all sales in all sized containers at the farm was \$13.00 (according to the New England Crop and Livestock Reporting Service in Concord, N.H.). There is very little syrup on hand, and the outlook for sales in 1979 is very good.

* * *

Millions of Americans are living lives of diet desperation.—Orben's Comedy Fillers. (Readers Digest)



Plastic Jugs Paid For

Since April about 700 gallons of syrup, from about 80 sugar makers in Vermont, which had bad flavor due to the "acrylic" jugs has been embargoed by the Vermont Department of Agriculture. Sugar makers have been reimbursed by the distributor.

(Has this happened to any of our readers in New York State. Ed.)

* * *

The worst kind of reducing pill is the one who keeps telling you how he did it.—The C & P Call (Readers Digest)

* * *

Preheater Bulletin

A new bulletin entitled "Sap Preheaters: Efficient Maple Syrup Processing" by Howard Duchacek, Frederick Laing, Lawrence Garrett, Neil Huyler, Mariafranca Morselli, and James Marvin is now available from the Bulletins Office, Morrill Hall, UVM, Burlington, VT 05405. It contains 11 pages, and shows how you can gain nearly 16 percent in evaporator efficiency by a properly designed preheater and steam hood. It is free.

Prepared by R.T. Foulds, Jr. Extension Forester, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405.