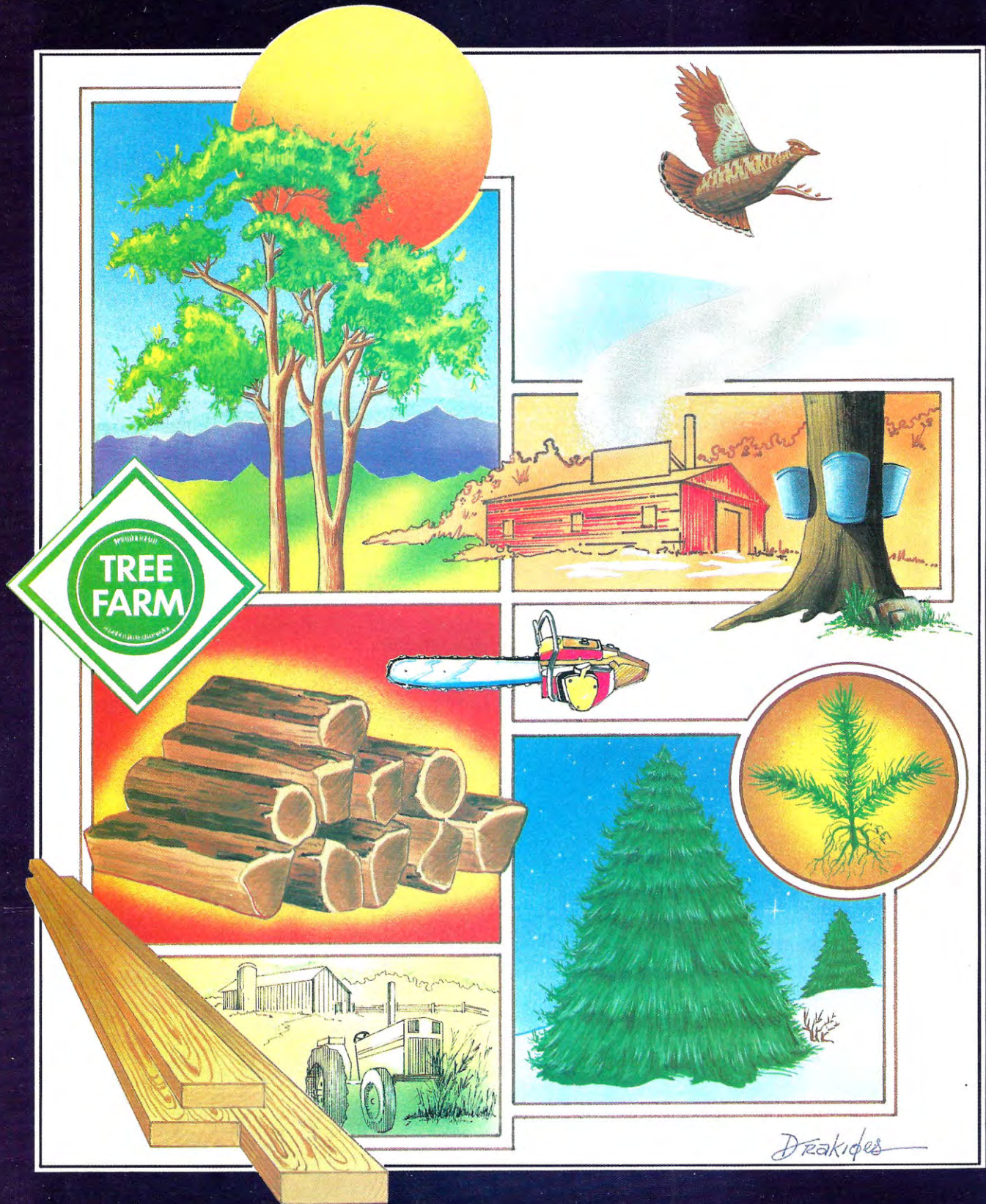
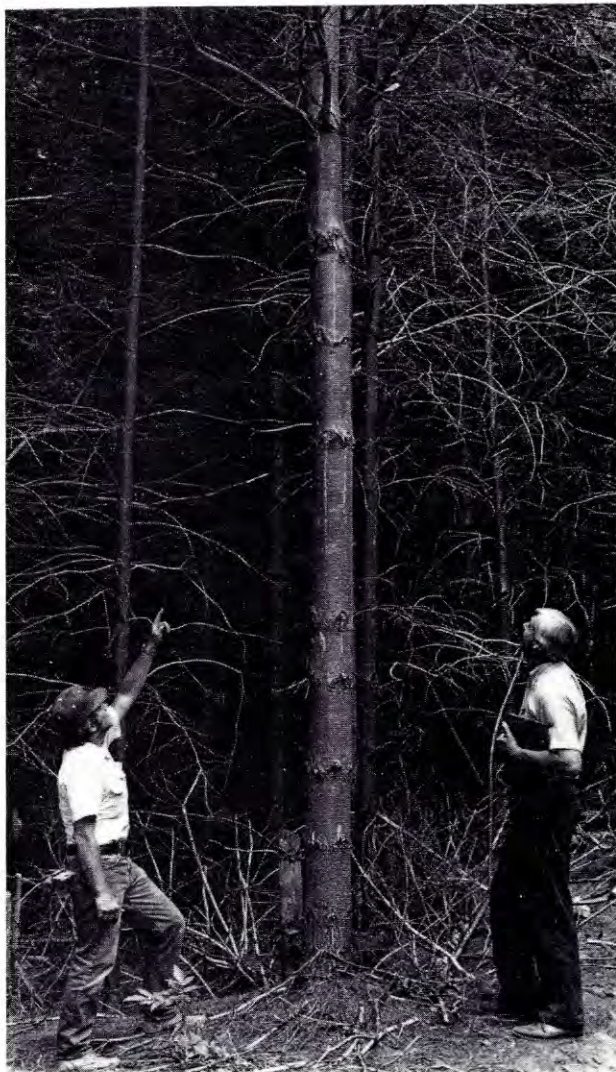


Forest Owner

MAY/JUN. 1987



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ForestOwner

POOR SAP FLOW

In late March NH maple producers were hoping mild temperatures following moderate overnight freezes would finally get the sap flow going in earnest. Producers in the Connecticut River Valley finished off about 20% of a normal crop with color holding light in some locations and dropping to medium in others. With the season advancing and expectations mounting of a short crop, prices were reported to be firming. Barrel syrup was then steady at \$22...Retail gallons were \$30 minimum and ranged to \$40.

—NH Dept. of Agriculture

LOVES HIS DEERE 2040

I read Wes Suhr's good response to the small skidder question, and should like to contribute from my own experiments and research on the use of farm tractors as woodlot skidders.

While pto horsepower is important for the winch, weight and traction are essential to skidder movement. Get a compact, heavy tractor with four-wheel drive. Use the largest combination of tires recommended by the manufacturer. Put tubes in all tires and have them all fitted with calcium solution. Try your rig without chains first.

You need front weight to lift logs in the back. Determine the maximum front weighting for your model (and tires) and construct an equivalent weight of steel and reinforced concrete shaped as a bumper between the front wheels. This will also serve to bend saplings forward as you approach them protecting your steering components.

Seatbelts and rollbars are important. Mount all wheels laterally out as far as they will go. Survey the underneath of the tractor. Some makes, as John Deere, have most controls internalized, others have wires, tubes, levers, filters, etc., hanging out. Slash will pry these off unless you protect them with closely fitted steel



plating. And yes, cut your stumps low and parallel with the ground surface.

And what do I use? My woodlot is on a hilly site. Two of my skid trails have a 20% slope. I love my rig which can do what I want safely and comfortably: a John Deere 2040 (40 hp diesel), equipped as suggested above and with a Farmi JL 330 winch. No chains. Recently I skidded out a 23" DBH, 16' long ash butt log, one end off the ground, up a 13% slope. Bigger equipment will do more; smaller, less. You can do good skidding safely with a customized farm tractor.

—Peter Levatich
Brooktondale, NY

WHERE TO BEGIN?

Our family has some wooded acreage with a variety of trees growing on it, especially black walnut. None of these trees has ever been farmed, but I would like to start. Where does one begin? Should we contact a management service? Are there any pamphlets or books you might suggest? Everyone has to start somewhere!

—Kevin Woodruff
Wolcott, NY

(Editor's note: This letter is typical of dozens we receive from curious forest owners. We suggest as a first step that you join the near-

est chapter of a forest owners', maple producers', or Christmas tree growers association and then go to meetings to meet other people already in the business. That will at least help you learn what questions to ask and will bring you endless opportunities to learn about management services.)

QUEBEC FORESTS

The Quebec minister responsible for forests, Mr. Albert Cote, has introduced a bill designed to protect the province's woodland reserves, of which about 90% are owned by the Government.

Wood quotas would be replaced by 25-year forest supply and management contracts. Companies would be allowed to harvest in proportion to the forest's capacity and timber companies would be responsible for reforestation. The new bill also calls for a 50% increase in timber cutting fees.

Quebec woodlands cover an area equivalent to France and Great Britain combined. They produce 50 million cubic yards of timber each year, while private forests there produce about 13 million.

—Quebec Government House
NY City

GAS LEASES

We are in the process of drawing up a contract on our hunting grounds in PA. How can we obtain the 29 point addendum for a gas lease mentioned in the January/February *Forest Owner*?

—Martin Hamsted
Hawthorne, NJ

(Editor's note: Try calling Robert Heppner at 716/326-4701.)

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Published for the New York Forest Owners Association by American Agriculturist, Inc.
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NEW IN THE WOODLOT

KIOTI: NEW TRACTOR BRAND

The Kioti LB 2204, imported from Korea, is a 22 hp diesel tractor with a number of design features intended to increase operating efficiency, improve operator comfort, and simplify maintenance. In mid-1987 Kioti will add a 17 hp model to the line-up.

The Kioti features front-wheel assist and a fuel-efficient, water cooled 3-cylinder, 4-cycle low-vibration diesel engine. It comes with both front and rear pto, 3-point, category-I hitch, and wet disk brakes. Under the top-opening hood, all service points are easy to reach. Optional equipment includes a power steering kit, front-end loader, and turf tires.

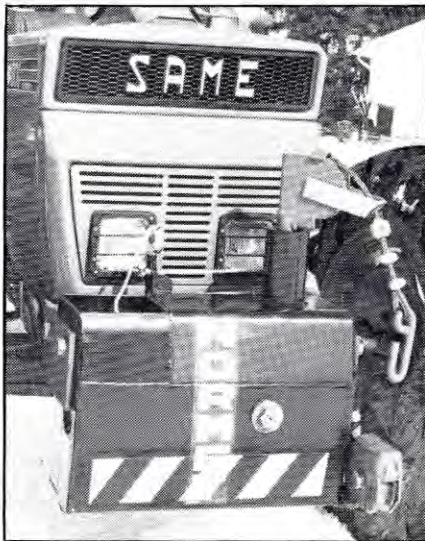
A division of L.B. Industries of Boise, Idaho, Kioti, an American-owned firm, has been working with representatives of Korea's largest producer of agricultural equipment for the past three years in this joint effort to develop internationally competitive products. *Circle number 54 on the Reader Response Card.*



NORMET FRONT WINCH

A new front-mounted forestry winch is now available from Northeast Implement Corp. The Normet EV 300 winch is unique because it can pull from any direction. This is made possible by a fair lead pulley which permits endless swiveling. This hydraulic winch has several

added features usually only found in mechanical winches. It is clutch-operated so the cable free-wheels out fast and easily. The clutch enables smooth and gradual engagement. The operator can, in fact, choose any pull from zero to 6,600 pounds. The winch can be remotely controlled and has a drum brake which works also if hydraulic pressure is lost. The winch can be bolted to any machine with hydraulic outlets. *Circle number 53 on the Reader Service Coupon.*



SPIKE HERBICIDE

Now you can eliminate brush and weeds and even multiflora rose that choke fence rows and ditch banks by using Spike 20P, a new herbicide from Elanco Products Company. Loaded in a five-pound self-dispensing container, Spike 20P is delivered in a measured quarter-ounce dose of pellets, enough to kill brush and keep it out of a 22-square-foot area for three years or longer.

Spike pellets are dropped at the base of the target brush plants, where they move into the soil to kill the plants and to prevent further weed growth. Powerful as Spike is on brush, these pellets work on tiny spots which do not destroy the grass needed to prevent erosion and provide wildlife cover.

Spike is not a restricted use pesticide. Livestock can continue to graze in areas where Spike is used according to label directions. It is not harmful to people when used as directed and will not corrode metal structures.

Multiflora rose is controlled very effectively by Spike, along with briars and other woody and herbaceous plants. This product should not be used near desirable



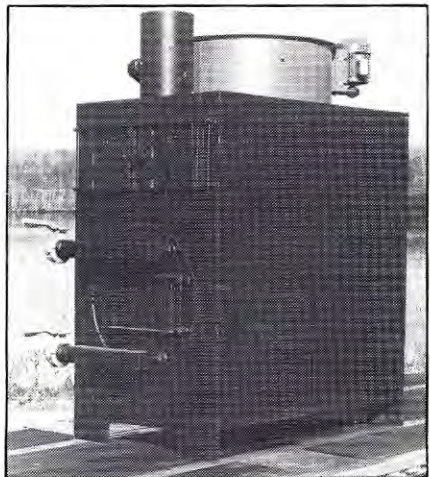
trees since trees are a woody species which will be killed.

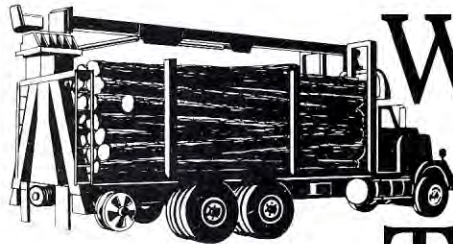
Spike is also available as a wettable powder. *Circle number 51 on the Reader Service Coupon.*

G&S WOOD FIRED FURNACE

The G&S Model KC36 hot air furnace, a new compact system rated at 800,000 Btu/hour output, is now available from the G&S Mill Inc. of Northborough, Massachusetts, a leading manufacturer of high efficiency, industrial wood energy systems. The Model KC36 furnace can be used in woodworking shops, garages, greenhouse facilities, and other small buildings.

The furnace is sold with firebox, heat exchanger, fans, motors, temperature monitor, thermostat, 10' stack, and clean-out tools. The system can be hand fired with wood fuel from 0 to 55% moisture content, or automatically fed with wood chips, sawdust, or shavings through the use of a G&S Automatic Stoker System. *Circle number 55 on the Reader Service Coupon.*





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HOWARD WARD ONE MAN'S

WOODS



by Rick Marsi

has quieted many a noisy NYFOA meeting.

A daughter had one of her offspring baptized on a hillside that overlooks the woodlot's one-acre pond. Ward's sons join their father each Thanksgiving for deer hunting on the land, sleeping in a sparse cabin at the pond's edge, returning home to the village for turkey dinner. Children and grandchildren spend week-long vacations on the windy hilltop, not wishing they were anywhere else.

"It's dawned on all of us over the

"The bottom line is you. You have to know how to manage your own woodland."

years," Ward says. "We don't have to go away on vacation. We've got all we want right here."

When Ward was offered "a lot" of money for his woodland parcel several years ago, the kids who moaned about being dragged there as youngsters raised the roof. "They wouldn't hear of selling," he says. "Funny how things change."

So the father kept his land and made the children partners. The job of managing a woodlot for timber, Christmas trees, and recreation is an official family undertaking these days. That suits Howard Ward just fine.

"It's always been in the family," he says. "Now, perhaps, it always will be."

It was 1868 when Ward's great grandmother set up housekeeping on Owego Street in the village. There was a barn out back with cows. There was acreage on the fertile floodplain that spread flat and

wide from the banks of Catatunk Creek.

Time passed. Generations passed. Ward's grandparents came to live in the house. Ward came to live there; he lives there today. "As a boy, I milked 11 cows in that barn," he says, pointing to a neat gray structure, now his garage. "I can remember that."

He also remembers his grandfather buying 150 acres of hardwood forest on a hill outside the village in 1920. "I don't actually remember him buying it," says Ward. "I remember the last load of timber they took off."

That last truckload, a mix of red oak, sugar maple, and white ash, left the Ward family forest in 1924, when Ward was six years old. Since then, three generations have managed the woodlot and kept it producing. Ward bought the land from his father in 1954 and began planting Scotch pines for Christmas trees. He's never stopped planting, although these days the tree farm's hillsides are studded predominantly with white spruce and Douglas fir.

In 1957 Ward supervised his first major timber harvest, which paid back the cost of the land. Several years later, there were Christmas trees to cut and replacement evergreens to plant. Those original evergreens have been replaced two or three times by now. "These days we'll go to plant a seedling and find two stumps right next to it," says Ward. That cycle of planting, cutting, and planting again allows Ward to sell 700 Christmas trees a year.

In 1970, when the Japanese discovered bowling and learned that the sugar maple makes fine alley wood, Ward had another timber sale. He had another small sale in 1980. He may have another five years from now.

Every year the tree farmer thins 10 acres of his woodlot, culling unlikely timber trees, selling them for firewood. "There's a good market for firewood these days," he says. "It used to be I would just cut that stuff and let it lie."

All the while, as trees are being cut on the woodlot, new ones are growing to replace them. Thinning allows remaining timber stock to grow faster and straighter. Numerous old trees are left to house squirrels and feed woodpeckers. Hardwood seedlings are encouraged on the forest floor.

If you manage a woodlot properly, Ward says, it will perpetuate itself. "Devise a plan and stick to it," are his words to wise forest owners. Ward has spread this message for decades.

FORMER NYFOA president Howard Ward tells a revealing story of the 150-acre woodlot he maintains near his Tioga County village and how perceptions of it have changed with time. When his children were school age, Ward remembers, he would take them from their home in the village, drive them to his wooded hilltop four miles away and ask them to help with Christmas trees. There were always Christmas trees on the Ward place, hundreds of them that needed shaping in summer and cutting come yuletide.

Inexplicably, the Ward children did not take to shaping and cutting. "They grumbled is about all they did," their father recalls.

Those children are pushing middle age these days, with kids of their own. "The woodlot is special to them now," says Ward, 68, whose piercing thumb whistle

As director of the New York State Christmas Tree Growers Association for six years in the early- to mid-'70s, during his presidency of NYFOA in 1980-81 and throughout his tenure as manager of his own certified tree farm, Ward has steadfastly recommended that forest owners consult with private and state foresters in devising a forest management plan.

"A lot of today's forest owners are inexperienced, new to the game," he says. "Well, if you don't know anything, isn't it smart to get hold of someone who does?"

For decades Ward has used foresters to mark the 10-acre stands he thins on his farm each year. By removing cull and weed trees, these selective cuttings improve stand rate growth of the more desirable timber specimens that remain.

Although he invites guidance from forest professionals, Ward prides himself on keeping abreast of modern forest management techniques and equipment. "Once you start relying totally on foresters or the loggers who come to cut on your land, that's when you're in trouble," he says. "The bottom line is you. You have to know how to manage your own woodland."

Learning by doing has always been Ward's way. Over the past 15 years, he's hosted three "Woods Walks," arboreal open houses, if you will, in which forestry experts have guided other landowners through the Ward farm, explaining management techniques and strategies that have made it successful.

Explore multiple use possibilities for your forest, both timber-related and recreational; get professional help in planning for selective thinning; employ logging practices that work for wildlife and soil conservation, not against it—these kinds of strategies have made his farm work, Ward says.

And one more thing, he adds. "Don't buy 100 acres of woodland expecting to get rich. Woodlot management as a purely financial investment? Forget it," Ward says. "If all you want is to make money, you'd be better off with market certificates or an IRA.

"Wood sales pay my school taxes, that's about it," he says.

Those taxes—which were \$24 a year when Ward bought his woodlot in 1954—are \$424 a year now. Annual revenues from firewood and Christmas trees may appease the tax collector, but they create little profit, Ward says. Hardwood timber sales from the land are profitable but

all too infrequent.

"You've got to be in it for the enjoyment, for people, for the woods themselves—not just money," says Ward.

"There's all sorts of wildlife on the place," he says. "We have squirrels and hawks, foxes, and deer. In the winter there is skiing and snowmobiling. The pastor from church comes up to do that quite a bit. And there's swimming, of course, in the pond. Last summer we got all the grandchildren out on the dock for a picture.

"It's just a great place to get away, to hear nothing but the birds, frogs, and the wind. If the wind is just right, you can

hear a train whistle down in Flemingville or the siren from Candor, but that's about it for human sounds."

There's more, says Ward. There's the enjoyment that comes from sharing his woodlot and the bounty it provides. "You should have seen the tree we cut off this place for the church one year," he says. "It was a Douglas fir, 30 feet tall. Before we took it into town, we cut eight feet off the bottom. When it got to the church, they had to take five more feet off to get it through the door.

"That tree looked beautiful inside," says Ward.

It came from the family forest. ■



THE lady had seen a copy of *Forest Owner* magazine and in there, the fact that I designed ponds. She called me and explained that she had three ponds that needed work. Could I help?

She wrote me a letter and in a phone conversation we agreed to meet at her farm on April 11. I would make the three-hour drive to the Hudson Valley and she would fly from Washington, DC, to Albany and drive down from there. Everything went as planned and we arrived at her house within 15 minutes of each other.

After sandwiches she purchased at a local country deli, we started our walk around her ponds. There are three, all built by her father in the 1950s and early 60s. Since her father's death 20 years ago, there had been little maintenance. About four years ago her brother cut ditches

I GOT PAID, TOO!

through two of the dams because the overflow pipes (usually called trickle tubes) had become plugged and the ponds were about to overflow.

A large swampy area had cut through the middle of her father's large farm and

(Continued on page 8)

LANDOWNERS

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I GOT PAID, TOO! . . .

(Continued from page 7)

he decided to make it productive by building a pond and raising bait fish. The first pond was immediately behind the house and barn and was a little larger than a half acre. The second, built a few years later, was immediately below the first and is approximately three-quarters of an acre.

The third pond, just below the second, is a little bigger than two acres and has a very long, semi-circular dam. Water levels of the ponds step down from one to the next in approximately eight feet steps. Water from the first flows into the second, from the second to the third, and from the third to a small stream flowing down through the woods toward the Hudson River.

Her father had been farsighted enough to install drain pipes with valves at the bottom of the dam of each of the first two ponds. (I didn't find that for the third but I expect it's there.) She said he'd drain the first two ponds every two or three years, figuring it helped them.

The problem with the ponds? There was heavy growth of reeds around all the shore lines, and brush and trees on the downstream side of each dam and even some on the upstream side. There is a heavy growth of "seaweed" and this is what often blocks the overflow pipes. Some of the big, old trees have had large branches break off and fall into the first pond.

What should she do?

1. Find the operating wheels for the gate valves in the drain pipes.
2. Drain the ponds, upper one first. When? August, when it is driest. (This assumes that the gate valves will work and will close again when we're ready to refill the ponds.)
3. Clear the dams of brush and trees.
4. Clear the edges of the ponds of the reeds. The reeds won't grow back if we can make a sharp cut-off of the edges so the water is at least two feet deep at the edge of the pond. Leaving the ponds dry for a month or more may kill the seaweed, and that will certainly chase away the muskrats.
5. Fill in the ditches cut four years ago, but form an emergency spillway, or overflow, off the end of the dam in undisturbed earth. This should be like a swale, 8 to 10 feet wide, with the bottom at least one foot below the lowest point of the top of the dam. In a heavy cloudburst, or if the overflow pipe becomes plugged, the

water can flow without rupturing the dam.

6. Edges of the pond and along the upstream side of the dam probably can be mowed after our work next year, and two or three times every year to keep down the growth of reeds and brush.

How about growing trees on the dam? No—the roots might extend all the way through the dam and form a pathway for the water through the dam. That would be disastrous to the dam.

What about the fish? They'll end up in the third pond. I don't believe it will be necessary to drain that one. However, we must make sure the trickle tube works. Fill in the overflow ditch and construct an emergency spillway apart from the dam. Perhaps the banks of the pond could be steepened with a long-reach backhoe without having to drain the pond.

If we could drain the third pond, I would lower the water level enough to work on the pond edges but keep enough water to keep the fish.

It was a beautiful, sunny day. The lady had a merry, bubbly laugh, and I had a grand time. —Howard Ward ■

NYFOA AWARD TO WARD

Howard O. Ward of Candor, NY, has been awarded the NYFOA Outstanding Service Award for 1987. As a loyal volunteer with sincere convictions about his association, Howard has given many years of committed service to NYFOA.

The son of a church organist and forestry graduate-turned-cattle-dealer, Howard is a mechanical engineer specializing in heating, refrigeration, and air conditioning. In 1953 he struck up a forest-owning partnership with 1982 award winner Lloyd Strombeck and began planting trees. He hasn't quit yet.

Howard is a long-time director and past president of NYFOA, a past director of the NY Christmas Tree Growers Association, a former county legislator, Extension Service and Soil and Water Conservation District officer, and an active member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers.

Previous winners of the award are: Emiel Palmer, Ken Eberley, Helen Varian, J. Lewis DuMond, Lloyd Strombeck, Evelyn Stock, Dorothy Wertheimer, David Hanaburgh, and A.W. Roberts. ■

AWARDS

WILLIAMS WINS HEIBERG AWARD

Henry G. Williams has won the prestigious Svend O. Heiberg Award for 1987. The award is made each year by the New York Forest Owners Association "to any person over 18 years of age with a forest interest in New York State who, in the judgment of the Award Committee, has during the preceding year . . . conceived and completed a significant project in the field of conservation, land use, land restoration, forest management, or other actions in keeping with the aims and purposes of the New York Forest Owners Association."

The late Dr. Heiberg, a professor at the State College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse, is regarded as the father of the New York Forest Owners Association.

Bob Sand, association secretary, presented the award to the former head of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation at the annual meeting of NYFOA in Syracuse on April 4.

Since January 1983," said Sand, "when he was appointed by Governor Mario Cuomo to be the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation, Henry G. Williams has traveled with boundless energy across the great state . . . He has served the office as a Commissioner who has been involved at the forefront of issues . . . always giving support and professional input with an outstretched hand and a smile."

Williams graduated cum laude from Utica College in 1951 and received a Master of Arts degree in geography from Syracuse University in 1958, and taught outdoor recreation management and land use management at the College of Forestry, Syracuse, from 1957 through June 1969. He was president of the Empire State Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America in 1982 and was a recipient of the Soil Conservation Service National Commendation Award the same year. From 1969 until 1979 he served as Director of the Division of State Planning and then as Director of Statewide Strategies and Programs in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. Mr. Williams is also past president of the Board of Directors of the Urban League of Albany. His son, Mark, is a student at

the College of Forestry and daughter Sarah is a Colgate graduate.

"New York's environment, its forest resource, and its recreational facilities have all been enhanced during Williams' term of service," said Bob Sand in his presentation to Williams. ■



Winners of the Heiberg Award

- 1966 *Hardy L. Shirley*
- 1967 *David Cook*
- 1968 *Floyd Carlson*
- 1969 *Mike Demeree*
- 1970 *No award*
- 1971 *Fred Winch, Jr.*
- 1972 *John Stock*
- 1973 *Robert Ford*
- 1974 *C. Eugene Farnsworth*
- 1975 *Alex Dickson*
- 1976 *Edward Littlefield*
- 1977 *Maurice Postley*
- 1978 *Ralph Nyland*
- 1979 *Fred Simmons*
- 1980 *William Harlow*
- 1981 *Curtis Bauer*
- 1982 *Neil Gutches*
- 1983 *David Taber*
- 1984 *John Kelley*
- 1985 *Robert Potter*
- 1986 *Karyn Bartow Richards*
- 1987 *Henry G. Williams*

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Here's How to Decide If a Computer Is in Your Future

Agricultural Computer Guide & Directory



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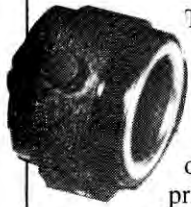
The **Agricultural Computer Guide & Directory**, prepared by the staff of Oppenheimer Industries, Inc., is designed to help a farm owner decide whether a microcomputer would benefit his operation. It also provides guidance in the selection of the correct hardware and software, and in the care and education required by a microcomputer owner.

For a copy of the 160-page, softcover guide, send \$10.95 (New York State residents add applicable sales tax) by check or money order to: American Agriculturist Books, P.O. Box 370, Ithaca, NY 14851. Allow four weeks for delivery.



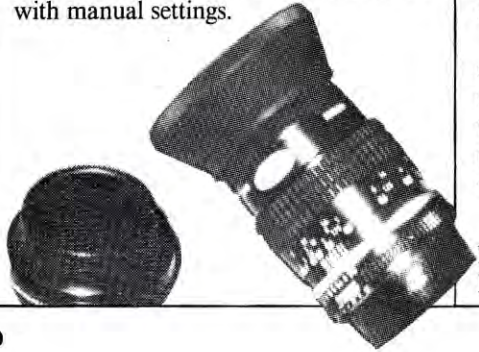
CAPTURING YOUR WOODLOT ON FILM

“Oh boy! If only I had a camera with me!”



The chance woodland encounter that prompts you to say that could have produced a cover photo for a famous national magazine, or at least a shot to fill a prized photo album. While very expensive camera equipment may be needed to produce the quality demanded by the magazine, moderately-priced gear may be quite adequate for the album.

Name brand manufacturers such as Nikon, Canon, and Olympus, offer excellent quality camera. For \$150 to \$200 you can purchase one of their camera bodies. I recommend that any model you purchase have both automatic and manual capability. Today's beginning photographers seem to be wrapped up in wanting total automation of the equipment. At first, it may seem nice to need no thought in picture taking, but this idea is short lived with the realization of its limitations. The fact is that out of the millions of photographs taken, 90% are done with automatic camera. But the remaining 10% include the great shots that appear in magazines, and these are taken with manual settings.



by Dick Allyn

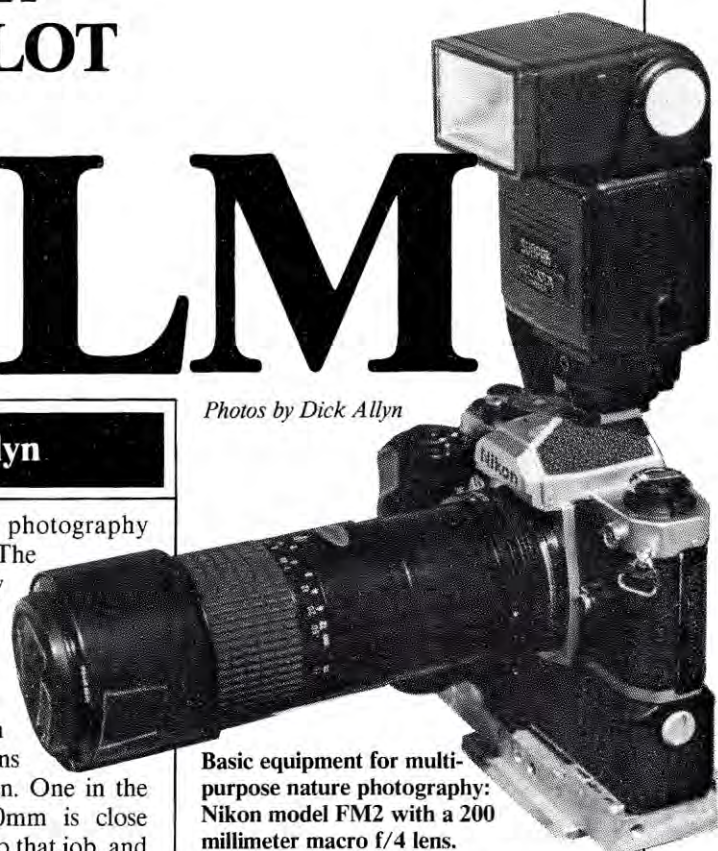
The real expense for photography equipment is in the lens. The standard lens sold with any camera is a 50-55 millimeter (mm). Since you can purchase just a camera body, do so and select a more versatile lens, such as a zoom lens. A zoom lens has variable magnification. One in the range of 70mm to 200mm is close enough to the 55mm to do that job, and yet give you the opportunity to do some telephoto work. The best for the money, photographically speaking, is the most affordable lens lending the best sharpness in the final photo.

The best quality lens for your camera is one produced by that same camera manufacturer. If the zoom lens you're shopping for is available with a macro function, buy it. A "macro lens" can be focused much closer to your subject, and give you a larger subject in the viewfinder on the film. This lens can still be used as a normal lens for more distant shots.

Large telephoto lenses can be expensive and will most certainly be heavier than most people like. Results you get with a lens like this can be astonishing though, and worth carrying all that extra weight.

After you have acquired cameras and lenses, the next item should be a tripod. Even a high quality camera/lens combi-

Photos by Dick Allyn



Basic equipment for multi-purpose nature photography: Nikon model FM2 with a 200 millimeter macro f/4 lens.

nation cannot guarantee a sharply focused photo. Vibration of the equipment is the usual cause of fuzzy or blurred shots. That vibration is caused by the neglect of tripod use. Although tripods are not commonly available through your camera manufacturer, many companies make excellent tripods: Bogen, Silk, and Gitzo. A tripod should always be used if possible, in combination with a shutter release cable. The shutter release cable allows you to fire a camera without touching it. This eliminates a vibration source. Professionals use these two tools consistently to produce quality photos.

Hand-held photography can be best accomplished with the aid of an electronic flash. The actual duration of a flash is short enough to freeze most motion caused by hand holding. This is particularly true if you choose a flash with multiple power ratio settings. By dialing down the power ratio, you shorten the

flash duration. Some models available can be set at 1/50,000 of a second. With that speed, your shakes or even your heartbeat will never affect the photo. In fact, you will be able to stop the wings of a hummingbird. Some excellent flashes are available through your same camera manufacturer. Other companies like Sunpak, Vivitar, and Metz also produce good units.

After filling your new camera bag with all this basic equipment, you could easily fill another bag with just a portion of the accessories available to enhance your photography. "Enhance your photography . . ." Be cautious of that advertisement. Many of those items are not needed.

Film

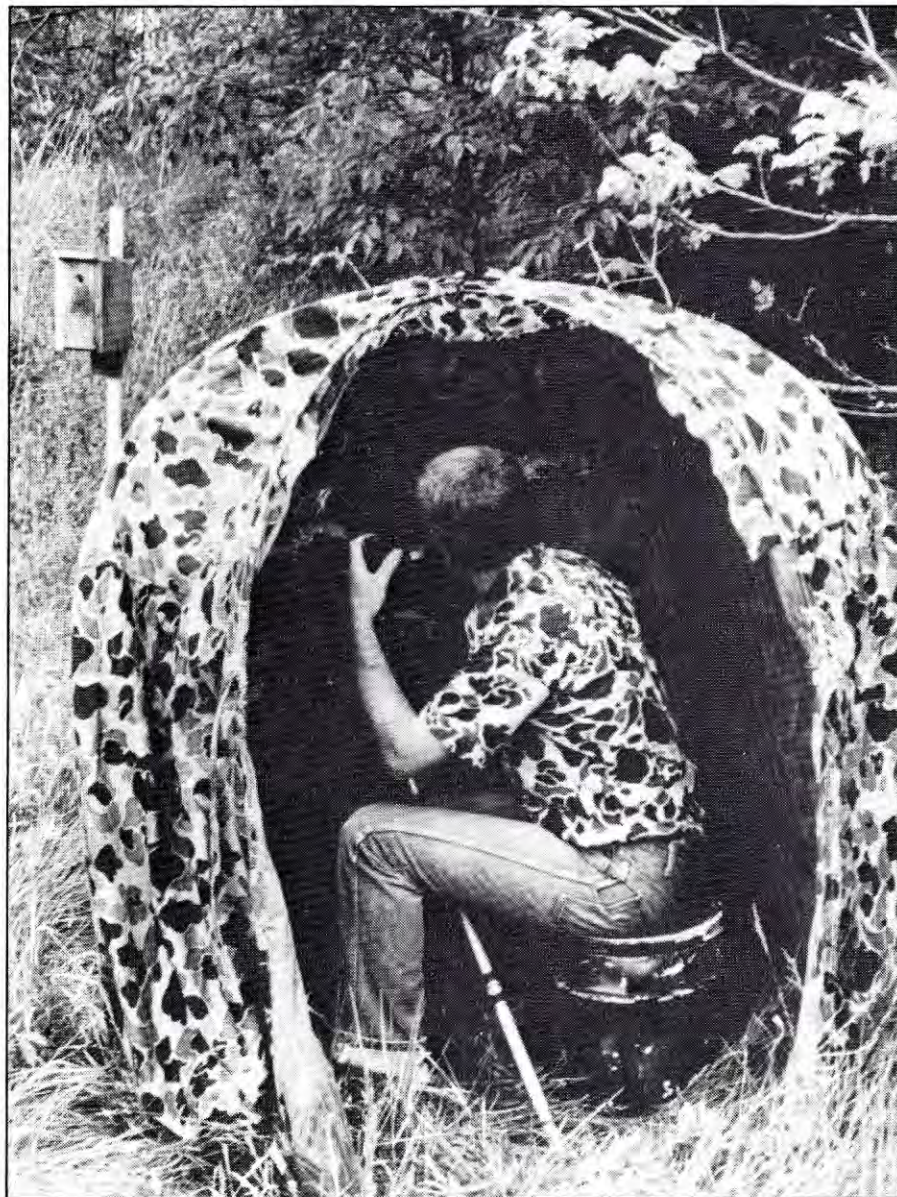
Learn about your basic equipment using slow speed film. Film is rated by its ASA (American Standards Association) number with 25 ASA being a slow speed film and 400 ASA being a fast film. A speed of 100 ASA or slower will produce a pleasing 8x10 enlargement. High speed film presents a problem with what is called "increased grain." A "grainy" shot will look fuzzy. Although many people prefer color film, black and white film offers a very inexpensive way to start and polish your technique.

Give thought to using slide film. Slides are easier to store, can be enlarged easily to excellent quality prints, and are available in low ASA types. By enlarging only the shots you like, you will greatly reduce your film cost compared to using regular print film.

Most films can be found in drug stores and camera stores, with the cheapest film coming from mail order houses. Photography magazines are filled with mail order establishments just waiting for you to phone them with VISA card in hand. Without a doubt, they will list a price that any local photo store would find hard to match. What you must remember is that dealing over the phone can invite problems. If you walk back into a local camera store with a problem, it may take 30 seconds to find a helpful employee and start to resolve the problem. Try that over the phone with a mail order house! The camera store will also be a hands-on opportunity to see what you're buying. Weigh this question carefully before deciding to buy.

Once proper equipment is obtained, finding time to use it is a problem we must all face in this busy world. Luckily,

Author Dick Allyn at play in his camouflaged pop-up tent.



some of the finest wildlife shots and general out of doors shots are taken in the



early morning or late afternoon light when most people have free time. Sunlight has a special pleasant quality to it at these two times of day.

Regardless of the time of day that you are able to allot towards nature photography, there is always one more major problem to overcome: finding a nature subject to photograph. In many cases, wildflowers in your woodlot are not along that favorite walking trail. Since wildlife usually tries to avoid man, you will need special procedures to place them in your camera range. Also needed will be the knowledge to wisely use any photographic equipment . . . and all of that will be in the next issue of *Forest Owner*. ■

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MY WOODLOT INVESTMENT

"Thar ain't no gold in them thar hills," my artist father said to our Yankee farmer neighbor.

"Maybe ya ain't dug deep enough yet," was the reply.

That boyhood conversation comes to mind often lately. My forester associates have been arguing over forestry economics. Their discussion revolves around alternative investment opportunities, internal rates of return, and the like. I am no economist. I never listened to E.F. Hutton. My woodworking shop sees

by Michael Greason

more of my cash flow than Merrill Lynch does. My forestland investment barely qualifies as a certified Tree Farm.

I sincerely believe forest management pays. That is my bias. I know that due to the long-term nature of forestry, some investments will be reaped by a future owner. Today's forestowner must decide whether initial land investment costs and property taxes enter the equation when

contemplating alternative investments. That is an individual decision.

When and if I buy a really large forest, I intend to pass it on to my heirs, not cash it in. It won't grow houses during my tenure. Its potential for development will not enter my decision. I may well commit the land to the forest tax law to save on taxes and perhaps encourage my heirs to continue my management regime. I may not be able to tell them what to do, but I can arrange it so that it will cost them to deviate from my sense of good stewardship.

For income tax purposes, I run my woodlot as a business by tracking costs carefully. Yet, like most forest owners, my prime purpose of ownership is not maximizing investment returns. On my small tree farm, which is part of my home site, I have planted trees I will never harvest. If I ever have to sell my home, I know the house, barns, and pond will determine the value of the property, not my young walnuts. So as an investment, those trees offer me little or no return, but I enjoy watching them grow.

Most forest owners are like me. They don't buy forestland the way they invest in stock. They buy land (or inherit it) for recreation or other personal values. Most enter forest management by chance. Some find forest management provides tag-along benefits such as improved wildlife habitat or recreational access, which are of great personal value.

Multiple benefits of managed forests set forestry apart from other investments. It is hard to cross-country ski through a mutual fund, and a savings account doesn't yield autumn colors.

Forest investors make unpredictable decisions. I have a relative who purchased several thousand acres of woodland over 20 years ago. He and his co-investors were astute businessmen who owned thriving companies. You would think having a professional forester in the family (me) might lead them at least to seek some advice. But no, they swapped cutting rights for a mere sketch map of their tract. The mapmaker has been cutting ever since. No controls. No stumpage payment. Now these partners want a return on their investment. They want to sell their cut-over land and make a profit, what little there is left. I know of other similar situations, so when foresters talk

WHERE IN THE SAM HILL IS TUG HILL?

If you don't have to ask this question, it's probably because you live on "The Hill" (for you flatlanders, that's the undeveloped, wild North Country radiating out from Lowville, New York.)

If you don't have to ask this question, and you do receive Forest Owner, you may wish to consider joining T.H.R.I.F.T., Tug Hill Resources Investment For Tomorrow.

THRIFT emphasizes good land management practices. It presents educational events for members and non-members, and it provides a forum for discussing the pros and cons of controversial issues affecting Tug Hill farms and forests. It also generates valuable information for its membership and the public.

As a member of THRIFT, you will be an affiliate member of the New York Forest Owners Association, and receive *Forest Owner* six times a year. You'll also receive THRIFT's informative newsletter. You'll be invited to each THRIFT meeting, and you will receive first-hand information about new crea-

tive land management techniques from logging to log markets, and maple sugaring to beekeeping. Most of all, you'll have the satisfaction of belonging to a citizen group working for a healthy future.

Whether you are a landowner, or simply care about the future of Tug Hill lands, THRIFT is for you.



It's easy to join THRIFT. Start enjoying a year of membership benefits right away. Complete the information below and mail your check for \$10.00 to:

**THRIFT c/o Ruth Eberley,
9 Edgewood Drive, Whitesboro, NY 13492-1903**

Please take an extra moment to let us know about your interests.

- I am interested in:**
- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> forest management | <input type="checkbox"/> flowers, herbs, medicines | <input type="checkbox"/> other livestock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> logging techniques | <input type="checkbox"/> beekeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> maple sugaring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> growing berries | <input type="checkbox"/> sheep farming | <input type="checkbox"/> local history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cattle ranching | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ | |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Tel (home) _____ Tel (work) _____



Author Greason with his home-rigged John Deere firewood hauler.

to me about people owning land as serious forest investments, I am bemused.

Forest owners, like other people, respond to crisis. Europeans manage forests intensely because they no longer grow wood as fast as they harvest it. The threat of forest decline scares them. Their forests are less diverse than ours and are more vulnerable to problems. The fact that we are growing wood more than twice as fast as we harvest it discourages intensive management. And yet our yields today are affected by the activities of people a century ago.

When State land was reforested in the '30s, no one would have anticipated yields of over \$1,000 per acre at age 50. Land could then be purchased for less than \$10 per acre and reforestation costs were low. Tree planting was primarily a make-work function. Crop production was a secondary benefit. Those lands definitely have proven forestry profitable. Granted, those responsible did not receive the financial rewards, but they must have gained great pride as they saw idle land blossoming into stands of trees.

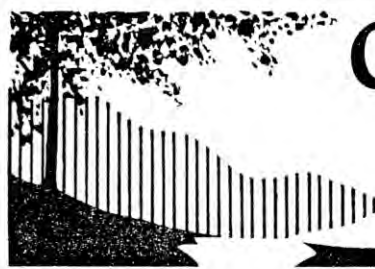
I derive that sort of pleasure on my small tree farm and I look forward to the day I buy a larger tract. My view of the larger tract will be the same as of my present holding. My goal will be to grow large, high quality sawlogs and veneer. I will not be concerned with defining economic maturity, but rather will base my cutting on biological features. I won't account for my initial land purchase costs because I will consider them a gift to my children.

I anticipate harvesting firewood and other intermediate products. If there are sites on the property that need site preparation and reforestation, I plan to do that

work in spite of the fact that I don't anticipate hanging around another 80 years.

If it becomes necessary to sell the property, I'll try to find a buyer who values my management investments. Otherwise my woodlot activities will have contributed to the estate. With these basic philosophies, I can charge significant costs to estate planning and enjoyment of recreational, aesthetic, and wildlife benefits that I will derive. In my system any yield that pays management costs is profitable forestry. I don't see how I can lose.

One kid left in college. Sell some art or build some furniture, and then it's off to mine "the gold in them thar hills." ■



Catskill Forest Association

Annual Meeting June 27

You are invited to the annual meeting of the Catskill Forest Association on Saturday, June 27, in Franklin, New York. The meeting will focus on the Tree Farm Program, and will include a visit to the tree farm of Lewis and Mary DuMond, the 1986 New York State Tree Farmers of the Year.

This will be an exciting opportunity to see first hand the results of exemplary forest management, and to learn how you can become a certified tree farmer.

The morning program features the annual meeting, and a discussion titled "The Tree Farm Program: Its Benefits for the Forest Owner and Forest Industry." Principal speaker Francis (Mike) Demeree was National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year for

1985. Also participating will be John Herrington, regional director of the American Forest Council, Paul Steinfeld, certified tree farmer and past president of the New York Forest Owners Association, and Mike Gersten, chairman of the New York Tree Farm Committee.

Planned for afternoon is the tour of the DuMond Tree Farm. The first plantings were completed in 1914, and since that time, the DuMonds have carefully managed an impressive variety of softwood plantations. Species include red pine, white pine, scotch pine, European larch, Norway spruce, and white cedar. There are also natural hardwood stands, and plantations of mixed northern hardwoods and red oak.

For registration, please complete and return the coupon along with your check.

Number in party × \$10.00 = _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

**Catskill Forest Association
Annual Meeting**

Saturday, June 27, 1987

Masonic Hall, Franklin, New York

Catskill Forest Association Arkville, New York 12406

REGIONAL REPORTS

SOUTHERN TIER CHAPTER

Agnes Trick is program director for the Southern Tier Chapter of the New York Forest Owners Association. Her program for the March meeting was a good one, focusing on the maple syrup business. DEC forester Jerry Ketchmor provided instruction on the identification of maple and similar trees. Lawrence Copeland, a beef farmer at Kirkwood, NY, told of his experiences as a small (58 tap) producer, and Phil Comings of Coventryville told of his 5,000 tap operation. A representative of the H.W. Cook supply company described the supplies and equipment available and Mr. John Adams of Smada Farms described his maple marketing through Victory Markets. He is also a major equipment dealer and wholesale syrup buyer.

The January meeting highlighted photography in the forest, a program presented by Mr. Frank Benenati. Ms. Chris Brothers, director of the Fred Waterman Conservation Education Center in Apalachin, NY, presented a talk on how to attract more wildlife to your property. Handout materials would still be available from the Center.

—Robert O. Richter
Greene, NY

CAYUGA WOODSMAN'S DAY

Blue skies, near-zero mercury, and mid-winter snow cover cheered the throng of more than 400 visitors and 50 participants at the annual Cayuga Woodsman's Demonstration Day on the grounds of Lamco Manufacturing and Distributing Company in Locke, New York, on February 14.

Horses and mules hauled logs from piles in the Lamco lot to Tim Roberson's portable bandsaw mill. The big draft animals, guided by Tom Hewitt of Moravia, Dierk Terlouw and Bill Tutton of Lansing, and Sara Brown of Homer, were the crowd-pleasers. When they weren't hauling timber, a team hitched to a sleigh toured the woods nearby with loads of children.

Roberson's bandmill squared timbers and passed them along to a crew which

trimmed and notched for an 8x10 log shelter that was raffled later in the day. The bandmill can turn out 1,400-1,600 board feet of lumber in a day with two operators. Roberson moves the mill around the Moravia area to farms and woodlots, producing lumber cut to order.

More logs fed Charlie Tallman's Moelven wood cleaver. Tallman, operating from Throop, New York, can pile up as much as 60 face cords of firewood a day with his machine, which cuts and splits logs in one operation. A cord of wood was another raffle prize.

Hopkins Lumber Mill of Sempronius exhibited one-way pallets and other mill products, and logging contractors A.A. Peppe and Bill Millier of Moravia demonstrated mechanized logging equipment—with the hard-working horses in the background.

Jim Peek of the Department of Environmental Conservation gave a "short course" log scaling and grading demonstration and tagged a few sample logs with his grade estimates. Comments from the crowd looking over his results proved the best of graders can't please both buyers and sellers.

A mile from the Lamco site Pierre Cote opened his Cote Hardwood Products, Inc. sawmill to awe visitors as his Linck Chipping Canter buzzed red pine

At the Cayuga Woodsman's Day, timbers were bandmill squared and shaved for assembly into a log shelter. The shelter was raffled off. More than 400 attended the field day.

logs into landscape ties and chewed the waste slabs into chips. In normal operation, the mill produces some 15,000 board feet of ties daily.

The 600 red pine logs that make up the mill's eight-hour diet are drawn largely from the State's pine plantations within a 50 mile distance from the mill. Red pine is one of the few Northern woods that take pressure treatment preservatives well, making it a natural for the now popular ties that terrace yards and gardens and form the steps and walk borders for homes, parks, and office landscaping.

Cote's Linck machine, controlled by one operator with the help of a computer and electric eyes, routes the logs through the saws and back for another run to produce a steady stream of squared cants. Chips stream through the blower to a chip pile; chips are sold for boiler fuel, dairy cow bedding and garden mulch.

The Cote mill is also equipped with a big bandsaw and resawing equipment. Cote himself has a reputation as a bandsaw wizard, and given the mill's versatility and Cote's ingenuity it can be expected to run on long after the available red pine for ties gives out in 15 years or so.

End product manufacturers were represented at the show by host Lamco and by Lake Como Woodworking Shop. Lamco makes many of the clear finish trailers and truck bodies seen in central New York, as well as hay racks, garden carts, and picnic tables. The Lake Como company produces custom cabinets, unfinished furniture and cabinet work for



prefabricated home manufacturers and will soon have a line of oak outdoor furniture. Both companies are major consumers of New York hardwoods.

Inside Lamco's big shop exhibitors included the Boy Scouts, the Moravia Bowhunters Club, Civilian Conservation Corp Alumni, the Cayuga County Environmental Management Council, the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Ruffed Grouse Society, the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Owasco Valley Audubon Society, Don's Gun and Archery, and taxidermist Joe Egri (with a mounted albino deer).

The day-long program was organized and staffed by woods professionals from the eastern Finger Lakes area. While many are members of the NYFOA Cayuga Chapter, the Chapter was not the sole organizer, but joined with the Moravia-Locke Chamber of Commerce and the Moravia Sesquicentennial Committee as a sponsor. Loggers, sawmillers, firewood producers, other woods-based businesses, and recreation groups who participated saw the event as an opportunity to reach both suppliers (woodlot owners) and customers. And everybody had a good time!

—Tim Williams
Moravia, NY

MINN. MAPLE PRICES

What a difference a year can make. The 1986 maple syrup season in Minnesota was labeled the worst ever by the state's approximately 2,000 commercial and hobby producers. The 1987 season, on the other hand, got off to an early start, and was still going strong in most of the state by early April.

The key to this year's successful maple syrup season was the mild winter weather, says Carl Vogt, extension specialist of forest resources at the University of Minnesota.

Daytime temperatures that reached into the 50s had some trees' sap flowing as early as January, said Vogt. The season got off to a quick start, but, added Vogt, the on-again, off-again winter weather also meant a lot of starts and stops for producers during February and March.

By April 1, the season was over south of Minneapolis and St. Paul, but still in full swing north of the Twin Cities. All in all, the maple syrup season will be close to average for Minnesota, said Vogt.

As in the Northeast, short supply has

held prices high, ranging from \$30 to \$40 a gallon in Minnesota. According to Vogt, prices will remain high for the foreseeable future, and it could take two or three years before supply catches up to demand for syrup in Minnesota.

While not as large as producers in some states, Minnesota's maple syrup collectors are just as enthusiastic about their sugar bush. Those who don't own can rent from private landowners, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, or the U.S. Forest Service.

The University of Minnesota annually holds short courses for maple syrup producers. In addition, this year's meeting of the North American Maple Syrup Council will be held in Duluth, Minnesota, next October.

—David Halsey
Minnesota correspondent

THSMM EXPLAINED TO T.H.R.I.F.T.

Tug Hill, New York, forest owners recently found out what THSMM is and can do. THSMM stands for Tug Hill Stand Management Model, a computer program developed at Yale University. The preliminary computer model for Tug Hill forests highlights two typical Tug Hill sites and examines the affects of different management regimes on the future productivity of those sites.

Clark Binkley and Bruce Larson from Yale's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies were on hand at a recent THRIFT meeting to explain their research findings. THRIFT (Tug Hill Resources, Investment for Tomorrow) is a natural-resource oriented rural development association.

The objectives of the Yale research team were: to develop alternative management regimes (immediate return, disaster limit, and selection harvesting) on alternative Tug Hill sites (one rated good, one poor), using alternative harvesting techniques (felling with chainsaws, and yarding with rubber-tired skidders) and alternative utilization options (whole tree chipping, conventional logging, and merchandising—bucking two sawlogs from each stem and chipping non-sawlog material).

The sites chosen were composites of Tug Hill plot inventories done by the Forest Service. The good site and poor site were comparable in distance from mill, accessibility, etc. Both were mature

stands not recently harvested. The poor site was at a higher elevation, had colder average temperatures, wetter soil, less black cherry, and lower total stocking.

All these variables were fed into the computer to discover and compare the ecological and economic consequences of various combinations of management alternatives. Using 18 possible scenarios, they came up with five overall results:

1. Management plan chosen determines the timing of income received. The immediate return plan yielding income now, with more income down the road on other plans.

2. No management plan studied depletes the forest floor nitrogen.

3. The poor site responded to less intensive plans.

4. There were some species conversion on the good site. In other words, the 30-year harvest showed an inventory of less desirable species.

5. "Intensive utilization substitutes for intensive harvesting." To paraphrase, you can make as much money cutting fewer trees if you make better use of the trees you do cut.

The affect of chipping on lime levels was questioned by THRIFT'S president, Don Colton. "If the soil is too acid, the nitrogen will be locked up and not available for growth," he observed. "Does the computer show what happens to soil nutrients other than nitrogen?"

Binkley said no.

Moving to another aspect of management, THRIFT member Ken Eberly asked, "What if I have an eighteen-inch tree—should I take it or leave it?"

"That is a site-specific decision," answered Binkley. "You must ask how soon you expect to harvest again, how healthy is the tree, and will it still be there the next time you harvest? Or will wind or disease get it before you do? What species is the tree? How good is your market for that species right now? How thick is the stand? Will the remaining trees benefit by that one being taken? Or will that tree become more valuable if left and those around it thinned out? How badly do you need the money now?"

Yale forestry specialist Larson commented that 90-95% of total soil compaction caused by skidders occurs by the fourth pass of the skidder," the point being that less total compaction takes place on one skid trail used many times rather than many skid trails used a few times.

—Bonnie Colton
Lowville NY

IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO OWN A FOREST



The challenge is to nurture it, to fulfill a destiny of beauty, productivity, and family pride . . . while turning enough dollars over to hang on to it. But how?

There are no easy answers, only ideas to ponder by the woodstove. That's what NYFOA is all about: ideas, family pride in forest management, and sharing of dreams.

Through regular issues of *Forest Owner* magazine, frequent seminars and woodswalks in one another's woodlots, and extended tours to extend the fellowship and learning in foreign lands, members of the New York Forest Owners Association are growing as surely as the trees in their woodlots.

Join!

Check your preferred membership option:

- Regular - \$10 Family - \$15
- Contributing - \$16-\$99
- Supporting - over \$100

Send checks payable to:
New York Forest Owners Association
P.O. Box 123
Boonville, NY 13309

Yes, I'd like to join the New York Forest Owners Association and get more out of my woodlands.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Zip _____
County _____ Phone _____ 5/87

TREE farmers, please note: The government is tightening up on the use of pesticides in forest lands.

Next year you may find you cannot use certain pesticides you've been using. That's when the federal Endangered Species Act goes into full effect, affecting Christmas tree growers, in particular.

Under that law, if your land is in the habitat of any officially listed endangered wildlife—plant or animal—then you can no longer apply a pesticide that harms that wildlife. Before applying any spray with these officially listed ingredients, you are legally bound to call the Department of the Interior Fish & Wildlife Service for prior approval: **2,4-D; Acephate; Aminocarb; Amitrol; Ammonium Sulfamate; Atrazine; Azinphos-Methyl; Cacodylic Acid; Carbaryl; Dalapon; Dazomet; Dichlobenil; Diflubenzuron; Diphenamid; EPIC; Fenitrothion; Fosamine Ammonium; Glyphosate; Hexazinone; Methyl Parathion; Paraquat; Picloram; Simazine; and Trichlorfon.**

Producers should read labels carefully for these ingredients to find out where their use is restricted. Here is a sample label to be required by the Environmental Protection Agency on pesticides used in forests:

"The use of any pesticide in a manner that may kill or otherwise harm an endangered or threatened species or adversely modify their habitat is a violation of federal laws. The use of this product is controlled to prevent death or harm to endangered or threatened species that occur in the following counties or elsewhere in their range.

"Before using this pesticide in the following counties you must first contact the endangered species specialist in the appropriate regional/field office of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services (FWS) indicated below.

"Specific information describing the locations of areas to be treated must be provided to the FWS. **Use of this product in the range of endangered species as described by FWS is prohibited.**

"Contact FWS field offices at the following numbers . . ."

In a Washington meeting with top EPA officials and producer groups, *Forest Owner* learned that U.S. forests are home to 53 endangered species. Yet, forests and rangeland together account for less than 5% of all pesticide use.

According to EPA's Mike Slimak, the Fish & Wildlife Service is supposed to



by Jay Richter

ENDANGERED SPECIES

ENDANGERED SPRAYS

answer callers' questions on the phone. "We wanted to be able to answer a guy with a small woodlot immediately," he said.

FWS people will be required to log phone calls inquiring about legal use of pesticides. If you want a written response, you'll have to wait a few weeks.

Suggestions or complaints should be directed to: Wendy Butler, Office of Pesticide Programs, TS 766-C, U.S. & Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street SW, Washington DC 20460. Call her at 703/557-7102.

TOXIC FOG?

Toxic fog a heavy threat to forests? Some agricultural researchers think this may be the case, but most forestry people here doubt it. Dwight Glotfelty of USDA's vast research complex at Beltsville, Maryland, sees "a very great potential" for water-borne organic compounds to damage crops and forests.

Forest decline in parts of the eastern U.S. and Western Europe is attributed by some to acid rain. Numerous environmental scientists, however, believe that acid rain alone doesn't account for all the damage.

"It could be toxic organics," Glotfelty said.

Fog research by Glotfelty and James Seiber of the University of California at Davis showed high concentration of herbicides, pesticides, and other chemicals, the scientists reported. They say the fog, made up of microscopic water droplets, may be among the causes of mysterious decline in our forests.

The researchers were surprised by their findings, they reported, which showed concentration of toxic compounds much higher than anticipated.

Some forests are highly stressed, at high altitudes for example, Larry Wiseman of the American Forest Council told *Forest Owner*. Toxic fog is not viewed, however, as a widespread problem by foresters.

Neither is acid rain, said Wiseman.

WINDBREAKS

Paula Tarnapol, press person at the Society of American Foresters, tells us her organization has a new working group. It's concerned, she said, with windbreak technology, and the conservation benefits of windbreaks. For details, address the Society at 3400 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, Maryland 20814.

NEW FOREST CHIEF

F. Dale Robertson is the name. He's the new chief of the Forest Service, succeeding R. Max Peterson. Robertson was called the "ideal individual" for the job by Agriculture Secretary Dick Lyng.

Forestry people around town agree with that estimate.

"Robertson is a product of the system and will keep it professional," said Neil Sampson, Executive Vice President of the American Forestry Association. "He's also alert to the need for change and has the right goals."

The new chief came up through the

system, working in various parts of the country. In 1982, he was named associate chief. Robertson is the 12th person to head the Forest Service since it was established in 1905.

A graduate in forestry from the University of Arkansas, he also has an advanced degree in public administration from American University in Washington.

The Forest Service, observed Jim Webster, newsletter publisher and former Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, "is the only agency in USDA with a powerful enough constituency of its own that any Secretary of Agriculture would be hard-pressed to appoint a political chief."

BUDGET AXE

Forestry folks here remain optimistic that Congress will reject the Reagan administration's plea for a 40% cut in next year's federal budget for state and private forestry. "But we need to keep careful watch," warned Neil Sampson of the American Forestry Association. "These modest amounts in the big federal budget can be easily knocked out when you're not looking." ■

WOODLOT CALENDAR

May 16: American Maple Festival, Croghan, NY. Call Fred Schneider at 315/346-1107 or 315/346-6900.

May 16: Bradford County, PA, Forestland Owners Association woodlot tour: "Thinning for Objectives." Call Jane Bresee at 717/358-3346.

May 20: Southern Tier Chapter, NYFOA, meeting, 7:30 p.m., at Farm and Home Center, Front St., Binghamton, NY.

May 30: Wisconsin Maple Festival. Reynolds Plant, Aniwa, WI.

June 27: Annual meeting of Catskill Forest Association. Focus on national Tree Farm Program. Tour of Franklin, NY, forestlands owned by Louis and Anne Dumond, NY Tree Farmers of the Year. Call CFA at 919/586-3054.

July 17-18: Vermont Maplerama, Addison County, VT. Call Larry Myott at 802/655-4452.

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For Sale: Maple Sugarmakers—check our low prices on major brands of equipment. Complete, personalized set-up advice free. Danforth's Sugarhouse, U.S. Route 2, East Montpelier, VT. 802/229-9536.

For Sale: Gafner Iron Mule 4WD skidder with knockboom and trailer. Rich Peters, Box AA, Pawling, NY 12564. 914/855-1531.

Keep weeds down around newly planted Christmas trees with Mulch Mats. A 10-inch mat of recycled paper. 10 for \$5.49, 50 for \$25.00, 100 for \$45.00, 500 for \$200.00 Bramen Company, PO Box 70, Salem, MA 01970.

HELP WANTED

Woodlands Manager wanted: to direct forest management and educational programs for the Catskill Forest Association, a nonprofit organization promoting quality forest management and servicing forest owners throughout the Catskill region. Must have B.S. degree in forestry or related field, good writing skills and experience in working with loggers, landowners, and foresters. Previous experience with management plans, job supervision and implementing educational

WOODLOT SHOP

Classified advertisements

programs desirable. Salary commensurate with experience. Reply to the Catskill Forest Association, Arkville, NY 12406.

Executive Director wanted: Position available with the Catskill Forest Association, a nonprofit organization promoting quality forest management and servicing forest owners throughout the Catskill region. Must have B.S. degree and field experience in forestry or related environmental field, and demonstrated success in both oral and written communication. Exposure to financial management, nonprofit organizations and environmental research also desired. Salary commensurate with experience. Reply to the Catskill Forest Association, Arkville, NY 12406.

Paul Smith's College has an opening for an assistant instructor of

arboriculture in the Urban Tree Management program. Applicants should have practical industry experience in pruning, cabling, fertilization, spraying and equipment use and maintenance. To apply send letter of application, resume, telephone numbers of three professional references to Dr. Michael Rechlin, Head, Forestry Division, Paul Smith's College, Paul Smiths, NY 12970. Telephone 518/327-6236. Applications will be accepted until July 1 or position is filled.

NURSERY STOCK

For Sale: Excellent quality planting stock, i.e., for reforestation needs, our container grown seedlings can 1) improve growth and survival rates; 2) extend your planting season; and 3) reduce your planting costs in comparison to more traditional bare-root

seedling stock. Write for free wholesale trade list. Western Maine Nurseries, Inc., Box FO, One Evergreen Drive, Fryeburg, ME 04037.

For Sale: Christmas tree planting stock for sale. Send for information & order form. 22 years in the business. Walker's Tree Farms, RR, Box 84, Orleans, VT 05860.

Nursery Stock: "Basics of Christmas Trees" for booklet send \$5.00 to: Treehaven Evergreen Nursery, 981 Jamison, Elma, NY 14059.

REAL ESTATE

Martinsburg-Lewis County, 4,000 acres, rolling hills, 25 acre lake, streams, 1/2 hour south of new \$600 million Camp Drum const., Watertown, Lake Ontario, \$490,000 firm. Call owner 201/944-3322 weekdays.

For Sale: 170 acre forest/recreation property. Madison County hilltop. Logged 1985. \$400/acre. W.R. Fraser, 653 6th Ave. North, Surfside Beach, SC 29577. Tel. 803/238-4518.

Selling 68 acre land between Corning and Watkins Glen (NY) \$17,500. Maneval, Box 115, RD 5, Hockessin, DE 19707. 302/239-5624.

TIMBER/LOGS

Wanted: Standing timber, top prices paid. 30 years experience cutting timber for farmers. Good reputation. Fully insured. Call 315/429-8010 or 315/429-9826. Arnold Moore, Box 157, Salisbury Center, NY 13454.

Wanted: White pine poles (prefer 16-18" average dia.) or red pine, hemlock, and larch poles (12-14" dia.) lengths up to 40-46'. Straight with uniform taper. Delivered to Manassas, VA. Rob Krieger, PO Box 1275, Manassas, VA 703/361-0005 morns/eve until 9.

Wanted: Hardwood pulpwood, 6'-20' lengths, delivered to the mill or roadside pickup. For prices and specifications call Fred Hathaway, MDF Technology Inc., Deposit, NY 13754 607/467-2600.

WANTED

Wanted: Growing Christmas trees 3 feet-10 feet pruned or natural, Central-Western NY area. 315/524-7827.

CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

Forest Owner, Classified Dept.
710 W. Clinton Street, Ithaca, NY 14850

Figure one word for initial or group of numerals. Example: J.S. Forest, 100 Wood Road, Anywhere, NY 14850. 607/273-3507, counts as 10 words. 25¢ a word.

Please publish my _____ word ad for _____ times starting with the _____ issue.

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Deadlines for ads: 2 months preceding month of issue. (Example: November/December issue closes September 10) Please print or type copy — for added words, attach sheet.

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NEW! Now you can place your classified advertisement by telephone any time, night or day. Just call the *Forest Owner* at 607/273-3509 and dictate your advertisement, leaving your Mastercard or Visa account number. Daytimes, one of our advertising staff will handle your order. Nighttimes and weekends, our answering machine will record your advertisement.

EVEN in what many sugarers considered a bad year, Peter Purinton of Huntington, Vermont, made 3,200 gallons this spring. He had expected to make between 3,400 and 3,600.

Even at times when others are not getting any sap run and are not boiling, Purinton seems to have good luck. He says part of this is due to his location at the edge of the Champlain Valley, where the weather is milder than the surrounding mountains and hills.

But his good output is also due to the way he sugars and to the ideas he uses to cut time and expense.

Perhaps the most impressive of his labor-saving ideas is an invention he came up with 10 years ago, when he was 20, which he calls a Tubing Assembly Tool.

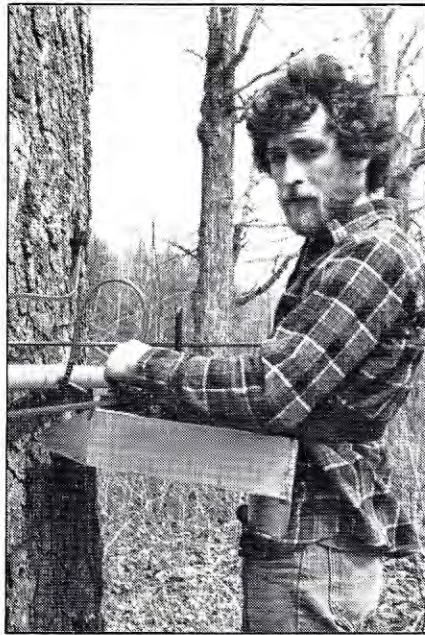
When Purinton started sugaring, he did it on a shares basis with Gene and Nellie Jaques of Huntington. He'd do the outdoor work and split the syrup with the Jaques 50-50. At the time, the Jaques were using buckets, but Purinton suggested tubing to increase the number of taps. And if they did that, Purinton knew he had to make some changes to save time and labor.

That first year that Purinton helped out on the Jaques' operation, there were 3,500 taps; all of the tubing was fitted manually. His brother, Scott, and three others helped him. They laid out the tubing just prior to sugaring and, when Peter had the time, he worked on his invention at night.

"I needed a way of inserting the fitting in five-sixteenth inch tubing and a lot of the time the tubing is kind of stiff," he says.

What Purinton came up with is a 13 inch by 17 inch rectangular aluminum frame that holds steel mechanisms made of odds and ends. He had the frame welded together at a local body shop. The tool has two steel jaws that hold the tubing in place. One jaw is stationary, one is on a slide.

He lays a pair of pruning clippers and the tube fittings in a trough at the back of the frame, leaving his hands free to work. He inserts the tubing into the jaws and clamps them down, then he manually cuts the tubing in two with his shears. A reamer, operated with a lever in the front of the frame, is tapered on both ends and holds the two ends of tubing. This en-



Peter Purinton and his prototype tubing assembly tool.

by Deborah Straw

larges the ends of the tubing so that insertion of the fitting is easier.

Next, Purinton places the fitting manually between the two jaws, pushes an operating handle on the right of the tool until the fitting assembly is completed, and then releases the jaws. Assembly takes about 20 seconds, once you get the hang of it, he says.

Purinton thinks that without this tool each assembly would probably take at least a minute and would involve three people.

"I keep the top belt tight and when I get to a tree I lean into it," he says.

Although this assembly tool will work in either cold or warm weather, Purinton doesn't recommend doing the job when the tubing gets cold.

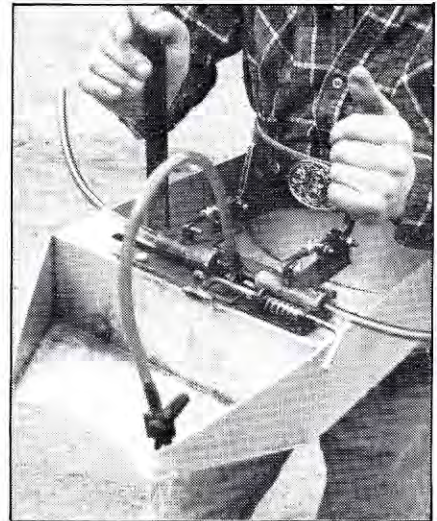
"You shouldn't use it below 10 degrees," he says. "I've found the best temperatures to work with tubing are between 20 and 35 degrees. I've always set mine up at that temperature.

"In the summertime the tubing gets lax. Below 20 degrees, it's a little too cold to be doing it."

Ten years ago, the tool cost Purinton \$120 to make. He sells it for \$198.

One sugarer who has been impressed by Purinton's invention is Lucille Williams of Shoreham, Vermont. She is former president of the Addison County

Peter Purinton's TUBING TOOL



The tool that makes tubing assembly a solo performance.

Maple Sugar Makers Association, which has approximately 60 members.

"At first, we rented it out for \$5 a day plus a security deposit, but once it was paid for, we just let people use it by paying the two dollars a year membership dues," says Mrs. Williams.

"The response has been good. Everyone really liked the way it has it's performed. You can take it out into the woods and put the drop lines in so easily."

This past January and February Purinton set out 1,100 new taps. He says in two more years he will have reached his potential and run out of trees. Then he won't need to use his invention anymore. But for many sugarers setting out new tubing, Peter Purinton's Tubing Assembly Tool will continue to save valuable time and money.

To find out how to contact Mr. Purinton, circle number 30 on the Reader Service Coupon.

by ROGER POND



An ancient proverb says, "Give a man a fish and you have fed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you have fed him for a lifetime."

This is obviously an old proverb, but I suppose the concept is still correct.

The sport has changed. Now we have bass boats and fish-finders and all sorts of

gadgets. I saw an ad recently for a computer unit that attaches to your rod and registers a strike. The computer tells you how much the fish weighs, the proper amount of drag, and how long the fish fought before it was landed.

My earliest experiences came after fishing had become an official sport, but before you had to throw everything back. In those days . . . before spinning reels eliminated backlashes . . . fishing was a mixture of sport and work.

I could have used one of those computers the time I caught my brother Kenny's ear with my streamer fly. I guessed he weighed about 150 pounds, dragged me 50 feet, and fought about 10 minutes. I suppose a computer would have been more accurate.

Kenny taught me how to fish the little farm ponds where I grew up. He taught by example. After I watched him cast for

a few hours, he let me put the worms on his hook and take the fish off if he caught any.

Everyone had a brother back then. You never got to do anything until you had watched your brother for awhile. By then it was usually dark. I had three older brothers and became a very restless spectator.

My brothers got new rods and reels when I was just big enough to foul things up. I still remember the day they bought those fancy glass rods from the local hardware store.

The store owner took a hold of each end of the rod and bent it over double to show how flexible it was. Then he waved it around like a bull fighter going in for the kill. If the store had been full of bulls they would have all been slaughtered.

We were impressed and bought two rods and two "Green Hornet" bait-casting reels. Green Hornets were the top of the line at our hardware store. It was the only kind they had, anyway.

Of course, all this fancy equipment was for my bigger brothers, but I was watching. I could see myself casting from one side of the pond to the other and yanking out those bass like they write about in the magazines . . . the ones that look like milk cans on the bottom of the lake.

But you didn't just go out and start fishing with those bait-casting reels. It took some practice in the backyard to learn how hard you needed to cast to clear the milkhouse roof and how much spool tension would cut down the backlashes. These reels had more bird's nests than an Audubon magazine.

I became an expert on bird's nests. A slight foul-up would produce a wad of line looking like the dwelling of a small wren. Casting to the far side of the pond would produce a structure suitable for a pair of young orioles.

When a kid gets a backlash like this with his big brother's reel, he goes through several predictable stages. First there is panic while he tries to untangle it. Then, there is the urge to hide it. Last, he denies it ever happened: "What reel? How would I know? The cat probably got into it." ■

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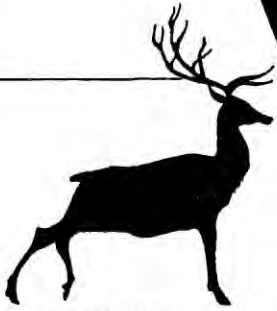
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5/87

WOODCUTS



THE SOVEREIGN'S DEER

Henry Williams won the prestigious Svend Heiberg Award recently. The award is given by the New York Forest Owners Association board of directors each year to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to forestry or a related field. The former Commissioner of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) seems like a nice fellow. I just don't happen to agree with his press releases.

Press releases are guided missals, aimed typically not at truth but opinion-shaping. Like bureaucratic memos they are written to help the writer, not the reader. Any ambitious official is likely to generate them, or to see to it that his staff does, liberally loading them with the boss's name. DEC's Henry Williams was not unusual in that respect.

Take the case of a DEC press release issued to announce the number of deer shot during New York's 1986 hunting season. The release said 178,713 were shot, the second highest ever, and it gives Williams credit for saying so.

"The goal of New York's deer population management program is to maintain deer numbers at *acceptable* levels and provide the people of the state with an excellent return on this valuable resource," says Williams in the press release. "Results of the 1986 season demonstrate the effectiveness of New York's program and DEC wildlife biologists are pleased with the outcome.

If "DEC wildlife biologists are happy," antibody shop owners must be euphoric. Far more than 8,600 deer were killed by motor vehicles in New York in 1986, according to official records. That number, 14% larger than a year earlier, represents only those deer the unlucky motorists took home to eat after notifying the police. A national Highway Loss Data Institute reported that the average deer colli-

sion in 1979 cost \$500. The price tag is likely more like \$700 by now.

Ralph Sanders wasn't as pleased as Henry Williams' game biologists, either. His car met a swerving truck loaded with hot tar. The truck veered to avoid a deer and dumped the scalding load on Ralph.

Still, former Commissioner Williams crowed in his press release, "[The deer herd's] conflicts with man's use of the land have been minimized." Minimized?

Researchers in Cornell University's Department of Natural Resources surveyed New York farmers in 1982 and estimated that deer damaged \$5.5 million worth of their crops each year. About half that damage was to corn and one-fifth was to fruit. A 1985 study commissioned by the NY State Department of Agriculture and Markets estimates that the average New York Christmas tree grower suffers \$1,100 worth of deer damage every year.

Pennsylvania forestry researchers

fenced deer out of test plots and noticed an obvious improvement in red oak regeneration.

If the legal principle wrested from royalty in the French Revolution and jealously guarded since by American sportsmen holds that deer belong to all the people equally, then all the people... even the ones in Manhattan... ought to pay for deer damage. Why should farmers and forest owners feed the sovereign's deer so that he may hunt freely? Why should motorists be killed and autos wrecked so that the King and his men might enjoy the chase?

The cost to farm, forest, and fender of the King's deer is just too high.

—Alan Knight, Editor

Woodcuts is a page of editorial and reader opinion. Short essays on topics of interest to forestland owners may be submitted to Forest Owner, 710 West Clinton Street, Ithaca, NY 14850. ■

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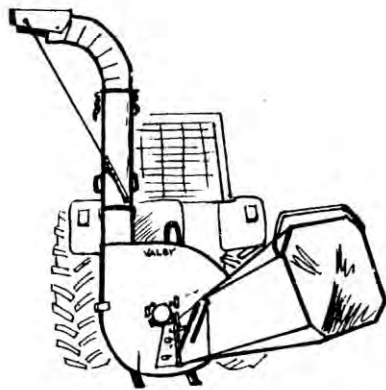
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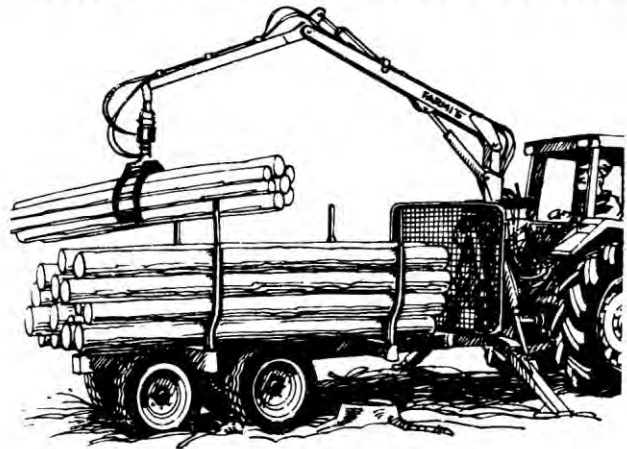
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