



By BOB BRADLEY
County Extension Forester

With nursery seedlings for forest planting virtually non-existent, there is still one way you can reforest, if you want to act today. The method I am referring to is direct seeding, and with what's left of this month, plus February, it is still not too late to do the job.

First, let me say this, however. Although there is quite a bit of direct seeding being done, it is still largely in the experimental stage. Nevertheless, knowing how anxious certain of you are to reforest your lands, you may want to consider this method.

So far, results from this method have varied from good to poor. Mice, shrews, and birds are hungry for tree seeds, so that it is necessary to poison the seeds before sowing. But, having treated the seeds with endrin, for instance, you might expect at least fair results. After all, planting stock will probably be just as scarce next year, and until we have greater nursery facilities in this state, \$50, if you're not too pessimistic from what's been said thus far, here's how you go about direct seeding.

Naturally, the first step is to get the seed. There was a great deal of it collected last season, so that there should be some for sale. If you're interested, contact me and I'll gladly give you a list of dealers.

If you are intending to order, however, I'd suggest that you try to interest your friends or neighbors in this project and combine to make one big order. Big orders are obviously more attractive to dealers than small ones and might logically be filled quicker.

Now, what species should you order and how much seed per acre should you sow?

ALSO, what are you interested in growing—timber, Christmas trees, or both? If it's timber you'll probably want Douglas fir. If it's Christmas trees, you'll probably want a true fir, such as lowland white (grand) fir. If you want both, try mixing them about half and half.

Personally, unless you're planning on timber alone, I'd favor a mixture rather than true fir alone. This gives you an opportunity to prune and harvest the grand fir for premium Christmas trees and save the Douglas fir for timber. It also gives you a chance to change your mind should you want to do so for some reason. The market for Christmas trees looks good for some time to come, but we could reach a saturation point some day.

NOW, how much seed do we need? If there is no natural seed source

nearby, probably about a pound to the acre would do the job. If there are scattered seed trees fairly close, probably about a half pound to the acre would be sufficient.

One important thing about site preparation is that the seeds should be able to get to mineral soil for successful germination. Areas recently logged and burned are ideal.

Regarding cost, you might expect to have to pay a little more than \$10 per pound for endrin treated Douglas fir seed and better than \$5 per pound for grand fir.

Now, if you're really interested in more details, we have some state and federal bulletins on the subject right here in the office.

Peppermint Wilt Hits Valley Crop

CORVALLIS — The Oregon Essential Oil Growers League was told recently that peppermint wilt is spreading fast in the Willamette Valley, but it heard plans for fighting it.

The spread has been rapid in the past two years, C. B. Horner, Oregon State College plant pathologist, told the mint growers, with the biggest infestations in Linn and Marion counties. He said the disease that devastated Midwest peppermint plants has appeared in recent years in scattered areas from Salem to Eugene.

Horner described the wilt control research program, which he will head, starting in the spring. He said growers have put up more than \$6,000 of a proposed \$10,000 research fund. Additional money will come from the industry and the college's agricultural experiment station.

According to Horner, studies will include rotation of mint with crops that are not susceptible to the disease, soil treatment with chemicals and additions to the soil of such crop residues as alfalfa, barley and grass straw.

He said preliminary work on a similar soil-borne disease indicates some decrease in severity after crop residue are worked into the soil.

The opening session of the league's eighth annual two-day meeting was attended by some 200 growers. They were scheduled to hear reports Friday on weed control and fertilizer trials, the market outlook for mint and wilt research findings in the Midwest. Officers also were to be elected.

COLD DOWN THERE
PINCKNEY, Mich. — It was downright cold in Hell last week. In fact, it was 10 degrees below zero, there was a foot of snow and ice was everywhere.

Or as one resident put it: "Hell is frozen over."

Hell is a tiny southeastern Michigan community about four miles west of this Washtenaw (Ann Arbor) County town.

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ATTENTION
ROSEBURG
CAB RIDERS

Truman Ellis, doing business as Ellis Cabs, has made application to the Roseburg city council for a permit to operate cabs in Roseburg.

Ellis has proposed fares of 50c for the first mile and 10c for each additional 1/3 mile or fraction thereof. You could ride from Cloverdale to Barcus Sales and Service for 50c . . . from Micelli Village to Mark's Market for 50c.

The purpose of this ad is to ask cab riders and interested business men in Roseburg two questions. Would it be better for the city of Roseburg to have competition in the cab business or would it be better for the public under the present system?

If you think the two party system would be best, please write or call your city councilman at once or write TRUMAN ELLIS, P. O. Box 1183, Roseburg, Ore.

Please understand this ad is no reflection on the Roseburg city council or any member of the council but it is an appeal to the public to better inform all concerned of conditions and learn the desire of the cab riding public.

I am not soliciting letters from persons with personal feelings against anyone unless they are well founded and have reasons that would be better for the general public.

Ellis now has one cab equipped with 2 way radio and meter. He has applied for a permit for two cabs and will add as many cabs to his fleet as the traffic demands and the city council will permit.

Please call or write your city councilman today.

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Every January day is Sale Day at Miller's. Here are just a few of the many, many items that are being reduced and placed on sale starting today. The bargains are the biggest ever. Shop our entire second floor of fashions for the very finest fashions from the top designers at the biggest money saving prices. You'll find just what you want at a price that will surprise you.

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