Regeneration of Forestland in Northwestern New Jersey: One Forester's Observations and Experience

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Disclaimer

The following is a review of anecdotal evidence that has been observed by one forester over a period of years. No measurements have been made. Observations are presented in the hope that they will encourage discussion and information exchange between foresters.

Presentation Content

- What is the rationale for doing what we do?
- How have we done it?
- What results are we seeing?
- How can regeneration success be improved upon?

Pinchot's Mission. Our Mission?

'The greatest good for the greatest number in the long run'.



Meeting Society's Needs with Sustainability

The most important outcome of the silvicultural manipulation of our forests must be the establishment of desirable regeneration that is 'free to grow'.







Practice Prerequisites

- •Use History
- •Site
- •Silvics
- •Experience



Working toward regeneration



Intermediate treatments:

- Improved stand composition
- Enhanced genetics
- Control disease

From what types of forests are these observations derived?

- Central hardwoods
- Northern hardwoods
- Mixed hardwoods
- Mixed wood (hardwood/white pine)

Silvicultural Systems and Natural Regeneration

- **Even-aged**
- Shelterwood
- Seed Tree

Uneven-aged

- Single-tree Selection
- Group Selection

'Oak seedlings develop in a closed-canopy forest'. - Anonymous NJ 'Greenie' and misinformed, ignorant, and/or politicallymotivated ecologist

Even-aged Systems

Shelterwood Seed tree

Clear-cut

Modified Seed Tree













Uneven-aged Systems

Single-tree Selection

Group Selection













Regeneration Results

- Oak/Hickory
- Sugar Maple

 (with substantially lesser quantities of other shade-tolerants such as Hophornbeam)
- Black Birch/Red Maple/Beech/Hickory (or any combination thereof)
- Non-native shrubs and Ailanthus























Problems associated with regenerating forested sites

- Site/past use/pre-harvest stand composition
- Timing of harvest
- Seed production
- Non native/Invasive plants (dirty logging equipment)
- •Deer
- Parcelization and fragmentation
- Social/political issues ('edgy silviculture')
- •Absence of fire (NJFA meeting 3/21/2020)
- Loss of 'institutional' knowledge

Loss of 'institutional' knowledge. Caused by lack of communication between professionals and lack of mentorship!





That's all, folks. See you in the forest?





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