



Tree Farming in Maine
A Way of Life for 50 Years

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*A History of the Maine Tree Farm Program
1952 - 2002*

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Acknowledgements and Credits

Much of the credit for this publication goes to Austin Wilkins, former Forest Commissioner, who began a manuscript for the 40th anniversary of the Maine Tree Farm program. I am indebted to him for his research and writing skills.

Thanks too to Abbott Ladd for a wealth of information - documents and photos, and his extensive personal knowledge and experience with the Tree Farm program for over 40 years. This project could not have been completed without him.

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The credits for documents and photos could go on for pages. I would particularly like to thank Mike Dann, Abbott Ladd, Carl Van Husen, Bill Weston, and Rob Weeks for their contribution of archival material.

Many publications are cited throughout the text, particularly *The Grange Herald*, Forest Commissioner's Reports, the *Bangor Daily News*, *Downeast* magazine, the Maine Tree Farm inspectors manual, and the AFT System Standards and Guidelines.

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Many, many thanks.

Kathy Nitschke
Greenbush, Maine
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Dedication

First, to Joel “Swampy” Marsh, who nurtured the infant Tree Farm program in Maine, and established it as an ongoing, vibrant community of landowners, foresters, volunteers, and the forest products industry.

Secondly, to Abbott Ladd, who took the Maine Tree Farm program to its height and has kept the spirit alive into the 21st century. This project would not have been completed without his dedication, hard work, and commitment to Tree Farming.

What is a Tree Farm?

A Tree Farm is a privately owned forest, managed to produce continuous crops of trees with added benefits of improved wildlife habitat, watershed protection, outdoor recreation, and aesthetic value. There are more than 65,000 Tree Farmers nationwide who manage more than 81 million acres of woodlands for pride, profit, and pleasure.

And 26 million of those acres are owned by non-industrial private landowners.



How did this phenomenon get started? The Tree Farm system was launched nationally in 1941 by the nation's wood using industries. But it didn't begin there. Foresters had been advocating something like it since the first glimmers of American forestry in 1900. "Wood is a crop," Gifford Pinchot, first chief of the USDA Forest Service, said in a speech in 1935. "Forestry is Tree Farming." A strong push for federal regulation of forestry stemmed from the 1930's and '40's: American's Depression and war years. Federal leaders living through those times believed that they should closely regulate the private sector, and many people agreed. The National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933, for example, had authority to coordinate major industries to set prices, working conditions and (in the case of forest industry) control forest practices. Industry folks, living through those same times, were determined to manage private lands without federal policing.

Government fueled the widespread destruction of forests. The tax system sucked the economic life out of private lands over and over as town and county land taxes often demanded more annually than it cost to buy new land up the road a piece. This encouraged people to cut their trees then move on to new land. Over several decades government authorities took millions of acres of private property, declaring it tax delinquent, and then selling it cheap to get it back into the tax system. The land often ended back in tax sales after another set or two of owners had extracted what they could.

If the taxes didn't get you, chances were your woodland might burn in uncontrolled fires that consumed millions of acres. Farmers used fires frequently to clear land and burn off old grass and weeds. Firefighting forces were scarce.

Starting around 1936, some states started passing legislation to treat forestland more fairly. Fire prevention and control programs were also improved. By the summer of 1941, the Weyerhaeuser Timber Co. was encouraged. The company opened its land for tours of what it called a Tree Farm, and more than 700 people came out to gaze in amazement at a previously logged and burned area in Montesano, Washington, now

covered with a new forest of both naturally seeded and planted trees.



The area was protected by an impressive system of firefighting equipment and lookout towers.

Weyerhaeuser took the occasion to ask people to help protect the Tree Farm by being more careful with fire: people hunting, fishing and camping on the land had frequently caused devastating fires. With fire protection, fair taxation and

forestry expertise, all forest owners could and should become Tree Farmers, said the company.

The term Tree Farm was an inspired choice. After years of talking about silviculture, sustained yield and scientific management, foresters were finally using a term that people understood. Everyone knew that farmers grew crops: clearly a Tree Farmer was someone who grew crops of trees. Forest products firms led the Tree Farm effort through their western and national associations. State foresters were also in the lead.

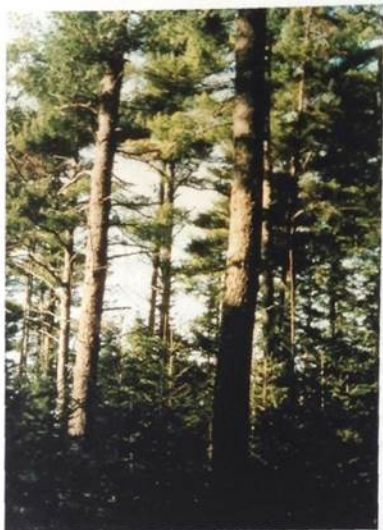
A variety of local and regional forestry associations began the program, but in 1941, the task was taken on by a then division of the National Lumber Manufacturers Association, American Forest Products Industries (AFPI), the forerunner of today's current national sponsor, the American Forest Foundation.¹

Tree Farming in Maine

¹ Portions of this section were derived from "Tree Farming Tenacity" by Lester DeCoster, national director of the Tree Farm System from 1982 to 1992, published in *Tree Farmer*

It is remarkable that after three and a half centuries, Maine's forests of 17.6 million acres are still 96% privately owned and divided into a small number of large corporate ownerships and thousands of small woodland holdings. This unique ownership pattern is what the Maine Tree Farm Program is here for – to provide incentives to promote better forest management and to recognize individual efforts to practice a careful stewardship of a precious and renewable resource. Better forest stewardship will also result in greater wood productivity for market needs and prosperity.

Maine became interested in Tree Farms in 1948 and after four successful years under a progressive "Keep Maine Green" program, it was agreed among forestry oriented groups that the time had come for Maine to establish a Tree Farm system for the state. A major influence was the action taken by other states. It had become clear that Tree Farm was a symbol which represented the best care and management of this natural resource.



Initial action began in 1951 with a meeting of representatives of the Maine Forest Service and the forest industry to formulate plans. An investigative committee was selected with Ed Giddings of the Penobscot Development Company as Chairman. The committee was assigned the responsibility of preparing goals and standards for a Maine Tree Farm program. Four basic points were agreed upon by the committee:

A further step towards establishing a Tree Farm program in Maine was a meeting held

- There should be an executive secretary to supervise the program and arrange for contacts, talks, and publicity.
- There should be a central office to supervise and arrange for inspection of prospective Tree Farms.
- There should be Tree Farm standards recognizing the differences in forestry conditions for timber management of pine lands in southern Maine and spruce-fir forests in northern Maine.
- Assistance should be solicited from women's and men's organizations and clubs, the State Grange, forestry oriented groups, the news media, and other sources to promote the Tree Farm program in Maine.

in the Senate Chamber at the State House in Augusta. Forest Commissioner Albert Nutting opened the meeting and expressed pleasure with the large attendance and interest in the proposed program. Governor Fred Paine expressed his appreciation for the support given him in advancing forest conservation. He praised the work in research into forestry matters in the state and the need to continue to protect Maine's valuable renewable forest resource. He pledged support for the Maine Tree Farm program.

Ed Giddings, chairman of the investigative committee presented his report. Joel Marsh of the Maine Forest Service would serve as executive secretary of both the "Keep Maine Green" and Tree Farm programs and the Maine Forest Service would provide office headquarters. Forest industry would make available the services of foresters for inspection of prospective Tree Farms. Further assistance would be available from the Cooperative Extension, the University of Maine, the USDA Forest Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the State Grange, and leading newspapers in Maine. The meeting concluded with full support to establish a Maine Tree Farm program. The investigative committee was carried over to become the executive committee and has functioned in this capacity to the present day.



Ed Giddings, ?, Curtis Hutchins, Al Nutting, ?

Members of the first Executive Committee were:

- . Edwin Giddings, Chair, Penobscot Development Co., Old Town
- . Elmer G. Kelso, Hollingsworth & Whitney, Winslow
- . John T. Maines, Great Northern Paper Co., Bangor
- . Richard Waldron, Chadbourne Lumber Co., Bethel
- . George Sawyer, The Dunn Heirs, Ashland
- . Morris Wing, International Paper Co., Chisholm
- . Norman Gray, C.B. Cummings & Son, Norway
- . E.C. Melcher, S.D. Warren Co., Westbrook

The Executive Committee met on March 10, 1952 to set standards and guidelines and planned for the first Maine Tree Farm dedications to be held that fall. Lists of inspectors were requested, the design of a suitable sign was discussed, and standards were proposed, as well as having discussion on financing the expenses of this new endeavor. The Committee accomplished the tasks it set before it over the spring and summer and was met with success. Maine became the 34th state to become a member of the national American Tree Farm System.

A leaflet was produced illustrating different phases of forest management and covered written material on the qualifications for and the benefits of becoming a Tree Farm. A manual of standards and procedures was assembled, printed, and distributed to all members of the committee, to foresters, and to others interested in cooperating. Signs were designed and manufactured. Applications were received, inspections scheduled and completed.



AT TREE FARM SESSION—Front row, left to right: State Forester Commissioner A. D. Nutting; L. C. Rawson of Boston, representing American Forest Products Industries; and Edwin Giddings of Old Town.

Back row, left to right: Governor's Counsellor R. Leon Williams, Clifton; James McClellan, of AFPI; Prof. Robert I. Ashman of University of Maine; Joel Marsh of Maine State Forestry Department.

TREE-FARM PLAN

acres of timberland under certi-

farm standards, forming the groups named above, and preparing to certify acreages once the program is underway. Working with Giddings will be Elmer Keaso, Waterville; George Stone, Ashland; Norman Gray, Fryeburg

The first Maine Tree Farm was dedicated on October 20, 1952 in South Penobscot with 65 people present. As Maine's first Tree Farmer, Samuel B. Condon was presented with a Tree Farm sign and certificate as a merit award for practicing forest management since 1904 on his 3,000 acres of woodland. Tree Farm #1 remains in the family and is active to this day.



FIRST "TREE FARMS" DEDICATED. The first and second certificates were awarded and two "Tree Farms" dedicated today with elaborate ceremonies at the community house in this town today. Samuel B. Condon of South Penobscot, with 3000 acres, and Professor R.I. Ashman, Orono, with 105 acres, were the recipients. Left to right are L.C. Rawson, Boston, Northeastern Representative of American Forest Products Industries; Samuel B. Condon, South Penobscot, first "Tree Farm" award; R. Leon Williams, Clifton, representing Governor Payne; A.D. Nutting, Augusta, Maine Forest Commissioner; Ed Giddings, Chair, Maine Tree Farm Committee; Professor R.I. Ashman, Orono, second "Tree Farm" award; and William Hilton, Bangor, representing Maine Forest Products Industries.

Bangor Daily News—October 20, 1952

R.I. Ashman, head of the Forestry Department at the University of Maine was recognized as Maine's second Tree Farmer that fall, for work on his old farm in Chelsea. Two more Tree Farms were quickly recognized that fall – Raymond York and his son Carroll of Windsor and the Trustees of Leavitt Plantation in the town of Parsonsfield were honored.

All of the dedications were well publicized in the newspapers and many feature articles on Tree Farms were used in such publications as Forestry Digest, Northeastern Logger, and other forestry publications. Radio representatives were also present and on two occasions made wire recordings which were later transcribed.

The supervisor and certification committee were careful in selecting the first four Tree Farmers to illustrate to the public the types and sizes of acceptable, properly managed woodlands. They spent considerable time making suitable arrangements for the initial dedications of these areas, inviting a large number of people who were interested in Tree Farming. The woodlands inspected were carefully marked with trails and signs to make the field trips more instructive. Mimeographed outlines were furnished which described the accomplishments of the Tree Farmers. It was a good beginning.²



The last of Maine's first four Tree Farms was dedicated on Friday, October 24, 1952 at the Leavitt Plantations, Parsonsfield.

Officiating at the ceremony were, left to right, Edwin Giddings, Chief Forester of Penobscot Chemical Fibre Company; Albert D. Nutting, Maine Forest Commissioner; Fred Leavitt and Albert W. Leavitt, manager and president respectively of the Leavitt Plantations.

² Portions of this section were adapted from a manuscript by Austin Wilkins, former State of Maine Forest Commissioner, entitled "Tree Farming in Maine: A Way of Life for Forty Years", written to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Tree Farming in Maine.

A Timeline of Tree Farming in Maine

- 1948** Foresters first look at the possibility of bringing the Tree Farm program to Maine.
- 1951** The first formal committee is formed to study the idea and bring the program to fruition.
- 1952** Maine is the 34th state to join the American Tree Farm System and dedicates its first 4 Tree Farms.



May 1953 — Certificates were presented to Washington County's first Tree Farmers.
L to R: Al Nutting, Edgar Bagley of Whiting, Harry Lovett of Harrington, Ed Giddings

- 1954** Together with the State Grange, Maine is the first state to make an annual award for the Outstanding Tree Farmer — W. Lawson Dauphinee of Guilford.
- 1961** Participation milestone — there are 500 Tree Farms in Maine, covering 460,118 acres. Mr. Everett Lenentine of Monticello was honored as Maine's 500th Tree Farm at a special Eastern Maine Forest Forum banquet.

"I remember when Al Nutting was Forest Commissioner and came down to Woolwich from Augusta to present the Tree Farm award to Percival Hodgdon. He had worked with Percival pruning pine on his Birch Point woodlot several years back when he was the Extension Service Forester. That was a lifelong memory for Percival. To know he came down from Augusta, at night, just for him."

— Linwood Rideout, Pejepscot Paper
Maine Tree Farm Chair, 1963—1966

1964-5 Maine was first to have Tree Farm dedication ceremonies in foreign countries. Mrs. Marjorie Crabb of Paris Hill, Maine received her award in London, and John Rich of Standish was presented with his award in Tokyo by Governor John Reed, who was on a trade mission to Asia.

1964 The Great Northern Paper Company lands of 1.4 million acres was the largest continuous block of woodland in the nation to be dedicated at one time as a Tree Farm.



1966 With the dedication of the Eastern Woodlands of Standard Packaging Corp., Maine was the first state in the Northeast to go over the two million acre mark in the Tree Farm program. This dedication also made it possible for Maine to claim the most easterly industrial Tree Farm in the United States. And, Maine led the nation that year in adding 546,484 acres to its program.


- 1971** Dr. Frank Gilley named Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmer (keep an eye on this one – this name will turn up again!).
- 1972** Ray Wing of Newport, Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmer for that year goes on to become the New England Regional Outstanding Tree Farmer, the first time a Maine Tree Farmer was recognized at that level.
- 1976** Maine achieves a milestone with more than 1,000 certified Tree Farms.

1977 The Saco Valley Woodsmen's Field Day At the Fryeburg Fair is dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Maine Tree Farm program. Dave Clement, of S.D. Warren, served as Master of Ceremonies.

1980 The University of Maine's Cooperative Extension Forester, Bud Blumenstock, mails packets of woodland management material and Tree Farm information to 60 public libraries in the state.

Saco Valley Woodsmen's FIELD DAY

DEDICATED TO
The 25th Anniversary of the
MAINE TREE FARM PROGRAM
1952 - 1977



Maine Tree Farmer

CHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS

1. SKIDDER CONTEST	6. ONE MAN CHAIN SAW CONTEST
2. MECHANICAL LOG LOADING	7. WOOD CHOPPING
3. MECHANICAL PULP LOADING	8. BUCKSAWING
4. LOG ROLLING (2-Man)	9. HYDRAULIC LOADER CONTEST
5. CROSSCUT SAWING (2-Man)	10. TREE FELLING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1977, 10:30 A.M.
Fryeburg Fair - Fryeburg, Maine
 Entries for Pulp Loading, Log Loading & Skidder Events Close at 10:00 A.M.
 Entries For All Other Events Close At 11:30 A.M.
NO EXCEPTIONS
All Prize Money Will Be Mailed

"One company, the S.D. Warren Company, stood out as a shining example of Tree Farm Programs. This company had the distinction of having the largest Tree Farm Family in the nation. It was my singular privilege to present silver and gold hard hat awards to its foresters."

— Carl Van Husen, Scott Paper Company
 Maine Tree Farm Chair, 1981–1982

1982 Maine achieves another milestone with more than 5 million acres of woodland certified under the Tree Farm program and 1500 Tree Farmers.

1983 Dr. Frank Gilley named Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmer (not done with this one yet!)

1986 Maine Tree Farmers Ed, Sally & Martin Morse appear on TV with host Bud Blumenstock in the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's "Yankee Woodlot" and "Great American Woodlot" series broadcast on Maine and National PBS.



The Morse Family of Wells, Maine, discusses options for woodland management in the face of increasing pressure from land developers. Bud Blumenstock joins them at their tree farm which is used for income and recreation.



1989 President George H.W. Bush visits Tree Farmers Martin & Ed Morse in Wells to discuss forest management and taxation issues.

"... a couple of things stand out. One was that the University of Maine Forest was certified as a Tree Farm in 1986. This had been a goal of the Committee for a long time. We formally recognized the U. of M. Forest as a Tree Farm on July 28, 1986."

— Fred Beck, Seven Islands Land Company
Maine Tree Farm Chair, 1985—1986

1991 The Maine Tree Farm program reaches its peak enrollment, with 1,944 Tree Farms and 8.7 million acres enrolled.

1992 Dr. Frank Gilley wins his 3rd Maine Outstanding Tree Farmer award and goes on to become Maine's only (so far!) National Outstanding Tree Farmer.



"One of the highlights of my tenure as Tree Farm Chair was the start of the practice of retaining past Maine Outstanding Tree Farmers on the Executive Committee, providing an ongoing on-the-ground viewpoint of program needs and serving as the program champions."

— Ken Laustsen, Great Northern Paper
Maine Tree Farm Chair, 1993—1994

1997 Maine hosts the National Tree Farmer Convention in Ogunquit in November. More than 300 Tree Farmers from across the country convened to visit Maine woodlots, talk about Tree Farming, and enjoy some Maine hospitality.



A few of the attendees at the 1997 National Tree Farmer's Convention in Ogunquit watch as Bob Bills of Whitefield demonstrates the art of hewing a beam with a broadaxe.

"... it was decided to start reimbursing volunteers who were not paid for doing inspections in their regular line of work. An anonymous donor gave money to the Maine TREE Foundation to improve forestry involvement of non-industrial private landowners. The Foundation graciously started dispensing checks to those volunteers entitled to reimbursement. This has made Maine one of the first states to begin reimbursing volunteers for their inspection efforts.

— Jack Wadsworth, Wadsworth Woodlands
Maine Tree Farm Chair, 1999—2000

2002 Maine celebrates 50 years of participation in the Tree Farm program.

People and Personalities

Ed Giddings

Ed Giddings was one of the founding fathers of Tree Farm in Maine, serving on the investigative committee beginning in 1951 and serving as the first chairman of the program, from 1952-1956. "Prof" Giddings graduated from the University of Maine in 1933 and received a Master of Forestry from Yale in 1934. He spent many years working with the Penobscot Development Company in Old Town as chief forester and woodlands manager. In 1968 he returned to the School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine, where he was an associate professor.



June 8, 1954: Tree Farm Family dedication at Robert Elwell Farm in Unity, sponsored by Hollingsworth & Whitney and Diamond Match. Left to Right: Ed Giddings, Henry Norris, E.G. Kelso, Granville Small, C.C. Goodnow, Al Nutting, Ralph Waning.

Al Nutting



A.D. "Al" Nutting served as State of Maine Forest Commissioner from 1948 to 1958, and was an early supporter of the Maine Tree Farm program. He was involved in the investigative committee and supported the committee wholeheartedly. Under his guidance, the Maine Forest Service provided an executive director for the program and full support of all other MFS staff. Al Nutting received his forestry degree from the University of Maine in 1927. He served as a forester with Finch, Pruyin in New York and as Extension Forester at the University of Maine before he became Forest Commissioner. He became director of the School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine in 1958, a position he held until his retirement in 1971. In 1987 he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Maine.

Samuel Condon

In 1952, Samuel Condon became Maine's first Tree Farmer, managing the lands that his father had owned before him. When his father died in 1912, Samuel took over the family's 3,000 acres and the water-powered sawmill. He was an early advocate of selective harvesting, contrary to the then-current practice of removing all timber from an area – sawlogs for the mill and four-foot fuel wood for the lime kilns and brickyards. In the time that Condon managed his woodlands, he was visited by foresters from both state and federal governments to look and learn rather than advise, including Gifford Pinchot, who came to buy pulpwood but remained to admire Condon's system of management. Tree Farm #1 is still owned by Samuel Condon's descendants and is an active member of the Maine Tree Farm program.

Joel Marsh

Joel "Swampy" Marsh was Maine Tree Farm's first executive secretary, a position he carried out with dedication and enthusiasm. It was his efforts that kept the program going in its early years. He graduated from the University of Maine in 1935 with degrees in forestry and entomology. He was employed by the Maine Forest Service for 38 years, and was supervisor of information and education before his retirement in 1975. Following the 1947 fires, Joel headed the very active Keep Maine Green program integrating its principles into the Tree Farm program and for years traveled statewide as Smokey Bear. His archive of photographs of forestry in Maine is still used extensively.



Robert Ashman



Robert Ashman joined the faculty of the University of Maine in 1930 and was head of the Department of Forestry from 1946 until his retirement in 1957. He also had the honor of being Maine Tree Farmer #2, dedicated October 20, 1952. His 105 acre Tree Farm in Chelsea was purchased as a country residence and farm with an emphasis on developing the forested parts of the property for experimentation and for production of quality timber. He was known to bring forestry students from the University to his Tree Farm on holidays and weekends to work in the plantations, paying for their labor and providing board and lodging in his home.

Abbott Ladd

Abbott Ladd graduated with a forestry degree from the University of Maine in 1951, and began work as a forester in Maine for Great Northern Paper Company and later the Maine Forest Service. He found his real niche as the head of Oxford Paper Company's (later Boise-Cascade's) Tree Farm Family Program where he remained until his retirement in 1987. Except he didn't really retire – he became the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine's (SWOAM's) first executive director, a position he held until 1993. He has been a long time advocate for and member of the Maine Tree Farm Program, where he held the position of Chairman in 1977-78 and serves as Kennebec County Area Chairman to this day. There are not too many small woodlots in Maine that have not been under the guidance of Abbott Ladd, in one way or another, over his more than 50 year history as a forester in Maine.



1960—A newly erected Tree Farm sign in Rumford.

L to R: Alfred Sweetser, Randall Williams, Abbott Ladd



General Clayton Totman

Anyone who ever met General Clayton O. Totman (USMC, ret.) would never forget him. In 1979, he was Maine's and New England's Outstanding Tree Farmer, proving that you can do a lot with a few acres. His 36 acre Tree Farm in Waldoboro produced a wide variety of wood products and served as a research area for various forestry techniques and was the site for frequent forestry field days for other Tree Farmers and Christmas tree growers. He was active in the effort to return American Chestnut to Maine's forests. General Totman was outspoken and you always knew where you stood with him. His leadership brought Maine Farm Bureau on as a sponsor of the Tree Farm program.



Frank Gilley

Frank receives his first Maine Outstanding Tree Farmer award in 1971.

L to R:
Mary Ellen Gilley,
Lester DeCoster,
Ken Hendren,
Frank Gilley, ?

There aren't many Navy commanders who practiced orthodontics as well as Tree Farming. Frank Gilley was one of them. Before Frank entered the University of Maine in 1940, he was undecided whether to go into forestry or dentistry. Eventually, he did both. However, the forestry part of his career took a little longer to materialize. Frank was the first to be named Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmer of the year three times, and Maine's only National Outstanding Tree Farmer. He bought his first piece of land for Tree Farming in 1957, a 50-acre lot in Surry. In 1958, he acquired the 142-acre Tip-Top Farm in Holden. Today, Tip-Top Farm includes 545 acres in Holden and Surry, with 498 certified as Tree Farm.

Lester DeCoster

Lester graduated from the University of Maine with a B.S. in Forestry in 1959. He has always been one of the busiest people in the forestry world. He worked for the Maine Forest Service for 5 years as a Service Forester and 5 years as Information and Education Supervisor (while simultaneously starting up the Maine Forest Products Council!). In 1969 he intensified his commitment to the Tree Farm Program – for 13 years he was New England Regional Manager of the American Forest Institute, running the Tree Farm program in 6 states. He then went on to Washington, D.C. where he served as Vice President for Forest Resources, American Forest Foundation where he managed the national Tree Farm Program. In 1992, he and his wife Barbara founded The DeCoster Group, a firm combining expertise in environmental science, forestry, and public relations to solve communication



"As Maine Goes, So Goes The Nation..."

The State of Maine over the years has lived up to the traditional motto: "Dirigo – I Lead" by a number of firsts. This list is from the Fall 1966 issue of the Maine Forest Service's magazine, *Forest Protectors*.

1. Maine was the first state starting in 1954 to make an annual award for the Outstanding Tree Farmer. This program was sponsored by *The Grange Herald* and the Maine State Grange in cooperation with the Maine Tree Farm Committee.
2. Maine was first to have two Tree Farm dedication ceremonies in foreign countries:
 - In 1964, Maine's 600th Tree Farmer, Mrs. Marjorie Crabb of Paris Hill, Oxford County, received her certificate and sign in London, England, from J.R. Thom, Director of Forestry for England and Robert Anderson, Agricultural Attaché at the American Embassy.
 - In 1965, Governor John H. Reed on his trip to the Orient presented a Tree Farm sign to John Rich, a Maine man working in Tokyo as Far East correspondent for the National Broadcasting Company. His Tree Farm is located in Standish, Maine, and has been in his family over 125 years.
3. The Great Northern Paper Company lands of 1,408,245 acres was the largest woodland in the nation to be dedicated at one time as a Tree Farm.
4. Maine claimed the oldest living Tree Farmer in the nation. Jesse Scribner of South Paris (95 years young) is Tree Farmer #714.
5. Maine has a few Tree Farms which have been in single family ownership longer than others in the nation. Oldest is the "Oaklands" of the Gardiner Estate in Gardiner, Maine, with title dating back to a grant by the King of England in 1754.
6. Maine's Tree Farm standards are among the best and most rigid in the nation and we are proud to continue these high level goals in the interest of sound management practices to produce and meet future wood production needs and prosperity.
7. On July 16, 1966, with the dedication of the Eastern Woodlands of the Standard Packaging Corp., Maine was the first state to go over the two million acre mark in the Tree Farm program and these 165,293 acres made it possible for Maine to claim the most easterly Industrial Tree Farm in the United States.



Those Green and White Signs

At the very beginning, the Committee decided that having Maine's Tree Farms publicly acknowledged was one of the most important factors in success of the program. Each state was charged with designing their own signs. Sample sketches were sent out to committee members. They decided on an elaborate 3' x 3' sign of marine plywood, which included the name of the owner. Some of these early signs can still be seen around the Maine countryside. But as effective as these signs were, they faded and needed to be repainted frequently, a cost the committee could ill afford to bear.

February 14, 1953. Donald Hewett, of L.F. Hewett and Son, South Somerville accepts from Governor Burton M. Cross his citation as Maine's 9th Tree Farmer, and a roadside Tree Farm sign.



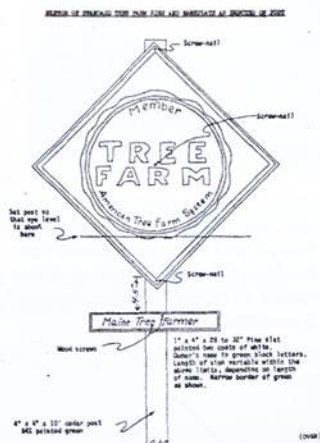
The national Tree Farm organization decided that to present a united image, that the unique signs used by the individual states needed to be standardized. By 1955, Maine was using the now-familiar first edition of the Tree Farm sign. It was simple in its design and its message. The design of the sign has changed over the years, and the simple original sign has been replaced by one that brings the focus onto all aspects of Tree Farming – Wood, Water, Recreation, & Wildlife.



There have been other signs as well. Special 50th and 60th Anniversary signs were available in 1991 and 2001, and silver and gold signs and number plates are provided to Tree Farmers when they celebrate 25 or 50 years of participation in the program.

Various materials have been used for the signs over the years, from the original marine plywood to metal to pressed hardboard to plastic. The earlier signs deteriorated rather quickly, so the decision was made to go to the more durable plastic. Standards for erecting the sign and its post were established early on.

The Committee made the decision from the beginning of the program to supply all certified Tree Farmers with a sign and post at the expense of the Committee. Part of the reinspection process included determining if the sign and post were in good condition or if they needed to be replaced. It's not unusual to see an inspecting forester out with a post hole digger, installing a new sign and post. Landowners were welcome to purchase extra signs and posts if they wanted to. Many Tree Farmers chose to place signs on each of their lots, or on each road.



"I once proposed that it would be OK for Tree Farmers to put the sign on their barns. I was told in no uncertain terms by certain senior members of the committee that the consistency of the signs was important to the program and that we better not change things!"

— Kathy Nitschke, Maine Forest Service
Maine Tree Farm Chair, 1997–1998

The Maine Tree Farm Committee decided that Tree Farmers deserved to put their names proudly out where all could see them. By 1955, nameplates were added to the post, hand painted forest green on a white background. The Smith Sign Shop in Bridgton painted the nameplates for 20 years. In December 1974, Lanson Hammond of Mexico, Maine, a retired sign painter from Oxford Paper Company started painting nameplates. After ten years and 2,054 nameplates, Mr. Hammond retired, with the grateful thanks of the entire community of Tree Farmers in Maine. Since 1994, Outstanding Tree Farmer Pam Smiley of Farmington has painted the nameplates.



By 1980, the Committee had voted to award Outstanding Tree Farmers with an additional nameplate indicating the year of their achievement. As Maine Tree Farmers won additional awards, additional nameplates were added – New England Outstanding Tree Farmer, Northeast Region Outstanding Tree Farmer, and National.

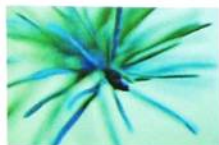


Over the years, many forest industry companies have contributed materials for signs and posts. For many years, Seven Islands Land Company donated cedar posts cut from their lands in the north. Hancock Lumber, Lavalley Lumber, and Phinney Lumber have donated many posts over the years, and Robbins Lumber has provided the pine for the nameplates.

Tree Farm Families

Tree Farm Families began in Maine in 1954 with the establishment of the first New England Tree Farm Family by the Hollingsworth & Whitney Division of Scott Paper Co. and Diamond Match Co. as joint sponsors. A ceremony at Unity on the farm of Robert Elwell launched the Family with 25 woodlot owners. At the end of 1954, there were 51 members enrolled in the Family, owning more than 18,000 acres of woodlands.

One of the strong points of this Family, under the direction of Forest Whitman, was tree planting, with 450,000 seedlings planted in 1955-56 on lands of their Tree Farm Family members.



This Diamond-Scott owned tree planter has planted the equivalent of a single row of trees 540 miles long for family members.

Field Day Demonstration—1956

S.D. Warren began its Tree Farm Family in 1955 under the watchful guidance of Steve Orach. By the end of 1960, it was the largest Tree Farm Family in the state, with 156 members, owning almost 60,000 acres of land. S.D. Warren's Tree Farm Family became one of the most successful in the nation, peaking in the late 1980's with more than 900 members and 180,000 acres. Each year, they held a field day for all members of their "family" and attendance was known to top 500. These field days were well known around the state and an invitation was prized!

S.D. Warren Co.
Tree Farm Family
Field Day,
South Freeport
September 19, 1956
17 new Tree Farmers
were dedicated



The third major Tree Farm Family established in Maine was started by Oxford Paper Company in 1956. In a press release from the Maine Committee of American Forest Products Industries, Chair Dwight B. Demeritt said: "Maine now leads the nation in the Family movement, a plan whereby a forest industry furnishes free forestry services to small landowners who, in turn, grant the firm first option to buy harvestable timber at prevailing prices." Oxford's new Tree Farm Family was headed by Sumner Burgess, but perhaps the name most closely associated with Oxford's Tree Farm Family is Abbott Ladd. Abbott ran the Oxford (and Boise-Cascade) program for many years.



Joint SWOAM/Boise-Cascade Tree Farm Field Day, East Bethel, August 1986
Tree Farm Committee Vice-Chairman Charlie Agnew makes the Outstanding Tree Farmer presentation to Urban Bartlett. At left Neda Bartlett, at right Abbott Ladd

The Oxford Tree Farm Family still existed in 2002 supporting area landowners and the Rumford Paper Mill.

Many companies went on to establish Tree Farm Families, under a variety of names – Landowner Assistance, Cooperative Forest Management, Land Management Assistance – but regardless of the name, the principles remained the same – provide free professional forestry assistance to woodland owners in return for “first dibs” on their timber at a fair market price.

Who was actually “in charge” of Tree Farm Families, setting guidelines for operations, has been a matter of debate. In 1957, the Maine Tree Farm Committee debated a proposed “6 points” for governing Tree Farm Families. There was a lot of discussion, but it was decided that the Tree Farm Family program was fine as it was and that regulation of this valuable partner in the Maine Tree Farm Program was not necessary. Following are those points, and the arguments around them, taken from a letter from John Hartranft (Oxford Paper Co.) to John Maines (Great Northern Paper):

1. The sponsoring company or companies must have part of their land, if they own any, in Certified Tree Farms. *"The type of thinking demonstrated by point #1 is an implication that because a Company has no Certified Tree Farm it has not proven its capabilities in forest management and therefore can not assume the responsibility of public guidance along these lines. I believe this is rather insulting to the majority of the Maine companies within the wood industry, and such thinking has no justification.*

2. The primary objective of the Tree Farm Family organization will be to increase interest and membership in the Tree Farm program in the area of the sponsoring company. *"I believe the primary purpose of a Tree Farm Family is to improve timberland management practices. This ultimately leads to the certification of the area in question as a Tree Farm, which, without a doubt, is synonymous with good timberland practices. The certification, however, is a stepping stone as the maintenance of such, and further improvement is still necessary.*

3. Land owners other than Certified Tree Farmers shall be referred to as "Cooperators" in the Tree Farm Family program rather than as "Tree Farmers". This will apply in all correspondence, reports, and publicity.

"All members, Certified Tree Farmers or others, are Cooperators in the program and are rightly designated as such. A sponsoring company choosing such a term neither detracts, nor desires to detract, from the outstanding Cooperator who is a Certified Tree Farmer, nor does the company unduly pay tribute, as a Certified Tree Farmer, to the non-certified member. It can not be assumed that the goal of the Tree Farm Family has been attained when a member becomes a Certified Tree Farmer, as he must maintain these management practices. It is quite conceivable that the maintenance of such standards can be more of a problem than achieving the initial recognition of becoming certified.



4. The number of Cooperators in any Tree Farm Family shall be limited to not more than three times the number of Certified Tree Farmers. *"It seems that because a Tree Farm Family consists of 6 cooperators, 2 of which are Certified Tree Farmers, there is no justifiable reason to limit the membership to these 6, for possibly 3 years, and deprive other woodland owners of the benefits of the program, and these benefits can be many. If the Family finds itself in the position whereby it is difficult to service additional owners, the success of the program is already evident and therefore additional personnel will, in all probability, be added.*

5. Cooperators in the Tree Farm Family program must qualify to become Certified Tree Farmers within 4 years of joining the Tree Farm Family. *"There are numerous woodland owners who have practiced good silvicultural methods for years and who, because of certain reasons of their own, do not want the attention or publicity as afforded by having their lands a Certified Tree Farm. These people are an asset to the Family. They still have certain things to learn and accomplish as there is always room for improvement, and there may also be many things we can learn from these practical farm foresters who were among the pioneers of this type of work. I see no reason why they should be deprived of the benefits of membership to a Tree Farm Family nor should Family foresters be deprived from the benefits derived from working with these people."*

6. The establishment of Tree Farm Families should be cleared with the Maine Tree Farm Committee and annual reports of the past year's activities will be required from each Tree Farm Family which has been approved by the Committee. *"If I were contemplating the establishment and development of a Tree Farm Family today, I would seek information from various individuals in the State who are familiar with the forestry problems as they now exist. I would not want to be totally influenced by any one individual or any one group. I would not subject the program to be passed upon or rejected by any organization unless absolutely necessary. The activities of our program would be available to any person or group so desiring the information, at any time. I would not, however, subject our Company to an agreement whereby we would be required to submit an annual report unless otherwise instructed."*

"The position I take in this whole matter is this: If the Maine Tree Farm System is good, then, so too is the Tree Farm Family, as its contribution to the Maine Tree Farm System as well as to better forest management in Maine is obvious. As far as I can see, there exists no pressing problem, the responsibility of which is the direct cause of any misuse of the Tree Farm Family program in Maine. I have no desire to agree to any of the above mentioned six points nor do I agree with imposing these points or any other control measures on any prospective Tree Farm Family in Maine. We have talked long and heard much, pro and con, on this subject of forestry control measures in the Northeast. I still don't want it."

In 1985, the national Tree Farm Program proposed standards for Tree Farm Families that looked remarkably like what the Maine Committee had debated almost 30 years earlier. Maine responded to the national organization with much the same comments as they had in 1957 – "if it ain't broke, don't fix it!". This attempt by the national program was an indication of things to come. The emphasis on promoting and recognizing better forest management was being diverted to promoting an organization.



Outstanding Tree Farmer Contest

Once again, Maine led the nation in starting an Outstanding Tree Farmer contest in 1954. The first Maine OTF was W. Lawson Dauphinee of Guilford. The presentation of a bronze plaque and a Terrill chain saw was made by State Grange Master Maynard Dolloff before 500 Grangers at the State Grange meeting in Lewiston on December 8, 1954.

What is an Outstanding Tree Farmer? Aren't all Tree Farmers outstanding? Well, yes, and that's what makes the decision so difficult to make when the Maine Tree Farm Committee is trying to determine who is the Outstanding Tree Farmer for that year. Each year, the Committee asks landowners or their sponsoring forester to apply for the honor of being Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmer.

Applicants are sorted by county, and the county chairman from the Committee, along with other foresters, chooses a county winner. County winners then compete with each other for state honors.



A gaggle of Outstanding Tree Farmers
Left to right: General Clayton Totman, ?, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Angevine,
Don & Pam Smiley, Leroy & Malvina Souther, Ray Wing,
Ron Kostron, Lester DeCoster
At Frank Gilley's Tip Top Tree Farm, 1992

Here are the guidelines for evaluation. We'll start with the obvious and then work our way up:

- Is the application form completely made out? Is it well done?
- What has the Tree Farmer done that is truly outstanding? Extra, different activities on the ground? Outstanding examples of promoting Tree Farming?
- Has the Tree Farmer the right priorities? Is he/she spending the time available on things that will really make the difference in the long run?
- What is the Tree Farmer's attitude toward the laws that affect the Tree Farm? How does he/she deal with them?
- Is the Tree Farmer willing to share his/her Tree Farm with others, i.e., recreation, education, tours, etc.?
- Is the Tree Farmer considerate towards soils, water, and wildlife habitat?
- Does the Tree Farmer have a written management plan and is he/she complying with its provisions?
- What is the Tree Farmer's attitude towards harvesting forest products?
- What are the long-range plans for the Tree Farm?
- Can the Tree Farmer represent all Tree Farms in Maine if chosen to be the Outstanding Tree Farm?
- Has the Tree Farmer influenced others to become Tree Farmers? Is the Tree Farmer willing to stand up and be counted in debates affecting Tree Farmers—at public forums, legislature, etc.?
- Does the candidate have the time required to attend meetings, participate or host tours to promote Tree Farming?
- Does the Tree Farm exhibit qualities that would make it a good viable candidate for the regional and national contests?



OTF Field Day, 1981— Charlie Bassett's Tree Farm, Arundel
L to R: Calvin Gammon, Ella Mae Van Husen, Myrna Orach, Walt Gooley, Rene Noel

Just because someone has been selected as Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmer, that does not mean that the job has ended. Oh, no, there is much more to do... Applications for the regional and national Outstanding Tree Farmer must be prepared, and of course there is the field day celebration, which takes a lot of planning and coordination.

Having a field day on your Tree Farm is a great honor, giving the Tree Farmer the chance to share his pride and view the work done on the farm. Tree Farmers throughout the state are invited, and a full complement of dignitaries. But hosting the field day is a lot of work and there's a lot of planning involved, from setting up trails, contacting speakers, finding the caterer (yes, of course there's food—and often the ladies of the Grange show just how this should be done), to renting the tents and port-a-potties. Invitations must be sent, and appropriate weather arranged for the day. Of course, the field day will go on, even if it does rain, but it's usually a fine day. We can usually count on a big turn-out, and there have been as many as 300 attendees on a fine fall day.

Though the Outstanding Tree Farmer is selected in the fall as the next year's winner, the official recognition begins with the award being presented at the Maine Agricultural Trades Show in Augusta in January or at another public event. Oftentimes, the governor has presented the Outstanding Tree Farmers with their award in person.



Governor Joseph Brennan presents
the 1985 Maine and New England Outstanding Tree Farmer awards
to Sally and Martin Morse of Wells

Maine has been fortunate in having a number of repeat winners in the Outstanding Tree Farmer contest, and quite a few have gone on to become New England or Northern Region winners. The competition gets tougher on the regional level—a Tree Farmer is competing with the best from the other New England and Northeast states, already determined to be Outstanding. The judges have to assume at this point that the Tree Farmer's work on the ground—the wood, water, recreation, and wildlife—have been done extremely well, setting the example for others. Here is where the Tree Farmer himself (or herself) really comes in to play. What has been done above and beyond? What influence has the Tree Farmer had on others? Does he/she have the time required to attend the meetings, participate in and host tours? Is he willing to stand up and be counted in debates affecting Tree Farmers? Many Tree Farmers have excellent Tree Farms, but would much rather be out pruning their trees, than speaking in public.



Pruning red pine on Frank Gilley's Tree Farm
And of course, no matter where you stand,
or which way the wind is blowing,
the sawdust will always fall in your face!

Here's a list of those outstanding individuals who have gone above and beyond:

TREE FARMER	TREE FARM LOCATION	YEARS WON	NEW ENGLAND/ NORTHERN REGION WINNER
Melvin Ames	Atkinson	1957, 1964	
Raymond Wing	Newport	1972	1972
General Clayton Totman	Waldoboro	1979	1979
Dr. Frank Gilley	East Holden	1971, 1983, 1992	1992
Martin & Sally Morse	Wells	1985	1985
Urban Bartlett	Bethel	1962, 1986	
Wallace Fengler	Scarborough	1973, 1987	
Dennis & Douglas Smith	Dover-Foxcroft	1970, 1988	
Leroy Souther & Sons	Livermore Falls	1963, 1990	1990
Chandler Brothers	New Gloucester	1993	1993
Jim & Sandra Pottle	Perry	1974, 1998	
Duncan Howlett	Center Lovell	1976	1976
Reverend Gerald Weary	Newcastle	1980, 1999	
Carleton Jones	Vassalboro	1996	1996

And of course, the ultimate honor came when Frank Gilley won the National Outstanding Tree Farmer award in 1992. There will be more about Dr. Gilley later.



Ben Welch, center, shows people around his Dixfield woodlot during a Tree Farm field day.

National Tree Farmer Convention

The Maine Tree Farm Committee had the privilege of hosting the 5th Annual National Tree Farm Convention in November of 1997. More than 375 Tree Farmers, foresters, educators, and exhibitors convened in Ogunquit to share their stories and knowledge; the largest meeting of Tree Farmers yet.

This was the biggest project that the Maine Committee had undertaken, and they wanted everything to run smoothly, and for everyone to have a great time. Planning began early, in 1996, with members of the Maine Committee meeting with staff from the national Tree Farm organization. Many of the details were in the capable hands of National, headed by Sue Shaddeau, but Maine needed to do a lot of work for this convention to succeed.

Here are a few of the things that needed to be considered:



Pre- and Post- convention tours



Speakers and their audio-visual needs



Field Trip, including trail layout and heated (!) port-a-potties



Exhibitors and demonstrations



Souvenirs and other goodies



The Silent Auction fundraiser



Entertainment for both the kickoff reception & the banquet



Local Publicity



Safety and insurance

The Maine Committee quickly appointed former committee chair Vite Vitale (International Paper) to head the planning for the convention, and then-current chair Kathy Nitschke of the Maine Forest Service was his second. This was definitely a group effort, with committee members, Tree Farmers, foresters, federal & state government, and the forest products industry all pitching in to make the convention a success. The New Hampshire Tree Farm Committee lent a hand with tour planning, and the Maine TREE Foundation helped with the publicity.

One of the first things that needed to be determined was a theme. Because of the history of the state, its importance in the forest products industry, and our Downeast heritage, we decided on "Maine—First Light, First Forests", and an attractive logo was developed.



Because Maine is so closely linked with both its forests and the ocean, it was decided that it would be held in Ogunquit, on Maine's beautiful rock-bound coast. The folks at the Cliff House Resort welcomed the Tree Farmers enthusiastically, and went out of their way to provide super accommodations and meeting rooms, and some really great food.



Fortunately, not too far from the Cliff House was Martin & Sally Morse's Tree Farm, in Wells. One thousand acres of well-managed land, Maine's 1985 Outstanding Tree Farmers, accessible and beautiful. The Morse's graciously let 350 people invade their Tree Farm, and made it all look easy.



The convention opened on Thursday, November 6 with registrations, exhibits, the opening of the Silent Auction and the Quilt Raffle (thanks to Mary Ellen Gilley's fine handiwork), and a field trip to Freeport. Conventioners who took the trip had the opportunity to visit the Saunders Brothers Mill and Smiling Hill Farm in Westbrook and found the goods at L.L.Bean to be just their cup of tea. For those who chose to stay in Ogunquit, Harry Haney presented a comprehensive tax seminar. A rousing reception was held that night, with a welcome from SWOAM president and Tree Farmer Ben Welch, and traditional Cape Breton dancers accompanied by a "squeeze box" that set the rhythm for their show. An early night was planned, as everyone knew that the next day would be busy.

Friday, November 7 brought the meetings and concurrent sessions. Everyone gathered first for breakfast, and to hear keynote speaker Cliff Foster. Cliff spoke about forestry issues wearing many hats—forester, landowner, Tree Farmer, legislator. Through the day, attendees took advantage of a variety of learning sessions, including:

- *Alternative Sources of Income:* Paul Easley, Diana Hobart, & Doug Kell discussed unique uses for wood, raising fallow deer, and marketing Christmas wreaths.
- *Your Tree Farm and the IRS:* James Norris, the IRS forester for New England (yes, the IRS has foresters!) made a complicated subject seem easy.
- *Global Positioning Systems:* Richard Oderwald of Foresters, Inc ran a 2-part session of how GPS systems work, what they cost, and how they can save landowners money.
- *Estate Tax Management:* Jim Tollus with Cigna Financial Advisors presented a 3-hour workshop on developing effective and efficient estate plans.
- *Don't Skirt the Issue!* Tree Farmers Lynda Beam, Rachel Jordan, and Isabel Wiand focused on the things all members of a Tree Farm family need to know.
- *The Sustainable Forestry Initiative:* Julie Jack of AF&PA discussed SFI's conception, development, and the important role it is playing in American forestry today.
- *Cost Effective Information Systems for Forest Landowners:* Chuck Nilsson (Integrated Resource Information Systems) talked about the low-tech, mid-tech, and high-tech computer software and hardware available for forest landowners.
- *Planting Your Future:* Lloyd Irland (The Irland Group) looked at some predicted future forest product demands and showed Tree Farmers how to plan now for tomorrow's markets.
- *Regional Tree Farmers of the Year:* Doc Howard (VA), Randy Lanski (MI), Tom Thomson (NH), & K.C. Van Natta (OR) shared the Tree Farm activities that made them exceptional.
- *It's the Law!* AF&PA's Sarah Hildebrand discussed what is happening on Capitol Hill, changes to the tax code, ESA, and Farm Bill funding, and the impact these and other bills may have on Tree Farmers.

Lunch brought a speech from Jim Robbins, forester & Tree Farmer, and president of Robbins Lumber Company. The afternoon held more opportunities for education and interaction... and more chances to bid on the items at the Silent Auction.

Evening brought a traditional Downeast Lobster Boil and a chance to get together in the hospitality suite.



Sue Shaddeau and Ken Laustsen make sure the Silent Auction is running smoothly

Gray skies and a nip in the air welcomed Tree Farmers to the field day at Martin & Sally Morse's Tree Farm on Saturday. But the welcome could not have been warmer, as everyone enjoyed the numerous woodlot tours and demonstrations. And Mead's Forest Management Assistance Program kept everyone safe during hunting season with a donation of blaze orange hats for all! Offerings included:

- ▶ Building a New England stone wall—Carleton Jones, 1996 Maine OTF
- ▶ Global Positioning Systems—Rich Oderwald, Foresters Incorporated
- ▶ Bucking for profit—Pete Lammert, Dept. of Conservation, Maine Forest Service
- ▶ Chainsaw safety—Mike Maines, University of Maine & Mark Michaels, Husqvarna
- ▶ Broadaxe demonstration—Bob & Chuck Bills, consulting foresters
- ▶ Jonsereds saws & equipment—the guys from Tilton Equipment
- ▶ Marking & Thinning—Steve Bodkin, consulting forester
- ▶ Proper herbicide use—Max McCormack, University of Maine, assisted by Monsanto
- ▶ Tree identification—Chuck Gadzik, Dept. of Conservation, Maine Forest Service
- ▶ Wildlife habitat improvement—Joe Wiley, Maine DOC, Bureau of Parks and Lands
- ▶ Using your Farmi winch—Jack Johnson, Northeast Distributors
- ▶ The antique (and still working) sawmill—Martin & Ed Morse
- ▶ Road construction and erosion control measures—Greg Foster, Timberstate G., Inc.

After a great field day, Saturday evening brought the much-anticipated awards banquet, with the announcement of the 1998 National Outstanding Tree Farmers, George & Joan Freeman of Pennsylvania, and the end of the Silent Auction. Entertainment was provided by Maine's own Wicked Good Band.

The convention proper wrapped up on Sunday, November 9 with the Annual Tree Farmer Business meeting, and an invitation to attend the 1998 convention in Savannah. And of course, the opportunity to pick up a few more souvenirs—hats & mugs, Tree Farm stools (produced in Maine with wood from Tree Farms—Wicked Cool!), and fragrant balsam bags. But even though the convention was officially over, there were still things happening: A Mid-Maine post-convention tour that visited Carleton Jones' Tree Farm in Vassalboro, The China School, James River's Old Town Paper Mill, Leonard's Mills, and Frank and Mary Ellen Gilley's Tree Farm. Or if you preferred, a visit westward from the coast to Joe & Pat Benzing's Tree Farm in Parsonsfield, the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, the Parker Family Sugar House, Bethel Furniture, the S.D. Warren Paper Mill, and the lands of the York Water District.



Scenes from the 1997 National Tree Farm Convention Field Day Morse Tree Farm, Wells



The
Jonsereds
Järnhäs can
really make
small woodlot
work easier



Pete Lammert explains the fine points of
bucking wood for profit!



A visiting Tree
Farmer,
Martin Morse,
& Gary Morse
(no relation),
enjoy a break
from the hard
work of
putting on a
great
gathering.



Carleton Jones shows how to build a
New England rock wall—"You've got to
start with a good base", while Steve
Gettle does the heavy lifting.



Everybody's
favorite time
of day
LUNCH!



Tree Farm's 50th Birthday

In 1991, the National Tree Farm program celebrated its 50th birthday. Each state held its own observance, and Maine took that opportunity to dedicate the Pine Tree State Arboretum in Augusta as a Tree Farm Demonstration Area.



Al Johnson, Executive Director of the Pine Tree State Arboretum and Governor John McKernan unveil the Arboretum's new Tree Farm sign.



The kids of the China Schools, assisted by Governor McKernan, plant a new spruce tree at the Arboretum. Looking on, from left to right, are forester Paul Memmer (Sappi), Maine Department of Conservation Commissioner Ed Meadows, and Tree Farm Chair Joel Swanton (Champion International).

A Special Visit

In 1989, President George H.W. Bush visited the Morse Tree Farm in Wells, discussing forest management and taxation issues with Martin & Sally Morse and Marty's dad Ed. Covering more than 1,000 acres in one of the most heavily developed sections of the state, the Morse's were more than happy to host the President and give him a tour and some advice. Of course, President Bush never travels alone, so there was quite an entourage of aides, security, and the media. Bush's visit to the Tree Farm was meant to put pressure on lawmakers with timber in their districts because tree sales were considered capital gains under a bill being considered in the House, and dropping the top tax rate would be a boon to timber sellers. "Income from the timber industry is a much different capital gain than from stocks and bonds," Morse told Bush. He described the up-front costs of clearing land and buying and planting seeds coupled with property taxes and uninsurable risks involved with his industry.

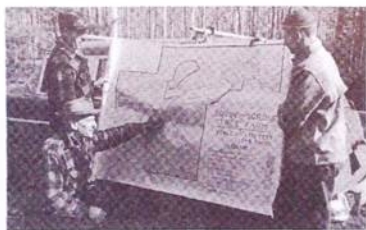


Surrounded by aides, security, and the media, the Morse's meet with President George H.W. Bush to discuss the impacts of legislation and taxation on forest management.

A Look at Some Outstanding Tree Farmers

Maine set the standards early by initiating an Outstanding Tree Farmer contest in 1954, in cooperation with the Maine State Grange. Here are a few of the early winners:

Mel Ames of Atkinson, and his son survey a thriving red pine plantation. Mel won the Maine Outstanding Tree Farmer contest in both 1957 and 1964.



**Maine's 1958
Outstanding Tree Farm
Award Goes to
Joe Bovin-Wes Scrone
• RUMFORD •**

Oxford Paper Co. Forester, Sumner Barrett, left, displays a type map of the woodland management plan for the Bovin-Scrone Tree Farm. Joe Bovin is pointing and explaining part of the plan to his son, Wes Scrone on the right.



Arthur W. Frecker, Jr. was Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmer in 1960. He was one of the first landowners to become a member of the Maine Program, with Tree Farm No. 37. Left to Right: Ed Giddings, Al Nutting, Arthur Frecker, Jr.

JIM AND SANDRA POTTLE

The Pottles have made a life-time commitment to their Tree Farm and their most important goal is to leave the land in better condition than they found it and to pass it on to the next generation. They are open and sharing of their love of the land. They do all the work themselves as a labor of love. They not only talk the talk, but they walk the walk. A Certified Tree Farm for more than 40 years, Jim and Sandra were selected the Maine Outstanding Tree Farmers in both 1974 and 1998. Not only are they active on their more than 700 acres of woodland, they are

committed to community involvement as well. Jim and Sandra take every opportunity to plant a seed in the minds of visitors. Several families have become Tree Farmers as a result of their influence. They were key promoters in establishing a local chapter of the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine (SWOAM) and Sandra served on the SWOAM State Board of Directors. The Pottles received the 1997 Maine Outstanding Forest Steward Award from the Maine Forest Service. They are members of the Downeast RC&D Forestry Committee, the Boyden Lake Association, where Sandra is a Director, The Nature Conservancy (they are volunteer monitors), the Eastport Land

Trust, the Appalachian Trail Conference, Rails to Trails, and the local working group of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service for Washington County.

1998—My how those kids have grown!

L to R: Grandson Mitch, Andy, Jim, Dean, Sandra, Sandra's mom Greta Morang, Amy, and son Steve.



Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmers for 1974
L to R (back row): Lester DeCoster, Jim Pottle, Sandra Pottle, Andy Pottle, ?
L to R (front row): Dean Pottle, Amy Pottle



THE CHINA SCHOOLS

The China Schools offered a unique opportunity to educate all generations on the wisdom of practicing sustainable forestry—the true tenets of Tree Farm—wood, water, recreation, and wildlife. Working with forester Paul Memmer of Sappi and his wife Kathy, a teacher at the China Schools, the students, their parents, the teachers, and a host of volunteers developed a forest management plan and implemented it on the school's woodlot. They created a recreation trail through the lot, conducted some timber harvesting, developed demonstration areas, signs, and a great “reading tree” where students could experience their woodlot in a fun and exciting way.

Incorporating Project Learning Tree with Tree Farm helped the students understand the importance of the example they were setting. Selected as the Maine Outstanding Tree Farm for 1997, the awards ceremony at the Maine Agricultural Trades Show was quite an event, as more than 25 China School students, along with their teachers, family, and friends accepted the award from Governor Angus King. You could not have found a more enthusiastic bunch of kids!



Maine's 1997 Outstanding Tree Farmers—the students of the China Schools
Left of the Tree Farm sign: Sappi forester Paul Memmer
Right of the sign: Governor Angus King

BILL WESTON

There's a lot of history at the Weston Tree Farm, beginning with Bill's home, which originally was built by Waldo Pettengill in 1870. It is said that when William Chisholm, who began the mill in Rumford, first came to this area, he came by train from Portland to Bethel, then spent his first night at the Pettengill house.

Bill is a retired maintenance manager and engineer for that mill, and retirement has not left him any less busy. Caring for the 700 acre Tree Farm, on 4 lots in 3 counties, takes a lot of his time. The Weston Tree Farm was Maine's Outstanding Tree Farm in 1994



But there's more than just taking care of the trees. There's all the community activity, the volunteering, and the educational outreach. A longtime member of SWOAM, Bill has been the force behind their outstanding exhibits at the Fryeburg Fair for many years. Not only does Bill set up the display, but he arranges for staffing, staffs it himself when necessary, and even has built a lot of the display items. He is a member of the Rumford Historical Society, the Maine Tree Farm Committee, and a cooperator with the Rumford Polar Bears Snowmobile Club, whom he graciously allows to maintain trails through his property.



But nearest and dearest to his heart is educating kids. Here, he's explaining how trees grow to a group of Head Start kids from the area. He talked about thinning and sunlight and showed the children the seedlings already started under a blanket of snow. Each child received a seedling of their own to take with them, and great memories of a nice man and his love for the woods.

DUNCAN HOWLETT

Duncan Howlett was a man of many interests. He was admitted to the Bar in 1931 and practiced law for two years. After ordainment by the Unitarian Church in 1934, he held many positions including Pastor of All Souls Church in Washington, D.C. He retired in 1968 and moved to his property in Center Lovell, Maine, becoming so interested in Tree Farming that he studied forestry at the University of Maine. He was past president of the Maine Natural Resources Council and the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine. He lavished work on his Tree Farm with the assistance of consulting forester Norman Gray. He established a road system, planted Christmas trees in old fields, surveyed the property lines, and weeded and thinned 300 acres of the more than 1,000 acre Tree Farm.



TREE FARM AWARD — Duncan Howlett of Center Lovell is presented the Outstanding Tree Farmer Award for 1976 by State Grange Master Ronald Bagley during ceremonies connected with the annual Grange session at Augusta. Mrs. Howlett, center, observes presentation with daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Korth, rear.

He said, "Intensive Tree Farming is a lesson to those who think forestry is too long-term an enterprise to yield much personal satisfaction. I'm continually amazed at the transformation that takes place in a forest in very short periods of time."

CARLETON JONES

Carleton and his son Steve have planted more than 50,000 red pine on their 200 acre Tree Farm, most of them by hand, reclaiming old fields that had been abandoned for agriculture. Winter keeps them busy as well with pruning and thinning, doing all of the work themselves. Northeast Outstanding Tree Farmer in 1996, Carleton's enthusiasm for trees and outstanding communication skills brought him national attention... Not to mention the slightly unorthodox Tree Farm sign that marks his property. Adept mowing each summer makes the Jones Tree Farm a local landmark on the ground and high in the air.



ARLAN & ELEANOR JODREY

This 236 acre Tree Farm has been in the family for many years. Arlan and his wife Eleanor worked hard to accumulate their acreage, and in 1994, Eleanor's parents, Elizabeth and Stanley Lord transferred their land over to Eleanor and Arlan. That parcel had been in the family since 1949 and became a Tree Farm in the early 1950's, one of the first pieces of land to be certified. All work on the property, both commercial and non-commercial has been done by the family since 1950, when the lot was first selectively harvested. The ice storms of 1998 necessitated a salvage operation. Arlan conducted these harvests by himself and salvaged 46,700 board feet of sawtimber and 95 cords of pulpwood, income that would have been lost without his quick response, not to mention a healthy stand for the future.



1967—Arlan's first woodlot is certified



The Jodrey's have a unique connection with neighboring Gould Academy, sharing a long common boundary. They have encouraged Gould's athletes (cross-country skiers and runners) to use the trails on the Tree Farm that connect with the school's trails, giving the students a top-flight rolling trail profile for training.

The Jodrey Tree Farm has a long-standing relationship with the foresters of Mead Paper (and before that with Boise-Cascade and Oxford Papers) since 1953. They began working with Sumner Burgess and continued with Steve Gettle.

Arlan helped the Town of Bethel's woodlot become a Tree Farm in 1978 during his tenure as a selectman.

Now that's pruning!



Inspections, Reinspections, and Inspectors

Since the beginning, for a tract or area of woodland to be considered for eligibility in the Tree Farm program, the land needed to be inspected by at least 2 foresters to determine if the landowner was adhering to the general standards, established by the Committee. These standards are based upon the landowner's intent and record of forest management, utilization, protection, and reforestation, and were as follows³:

1. The owner will have been protecting and managing the forest land for a continuous production of commercial timber crops for at least one year. The owner shall exhibit a desire to continue this management long term.
2. The owner will have an understanding of methods for reasonable protection from fire, insects, diseases, and injurious grazing.
3. The owner will have in operation a program of systematic forest harvesting to assure continuous production of commercial timber crops as well as an understanding of multiple use aspects of forest management.
4. A forest area composed only of plantations will be eligible for certification as a commercial Tree Farm if the intent of the owner is to manage the forest for future harvest including products such as Christmas trees.
5. Generally, tracts should have a minimum of 10 acres of timberland, but exceptionally good tracts of a smaller size may be considered.

Inspecting foresters would meet with the landowner who had applied for certification. Usually one of the foresters was familiar with the property, having worked with the landowner on previous forest management activities. Bureau of Forestry Service Foresters (a.k.a. Farm Foresters) completed most of the inspections in the early days. Consulting forestry was a new field, and industrial foresters were busy on company lands, working with landowners as time allowed. The inception of the industrial Tree Farm families in the mid 1950's brought a surge to the number of industry foresters involved in the program and a corresponding increase in the number of certified Tree Farms in Maine.



Tree Farmer Arthur Frecker (center) appreciates the advice he is getting from inspectors.

³ These standards were taken from the Maine Tree Farm Inspector's Manual, American Tree Farm System Standards and Guidelines, 1994.

As an incentive to those landowners who were interested in becoming Tree Farmers, but whose land did not yet qualify, the category of Pioneer Tree Farm was created in the late 1980's. Landowners who participated in the Pioneer program received newsletters and other Tree Farm publications, invitations to Tree Farm activities, and had the opportunity to work with a forester to attain certification. Pioneers were allowed up to 5 years to meet certification standards and receive their signs.

In 1963, the Maine Tree Farm Committee decided to make a periodic review of the status of Tree Farms already certified in Maine. This was the beginning of the recertification process, and began with a simple questionnaire. This was sent to all Tree Farmers certified prior to 1961, and the results were as follows:

1. Over 95% of the questionnaires mailed were answered.
2. The remaining Tree Farmers were contacted personally if foresters did not have up-to-date records.
3. The questionnaires were helpful to the committee in many ways:
 - A. Determine whether the Tree Farmer was active.
 - B. Determine whether a Tree Farmer was deceased, and if so, start inquiries as to relatives or new owners involved.
 - C. Obtain up-to-date addresses.
 - D. Indicate whether there was a change in acreage involved.
 - E. Determine condition of Tree Farm sign.
 - F. Determine if the Tree Farmer needed additional advice from the forester.

The workload of reinspections continued to grow with the program. In 1975, Chair Cliff Swenson (Seven Islands Land Company) appointed 4 regional area chairmen to oversee this task. Appointed were Steve Orach (S.D. Warren), southern area; Abbott Ladd (Oxford Paper), western area; Bruce Brockway (Diamond International), eastern area; and Michael Collins (Pinkham Lumber), northern area. The region boundaries were identical to those of the Bureau of Forestry regions.

Soon after taking office in January 1977, Chair Abbott Ladd sent a memo to the Area Chairmen seeking additional involvement in getting reinspections completed in their areas. With about 1,100 certified Tree Farms and increasingly busy schedules, foresters were being spread thinner and thinner. Area Chairs were asked to take on the tasks of training inspectors, upgrading the inspection process, correcting and updating Tree Farm records, and taking on the responsibility of seeing that all Tree Farmers in their areas received their certificates, signs, nameplates, and posts.

By 1979, as the Tree Farm Program continued to grow, reinspections became a real challenge. In an effort to strengthen the program, the Committee created an additional region, known as the central area, made up of parts of Androscoggin, Kennebec, and Oxford counties. It was chaired by Abbott Ladd. Carl Van Husen became chair of the western region. This helped get reinspections done, but Chair-

man Bruce Brockway's progress report for 1979 indicated that only 60% of reinspections due were completed. He attributed that to: 1) A concentration of Tree Farmers in more populated areas of the state, 2) a combination of changing personnel and increasing workloads of state and industry foresters, 3) absentee landowners, 4) increased pressure for new certifications, and 5) possibly a lowering of interest on the part of high level industry and State managers.

In early 1980, the American Forest Institute changed policy regarding reinspections by allowing them to be completed by mail or phone. This was a trial program, which was monitored by the AFI in 1980, and to be used in emergency situations only. This new policy brought considerable discussion at the annual Tree Farm inspector training in Skowhegan. The inspectors were opposed to using this procedure since they felt a landowner could mislead the inspecting forester by the way he filled out the questionnaire. The group decided there should be no substitution for on-the-ground inspections. However, with increasing workloads and numbers of Tree Farms, telephone inspections began to be used, particularly by inspectors who were already familiar with the Tree Farm and the work that was being done there.



Fall 1997—Inspecting the Pottle Tree Farm for the Outstanding Tree Farm contest.
Left to Right: Fred Knight, Abbott Ladd, Kathy Nitschke, Charlie Chandler, Dale Covey,
Steve Gettle, Carl Van Husen, Rob Weeks, Bill Weston, Jim Pottle.
Nice work if you can get it! - This is what Tree Farming is all about.

In an effort to cope with the dwindling numbers of State Service Foresters in the early 1980's, the Maine Committee took up a proposal to accept one inspector as being sufficient for new Tree Farm inspections. State Service Foresters had completed 33% of all Tree Farm inspections between 1976 and 1981. Most other state programs did not require two inspecting foresters for certification. After discussion, the Committee voted to reaffirm the policy of requiring two foresters inspecting new Tree Farms for initial certification. The requirement for one public and one private inspector was considered optional. Some dissent was expressed with a few committee members feeling that one professional forester's opinion should be acceptable.

By the mid 1970's it was evident that there was a need for better training and coordination among Tree Farm inspectors. In some cases there had been an inconsistent interpretation of the Tree Farm manual which had been prepared nearly 25 years earlier. Under new business at the April 1979 Committee meeting, each Area Chairman was asked to hold a training session for inspectors by the end of June. This began a continuing effort to keep inspecting foresters up-to-date with annual training sessions held regionally and occasional newsletters to help keep inspectors informed of Tree Farm news, training opportunities, and changes to inspection procedure.

Highlights of training sessions have included:

1982— A newly revised Tree Farm Manual was distributed , after a great deal of work by Bruce Brockway and Abbott Ladd.

1983, the question came up as to who was eligible to be a Tree Farm inspector. The manual provided the answer—"all registered or graduate professional foresters who have demonstrated an interest in the Maine Tree Farm program and who have attended a Tree Farm Inspection Training Session during the past three years". Although not written down, it was understood that each Tree Farm inspector should complete a minimum of one reinspection each year to remain eligible.

1984— a welcome addition to the training agenda—an actual Tree Farm reinspection was held in the Norridgewock area, giving everyone the opportunity to have some on-the-ground training.

1985— a special invitation was sent to consulting foresters with the result that 11 attended, increasing the cadre of eligible inspectors.

1987— The Penobscot Experimental Forest in Orono was certified as a Tree Farm as part of the northern region inspector training.

1992— in an effort to involve more consulting foresters, all referrals for new inspections were now handled by the Association of Consulting Foresters, referring them to area inspectors.

1999— three inspector training sessions are necessary to complete training for all those interested in becoming or maintaining their status as inspectors. One hundred and twenty foresters learn about media relations. It's more than just trees these days!



Seven Islands' Tim Scott attempts to teach inspecting forester Kathy Nitschke (Maine Forest Service) the finer points of inspecting a Tree Farm (without much apparent success) at a 1995 Tree Farm inspector training meeting at the Penobscot County Conservation Association in Brewer.

Getting inspections completed had become a real problem. A lot of thought and effort was given to why inspections weren't being completed, and what needed to be done to increase the percentage. In 1989, the Committee brainstormed, and came up with these ideas...

Let Paul do them all! (Scott Paper Forester Paul Memmer, always full of enthusiasm and energy, seemed the obvious choice).

Then getting down to reality, these suggestions were made:

Inspecting foresters need correct and timely information

1. Reinspecting forester needs correct info. Needs all complete information from the computer; address, etc.
2. Get better descriptions on the Tree Farm locations: phone number, road, etc. Makes the inspection quicker and easier.
3. Pre-addressed inspection forms, and a computer list of inspections needed and when they are due.
4. Printout of inspections needed in the following year—to allow meeting with summer people and non-resident landowners.

Feedback and communication

5. Discover the reasons why reinspections are not getting done. Ask the inspector why he/she did not accomplish the reinspection.
6. Early feedback from inspectors.
7. Area Chairman needs to know the inspectors and working areas.
8. Inspectors meetings:
 - Timely. Within one month of receiving list (March/April)
 - Training new inspectors
 - Assign and discuss all reinspections—important that new foresters are working with a landowner.
 - Set deadline. Allow time before the final report needs to be made.
9. Have more area meetings, with emphasis on FUN.

Incentives

10. Incentive program

- **Point system.** Geared to completing inspections early.
- **Award system.** Given by the Chair for number of inspections completed.

11. Recognition and incentives— "Where's the beef!"

12. Recognize 100% reinspections in the newsletter or other media.

Recognition programs and incentives were not new. In January 1978, nine Tree Farm inspectors were honored for their outstanding work at a special ceremony prior to the Western Maine Forest Forum meeting in Lewiston. Each inspector was presented with a green Tree Farm jacket and were thanked for the Tree Farm reinspection efforts by Chairman Abbott Ladd.



The distinguished inspectors:

Left to right: Dave Clement (S.D. Warren), Howard Charles (S.D. Warren),
Rene Noel (Maine Forest Service), Jane Romain (International Paper),
Wayne Jackson (S.D. Warren), George Haywood (Maine Forest Service),
Kerry Huckins (Boise-Cascade), Don Winslow (S.D. Warren),
Ron Locke (Great Northern Paper).

Certification of Tree Farms was the forest products industries' and forestry professions' most visible means of promoting forest management and recognizing private forest owners. All over America the familiar green and white Tree Farm logo became known as the "sign of good forestry". The backbone of the Tree Farm program was the network of inspection foresters who donated their time and effort to inspect and

reinspect Tree Farms. To encourage and recognize these foresters, the national sponsor of the program initiated "Hard Hat Awards" for the number of inspections completed. Completion of 25 or more inspections entitled the forester to a bronze hard hat; 50 or more earned a silver, and 100 or more brought the coveted gold hard hat. These were usually presented during a public ceremony. Inspecting foresters in Maine earning these awards were:

<u>Bronze</u>	<u>Silver</u>	<u>Gold</u>	
Kerry Huckins	Rene Noel	Howard Charles	Abbott Ladd
Bob Leso		Dave Clement	Steve Orach
Jim Trask		Floyd Farrington	Jack Wadsworth
		Cliff Foster	Don Winslow
		Wayne Jackson	



Carl Van Husen,
Chairman of the Maine
Tree Farm Committee
presents Gold Hard Hats
at Charlie Bassett's 1981
Outstanding Tree Farm
field day in Arundel.

Left to Right:
Wayne Jackson,
Steve Orach,
Van Husen,
Dave Clement,
Howard Charles

In 1999 it was decided to start reimbursing volunteers who were not paid for doing inspections in their regular line of work. An anonymous donor donated money to the Maine TREE Foundation to improve forestry involvement of non-industrial private landowners. The Foundation graciously started dispensing checks to those volunteers entitled to reimbursement. This made Maine one of the first states to begin reimbursing volunteers for their inspection efforts.

Inspection and reinspection of industrial Tree Farms was a more complicated matter. A team of inspectors, usually including several members of the Tree Farm Committee, met with company representatives for discussion of the landowner's objectives, and a tour of company lands. These inspections could last several days, and travel through different parts of the state to view a company's landholdings. And the industrial owners were no less anxious than the 25-acre Tree Farmer in making sure that their lands and management practices met the criteria for Tree Farm certification.

Spreading the Word and Keeping in Touch

Publicity about the Maine Tree Farm program has always been a priority. In the early days, publicity brought the program to the attention of more woodland owners, increasing the flock. As time passed, it became more and more important to cite the good things that Tree Farmers were doing on their property—soil and water conservation, wildlife habitat improvement, recreational opportunities, and of course, the responsible growing and harvesting of trees.

News articles came fairly easily in the beginning. This was a program backed by industry heads, the governor, the forest commissioner, and the local community. It was also a simpler time, post World War II, and the news of hard work, more jobs, and new technology was welcomed.

"TREE FARM" IS DEDICATED AT WINDSOR

Conservation Certificate
Given R. York & Son; 40
Inspect Farm Woodlot

PROGRAM PRAISED

BY EDWARD L. PENLEY
WINDSOR. — Dedication ceremonies were held here Wednesday for Maine's third Tree Farm, and a certificate presented to Raymond York and Son as a testimonial of their good management of a 41-acre woodlot on the York farm.

About 40 persons were present at Windsor Grange hall, where the certificate was awarded. There were brief talks by Forest Commissioner Albert D. Nutting and other guests, then the group travelled by automobile to the York farm and watched the big sign being erected by the side of the highway. Next came an inspection trip to the woodlot, and upon returning to the Grange hall the Ladies Auxiliary served refreshments.



—Maine Development Commissioner. Photo.
ERECT TREE FARM SIGN—Joel Marsh, left, of the Maine Forest Service, and supervisor of the Maine Tree Farm program, is shown with Raymond and Carroll York, at the York Farm at Windsor.

Press releases from American Forest Products Industries (and its successors, AF&PA and AFI) kept Tree Farm in the news, as well as local Tree Farmers and foresters efforts to have their programs recognized. Tree Farm Families held annual field days, inviting the public and other Tree Farmers to view their work and possibly join.

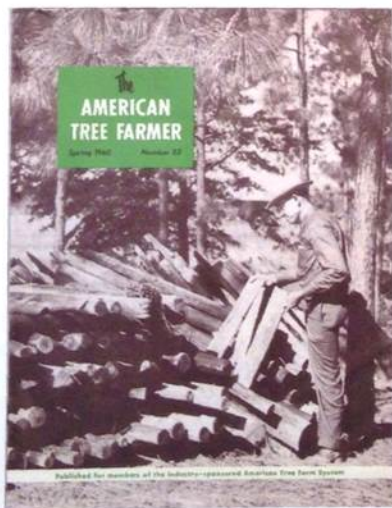
Maine Tree Farm's long-time sponsor, the Maine State Grange, always published a fine article about the annual Outstanding Tree Farmer, and the Tree Farm Committee placed ads in the *Grange Herald*.

The national Tree Farm Program began publication of *The American Tree Farmer* in 1954. This quarterly publication of Tree Farm news and tips was distributed free to certified Tree Farmers until the 1990's, when costs ran too high for free distribution, and Tree Farmers were asked to subscribe to the magazine. Its name changed over the years, but the intent did not.

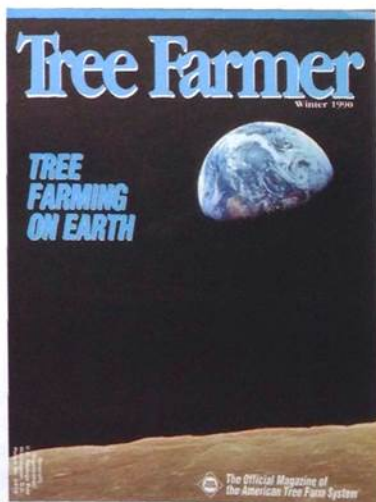
MAINE TREE FARMER WINS ANNUAL GRANGE AWARD



OUTSTANDING Maine Tree Farmer for 1959 is Harold C. Moulton, third from the left, of Springvale, Me., winner of the annual contest sponsored by the Grange Herald of Maine and Stantial-McCulloch Co., Medford, Mass. With him are Robert M. True, left, S. D. Warren Co., Cumberland Mills, chairman of the Maine Tree Farm Committee; Kenneth M. Hancock, M. S. Hancock Co., Casco, chairman, Forestry Committee, Maine State Grange, Moulton, and Wallace MacQuarrie, district representative Stantial-McCulloch Co. Awards were a bronze plaque from the Herald and a power saw from Stantial-McCulloch Co.



For-



estry newsletters and publications were eager to publish articles about Tree Farming, and it was not unusual to see articles in *The Northern Logger and Timber Processor*, the *Boise-Cascade "Log"*, *American Forests*, International Paper's *"The Scroll"*, *Paper Processing* magazine, and the Maine Forest Products Councils *Forest News*. Supplements to the Bangor Daily News and Portland Press Herald during Forest Products week in October of each year carried numerous articles about Tree Farming and Tree Farmers. The Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine (SWOAM) often published articles in their newsletter, and later became a partner in publishing the Maine Tree Farm Committee's own quarterly newsletter. These newsletters were important from the beginning of the program. Quarterly progress reports from the executive secretary of the Maine Tree Farm program were submitted in detail to other members of the committee and the forestry community throughout the state through the mid-70's. As the program expanded, these became cumbersome, and a general newsletter for Tree Farmers and other interested parties in Maine was begun.

MAINE TREE FARM PROGRESS REPORT

December 31, 1963

Seven hundred and twelve tree farm applications have been received since the program started in 1952.

The following new tree farmers have been certified since January 1, 1963.

- No. 551 - Mr. & Mrs. Lawson Pinkham, Damariscotta, 105 acres, dedicated before the Waldeboro orange, June 27, 1963. Mr. Pinkham has a well stocked 40-50 age class pine stand. With the aid of his son he has thinned, followed by pruning crop trees. Financial returns assist in sending their oldest son to the University of Maine where he is majoring in forestry.

Maine's newsletter was included in the national program's magazine for many years, but when free distribution ended, the state committee published and distributed the newsletter on its own.

MAINE



NEWS

SPRING 1968

Chairman's Notes: Behind the Scenes

By: Charles Agnew, Jr.



Charles
Agnew, Jr.

I thought it might be helpful in one of our early newsletters to describe how the Tree Farm Program works and how it is administered. Nationwide, the Tree Farm Program is controlled and administered by the American Forest Council in Washington, D.C. Within

Each area also has a communications coordinator. The communications coordinator, a position established in 1967, is the person responsible for any communications activities of that area, certainly including but not limited to specific tours, press releases and general media contact. This group of communication coordinators are the major supporters, creators and planners of this newsletter.

Maine's Tree Farm Committee receives support from two program sponsors, the Maine Farm Bureau and the Maine Forest Products Council. Each summer the program

Mainstream publications were not forgotten and *DownEast* magazine carried the word about Tree Farming to the general public in 1977.

Newspaper publicity became increasingly difficult to obtain as the years went by. Local weekly papers were often eager to publish articles on Tree Farmer accomplishments in their area, but the state-wide dailies seemed to be increasingly reluctant to publish good-news articles on forestry, instead focusing on environmental issues and timber harvesting rules violations. In an attempt to encourage Tree Farmers and foresters to help publicize their own good works, the national program began offering a "media bonus" - funds given to state committees when articles about Tree Farming were published locally. Not only did this encourage the effort for more publicity, but the funds accrued enabled the state committees to do more publicity. A win-win situation indeed.



Silviculture's Silver Anniversary

ON October 20, 1952, representatives of the forest industry gathered at Samuel B. Condon's woodlot in South Penobscot to dedicate the first tree farm in Maine. Today, twenty-five years later, 1,149 landowners in the state proudly display green and white tree farm emblems on 4,235,539 acres of managed forest. Maine also holds claim to the largest tree farm in the nation (the Great Northern Paper Company's 1,450,409 acres) as well as to the first island tree farm (dedicated on Macmahon Island in the Sheepscot River in 1960).

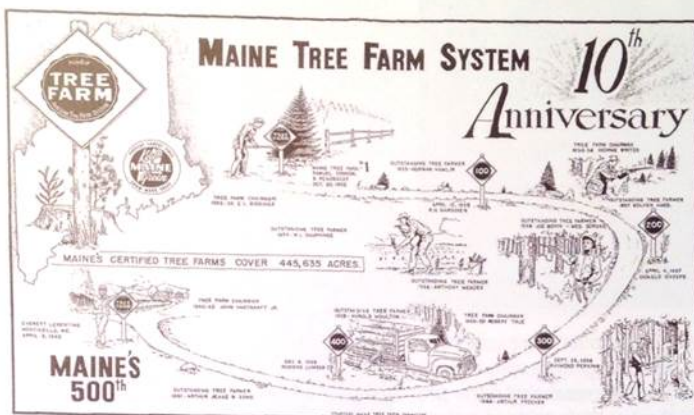
The American tree farm system, in which Maine tree farms participate, is a nationwide program, sponsored by wood-using industries through the American Forest Institute. Its purpose is to encourage private forest owners to protect and manage their forest resources for the production of repeated crops of forest products. Attendant on this stewardship are the benefits of improved food and habitat for wildlife, protection of watersheds from erosion, and the encouragement of outdoor recreation.

Each year, Maine's Tree Farm Committee of public and private foresters selects the state's outstanding tree farmer, who is also entered into competition for the New England title. Last year, both honors were won by Duncan Howlett of Center Lovell, a retired minister who manages 1,050 acres of woodland for both commercial and recreational use. Nominations for the 1977 award are now being considered and will be announced later this fall.

Lester A. DeCoster, the American Forest Institute's regional manager in Bangor, points out that trees are America's most renewable resource as well as being the most energy-efficient raw material available today. In a nation that already uses twice as much wood as metal, and particularly in Maine, which is 90 percent forested, trees and tree farms will play an even more important role in the next quarter of a century.

North by East column by Dick Smith,
DownEast magazine, November 1977.

Maine Tree Farm's 10th Anniversary in 1962 was a big event, celebrating the certification of the 500th Tree Farm in Maine. In addition to the usual newspaper articles, the Tree Farm Committee supplied placemats to restaurants in Maine outlining the program's accomplishments. Local folks and tourists alike could learn a little about Tree Farm while waiting for their Saturday-night baked beans or fried clams!



Newspapers and magazines were not the only media used to promote the Tree Farm program. Radio and television also played a part. The University of Maine's Cooperative Extension programs "Yankee Woodlot" and "Great American Woodlot" aired on public television stations throughout the country, featuring Tree Farmers and the work they did on their land. Martin & Sally Morse of Wells were prominently featured, and in addition they taped a public service announcement distributed throughout the state. Channel 8 TV in Portland sent a news team to the Outstanding Tree Farm Field Day in 1985.

Field days and fairs provided good opportunities for Tree Farmers to promote the program. In addition to the annual Outstanding Tree Farmer Field Day, the Tree Farm Families held field days for their cooperators, and the Tree Farm program also frequently participated in field days sponsored by SWOAM, the Soil & Water Conservation Districts, and other organizations and agencies.





A variety of handouts were used at the fairs, encouraging people to take something home, read about the program, or display their pride in being Tree Farmers. Brochures and handouts, bumper stickers and decals, pens and pencils, boundary markers and stickers, coloring books and posters were all used.



By cooperating in this way, woodland owners had a chance to check out all the opportunities available to them for assistance. The Fryeburg Fair has been a long-time supporter of forestry, and even constructed a dedicated forestry building at the fairgrounds. The Common Ground Fair brought in a whole new audience and the Maine Agricultural Trades Show in January brought in farmers and landowners from throughout the state.

About Tree Farming

The American Tree Farm System® is a nation-wide program encouraging private forest owners to do an efficient job of growing trees as a crop. The tree crop program is designed to show examples of efficient forestry.

An ideal, working example of efficient forestry. A Tree Farm is a privately owned tract, managed as a continuous crop of trees with careful selection of commercial species, suitable management practices, suitable location, and suitable value. There are also other types of forests, such as those used for recreation, wildlife, and other purposes.

There are more than 1,000 Tree Farms in the United States. They are located in all 48 states, and in Canada, Mexico, and Puerto Rico. They are owned by individuals, corporations, and government agencies.

The Tree Farm System was founded in 1918 by the American Forestry Association. The system is managed by the American Forestry Council, under the sponsorship of the American Forestry Association. For the past 50 years, the American Forestry Council has been promoting the Tree Farm System, and others interested in forestry, and others interested in forestry.

The Sign of Good Forestry.

— 1990 —
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
AMERICAN FORESTRY COUNCIL
1375 Connecticut Ave., NW
Suite 100
Washington, DC 20004
202/462-1415

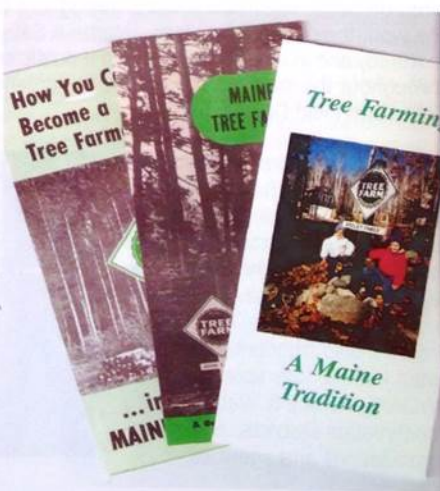
The program operates through state Tree Farm Councils in all 48 states under the guidance of the American Forestry Council. About 1,000 commercial foresters — from industry, government, and consulting firms — operate trees in the program.

State Tree Farm Councils make arrangements for foresters to inspect and certify Tree Farms, and then certify them as Tree Farms. The number of trees in the growing crop is a measure of the quality of the growing operation in the state.

Certified Tree Farms receive a Tree Farm Certificate and sign. They also receive regular ratings and reports. The sign is a symbol of the American Forestry Council, as well as the Tree Farm Council.

Certified Tree Farms are eligible to compete for a variety of state, federal, and local awards. In addition, Tree Farms are invited to conferences, seminars, and other events.

When you see the sign and white Tree Farm sign displayed on a property, that's



Always looking for more ways to promote the Maine Tree Farm program, for a number of years the committee organized a float for the Maine State Parade held in Lewiston, handing out seedlings and smiling and waving. With the efforts spearheaded by Greg Foster, the float was quite a success.



Greg Foster and Ken Lautsen
putting it together



The end result



Promotional products were also used to spread the word, and, as a bonus, brought some money into the committee's coffers. Hats, t-shirts, sweatshirts, tote bags, and mugs were all used to help keep the program going.



Of course, one of the best advertisements, as always, were those green-and-white signs...




New technology brought changes to the way Maine Tree Farm communicated with Tree Farmers, other woodlot owners, and the public. The advent of the internet brought this new means of communication. With the assistance of a grant from the American Forest Institute in 1990's, the Maine Committee developed its own website, one of the first Tree Farm websites in the nation. Dedicated volunteers worked with professional web designers to adapt this new medium to Tree Farm's and Tree Farmers' needs. Charlie Chandler served as "webmaster" for many years, and made sure that the information presented was correct.

Over the years, the website changed, adding more information, keeping things up to date, and including extra features, such as links to other forestry sites, upcoming events, and downloadable copies of the newsletter.




Welcome to the Maine Tree Farm Committee

Brochure	Tree Farm Committee	Upcoming Events	Newsletter	Customization Tree Farmers	Farmers' Links	Contact Us
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Tree Farming, A Maine Tradition Since 1952 And into the Future

Thank you to our sponsors:

Special thanks to USDA for select illustrations on this site.

© Copyright 2003 Maine Tree Farm Committee All Rights Reserved.

Maine Tree Farm's current website: www.maintreefarm.org

Some Things Never Change - Or Do They?

SPONSORS

The primary sponsor of the Maine Tree Farm program at the beginning was the Maine Forest Service. Joel Marsh was Executive Secretary from 1952, until his retirement in 1973. In May 1975, the Maine Forest Products Council became a cosponsor of the



Tree Farm Program. The Maine Forest Service continued to actively support the Tree Farm program through the Division of Forest Management and the Regional and District Foresters. Joe Lupsha, a former Service Forester and Utilization Forester for the Maine Forest Service, now head of the MFPC, assumed the general responsibility for the program,

and put his heart and soul into Tree Farm. During his tenure, he did a great deal to see that the Tree Farm display was present in a booth at several of the major fairs and events. He spent many hours staffing the booth and scheduling others to do the same.



The Maine State Grange was an early sponsor and continues, primarily for the Outstanding Tree Farmer contest. Publicity in the *Grange Herald*, and awards for the Outstanding Tree Farmer were annual events.

By the middle of 1979, a suggestion was made about finding a second sponsor for the Tree Farm Program in Maine, and SWOAM was mentioned. The Chairman was urged at that time to make every effort to regain the support and commitment of top industry management, the Bureau of Forestry, forestry consultants, and the Maine Forest Products Council to keep the Tree Farm Program strong and viable as a forest management and public relations tool.

By March 1980, Chairman Bruce Brockway was still looking for input on ways to expand Maine Tree Farm's sponsor base. The Maine Forest Products Council had said that they could still handle mailing of newsletters, etc., but were no longer able to fulfill other administrative duties. It was suggested that the Maine Farm Bureau be approached. Clayton Totman agreed to talk to the Bureau's president. In July 1980, the Farm Bureau assumed responsibility for administrative support of the program. They maintained all Tree Farm records, processed inspection forms and handled



referrals. The Maine Forest Products Council continued to supply technical support, i.e. communications and publicity and also handled referrals.

In 1989, the Maine TREE Foundation was formed to provide Maine people with good, accurate information about the forest resource. The Foundation educates and advocates for the sustainable use of the forest and the ecological, economic, and social health of Maine's forest community. They became one of Maine Tree Farm's co-sponsors at that time, assuming the responsibilities that had formerly been accomplished by the Maine Forest Product Council. The Maine TREE Foundation has proved to be a strong support for Tree Farm, using their fund-raising and communications skills to help keep the program strong. The Maine TREE Foundation has, since 1989, contributed significant funding toward the annual expenses of the Maine Tree Farm Committee. Since 1998, with the support of a generous grant by an anonymous donor, Maine TREE has also assumed the administrative duties of the Maine Tree Farm Committee and conducted a program of reimbursement to Tree Farm inspectors for their work.



FUNDING

Primary funding of the program for many years included a \$10.00 payment from the American Forest Institute (AFI) for every newly certified or reinspected (at 5-year intervals) Tree Farm. Funds were needed to pay for Tree Farm signs, posts, name plates, frames for Tree Farm certificates, postage, field days, and wages for a part-time secretary.

Periodically, requests were made to the forest products industry for additional funding. By early fall of 1977, faced with bills for sawing and planning of 200 cedar posts, the Committee put out a plea to various firms for donations. A letter was mailed to 140 wood using firms including equipment dealers. Within a few weeks, 27% of those solicited had contributed \$1,825 in amounts ranging from \$25.00 to \$100.00. In the fall, another letter was sent to the forest products industry including service industries requesting funds to supplement those from the American Forest Institute. This effort raised \$1,465, slightly less than the previous fund drive.

In the spring of 1982, it was reported that the American Tree Farm System was going through a critical period. The budget of the American Forest Institute was drastically cut. Funding for each new and reinspection was decreased from \$10.00 to \$5.00. This would mean a cut of \$1500 for Maine, and there was little, if any, room for cuts on the expense side. An appeal was made to the larger companies for a contribution of funds. At that time, AFI sent a letter and brochure to all Tree Farmers announcing the inception of the American Forest Foundation and requesting financial support to fund the Tree Farm System and other benefits designed for Tree Farmers.

By November 1982, AFI announced another budget cut for 1983, which would mean it would be operating on a budget of 50% below the 1982 budget. The Tree Farm program was given priority in AFI's budget with funding levels staying approximately at the 1982 level. The New England Regional office in Bangor had been operating with a part-time secretary and the long distance instructions of Lester DeCoster who had become Vice President, Resources Division, in Washington, D.C. The Bangor office closed at the end of 1982. There were more cuts to come, with all regional offices closing by the early 1990's. The media bonus was discontinued, and funding became tighter and tighter. Donations were welcomed, and companies donated posts, wood for nameplates and frames, and most importantly, time. Sale of promotional items such as hats and t-shirts helped. More and more, efforts were made to work cooperatively with other groups, such as piggy-backing Tree Farm's newsletter along with SWOAM's.

The quest for solid, steady funding continues. The Maine TREE Foundation contributes grant funds and administrative support to supplement the funds from the American Forest Foundation and to pay stipends to Tree Farm inspectors. As the forest products industry in Maine changes, more and more creative ways of funding the program must be found.

GETTING THE INSPECTIONS DONE

Accomplishing the rigorous schedule of inspecting each and every Tree Farm every five years has proved to be a daunting task over the years. Finding and training adequate numbers of inspectors has become more and more difficult as foresters' tasks for their employers have become more demanding. Recognition, awards, and even stipends have helped, but as the Tree Farm program grows and the requirements for becoming and staying a Tree Farmer become stricter, the task has not become easier.

Maintaining the standards of the Tree Farm program is the job of the inspector. Without his or her field-truthing the Tree Farmer's accomplishments on the ground, making recommendations for future activities, and working with the Tree Farmer to carry out these activities, the meaning of Tree Farm certification could be lost.

Through the cooperation of the forest products industries, non-profit organizations, governmental agencies, consulting foresters, and volunteers, the high standards of the Tree Farm program can and will be maintained in Maine.

The Next 50 Years of Tree Farming in Maine

Dave Harvey – Chair, Maine State Tree Farm Committee 2007

The first 50 years of Tree Farming in the State of Maine is an outstanding success story. Through dedicated leadership an idea was developed into a program that has stood the test of time and continues on today. Tree Farm's mission of promoting sound forestry practices through landowner recognition and involvement continues to be the foundation that makes the program successful.

That foundation is built upon delivering value to the various stakeholders associated with the Tree Farm Program. These stakeholders are: the program sponsors who contribute time and money, the certified inspectors who verify on the ground results, the volunteer members who help out with the day to day activities and finally the Tree Farmers who by their efforts and actions are the real champions of the system.

As the last 50 years have shown, sponsorship will change. A major challenge going forward is to adapt to changing sponsor needs while at the same time maintaining value to other stakeholders. The certified inspector pool is also changing. Inspectors now have to go through mandatory training and meet set qualifications to become or maintain their inspector status. The certified inspector pool, once dominated by foresters employed by large industry and the Maine Forest Service, is now made up predominantly of consultant foresters working on smaller non-industrial ownerships. The volunteer ranks continually change. Interest level, age and time play into how much these people can contribute. Again the challenge is to keep this interest level high and maintain this vital source of support for the program. At the core of it all are the Tree Farmers themselves. Over the years this is probably the area that has seen the least change. These are people who want to and are practicing sustainable forestry. We as Tree Farm want to help them and use their good work as an example for others.

Looking forward from the first 50 years we can see that the greatest change has come from within the Tree Farm System itself. The National organization set a course to validate the work and results of the program through forest certification. This movement was not without casualties. New and more defined requirements, such as the management plan requirement, drove some longtime participants away from the program.

Now the certification effort is paying off. The level of forest management across the entire system has been improved and the National Committee has brought to the table purchasers of certified products. Going forward we have the bulk of the certification requirements behind us. It is now the way we do business and we can move on to other things. Some of these new things still involve certification.

It is the National Committee's goal to bring the entire Tree Farm System to the third party certified level through PEFC* (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes) global recognition. This will tie items such as the Tree Farm Standard, the management plan requirement, random samples for re-inspections and inspector training together. While some would argue the value of these changes and initiatives, the program has been recognized in a big way. As part of a Canadian lumber settlement our government looked to the American Forest Foundation and the Tree Farm System as a recipient of a \$150 million dollar grant which is to be set up as an endowment to support the efforts of the Tree Farm System and other AFF programs.

So the next 50 years look good. The stage has been set for the certification process and from a National perspective the program is on sound financial footing. If the current trends predict the future, the Tree Farm System will focus on the landowners. That focus will fulfill more of their needs while at the same time require and welcome their involvement. What was an industry program run by dedicated foresters may resemble more of a landowner association in the future. Either way, good forestry today will benefit the stakeholders of tomorrow.



*The PEFC Council (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes) is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organisation, founded in 1999 which promotes sustainably managed forests through independent third party certification. The PEFC provides an assurance mechanism to purchasers of wood and paper products that they are promoting the sustainable management of forests.

APPENDICES

Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmers

Year	Tree Farm #	Tree Farmer	Location	Repeat Winner	New England OTF	Northern Region OTF	National OTF
1954	13	W. Lawson Dauphinee	Guilford, Piscataquis				
1955	42	Norman Hamlin	Oxford, Oxford				
1956	28	Anthony Mendes	Dixfield, Oxford				
1957	47	Melvin Ames	Atkinson, Piscataquis				
1958	248	Joe Boivin & Wes Scrone	Rumford, Oxford				
1959	260	Harland Moulton	Shapleigh, York				
1960	37	Arthur W. Frecker, Jr.	Farmington, Franklin				
1961	75	Arthur Jeane & Sons	Windsor, Kennebec				
1962	435	Urban C. Bartlett	Bethel, Oxford				
1963	158	Leroy Souther & Sons	Livermore Falls, Androscoggin				
1964	47	Melvin Ames	Atkinson, Piscataquis	1957			
1965	615	Donald E. Fitzpatrick	Danforth, Washington				
1966	421	Marlin Thurston & Sons	West Peru, Oxford				
1967	561	James R. LaCasce	Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis				
1968	324	Julian C. Howard	Kennebunkport, York				
1969	195	Eddie Jalbert	Fort Kent, Aroostook				
1970	885	Myles E. Smith & Sons	Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis				
1971	487	Dr. Frank Gilley	East Holden, Penobscot				
1972	314	Raymond Wing	Newport, Penobscot		Yes		
1973	945	Wallace Fengler	Scarborough, Cumberland				

Year	Tree Farm #	Tree Farmer	Location	Repeat Winner	New England OTF	Northern Region OTF	National OTF
1974	232	James Pottle	Perry, Washington				
1975	359	P.H. Chadbourne & Co.	Bethel, Oxford				
1976	908	Duncan Howlett	Center Lovell, Oxford		Yes		
1977	382	Portland Water District	Portland, Cumberland				
1978	23	Edward Freeman	Damariscotta, Lincoln				
1979	441	General Clayton O. Totman	Waldoboro, Lincoln		Yes	Yes	
1980	330	Reverend Gerald Weary	Newcastle, Lincoln				
1981	456	Charles C. Bassett	Arundel, York				
1982	1474	Norman Labbe	Ashland, Aroostook				
1983	487	Dr. Frank Gilley	East Holden, Penobscot	1971			
1984	974	Ronald Locke	Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis				
1985	1360	Martin & Sally Morse	Wells, York		Yes		
1986	435	Urban C. Bartlett	Bethel, Oxford	1962			
1987	945	Wallace Fengler	Scarborough, Cumberland	1973			
1988	885	Dennis & Douglas Smith	Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis	1970	Yes		
1989	401	Joe Barth Family	Alna, Lincoln				

Year	Tree Farm #	Tree Farmer	Location	Repeat Winner	New England OTF	Northern Region OTF	National OTF
1990	158	Leroy Souther & Sons	Livermore Falls, Androscoggin	1963	Yes		
1991	1246	Donald & Pam Smiley	Farmington, Franklin				
1992	487	Dr. Frank Gilley	East Holden, Penobscot & Surry, Hancock	1971, 1983	Yes	Yes	YES!
1993	536	Chandler Brothers	New Gloucester, Cumberland		Yes	Yes	
1994	1230	William Weston & Family	Rumford Center, Oxford				
1995	1032	Steve & Diana Hobart	Blanchard, Piscataquis				
1996	1785	Carleton Jones	Vassalboro, Kennebec			Yes	
1997	2087	China Schools	China, Kennebec				
1998	232	Jim & Sandra Pottle	Perry, Washington	1974			
1999	330	Reverend Gerald Weary	Newcastle, Lincoln	1980			
2000	2364	Bell Family – Tide Mill Farms	Edmunds, Washington				
2001	1764	Jacques Weinstein	Garland, Penobscot				
2002	36 & 789	Arlan & Eleanor Jodrey	Bethel, Oxford				

Maine Tree Farm Committee Chairs 1952- 2002

Years Served	Chair	Company Represented
1952 - 1956	Edwin Giddings	Penobscot Development Co.
1957 - 1958	George H. Winter	St. Regis
1959 - 1960	Robert True	S.D. Warren
1961 - 1963	John L. Hartranft, Jr.	Oxford Paper
1964 - 1965	Linwood Rideout	Pejepscot Paper
1966 - 1967	Paul K. Patterson	Great Northern Paper
1968 - 1972	Norman H. Gray	C.B. Cummings
1973 - 1974	Richard Waldron	Chadbourne Lumber Co.
1975 - 1976	Clifford L. Swenson	Seven Islands Land Co.
1977 - 1978	Abbott Ladd	Oxford Paper Co.
1979 - 1980	Bruce Brockway	Diamond International
1981 - 1982	Carl Van Husen	Scott Paper Co.
1983 - 1984	David Brann	St. Regis
1985 - 1986	Fred Beck	Seven Islands Land Co.
1987 - 1988	Charles Agnew, Jr.	Wood Fiber Industries
1989 - 1990	Paul Memmer	Scott Paper Co.
1991 - 1992	Joel Swanton	Champion International
1993 - 1994	Ken Laustsen	Great Northern Paper
1995 - 1996	Vite Vitale	International Paper Co.
1997 - 1998	Kathy Nitschke	Maine Forest Service
1999 - 2000	Jack Wadsworth	Wadsworth Woodlands
2001 - 2002	Mike Dann	Seven Islands Land Co.

Tree Farm Inspection Form

American Forest Foundation

Tree Farm Inspection Record

ATF Form 004 Revised 2/10/04

State _____ Tree Farm Number _____ Graduate Pioneer to Certified <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Tree Farm Sign Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N Owns Multiple Tree Farms <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N		Reinspection: <input type="checkbox"/> Recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Decertification <input type="checkbox"/> Deceased Initial Inspection: <input type="checkbox"/> Sold <input type="checkbox"/> Substandard <input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer <input type="checkbox"/> Certified <input type="checkbox"/> No Interest <input type="checkbox"/> Missing Owner	
		Field Inspection Date ____/____/____ Tree Farmer Interview Date ____/____/____ Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Phone	
		Tree Farmer Owner _____ Last of Organization Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____ Address _____ City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____ Email _____	
		Tree Farm Ownership: (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Industrial Private (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Public (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Acreage _____ County _____ Location <input type="checkbox"/> Legal _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Local _____ Residence? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
		Inspecting Forester Name _____ ID # _____ Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____ Phone _____ Email _____ Employer Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Consultant <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Retired <input type="checkbox"/> Other Employer Name _____ Organization Name _____	
Forest Management Activity (since last inspection) Harvest Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Coppice _____ Acres/Comments _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Even-Aged _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Uneven-Aged _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Total Volume mbf _____ Stand Improvement: <input type="checkbox"/> Thinning _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Pruning _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Fertilization _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation Control _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Reforestation: <input type="checkbox"/> Natural _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Seeded/Planted _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Protection: <input type="checkbox"/> Fire _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insect _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Disease _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Erosion Control _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Wildlife: <input type="checkbox"/> Food Plots _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter/Habitat _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Recreation/Access: <input type="checkbox"/> Trails/Road _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Scenic Value _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		Recommendations (next inspection cycle) Harvest Method: _____ Stand Improvement: _____ Reforestation: _____ Protection: _____ Wildlife: _____ Recreation/Access: _____ Other: _____ Notes _____	
Authorization State Approval _____ Date ____/____/____ Certification Approved: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Regional Approval _____ Date ____/____/____ Certification Recommended: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Inspecting Forester _____ Date ____/____/____ Certification Recommended: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Tree Farmer _____ Date ____/____/____			

1. See last page for ATF Standards of Sustainability Auditor Verification Form
 2. Signature affirms compliance with all relevant laws/regulations and permits agents of ATF's ingress and egress for inspection/verification purposes

ATF COPY

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