

Woodlot management

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volume that has been removed by the selective improvement cutting comes timber for both firewood and pulpwood. The better standing timber will be permitted to grow faster toward maturity for the higher valued saw timber and even possibly some veneer.

Thus through each of the 10 separate stands a specified plan of thinning and improvement cutting will be followed to get the most economic return from the woodland.

"Following such a Tree Farm plan," explains Olenderski, of the Pennsylvania Forestry

Association, "compares to the logging method of diameter cutting in which all timber of a certain size is removed all at once.

"With the Tree Farm System, a farmer or landowner has the expert guidance of a trained forester to help him in not only getting the most economic return but in preserving a valuable natural resource on that farm."

A variety of foresters are available in Pennsylvania to assist farmers with managing their woodlots. In addition to industrial foresters, such as Wieland at Glatfelter, there are the service foresters of the Pa. Bureau of Forestry and even private forestry

consultants.

Under the American Tree Farm Program, a minimum of about 10 acres of woodland is required and the Glatfelter program requires about 30 acres, 10 of which is a merchandisable stand of timber.

But while these limits apply to participation as full-fledged Tree Farm members, foresters also can provide services to owners of even smaller tracts of woodland.

But to get an idea of what really is out there in that woodland and how best it can be used, contact must be made with one of these types of foresters. Ken Olenderski, of the Pa. Forestry Association, Mechanicsburg; or Thomas Wieland, of Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co., Spring Grove, can help with more information or point a



Ken Olenderski, of Pa. Forestry Association, examines growth rings on new stump that shows how competition in dense stand slowed maturing of the tree.

woodlot owner in the right direction.

And, there are quite a few of you farmers out there with woodland.

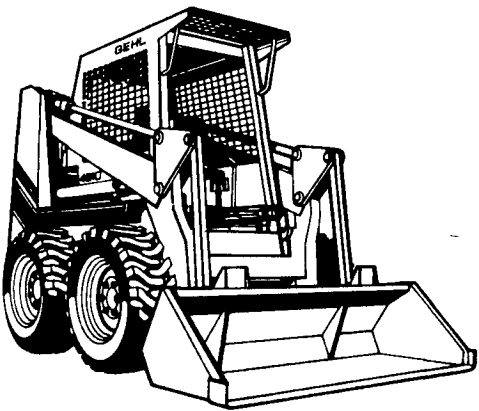
About one-fourth of all the privately-owned woodland in Pennsylvania is owned by farmers.

And farmer-owned woodland amounts to some three million acres.

That's a mighty big crop.

And a crop with an even bigger economic potential than many of its owners might realize.

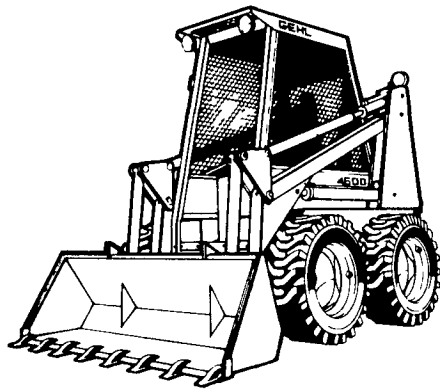
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