

Order Forest Tree Seedlings Soon

EPHRATA (Lancaster) — Pennsylvania landowners can purchase forest tree seedlings from the Department of Environmental Resources for wood products and watershed protection. The landowner must have sufficient open ground to plant the minimum order of seedlings. These seedlings cannot be used for Christmas trees or for ornamental purposes. In order that a seedling application can be processed for spring delivery, it is recommended that an application be submitted as early as possible. Orders are granted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Usually, at the state tree nursery, seedlings are lifted and prepared for shipment between mid-March and May 1st. The distribution to landowners also occurs at this time. The Bureau of Forestry prepares and distributes its list of "Planting Stock Available" each August. Between August and the time shipping begins (the following spring), one species after another is sold out. Therefore, the closer to spring that an order is submitted, the less chance there is of selecting from a complete list of species. Now is the time to apply for spring 1989.

Two types of planting stock are available: *Regular Stock* are seedlings grown from seed that was purchased from commercial deal-

ers and local collectors to meet production schedules, with only a minimal consideration of source and related performance. Seedlings and cuttings designated as *Improved Stock* are grown from selected hybrid poplar trees, or from seed selectively collected or purchased from above average natural stands or plantations, or from seed collected from tree seed orchards that were established from grafts or seedlings from selected individual superior trees.

Seedlings of the following species are available for spring 1989: Evergreens - Regular Stock: red pine, Norway spruce, Austrian pine, white spruce; Evergreens - Improved Stock: Virginia pine, white pine, Japanese larch; Hardwoods - Regular Stock: black locust, European alder, other hardwood seedlings; Hardwoods - Improved Stock: hybrid poplar cuttings, other hardwood seedlings.

Seedling nursery stock application and price lists can be secured in person or by mail from Bureau of Forestry district offices, state nurseries, and some county extension offices. In Lehigh County, phone 820-3085.

30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

The Lancaster County 4-H tobacco and corn roundup will be Tuesday afternoon at the Bayuk Cigar company warehouse, 850 N. Water St., Lancaster, Winthrop Meriam, assistant county agent reports.

All exhibits must be in position by 1 p.m. on the exhibit day. Corn exhibits will consist of 10 ears of the hybrid club members selected for 1958 projects. Yields will be reported in pounds and exhibits will be accompanied by completed records of the project, Merriam said.

Striking a clear note to round out 1958 Lancaster Farming, we have asked a number of county farm leaders, technical advisors and outstanding farmers to summarize in their own words the results of 1958 and what they look for in 1959.

One of the first things the reader will note in the following statements is the constant brevity of 1958 summaries and the concentration on the future. It is as though to say, "The past is over and done with; let's look to next year and what it may bring and-What we may offer it."

Lancaster County's Soil Conservation District completed 1958 with a total of 1,702 conservation cooperators, an increase of 98 for 1957. The 98 district-cooperator agreements signed during 1958 brought 7,081 more acres of county crop land under SCd practices.

With 1,248 acres in 19 new cooperators' farm, East Earl township led the local area parade for the year.

-Value of Pennsylvania's principal crops during 1958 is reported by the State Department of Agriculture at 317 million, a 16 per cent increase over the 1957 valuation of \$274 million.

Nearly all of the Commonwealth's major crops, except potatoes and apples, recorded an increase in value of production, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. Corn production was valued at \$103 million and spearheaded the State's increase with a gain of \$26 million over the previous year. All hay output was valued at \$101 million and dollarwise was the second most important crop in the Keystone State.

-Some squirrels found competition roughly for hickory nuts this fall. Most of the choice ones were being gathered by Pennsylvania farmers to be entered in a "Best Hickory Nut" contest sponsored by Penn State and the Pennsylvania Nut Growers' Association.

Three judges this month will select the best ten from the more than 350 entries of 30-nut samples submitted by Pennsylvanians. Winning hickory nuts will be on display at the 1959 Pennsylvania Farm Show Jan. 12-16 at the State Farm Show Building here.

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of dear friends, old
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