EC63-1734 My Woodland Management Plan

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/extensionhist
This Nebraska walnut tree is 75 years old. It is 30 inches in diameter and has a prime log 15 feet long. The tree is worth $150 and has increased in value at the rate of $2 per year. Forty walnut trees per acre make a good stand on the best sites in eastern Nebraska.

Management principles apply to growing timber as well as production of other crops. Proper development of farm woodland areas offers one of the best ways to increase the future value of many farms.
## MY WOODLAND RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Woodland Improvement</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number or Amount</th>
<th>Cash Income or Value</th>
<th>Cash Expense</th>
<th>Hours of Owner’s Labor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Products Sold or Used on Farm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sawlogs, posts, poles, veneer logs, and fuel wood are all income possibilities when woodland is thinned.

Straight trees grow just as fast as crooked ones. Wolf trees give a small return for the space they occupy. Favor the species adapted and most profitable for the site. Harvest the crop trees at maturity. Livestock obtain little grazing from woodlands and usually do a great deal of damage to the trees. Keep fire and livestock out of woodlands.
TAKE TIME TO HELP YOUR WOODLAND

Harvest

When trees mature, they should be cut and the space used by younger and faster-growing trees.

Plant

Thicken stands which are too thin by planting adapted, profitable species. Trees of no potential value should be destroyed and replaced by the species best suited to the site.

Thin

Stands often need thinning. Remove poor trees and leave the good ones for future harvest. Timber will grow straighter, require less pruning, and produce better quality lumber if grown under slightly crowded conditions during the first 15 years. At this time selection of your crop trees is important. Surplus trees should be destroyed to make room for the proper development of crop trees.

Prune

It will pay well to prune some species, for example, walnut. This should be done before the side limbs become 2 inches in diameter. Prune gradually; avoid taking off more than two or three side branches per year.

Girdle

Unwanted trees sometimes can be destroyed most economically by girdling or by using 2-4-5T mixed with kerosene or diesel fuel applied directly to the trunk of small trees. Spray a two-foot area around the trunk just above the ground. Frilling with an ax and applying 2-4-5T will kill trees over 6 inches in diameter.

TALK TO YOUR COUNTY AGENT

Because soil topography, moisture, and the physical condition of woodlands vary greatly in Nebraska, each woodland has a certain treatment best suited to it. A woodland management plan outlines steps which should be taken to bring timber into the most profitable production.

Landowners who feel unqualified to make proper decisions as to what is needed should obtain help from a trained forester. Your local county agent can make these arrangements for you. The forester will prepare a management plan for you which should be stapled inside this folder for your future reference and guidance.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Program provides cost-sharing for forestry improvement and tree planting practices.

The Farmers Home Administration makes long-term loans for farm forestry development.