

**PROPAGATION OF FOREST  
TREES HAVING  
COMMERCIAL VALUE AND  
ADAPTED TO PENNSYLVANIA**

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Propagation of Forest Trees Having Commercial Value and Adapted to Pennsylvania by B.  
George H. Wirt

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**B. GEORGE H. WIRT**

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B. GEORGE H. WIRT, *Forester.*

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1902.

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1902.



Department of Forestry,  
Harrisburg, Pa., February 2, 1902.

The frequent demands made upon this office for information as to the best methods of propagating forest trees induced me to request Mr. Wirt, our State Forester, to prepare this bulletin upon the subject. I believe it will be timely and useful.

J. T. ROTHROCK,  
Commissioner of Forestry.





## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

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To Hon. J. T. Rothrock, Commissioner of Forestry:

Dear Sir: I have the honor to submit herewith the following notes on the "Propagation of Forest Trees Adapted to Pennsylvania."

Recognizing the needs of our farmers, I have endeavored to present in a brief and clear way such facts and methods as will bring reasonable success to the inexperienced planter, without making necessary any large expenditure of money. The nurseryman or the forester may find nothing new and may even take exception to many statements.

The botanical names of the trees and their order, for the greater part, is in accordance with Gray's "Manual of Botany," sixth edition. In addition I have added those given by Britton and Brown in their "Flora of North America and Canada," when differing from the nomenclature of Gray.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. WIRT,  
Forester.

Harrisburg, Pa., February 1, 1902.



## THE FOREST NURSERY.

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Forestry work does not consist entirely of raising trees from seed and of planting them, although that is a very important part of it. Nor is all planting of trees forestry work. Forestry is a business and must be conducted on a financial basis. Planting individual trees is done mostly from an aesthetic standpoint and at a comparatively high expense. Planting for forestry purposes, under existing conditions, must be reduced to the least possible cost, but it must be understood that more may be lost in this operation from lack of care and attention to the young plants than by trying to save time and money along some other line of work. The methods of raising trees are as varied and as numerous as the trees themselves, the people who plant them and the localities in which they are planted. In other words, the conditions under which each planter has to work are so different that there can be no exact method laid down that will be applicable for all trees and all places. But there are certain laws of plant life in general, and facts in regard to particular trees that, being reinforced by observation of nature and by common sense, will undoubtedly lead to a measurable degree of success. For what follows there is no claim of originality. It is merely a sifted collection of notes taken from the most reliable sources at hand and from the observation of successful nursery work.

### Nursery.

Location.—If many plants are to be raised and the planting is to extend over a number of years, a permanent nursery must be prepared. Its proximity to the house of the person in charge will afford the advantage of easy and quick accessibility. Time can be saved in going to and from it. A frequent inspection of its condition and requirements is more likely to occur, and work may be done at odd times. On the other hand, if the planting is to be done within one or two years the nursery might best be placed near the prospective plantation in order to save time in removing the young plants, and to decrease the danger of loss resulting from exposure of the roots to sun and wind. Less preparation is needed, perhaps, in this case, and less care, in some respects, but in either case the following hints are applicable.