SX 85103V

SPRING PLANTING OF WESTERN HEMLOCK WITH STOCK FROM COLD STORAGE COMPARED WITH STOCK ACTIVELY GROWING

Working Plan
1985

R.S. Jones
Spring Planting of Western Hemlock
With Stock From Cold Storage Compared
With Stock Actively Growing

In the Spring of 1984, we ran a trial in conjunction with John Harwijne of Crown Forests Industries Ltd., Courtenay Division. The results may be of interest to you.

When lifting Hw. 1-0P in February, 1984, some of the seedlings were placed in cold storage and the remainder left in the containers which were placed on elevated pallets in a compound.

At the time of planting in May, 1984, the seedlings in the compound were actively growing and had a flush elongation of approximately 1"-1½". In spite of the flush, no manual damage seemed to occur during planting.

The results weigh heavily in favour of the seedlings that were "hot-lifted".

1. By early September, growth was three times better than on the seedlings that had been in cold storage.

2. Because of earlier growth, the seedlings were hardier going into September.

3. There was less sun-scorching with its customary loss of needles.

4. No storage costs.

This may not work for all divisions. However those divisions within 3 hours' distance from a nursery may wish to try a portion of their Western Hemlock and Western Red Cedar crops this way.

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