

Forest Research Branch
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by
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Sommaire en français

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY PUBLICATION No. 1038 1964

Published under the authority of The Honourable John R. Nicholson, P.C., O.B.E., M.P. Minister of Forestry

Ottawa, 1964

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY OTTAWA, 1964

Catalogue No. 47-1038

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#### Abstract

Ten-year results of thinning 14-, 19- and 23-year-old aspen stands to spacings of $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}, 10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ and $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ in the Riding Mountain National Park, Manitoba indicate that, with thinning to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing, the rotation necessary for the production of veneer bolts will be shortened by about 10 years. Thinning to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing resulted in the greatest board-foot volume.


# Ten-Year Results of Thinning 14-, 19-, and 23-Year-Old Aspen to Different Spacings ${ }^{1}$ 

by<br>G. A. Steneker ${ }^{2}$

## INTRODUCTION

Aspen ${ }^{3}$, present over large areas of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, is increasingly affected by decay organisms as it gets older, and its commercial value is greatly reduced by the resulting high proportion of defect in mature stands. Kirby, Bailey and Gilmour (1957) concluded from cull studies in Saskatchewan that aspen should be cut on a pathological rotation of 80 years. As untended stands of this age are normally deficient in sizes suitable for saw and veneer logs, thinning to increase the growth rate of individual trees has been suggested as a means of increasing saw and veneer log production.

Since the 1920's numerous thinning experiments in aspen have been conducted in the Lake States and in Canada. In some instances thinning showed promise, and in others it did not (Bickerstaff 1946, Zehngraff 1946 and 1949, Pike 1953, and Day 1958). Some of the less favourable results might be attributed to such causes as: thinning too lightly ; thinning stands too old to respond; thinning stands on sites unfavourable for aspen; using thinning methods unsuitable to aspen.

A thinning experiment established in western Manitoba in 1950 would appear to have avoided most of the factors referred to above. Fourteen-, 19-, and 23 -year-old aspen stands were thinned to spacings of $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}, 10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ and $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ on what may be considered good sites for aspen (Figures 1 and 2).

This report presents growth results to 1960 .

## LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF EXPERIMENTAL AREA

The experimental area is within the Riding Mountain National Park, which is located in the southeastern extremity of the B. 18a Forest Section (Rowe 1959).

A description of the selected stands, based on observations in 1950, is presented in Table 1.

[^0]
Figure 2. Thirty-three-year-old aspen, 1960 - undisturbed.


Figure 1. Thirty-three-year-old aspen, 1960 . It was thinned to $12 \times 12$-foot

TABLE 1. DESCRIPTION OF SELECTED STANDS--BASED ON OBSERVATIONS IN 1950

| Factor | Stand description |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Stand I | Stand II | Stand III |
| Age | 14 years | 19 years | 23 years |
| Stand origin | clear cutting | burn | clear cutting |
| No. of trees per acre | 6.000 | 2,400 | 2,200 |
| Av. d.b.h. | $1.4^{\prime \prime}$ | $2.4^{\prime \prime}$ | $2.9{ }^{\prime \prime}$ |
| Av. dom. ht. | $16^{\prime}$ | $25^{\prime}$ | $35^{\prime}$ |
| Aspect | south | northwest | north |
| Slope | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ |
| Soil texture* | clay loam | clay loam | clay loam |
| Moisture** | fresh to mod. moist (3) | mod. fresh (2) | mod. moist to moist (4-5) |
| Tree species (Stand Composition based on number of trees) | pare apsen | aspen and $13 \%$ burr oak, green ash and balsam poplar | aspen and $8 \%$ burr oak, green ash and balsam poplar |
| Underbrush | hazelnut, cherry | hazelnut, cherry | hazelnut, cherry |
| Ground flora | dewberry <br> wild strawberry <br> rose | kidneyleaf violet wild strawberry rose | sarsparilla northern bedstraw snake root |

*Detailed soil profile descriptions are given in Appendices II, III and IV.
${ }^{* *}$ After Hills' classification, 1952.

## METHODS

Within each stand permanent sample plots (with 30 -foot surrounds) were laid out and thinned to spacings of $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}, 10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ and $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$. Table 2 gives a summary of plots and treatments.

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF PLOTS AND TREATMENTS

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Treatment } \\ & \text { and } \\ & \text { Spacing } \end{aligned}$ | Number of plots |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1/10-acre plots | 1/5-acre plots |  |
|  | 14-year-old | 19-year-old | 23-year-old |
| $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Control | 1 | 2 | 2 |

Trees were tallied by one-inch diameter classes before thinning. Malformed and suppressed trees, and species other than aspen, were removed in thinning, along with sufficient intermediate trees to provide the prescribed spacing. Trees remaining after thinning were mapped and numbered, and diameter-at-breastheight was measured to the nearest one-tenth-inch; they were remeasured to the same accuracy in 1960. All trees on the thinned plots and about 10 per cent of all trees on the control plots were measured for height to the nearest foot in 1950 and 1960. Height diameter curves were constructed for each plot from both measurements. Stand tables for all plots before and after thinning in 1950 and in 1960 are given in Appendix IV.

Growth data for the replications in the 19- and 23-year-old stands have, because of their similarity, been grouped together.

Following an unavoidable destruction of plots in the 19-year-old stand in 1961, detailed growth analyses were made on some of the sample trees remaining on the various plots. Of the 1950 inch-class diameter groupings only the 3 -inch class had sufficient residuals to give an adequate sample for analysis. Discs were cut from sample trees at breast height. At the radius of average diameter the yearly ring width over the last 20 years was measured with the aid of a vernier microscope.

## RESULTS

## Production of Large Trees

The various spacings had by 1960 not greatly influenced the production of large sized trees, although some trends were apparent (Table 3). In all stands in 1960 the number of trees in the two largest diameter classes was, with two exceptions, greater on thinned than on control plots. Number of trees 5 inches and over in the 14 - and 19 -year-old stands, and 7 inches and over in the 23 -year-old stand, was greatest on plots thinned to an $8 \times 8$-foot spacing. However, initial differences in 1950 in diameter distribution between sample plots within the various stands may have favoured the $8 \times 8$-foot spacings to 1960 . In the 19 -year-old stand the number of trees 6 inches and over was greatest on plots thinned to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing.

## Diameter and Height Increment

Average diameters of the 200, 50 and 25 largest trees per acre in 1960 by treatment and stand, and their 10-year diameter increment (1950-1960), were computed (Table 4). Diameters in 1960 were, except in the 19 -year-old stand, greater on the thinned than on the control plots, but differed little between thinned plots. However, 1950-1960 diameter increment, except for two instances, tended to be directly related to intensity of thinning. The effect of thimning was almost as evident on the 25 largest trees as on the 50 or 200 largest trees.

The large 1960 diameters on some of the plots could be attributed to diameter distribution before thimning.

TABLE 3. CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION IN 1960 By DIAMETER CLASSES, STANDS AND TREATMENTS

| Treatment | Number of trees per acre |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 14-year-old (1950) |  |  |  | 19-year-old (1950) |  |  |  | 23-year-old (1950) |  |  |  |
|  | $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ | Control | $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | $8 \times 8^{\prime}$ | Control | $12^{\prime} \times 12$ | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ | Control |
| D.b.h. class |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | - | - | - | 3,060 | - | - | - | - | - |  | - | - |
| 2 | 260 | - |  | 2,600 |  | - | 655 | 1,085 | - | - | - | 1,557 |
| 3 | 240 | 410 | 630 | 1,200 | - | 427 | 650 | 998 |  | - | 628 | 1,487 |
| 4 | 130 | 340 | 610 | 230 | 287 | 420 | 573 | 660 | 298 | 422 | 610 | 985 |
| 5 | 10 | 120 | 340 | 10 | 237 | 253 | 302 | 267 | 290 | 403 | 515 | 562 |
| 6 | 0 | 10 | 30 | 0 | 80 | 40 | 58 | 55 | 250 | 307 | 332 | 230 |
| 7 | - | 0 | 0 | - | 10 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 145 | 120 | 147 | 67 |
| 8 | - | - | - | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 37 | 33 | 5 |
| 9 | - | - | - | - | - | - |  | - | 5 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | - |

TABLE 4. AVERAGE D.B.H. OF 1960'S TWO HUNDRED, FIFTY AND TWENTY-FIVE LARGEST TREES PER ACRE IN 1950 AND 1960 AND DIAMETER INCREMENT, BY TREATMENT AND STANDS

| $\begin{gathered} \text { Age } \\ \text { in } 1950 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Treat- } \\ & \text { ment } \end{aligned}$ | Number of largest trees per acre |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 200 | 50 | 25 | 200 | 50 | 25 |
|  |  | $\underset{1960}{\text { D.b.h. }} \text { Incr. }$ | D.b.h. Incr. $19601950$ | D.b.h. Incr. $1960 \quad 1950$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Incr. treatm. -Incr. } \\ & \text { control } \times 100 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| 14 years | $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ | $\begin{array}{llll}4.7 & 2.0 & 2.7\end{array}$ | $5.3 \quad 2.3 \quad 3.0$ | _* - | 42\% | $30 \%$ | - |
|  | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}4.8 & 2.1 & 2.7\end{array}$ | $5.3 \quad 2.4 \quad 2.9$ | -* | $42 \%$ | $26 \%$ | - |
|  | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ | $5.3 \quad 2.6 \quad 2.7$ | $5.612 .7 \quad 2.9$ | -* | $42 \%$ | $26 \%$ |  |
|  | Control | $\begin{array}{lll}4.0 & 2.1 & 1.9\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}4.6 & 2.3 & 2.3\end{array}$ | -* - | - | - | - |
| 19 years | $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ | $5.5 \quad 3.0 \quad 2.5$ | $6.1 \quad 3.3 \quad 2.8$ | $\begin{array}{llll}6.4 & 3.6 & 2.8\end{array}$ | $56 \%$ | 47\% | $40 \%$ |
|  | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | $5.3 \quad 3.2 \quad 2.1$ | $\begin{array}{llll}5.8 & 3.5 & 2.3\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}6.0 & 3.6 & 2.4\end{array}$ | $31 \%$ | 21\% | 20\% |
|  | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ | $\begin{array}{llll}5.4 & 3.5 & 1.9\end{array}$ | $6.0 \begin{array}{lll}3.9 & 2.1\end{array}$ | $6.3 \quad 4.1 \quad 2.2$ | $19 \%$ | 10\% | $10 \%$ |
|  | Control | $5.4 \quad 3.8 \quad 1.6$ | $6.14 .2 \quad 1.9$ | $6.3 \quad 4.3 \quad 2.0$ | - | - | - |
| 23 years | $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ | $7.14 .3 \quad 2.8$ | $7.94 .9 \quad 3.0$ | $\begin{array}{lll}8.3 & 5.2 & 3.1\end{array}$ | 40\% | $30 \%$ | $35 \%$ |
|  | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}6.9 & 4.2 & 2.7\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{llll}7.9 & 4.8 & 3.1\end{array}$ | $8.3 \quad 5.0 \begin{array}{lll}8.3\end{array}$ | $35 \%$ | $35 \%$ | 43\% |
|  | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}7.0 & 4.6 & 2.4\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}7.8 & 5.3 & 2.5\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}8.2 & 5.5 & 2.7\end{array}$ | $20 \%$ | $9 \%$ | 17\% |
|  | Control | $\begin{array}{lll}6.5 & 4.5 & 2.0\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{llll}7.3 & 5.0 & 2.3\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}7.5 & 5.2 & 2.3\end{array}$ |  | - | - |

*sample plots in the 14 -year-old stand are $\frac{1}{1}$-acre in size. Analysis of the largest 25 trees per acre would therefore in volve 2 or 3 trees. This number was considered too small for analysis. Sample plots in other stands are $\frac{1}{5}$-acre in size.

Figure 3 shows diameter increment (1950-1960) of all trees by treatments and 1 -inch diameter classes. In all stands diameter increment rose with increased thimning intensity. Effect of thimning was most evident on trees in the smaller size classes. Little difference existed in diameter increment of trees in the largest diameter classes in the 23 -year-old stand.

Yearly diameter increment of a number of sample trees in the 19-year-old stand is shown by treatment over a 20-year-period in Figure 4. After 1950, diameter increment for all treatments increased, the $12 \times 12$-foot spacing showing the most noticeable increase. By 1953 maximum rate of increment had been reached by all trees and a general decline occurred. However, trees on the thinned plots maintained a higher growth rate than those on the controls. Regression lines of diameter increment on years since thinning for trees on the heaviest thinned and control plots for the period 1953-1961 (1953 is year in which full effect of thinning was reached), have been superimposed on the graphs in Figure 4. The regression lines show that, although absolute difference in growth rate between thinned and control plots decreased somewhat, percentage difference increased from 1953 to 1961.

Height increment of dominant trees was not influenced by thinning.


Figure 3. Periodic diameter increment by treatment and stands 1950-1960

LEGEND

| Basis |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Control | Trees |
| $8^{\prime} \times 8{ }^{\prime}$ | Trees |
| $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | -Trees |
| $12 \times 12{ }^{\prime}$ | - Trees |



Figure 4. Yearly ring width at breast height from 1942 to 1961 by treatment of $3^{\prime \prime}$ trees (dominant and codominant in 1950) from the 19-year-old stand.
TABLE 5. STAND STATISTICS PER ACRE, 1950 AND 1960

| $\begin{gathered} \text { Age } \\ \text { in } \\ 1950 \end{gathered}$ | Treatment | $\begin{gathered} \text { No. } \\ \text { of } \\ \text { plots } \end{gathered}$ | No. of trees |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Basal area } \\ (\mathrm{sq} . \mathrm{ft} .) \end{gathered}$ |  |  | Total volume (cu.ft.)* |  |  | Merchantable volume |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (cords) ** | (bd. ft. $) \dagger$ |  |  |
|  |  |  | $\text { B.T. }{ }^{1950} \text { А.T. }$ |  | 1960 |  |  |  | $\text { B.T. }{ }^{1}$ | A.T. | 1960 | $\text { B.T. }{ }^{1}$ | ${ }^{50} \text { A.T. }$ | 1960 | $\text { B.T. }{ }^{1}$ | ${ }^{0} \text { A.T. }$ | 1960 | B.T. ${ }^{1}$ | ${ }^{0} \text { A.T. }$ | 1960 |
| 14 years | $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ | 1 | 5,970 | 300 | 260 | 70 | 6 | 29 |  |  |  | 907 | 83 | 459 | 0 | 0 | 3.7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | 1 | 6,670 | 440 | 410 | 55 | 9 | 40 | 714 | 119 | 640 | 0 | 0 | 4.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ | 1 | 5,270 | 680 | 630 | 71 | 20 | 75 | 988 | 296 | 1,424 | 0 | 0 | 13.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Control | 1 | 6,050 |  | 3060 | 55 | - | 103 |  |  |  | ${ }^{0}$ | - | 3.8 | 0 |  | 0 |
| 19 years | $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ | 2 | 2,458 | 300 | 288 | 74 | 14 | 42 | 1,099 | 230 | 768 | 1.0 | . 2 | 8.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | 2 | 2,785 | 435 | 428 | 76 | 21 | 53 | 1,232 | 360 | 1,012 | 1.0 | . 6 | 10.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ | 2 | 2,138 | 680 | 655 | 72 | 35 | 74 | 1,104 | 542 | 1,346 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 12.1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Control | 2 |  |  | 1,085 | 94 |  | 94 |  | - | 1,847 | 3.2 |  | 13.2 | 0 |  | 0 |
| 23 years |  | 2 | 2,165 | 300 | 298 | 96 | 27 | 70 | 1,940 | 586 | 1,837 | 8.8 | $5.6$ | 22.1 | 0 | 0 | 937 |
|  | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ | 2 | 2,448 | 435 | 422 | 90 | 34 | 88 | 1,930 | 729 | 2,284 | 6.2 | 5.6 | 26.8 | 0 | 0 | 870 |
|  | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ | 2 | 1,682 |  | 628 | 92 | 54 | 114 | 1,792 | 1110 | 2,969 | 9.0 | 8.3 | 35.5 | 0 | 0 | 821 |
|  | Control | 2 | 2,610 |  | 1,557 | 129 | - | 162 | 2,668 | - | 4,142 | 15.1 |  | 40.4 | 0 | - | 135 |

${ }^{*}$ Interpolated volume tables. Canada, Department of Mines and Resources, Dom. For. Serv. Misc. Ser. No. 3. 1944.
$\quad 1$-foot stump; log length $12.6^{\prime}$ and $16.8^{\prime}$; top diameter $6.5^{\prime \prime}$. Int. log rule $\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(>7.5^{\prime \prime}\right.$ d.b.h.) Form class volume tables (sec. ed.) 1948. Canada Dep't. of Mines and Resources, Dom. For.
Serv. Table 203.

## Stand in 1960

Stand statistics for 1950 before and after thinning and for 1960 are presented in Table 5. In 1960 only the 23-year-old stand supported trees sufficiently large (larger than 7.5 inches) to produce a board-foot volume. Thinning to a $12 \times 12$ foot spacing produced the greatest volume ( $937 \mathrm{bd} . \mathrm{ft}$.) and no thinning produced the least ( $135 \mathrm{bd} . \mathrm{ft}$.).

Basal area, total volume (cu. ft.) and cordwood volume in 1960 were, except in the 14 -year-old stand, inversely related to intensity of thinning.

## Nett and Gross Volume Increment and Mortality

Nett board-foot volume increment was greatest on plots thinned to a $12 \times$ 12 -foot spacing and least on the controls (Table 6). Net total volume (cu. ft.) and cordwood volume increment were for all stands greatest with an $8 \times 8$-foot spacing and, except for the 19 -year-old stand, least with a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing.

TABLE 6. PERIODIC NETT AND GROSS VOLUME INCREMENT AND MORTALITY PER ACRE, 1950-1960.


Gross total volume increment showed a marked drop on those plots thinned to a spacing wider than $8 \times 8$ feet.

Mortality over the 10 -year period on the control plots, especially among the smaller diameter classes, was in some instances as high as $50 \%$ by number of trees. Most trees on the thinned plots had their crowns relatively free from competition, and mortality was consequently greatly reduced.

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Results of aspen thinnings in Manitoba and Saskatchewan will most likely be evaluated in terms of increased production of material suitable for the manufacture of lumber and veneer for which certain size and quality standards must be met. Ten-year results of this experiment have shown that thinning produced a greater number of large sized trees to 1960 than no thinning. Furthermore the largest trees on the thinned plots were growing at a faster rate than the largest
trees on the control plots. It is therefore likely that as a result of thinning veneer size material (minimum size: 11 inches d.b.h.) will be produced at an earlier age than would be the case with no thinning.

In order to make a conservative estimate of the rotation age at which veneer size material will be produced on the plots thinned to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing in the 19-year-old stand, the assumptions are made that (1) Kirby's et al. (1957) projected growth rates for aspen apply to the growth rate of the largest trees on the controls and (2) a constant per cent difference (rather than slightly increasing difference as in Figure 4) in growth rate between the $12 \times 12$-foot thinned plots and control plots will be maintained in the future. Projected growth rate calculations for the 200, 50 and 25 largest trees on the $12 \times 12$-foot thinned plots revealed that these trees may produce veneer size material at an age of 48 years. On the control plots this material may be produced at an age of 58 years. Thinning to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing will therefore have shortened the rotation by 10 years. If the same assumptions are made in the calculation of the projected growth rate of the largest trees in the other two stands, the rotation of these trees will also be shortened by about 10 years.

The three ages of stand in this study showed no difference in response to thinning. Where one non-commercial thinning is possible, early and heary thinning would seem most advantageous. It would probably be cheaper, and also the growth advantage resulting from thimning would be better utilized, than if thimning were to be deferred. Thinning a 14 -year-old stand to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing will likely maintain the diameter increment at a high level for a long period of time, and a subsequent thiming can be delayed until such an operation will be commercial.

Greatest board-foot volume to 1960 was produced on plots thinned to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing. However, volume differed little from that on plots thinned to a $10 \times 10$ - and an $8 \times 8$-foot spacing. It cannot therefore be safely assumed that the widest spacing will continue to produce the greatest board-foot volume.

## SUMMARY

In 1950, 14-, 19- and 23-year-old aspen stands were thinned to spacings of $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}, 10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ and $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ in the Riding Mountain National Park, Manitoba. An analysis of the growth to 1960 of 1960's 200, 50 and 25 largest trees per acre, by treatment and stand, showed that on plots thinned to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing diameter increment of the largest trees was between 30 and 56 per cent greater than that of the largest trees on the controls. It was concluded that with thinning to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing, the rotation necessary for the production of veneer bolts (assuming a minimum utilizable size of 11 inches d.b.h.) will be shortened by about 10 years.

Thinning to a $12 \times 12$-foot spacing resulted in the greatest board-foot volume; no thinning resulted in the greatest basal area and total volume (cu. ft .) ; and thinning to an $8 \times 8$-foot spacing resulted in the greatest cordwood volume.

Gross total volume increment dropped markedly at spacings wider than $8 \times$ 8 feet. Mortality was noticeably reduced by thinning.

## SOMMAIRE

En 1950, des peuplements de peupliers de 14, 19 et 23 ans ont été éclaircis à intervalles de 8 pieds sur 8 , de 10 pieds sur 10 et 12 pieds sur 12 dans le pare national Riding Mountain, au Manitoba. Une analyse de la croissance, jusqu'en 1960, des 200, 50 et 25 plus gros arbres à l'acre en 1960, d'après le traitement reçu et le type de peuplement, a révélé que dans les places éclaircies à intervalles de 12 pieds sur 12, l'accroissement en diamètre des arbres les plus gros était de 30 à 56 p .100 supérieur à celui des plus gros arbres des places témoins. L’auteur conclut que grâce aux coupes d'éclaircie à intervalles de 12 pieds sur 12, la rotation nécessaire pour la production de billes de placage, si l'on présume que les dimensions minima des billes utilisables sont de 11 pouces de diamètre à hauteur de poitrine, sera raccourcie d'environ dix ans.

Les coupes d'éclaircie à intervalles de 12 pieds sur 12 ont donné le plus fort volume de pieds mesure de planche, mais n'ont provoqué aucun accroissement de la surface terrière et du volume global (en pi. cu.) ; par ailleurs, les coupes d'éclaircie à intervalles de 8 pieds sur 8 ont donné le plus fort volume de bois de chauffage.

L'accroissement du volume global brut a sensiblement diminué à la suite des éclaircies à intervalles de plus de 8 pieds sur 8 . De plus, les éclaircies ont enrayé notablement la mortalité.

## APPENDIX I

Common and botanical names of plants mentioned in text.

| Ash, green | Fraxinus pennsylvanica Marsh. var. subintegerrina (Vahl.) Fern. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Aspen, trembling | Populus tremuloides Michx. |
| Cherry | Prunus spp. |
| Oak, burr | Quercus macrocarpa Michx. |
| Poplar, balsam | Populus balsamifera L. |
| Dewberry | Rubus pubescens Raf. |
| Hazelnut. | Corylus cornuta Marsh. |
| Kidneyleaf violet | Viola renifolia Gray (incl. var. brainerdii (Green) Fenn.) |
| Northern bedstraw | Gatium boreale L. |
| Rose | Rosa sp. |
| Sarsaparilla | Aralia nudicaulis L. |
| Snake root | Sanicula marilandica L. |
| Wild strawberry | Fragaria virginiana Duchesne. |

## APPENDIX II

Soil Profile Description, 14-Year-Old Stand, Plots 9-12
Moisture regime 3, fresh.

| organic <br> layers | $\begin{array}{lcc} \mathrm{L} & \text { Depth } & \frac{1}{2} \\ \text { F } & " & 2^{\prime \prime} \\ \text { H } & " & 1^{\prime \prime} \end{array}$ | Accumulative depth $3 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ahe <br> horizon | Depth - $3^{\prime \prime}$ Texture $\quad$ clay loam Structure - granular pH $\quad$ - 6.5 Colour -very dark grey $(10 \text { YR3 } 3 / 1)^{*}$ | $6 \frac{1}{2}{ }^{\prime \prime}$ |
| Bt <br> horizon | Depth - $11^{\prime \prime}$ Texture - heavy clay Structure - blocky pH $\quad$ - 6.7 Colour - dark brown ( $10 \mathrm{YR} 3 / 3$ ) | $17 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}$ |
| Bm <br> horizon | Depth $-6^{\prime \prime}$  <br> Texture -clay loam <br> Structure-granular  <br> pH -7.4 <br> Colour grey brown $(2.5 Y 5 / 2)$ <br>  Free Ca present. | $23 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}$ |
| C horizon | Depth $-8^{\prime \prime}+$  <br> Texture clay loam <br> Structure - granular  <br> pH $-7.4+$ <br> Colour grey brown $(2.5 Y-5 / 2)$ <br>  Water table below $31 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}$ | $31 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}+$ |

[^1]
## APPENDIX III

Soil Profile Description, 19-Year-Old Stand, Plots 13-20
Moisture regime 2, moderately fresh.

| organic <br> layers | $\begin{array}{lcc} \mathrm{L} & \text { Depth } & \frac{11}{4} \\ \mathrm{~F} & " & 1^{\prime \prime} \\ \mathrm{H} & " & \frac{3}{4} \end{array}$ | Accumulative depth $2^{\prime \prime}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ahe <br> horizon | Depth - $4^{\prime \prime}$ Texture -loamy sand Structure - single grained to slightly granular pH $\quad-6.8$ Colour -dark grey to reddish brown $\quad(5 \mathrm{YR} 3 / 1)$ | $6^{\prime \prime}$ |
| Bt <br> horizon | Depth - $7^{\prime \prime}$ Texture-clay loam Structure-single grained to slightly granular pH - 6.7 Colour -reddish brown (5YR 5/4) | $13{ }^{\prime \prime}$ |
| Bm horizon | Depth $-9^{\prime \prime}$ <br> Texture silty clay loam <br> Structure single grained to slightly blocky <br> pH -7.3 <br> Colour - yellow brown $(10 Y R ~$ <br> F $6)$ <br> Free Ca present  | $22^{\prime \prime}$ |
| C <br> horizon | Depth $-7 \frac{1}{2}{ }^{\prime \prime}$ <br> Texture - silty clay loam <br> Structure - single grained to slightly blocky <br> $\mathrm{pH} \quad-7.4$ <br> Colour -yellow brown (10YR 5/6) <br> Water table below $29 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}$ | $29 \frac{11}{}{ }^{\prime \prime}$ |

## APPENDIX IV

## Soil Profile Description, 23-Year-Old Stand, Plots 1-8

Moisture regime 4-5, moderately moist to moist

| organic <br> layers | $\begin{array}{lcc} \mathrm{L} & \text { Depth } & 1_{4}^{\prime \prime} \\ \mathrm{F} & " & 1^{\prime \prime} \\ \mathrm{H} & " & 1^{\prime \prime} \end{array}$ | Accumulative depth $2 \frac{1}{4}^{\prime \prime}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ah <br> horizon | Depth $-2 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}$ <br> Texture loamy fine sand <br> Structure single grained slightly platy <br> pH -6.8 <br> Colour -dark grey to black ( 10 YR $3 / 1$ ) | $4_{4}^{3 \prime \prime}$ |
| Ae <br> horizon | Depth $-3 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}$  <br> Texture loamy fine sand <br> Structure single grained slightly platy <br> pH -6.8 <br> Colour grey brown $(2.5$ YR $5 / 2)$ | $8_{4}^{1 \prime}$ |
| Btg <br> horizon | Depth $-\mathbf{7}^{\prime \prime}$ <br> Texture -heavy clay <br> Structure granular to slightly blocky <br> pH -6.8 <br> Colour grey brown $(2.5$ YR $5 / 2)$ <br>  Occurrence of gleying | $15^{\frac{1}{4}}{ }^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathrm{Cg}$ <br> horizon | Depth $-15^{\prime \prime}$ <br> Texture alternate bands of silt and fine sand <br> Structure single grained to slightly granular <br> pH -7.4 <br> Colour - yellow brown (10YR $5 / 6)$ <br>  Occurrence of gleying <br>  Water table in June below 30" | $30_{4}^{1 \prime \prime}$ |

APPENDIX V
STAND TABLE, 1950 AND 1960

|  | 14 years (1950) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Treatment | $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ |  |  | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ |  |  | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ |  |  | Control |  |
| Plot number | 10 |  |  | 11 |  |  | 12 |  |  | 9 |  |
| D.b.h. class | 1950 |  | 1960 | 1950 |  | 1960 | 1950 |  | 1960 | 1950 | 1960 |
|  | B.T. | A.T. |  | B.T. | A.T. |  | B.T. | A.T. |  |  |  |
| 1 | 3,630 | 20 |  | 5,400 | 30 |  | 3,050 | 490 |  | 4,580 | 460 |
| 2 | 2,330 | 270 | 20 | 1,250 | 400 |  | 1,980 | 190 |  | 1,470 | 1,400 |
| 3 | 10 | 10 | 110 | 20 | 10 | 70 | 240 |  | 20 |  | 970 |
| 4 | - | - | 120 | - | - | 220 | - | - | 270 | - | 220 |
| 5 | - | - | 10 | - | - | 110 | - | - | 310 | - | 10 |
| 6 | - | - | - | - | - | 10 | - |  | 30 | - | - |
| 7 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 8 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 9 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 5,970 | 300 | 260 | 6,670 | 440 | 410 | 5,270 | 680 | 630 | 6,050 | 3,060 |

APPENDIX V
STAND TABLE, 1950 AND 1960 (number of trees per acre)-continued


## APPENDIX V

STAND TABLE, 1950 AND 1960
(number of trees per acre)-concluded

|  | 23 years (1950) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Treatment | $12^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime}$ |  |  |  |  |  | $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ |  |  |  |  |  | $8^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ |  |  |  |  |  | Control |  |  |  |
| Plot number | 1 |  |  | 2 |  |  | 3 |  |  | 4 |  |  | 5 |  |  | 6 |  |  | 7 |  | 8 |  |
| D.b.h. class | $\text { B.T. }{ }_{\text {A.T. }} 1960$ |  |  | $\text { B.T. A.T. }{ }^{1960}$ |  |  | $\text { B.T. }{ }^{1950}{ }^{\text {A.T. }}{ }^{1960}$ |  |  | $\stackrel{1950}{\text { B.T. A.T. }}$ |  | 1960 | ${ }^{1950}{ }_{\text {B.T. A.T. }}$ |  | 1960 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { B.T. A.T. } \\ & \hline 1960 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  | 19501960 |  | 19501960 |  |
| 1 | 260 | - | - | 95 | - | - | 170 | - | - | 75 | - | - | 75 | - | - | 70 | - | - | 145 | - | 165 | - |
| 2 | 910 | - | - | 675 | - | - | 1,190 | - | - | 960 | - | - | 495 | 15 | - | 415 | - | - | 765 | 50 | 865 | 90 |
| 3 | 810 | 55 | - | 790 | 75 | - | 950 | 140 | - | 920 | 165 | - | 655 | 240 | 25 | 750 | 280 | 10 | 925 | 460 | 1,070 | 545 |
| 4 | 340 | 205 | - | 300 | 140 | 15 | 265 | 225 | 25 | 260 | 240 | 15 | 345 | 295 | 70 | 305 | 285 | 120 | 530 | 390 | 545 | 455 |
| 5 | 40 | 35 | 35 | 95 | 75 | 45 | 70 | 70 | 70 | 30 | 25 | 120 | 120 | 120 | 170 | 105 | 100 | 195 | 110 | 330 | 85 | 335 |
| 6 | 5 | 5 | 120 | 10 | 10 | 90 | - | - | 200 | 5 | 5 | 175 | 10 | 10 | 205 | 20 | 15 | 165 | 15 | 155 | - | 170 |
| 7 | - | - | 115 | - | - | 100 | - | - | 60 | - | - | 105 | - | - | 100 | - | - | 130 | - | 70 | - | 55 |
| 8 | - | - | 20 | - | - | 45 | - | - | 60 | - | - | 5 | - | - | 45 | - | - | 15 | - | 10 | - | - |
| 9 | - | - | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 2,365 | 300 | 300 | 1,965 | 300 | 295 | 2,645 | 435 | 425 | 2,250 | 435 | 420 | 1,700 | 680 | 615 | 1,665 | 680 | 640 | 2,490 | 1,465 | 2, 730 | 1,650 |

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Department of Forestry, Canada, Forest Research Branch Contribution No. 567.
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    ${ }^{3}$ For botanical names of plants mentioned, see Appendix 1.

[^1]:    *Munsell Soil Color Charts, 1954 ed.
    Munsell Color Company, Inc.
    Baltimore 2, Maryland, U.S.A.

