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News from Forest Service

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News from Forest Service

TIMBER OUTLOOK HIGHLIGHTS WOOD RESEARCH MEETING

November 1, 1979

Madison, Wis.—“Cooperative research with universities has, does and will continue to strengthen forestry research programs,” said Dr. Robert L. Youngs, Director of the Forest Products Laboratory, in opening the Forest Products Utilization Research Conference here, October 22 and 23, 1979.

The Lab hosted the annual meeting, attended by some 150 university and Forest Service scientists and administrators.

This year's conference theme emphasized current and planned research in forest products utilization to extend the timber supply, and encouragement of cooperative research programs with universities, industries and individuals.

Ross Whaley, director of the Forest Service's economics research group, analyzed the timber demand and supply outlook.

Quoting statistics from the Department of Commerce and the Forest Service, Whaley explained that future growth in population and Gross National Product could increase wood demand beyond supply. According to Whaley, the variables in his projection depend on the nation's energy requirements, industry making more use of the whole tree, and increasing timber production, especially on private lands.

“Opportunities exist for increased output in all regions of the United States, on all ownerships and for all products,” said Whaley, tying these opportunities to better management, technical and financial assistance, and research.

Dr. Warren Doolittle, Associate Deputy Chief for Forest Service Research, told the audience that the Forest Service spent \$11,000,000 on cooperative research programs in 1978. Many audience members came for ideas on preparing research agreements for Forest Service support.

Conference presentations fit into six general categories within the mission of the Lab and were related to timber supply. These were research updates on panel products, adhesives, lumber, lumber properties and grading, construction and engineering, and pulp and paper manufacturing. Speakers represented Forest Service Experiment Stations, Lab staff, and universities involved in extramural research with the Forest Service.

A copy of the agenda with speech topics and speakers is available on request to the Forest Products Laboratory, Current Information, P.O. Box 5130, Madison, Wis. 53705. Also available on request are copies of "Prospectus '79-'80" and the "1979 Progress Report," outlining current and planned research at the Lab and recent accomplishments.

The Forest Products Laboratory is maintained at Madison, Wisconsin, by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin.