

FOREST PRODUCTIVITY: AN INTEGRATED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Daniel C. Dey, Thomas R. Crow, and Don E. Riemenschneider¹

ABSTRACT.—In 2000, the North Central Research Station initiated the Forest Productivity Integrated Research Program (North Central Research Station 2001). This program combines the efforts of scientists from across the Station's 13 research work units to examine the current condition of the forests in the North Central Region and their prospects for producing wood and fiber. The overall goal is to develop the scientific knowledge and tools needed to increase and maintain forest productivity and the supply of forest products in the North Central Region. The challenge is to optimize productivity and availability of forest products using sustainable silvicultural systems that are socially acceptable, economically viable, and ecologically feasible.

The main element of the poster was a listing of several research projects related to the forest productivity program. The central graphic showed interconnections among 31 studies and lead researchers within the NC station with the projects grouped into seven broad categories (Assessment, Riparian, Management and Silviculture, Intensive Culture, Management Effects, Environment, and Fire). However, many of these projects could be assigned to more than one category. For example, a study of the impacts of management on seasonal ponds could be considered appropriately placed under the silviculture, riparian, or management effects categories.

Recently, as the result of a with-in station call for proposals to further the goal of integrated research, 10 new efforts were funded from among 41 proposals submitted. Five of the proposals, including studies with ecological and social emphasis, have direct implications for forest productivity in the North Central Region.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Forest Productivity Integrated Program is indebted to Neal Sullivan for his creativity and willingness to assemble the information and prepare the poster presentation.

CITED LITERATURE

North Central Research Station. 2001. The nature of tomorrow ... policy-relevant research at the North Central Research Station. Misc. Publ. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, North Central Research Station. 32 p.

¹ Integrated Science Program Co-Leaders (DCD), (TRC), (DER), USDA Forest Service, North Central Research Station, St. Paul, MN. DCD is corresponding author: to contact, call (573) 875-5341 or e-mail at ddey@fs.fed.us.

Citation for proceedings: Van Sambeek, J.W.; Dawson, J.O.; Ponder, F., Jr.; Loewenstein, E.F.; Fralish, J.S., eds. 2003. Proceedings, 13th Central Hardwood Forest conference; 2002 April 1-3; Urbana, IL. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-234. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, North Central Research Station. 565 p. [Abstract from poster presentation].