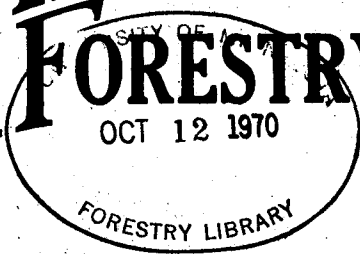




MINNESOTA FORESTRY NOTES



No. 11
December 15, 1952

INDEX CARDS FOR TREE RECORDS

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In both management and research work, it is frequently necessary to record data concerning individual trees. In such work the use of IBM and various key-sort cards is frequently ruled out because of cost when only a few hundred items are to be handled. Standard 3 x 5 inch index cards are ideal forms for such records.

The advantages of index cards are several: (1) the information on each tree is segregated in one place; (2) the file can be expanded or contracted without necessitating relisting as in tabular data; and (3) sorting and computation are greatly facilitated.

Form 1

DBH	Species	Total Height
Crown Diameter	Crown Length	
Girard Form Class	Plot Location Tree Number	Merchantable Height
Double Bark Thickness	10-year Radial Growth	
Girard Form Diameter	Cubic Foot Volume	Board Foot Volume

Form 1 is a modification of several forms used by the author in volume and growth studies. Note that the various measurements are spaced over the card for maximum visibility. In actual use, numbers only are entered on the card. It is known, for instance, that the number in the upper left-hand corner is the D. B. H. simply by its position. In most cases, fewer measurements will be needed and the record card can be simplified.

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If it is decided to group trees by D.B.H. class, the cards are held so that the upper left-hand corner is readily visible and are piled in groups according to class. The cards may quickly be grouped in any way wanted, thus greatly facilitating sorting. Tabulation, too, is quick and less liable to error when each item to be entered is recorded on a separate card. If an automatic calculating machine is used, final answers may be accumulated in a single operation without any intermediate listing or subtotals.

Form 2

Species		Plot		Tree No.
Yr.	DBH	Ht.	Notes	

Form 2 is for use with permanent sample plots where individual tree records are kept. It brings together in one place all the records concerning each tree. When records are kept in such a fashion, both field work and office computations can be carried on with a minimum of waste effort.