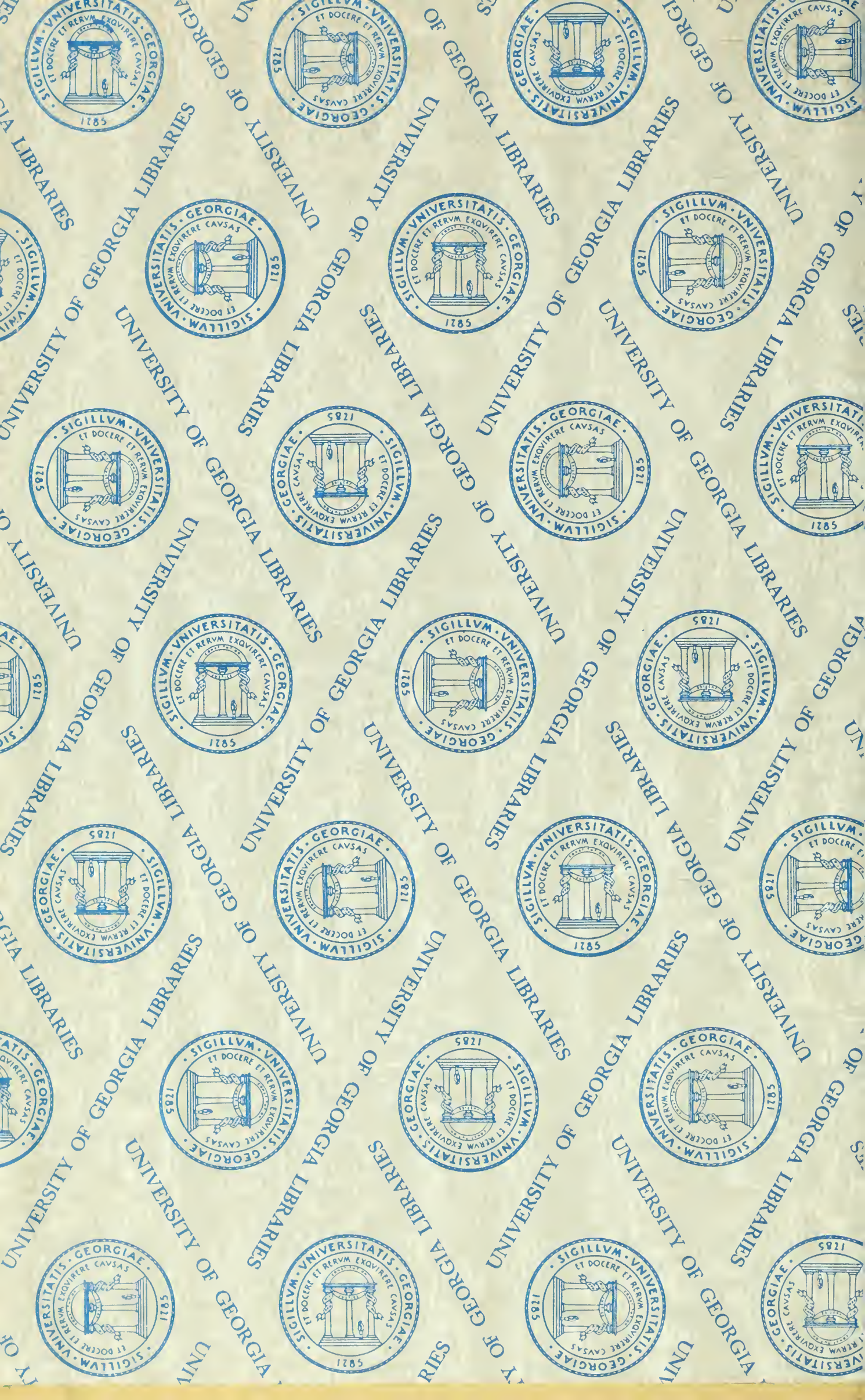


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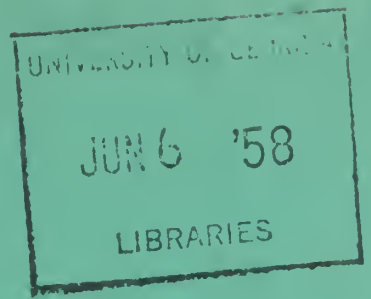






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BIENNIAL REPORT, 1941-1942

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

to the

GOVERNOR and GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the

STATE OF GEORGIA



REPORT DIVISION OF FORESTRY

By

WALTER DYAL, *Director*

In spite of disturbances caused by the war, the Division of Forestry has made progress during the past two years. In 1941-42, the percentage of protected lands burned over reached an all-time low.

Satisfactory progress has also been made distributing tree seedlings grown at the State's two tree nurseries at Albany and Flowery Branch. For four consecutive years, Georgia has held the record for distributing more tree seedlings to farmers than any other state.

Aid to farmers in managing and marketing their timber has been greatly increased by the employment of farm foresters. This has been made possible with funds appropriated under the Norris-Doxey Act of Congress. The Division of Forestry has been able to match Federal funds and employ four new foresters to help farmers market their timber at a time when the war is making heavy demands. In addition, this Division is cooperating in supporting farm foresters working at Butler and Pearson.

While farm-forestry projects are directed by the Division of Forestry, the United States Forest Service, the Agricultural Extension Service, and in one instance, the Soil Conservation Service, are cooperating.

To comply with military requirement, special funds have been provided from Federal sources to control forest fires in what are designated "Critical Military Areas" of Georgia. These areas involve a considerable part of the forested lands of the State. The State Forester has been designated as Coordinator of the agencies participating in this undertaking. Assistance is to be given by the Office of Civilian Defense through local Forest Fire Fighters Units, in the control of forest fires.

The State organization with its fire-control equipment is to be employed in these critical military areas, and with the additional personnel and facilities, intensive fire control is to be prosecuted.

The war has made some inroads on the personnel of the Division of Forestry, and hindered to some extent the development of the Division's plans, but no serious impairment of the service has thus far occurred.

The cooperative forestry education project carried on with the Division of Vocational Education, to which 500 rural high schools are eligible, has been slowed down somewhat by the drafting of these schools for the work of training war workers. While forestry remains in the course of study, less attention for the time, is given to the demonstration school forests in which foresters of this Division give supervision and instruction.



It has been the purpose of the Division to make use of all opportunities for cooperating with Federal and State agencies to further the interests of forestry in Georgia. Pleasant relationships have been maintained with the United States Forest Service through its regional office in Atlanta from which much assistance has been received. Cooperative relationships with the Agricultural Extension Service, the Soil Conservation Service and the Division of Vocational Education, have also been satisfactory.

Citizens' forestry and forest product organizations have been assisted as far as possible. The only regret is that there are not enough foresters and means for rendering larger assistance.

As for the future, Georgia's great, and potentially greater forest resources, deserve increased State aid. The income from Georgia's forests has been a close second to the income from agriculture. Inroads of war on the forest resources of the State will markedly reduce our future forest output, making it imperative that every effort be made to conserve and develop our forests. For their protection, greater effort should be made to establish an adequate system of fire control to save an annual fire loss of approximately five million dollars.

It is equally apparent that a vast acreage of idle farm lands should be devoted to growing tree crops—the only crops for which much of this land is suited.

Furthermore, it is important to build up the productivity of war-depleted forests with the assistance of trained farm foresters.

All this constitutes a job of large proportions, calling for adequate State appropriations and all the possible Federal funds that can be made available to the State.

FOREST FIRE CONTROL

Heavy losses from forest fires are suffered each year in Georgia in spite of progress being made in their control. Approximately 6,400,000 acres are under organized fire protection. This includes about 1,400,000 acres recently added around military areas.

The fact that organized fire protection is effective has been clearly demonstrated during the fiscal year of 1941-42, when the area burned over in protected areas was slightly less than 2 per cent of the whole.

Half of the money spent on forest fire control comes from Federal sources through provisions of the Clark-McNary Act of Congress. Without this aid the fire losses would have been at least twice greater.

No forestry problem in Georgia is greater than that of fire control and nothing can annul all other efforts in forest improvement more than forest fire. Therefore, forest fire control stands as a fundamental problem to be solved, for which there must be more men and equipment than available funds will now permit.

Operations of 33 forest fire protection units in Georgia covering 4,935,967 acres showed for the year July 31, 1941-June 30, 1942,

97,846.86 acres burned over by 3162 fires. The area burned over was only 1.93 per cent of the whole. This is the best record on organized areas that the State has experienced.

The record shows that the average area burned by each fire was only 30.95 acres, evidencing that the organizations controlling the fires were alert and quick to do the work of suppression.

Incendiarism is credited with a number of fires. It is not easy to make out cases against incendiarists but citizens have made cases against 47 for the year of July 1, 1941 to June 30, 1942.



Typical Forest Fire Tower in Georgia.

FOREST FIRE ORGANIZATIONS

Two types of organizations have been set up in Georgia for forest fire control. The older is a voluntary cooperative organization of adjoining landowners called the Timber Protective Organization. Nine of these covering 1,934,444 acres, have been in effective operation for several years.

Sixteen counties have availed themselves of provisions made by a constitutional amendment, to levy county taxes and carry on forest fire protection as county units. The counties are Appling, Bartow, Bibb, Brantley, Brooks, Bryan, Burke, Camden, Floyd, Glynn, Jenkins, Montgomery, Pickens, Polk, Taylor, Treutlen and Wilkes.

Other counties have made applications for county unit systems for fire protection, but funds have not yet been made available to establish these new units.

MILITARY REQUIREMENTS IN FIRE PROTECTION

Forest fires in military and surrounding forest areas, designated "Critical Military Areas," are rated as a hindrance to war efforts, and must be controlled.

Pursuant of this requirement, Congress set up funds to help intensify fire protection measures in these areas. The responsibility for intensifying efforts in these areas falls upon the State Division of Forestry where private landowners are involved and upon the U. S. Forest Service where national forests are concerned.

The State is undertaking its part of the task by adding to the facilities of existing fire protective organizations where they are already established in the critical military areas, and by setting up similar organizations where they are not already established in such areas.

The organizations are manned by rangers, dispatchers, towermen, patrolmen and fire fighters. Forest fire detection towers already established, or may be erected, will serve for locating fires. From these the towermen report by telephone to rangers who with patrolmen will call out fire fighting crews and proceed to attack the fire.



Portable Fire Pumps and Swatter Used in Fighting Fire.

(Courtesy U. S. Forest Service.)

In southeast Georgia a short wave radio broadcasting station is used, reaching men in the forest with trucks equipped with radio receivers. Fire fighting equipment consists of fire trucks, hand pumps, swatters and various farm tools.

Close cooperation with military agencies is maintained. The Army looks after fires within the military reservations while forest agencies take care of surrounding areas.

OCD AID

The Office of Civilian Defense has been enlisted to assist in forest fire protection in critical military areas, and to this end it is to organize local Forest Fire Fighters units. These are to be trained in methods of forest fire fighting and be ready at the call of the head of the county unit, to suppress fires.

The State Forester is the State Coordinator of the cooperating agencies, while one of the Assistant Directors of the Division of Forestry is in charge of the State fire control operations.

PROTECTION AREAS AND ACREAGE

June 30, 1942

<i>Name</i>	<i>Acreage</i>
T. P. O.'s	
Bartow	178,769
Charlton	185,372
Cherokee	193,755
Coastal	114,595
Consolidated	436,919
Ellijay	44,796
Ogeechee	218,347
Suwannee	317,305
Wayne	300,000
	<hr/>
Sub Total	1,989,858

COUNTY UNITS

Appling	264,838
Brantley	230,376
Bryan	241,363
Bibb	67,420
Brooks	179,248
Burke	212,115
Camden	389,242
CFLUA	37,771
Floyd	212,896
Glynn	258,767
Jenkins	109,592
Montgomery	73,244
Pickens	127,360
Polk	126,834

Taylor	117,964	
Treutlen	74,262	
Wilkes	222,817	
		<hr/>
	Sub Total	2,946,119
MILITARY UNITS		
Moody Field	135,000	
Coastal Patrol	357,814	
Camp Stewart	360,000	
Camp Gordon	290,000	
Fort Benning	260,000	
		<hr/>
	Sub Total	1,402,814
		<hr/>
	GRAND TOTAL	6,338,791

* * * *

REFORESTATION

The Division of Forestry has been able to establish a record of four consecutive years for distributing more forest planting stock to farmers for reforestation than any other state. More than 116,000 acres of land have been planted to trees from seedlings grown at the state tree nurseries.

The State has two tree nurseries, the Herty Nursery located at Albany, established in 1932, and the Flowery Branch Nursery at Flowery Branch, established in 1938. Both nurseries are fully equipped with over-head sprinkling systems, cultivating, lifting and packing equipment. The ingenuity of the Assistant Director in charge of nurseries and his force, in designing and developing nursery equipment has attracted wide attention and has been followed by their adoption in other nurseries.

By reason of labor-saving equipment and efficient management, the production cost of seedlings has been kept at a minimum and the savings are passed on in low-selling cost to landowners.

The land area of the Herty Nursery at Albany is 65 acres, and that of the Flowery Branch is 82½ acres. Only a part of the land has thus far been used, but as the demand warrants, production can be greatly increased.

Lands for these nurseries have been provided without cost. That for the Albany Nursery was donated by Dougherty County, and the city of Albany. That for Flowery Branch Nursery was donated by Hall County and the city of Flowery Branch. Both donations show generous public spirit.

The demand for planting stock in the order of the tree species purchased, has been for Slash pine, Loblolly pine, Longleaf pine, Shortleaf

pine, Black Locust and Black Walnut. Slash and Longleaf pines are, of course, in greatest demand in the naval stores belt.



Planted Pines Grow Rapidly in Georgia.

(Courtesy U. S. Forest Service.)

The survival of planted seedlings depends largely on how the seedlings are cared for and method of planting. To aid in proper handling and planting, a folder accompanies all shipments, fully illustrating and explaining each step to take. In addition, representatives of the Division conduct planting demonstrations when called upon.

To further assist the farmers, the Division of Forestry has a number of planting dibbles to loan for a period of a week.

Apparently it is true in Georgia as reported elsewhere, that the war is sidetracking tree planting at present in favor of food production, yet the war's depletion of the forests ought to be stimulating greater than usual interest in tree planting. Labor shortage is not an explanation of less planting, for tree planting occurs at a time of the year when work on the farm is slack, and furthermore, tree planting requires comparatively little labor.

It is obviously a responsibility of forestry interests to renew and maintain interest of landowners in reforestation in Georgia.

A record of nursery production and distribution for the season of 1941-1942 is as follows:

RECORD OF SEASON 1941-1942

Herty Nursery—Slash Pine	5,219,085
Herty Nursery—Longleaf Pine	233,000
Flowery Branch Nursery—Loblolly	1,749,010
Flowery Branch Nursery—Shortleaf Pine ..	47,500
Flowery Branch Nursery—Black Walnut ..	20,150
Flowery Branch Nursery—Black Locust ...	124,200
Flowery Branch Nursery—Slash Pine	505,950
<hr/>	
Total	7,948,895

The planting season begins in November, and continues into the spring of the following year. The record for the season of 1942-43 is, therefore, not complete. Distribution for 1940, 1939 and 1938 is as follows:

PRODUCTION CROP YEAR RECORDS:

1940	12,143,670
1939	20,931,481
1938	14,077,898

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Service to private landowners in forest management, including harvesting and marketing, has been increased during the biennium.

This has been made possible by use of funds received under the Norris-Doxey Act of Congress, for which the Division of Forestry has qualified by setting up equivalent funds.

It is possible to have seven new farm forestry projects and to carry

on two others already in operation. Only four of the seven new projects have been put into operation, but as soon as qualified foresters are obtained, at least three more will be established.

A farm forestry project is in operation at Butler, Georgia, in which the State Division of Forestry and the Soil Conservation Service are cooperating. This project has done outstanding work by demonstrating that weed trees such as scrub oaks, can be converted profitably into charcoal by the landowner using a single unit kiln. More of these kilns have been set up and are now in operation.

Not only has the Butler project opened the way to the profitable use of timber for which hitherto there has been no market, but it has pointed the way whereby weed trees can be profitably removed to improve forests and increase the returns therefrom.

A Forest Farming project in which the Division of Forestry and the U. S. Forest Service are cooperating, has been in operation at Pearson since February 15, 1940, and has proven very helpful to many timberland owners, especially those who have sought assistance in marketing their timber. A number have been helped to harvest their timber so as to keep the forest in condition for sustained yields.

At this time, when the war is making heavy demands on forests and the temptation is to cut trees without regard to the future productivity of the forests, not only the farm foresters, but the district foresters can be of great assistance in promoting sustained yields for the future and making possible the largest returns to the timberland owner.

Constant calls are being made for assistance in forest management, indicating a growing public interest in conserving forests and developing their fullest value. It is, therefore, gratifying that the Division of Forestry has been able to respond to these calls more than ever before.

An assistant director, who supervises forest management, has set up the farm forestry projects and aids in supervising their operations.

The farm foresters headquarters and the counties each serves are as follows:

CALHOUN with work in Gordon, Whitfield, Murray and Pickens counties.

COLQUITT with work in Miller, Baker, Early and Mitchell counties.

EASTMAN with work in Dodge, Pulaski, Wilcox and Telfair counties.

BAXLEY with work in Appling, Jeff Davis, Bacon and Wayne counties.

PEARSON with work in Atkinson county.

BUTLER with work in Taylor county.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

A cooperative project in vocational forestry education has existed between the Division of Forestry and the Division of Vocational Education for 14 years in which students in rural high schools having teachers of vocational agriculture, operate demonstration school forests.

Representatives of the Division of Forestry have established these school forests and outlined the jobs to be done to make the area highly productive. Teaching material has also been provided.

This program has been lessened in intensity by the demands made upon these schools to train war workers, but forestry is taught as a regular part of the school course, and in keeping with the job method of teaching, some practice of forestry is continued. Such heavy inroads on the teaching force have been made by the war, that the 500 eligible schools do not all have teachers of vocational agriculture.

PUBLICATIONS—A heavy demand for publications on forestry is being constantly made and as far as possible the demand is supplied.

A very practical and helpful folder on "How to Plant Forest Tree Seedlings" has been issued and distributed with every order received for planting stock.

Recently the Division issued a "Handbook on Forest Fire Fighting" which has met public favor.

A poster entitled "Sabotage," issued by the Army, with special reference to forest fires, has been reprinted by the Division and distributed widely.

Other bulletins have been prepared and are ready for printing.

PUBLICITY—Several timely items of interest on forestry have been released to the press of the State, particularly on forest fire control and reforestation.

Outdoor Georgia, the monthly departmental publication, has given to forestry a share of space.

Radio scripts have been in demand by radio stations in all parts of the State. All such opportunities have been used and appreciated.

DISTRICT FORESTERS WORK

The Division of Forestry continues to employ four district foresters with headquarters at Gainesville, Macon, Albany and Baxley, Georgia.

These district foresters are each undertaking to render service to large groups of counties. They are directing forest fire control organizations, assisting in forest management and marketing, rendering service to schools carrying on forestry programs and cooperating with various organizations and agencies interested in developing the forest resources of the State.

STATE FORESTS

The Coastal Flatwood Area in Ware County consisting of 37,771 acres, formerly a resettlement project of the Federal Government that transferred to the State of Georgia, is now operated by the Division of Forestry. It is under forest management and is a source of income through permits for camping, grazing, the sale of turpentine

rights and timber. It promises to increase in volume and annual income as the forest is developed.

The State also has a demonstration forest of 1,000 acres near Baxley, Georgia. On this forest a district forester has headquarters. The forest is under protection and management. While the annual income is small at present, the annual rate of tree growth indicates excellent returns in the future.

FINANCES

For the fiscal years of July, 1940 to July, 1942, the Division of Forestry administered a net income of \$387,051.84. Of this amount, \$155,246.48 were received from the Federal Government, and \$151,-744.13 as earnings from nursery sales, incomes from forest properties controlled by the State, assessments on timber protective organizations and county unit systems, and miscellaneous sales.

The State Legislature appropriated \$190,600 for the two-year period, of which amount \$76,267.35 were not made available to the Division, this amount being in excess of approved budgets, and \$38,-559.50 being transferred to the Herty Foundation, the General Fund, the Commissioner's Office, Supervisor of Purchases, etc., so that the Division of Forestry administered only \$75,773.15 of the amount appropriated by the State Legislature.

The income from the Federal Government came as offsets to expenditures made by Timber Protective Organizations and County Protective Units, and as aid to tree nurseries, the total for the two years being \$155,246.48.

Citizens and counties assessing themselves for forest fire control, raised \$95,691.62 for the biennium.

The State Tree Nurseries sold tree seedlings that brought in \$41,-248.70 during the two years. Plowing firebreaks with State equipment brought into the Division \$13,380.40.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Jan. 14, 1941

ASSETS	
Cash on Hand	\$20,419.46
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ 3,781.43
Reserve TPO Units	5,097.42
Surplus	11,540.61
	<hr/>
	\$20,419.46

RECEIPTS JULY 1, 1940 TO JUNE 30, 1941

Grants from Federal Government	\$ 82,768.99
State Appropriations	\$95,300.00
Less Deduction 6% Gen. Fund	\$ 5,718.00

Less Deduction Excess of Approved Budget	62,560.99	
Less Transfers:		
To Herty Foundation	10,000.00	
To Commissioner's Office	1,839.95	
To Supervisor of Purchases	458.36	
	<hr/>	
Net State Allotment		14,722.70
EARNINGS		
Nursery Sales	\$27,643.84	
Assessments Co. Units	48,291.82	
Baxley Dem. Forest	304.10	
Plowing	7,244.88	
	<hr/>	83,484.64
Coastal Flatwoods Area		
Camping Permits	\$ 335.90	
Grazing	48.60	
Rents	179.82	
Sale of Wood	68.25	
Sale of Pecans	42.75	
Miscellaneous	87.83	
	<hr/>	763.15
Miscellaneous		356.10
		<hr/>
Net Income Receipts		\$182,095.58
Balance July 1, 1940		66,494.58
		<hr/>
		\$248,590.16
		<hr/>
PAYMENTS		
Personal Service		\$116,418.29
Travel Expense		17,545.03
Supplies		30,135.93
Communication		3,401.39
Heat, Light, Power and Water		932.13
Printing		1,586.35
Repairs		3,907.78
Rents		308.16
Insurance and Bonding		757.60
Equipment		14,687.34
Grants Timber Protective Organizations		30,581.13

Miscellaneous

Freight and Express.....	\$161.15	
Subscription and Dues.....	34.00	
Laundry	7.50	
License Tags	99.00	
Other	46.32	
		<u>347.97</u>

\$220,609.10
4,700.49

Lands and Buildings.....

Total Governmental Cost.....\$225,309.59

BALANCES JUNE 30, 1941

For Operations		
Cash on Hand.....	\$15,208.72	
Balance in State Treasury.....	8,071.85	
		<u>23,280.57</u>
		<u>\$248,590.16</u>

STATEMENT JULY 1, 1941-JUNE 30, 1942

RECEIPTS

INCOME

Grants from Federal Government.....		\$ 72,477.49
State Appropriation	\$95,300.00	
Funds in Excess of		
Approved Budget	\$13,706.36	
Fund Transfers		
Herty Foundation	10,000.00	
Commissioner's Office..	7,258.59	
Division of Wildlife....	450.00	
Supervisor of Purchases	410.21	
	<u>31,825.16</u>	
		63,474.84

EARNINGS

Assessment Protection Units.....	\$47,399.80	
Nursery Sales	13,604.86	
Plowing	6,135.52	
	<u>67,140.24</u>	

Coastal Flatwood Area

Grazing Permits	\$ 99.11	
Rents	170.00	
Sales Wood and Crossties	123.81	
Sale Pecans	28.20	
Turpentine Lease	1,245.81	
	<hr/>	1,666.93
Miscellaneous		196.76
		<hr/>
Total Income Receipts		\$204,956.26
Balance in Bank	\$15,208.72	
Balance in State Treasury	8,071.85	
	<hr/>	23,280.57
		<hr/>
		\$228,236.83

PAYMENTS

EXPENSE

Personal Service	\$112,583.02	
Travel Expense	14,089.35	
Supplies	16,319.30	
Communications	2,843.43	
Heat, Light, Power	867.05	
Printing	1,107.20	
Repairs	9,891.77	
Rents	193.75	
Insurance and Bonding	320.16	
Equipment	12,057.56	
Miscellaneous		
Awards	\$ 37.61	
Legal Recording	4.30	
Dues	20.00	
Laundry	13.75	
Exchange53	
	<hr/>	76.19
Grants to Timber		
Protective Organizations	27,414.84	
	<hr/>	\$197,763.62
OUTLAY		
Right-of-way Telephone		
Line	\$ 14.00	
Fence	100.00	
Building and Well	41.55	
	<hr/>	155.55
	<hr/>	
Total Governmental Cost Payments		\$197,919.17

Balance July 1, 1942

For Operation

Cash in Bank.....\$13,572.61

Bal. in Treasury..... 16,745.05

30,317.66

\$228,236.83

CASH BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30, 1942

ASSETS

Cash Assets

Cash Balance \$13,572.61

State Treasury 16,745.05

\$ 30,317.66

LIABILITIES

Cash Liabilities \$ 2,745.51

Reserve Protect. Units..... 6,349.62

9,095.13

Surplus for Operations 21,222.53

21,222.53

\$ 30,317.66







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