

Franklin H. Pitkin Forest Nursery Moscow, Idaho Arabella Dowell Fall 2019



Introduction

The University of Idaho Pitkin Forest Nursery is a fully operational production container nursery that produces nearly 400,000 seedlings annually, including over 70 species of conifers, hardwoods and shrubs. They are a hands-on teaching facility, giving student employees the opportunity to learn all aspects of nursery production and management, as well as to understand the processes of selecting seedlings for restoration, reforestation and conservation. They are a member of the Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association and the Inland Empire Christmas Tree Association. They cooperate with Idaho's private nursery owners through an advisory committee, keeping them up-to-date with research findings.



Left: Corkbark Fir pulled and waiting to be bagged.
Above: Blue Spruce bagged for the Idaho Forest Products Commission Arbor Day give away.

Summary

I experienced many different aspects of nursery production and management as well as gained a better understanding of the processes for selecting seedlings for restoration, reforestation, and conservation. An example of a large order I assisted in packing was the 13,600 blue spruce, *Picea pungens*, one year old seedlings that we packed for the Idaho Forest Products Commission. Each year on the last Friday in April, Arbor Day, the Idaho Forest Products Commission gives out these seedlings for free at locations throughout the state. I am thankful for the professional hands-on experience this internship provided me with to set me up for success in my career as a nursery and greenhouse manager.

Responsibilities:

- Pruning
- Cultivating
- Quality Control
- Pest and Disease Control
- Record Keeping
- Order Packing

Date	Species Code	Common Name	Full Tubs @ Quantity	Odd Tubs @ Quantity	Total	Final Inventory
12/11	PSME45	Doug Fir 45	1 @ 105	20	2,480	0
12/11	PEEN45	Engelmann Spruce	1 @ 125	2	150	88
12/11	PEEN45	Engelmann Spruce	3 @ 125	1 @ 75	4	200
12/11	PES145	Scotch Pine	4 @ 125	1 @ 135	5	635
12/11	PEEN100	E. Spruce 16G	1 @ 250	1	200	100
12/11	PEEN160	E. Spruce 160	1 @ 250	1	300	24
12/11	PSA45	Hemlock	2 @ 125	1 @ 50	3	300
12/12	ADLAAR45	Corkbark Fir	1 @ 115	2	240	0
12/12	ADLAAR45	Corkbark Fir	1 @ 75	1	75	0
12/12	ADLAAR45	Corkbark Fir	1 @ 40	1	40	0
12/12	PHMA45	Ninebark	1 @ 125	1 @ 75	4	450
12/12	PHMA45	Ninebark	1 @ 125	1 @ 75	2	200
12/12	PRSE45	Black Cherry	5 @ 125	1	5	625
12/12	CE	Red Stee				

Above: Record keeping while packing orders of seedlings.



Above left: Larch being inspected for Black Vine Weevil Larvae. Above right: Myself and fellow student employees packing Blue Spruce.

