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Field Note N°: Silviculture-33
Previous Reference Sheet N°: None

FERIC SILVICULTURAL EQUIPMENT DATABANK

In 1989, FERIC created a computerized databank containing tools and machinery used in silviculture. This databank replaces the "Mechanization of Silviculture Equipment Information Bank" set up by Forestry Canada at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre in 1983. The purpose of the databank is to increase awareness about equipment on the market and in use, and to transfer information between member companies, governments, manufacturers, distributors, and other agencies.

DATABANK CONTENT

The databank contains over 400 tools and machinery of Canadian or foreign manufacture, applicable to silvicultural operations in Canada. Nursery equipment is not included in the databank. The information is collected from brochures, pamphlets, reports, through FERIC studies and communication with outside agencies. Equipment that is no longer in production and no longer in use in Canada is deleted from the computerized databank, but kept in an archive file.

DATABANK STRUCTURE

Information on the equipment is organized under a number of headings. These headings help to describe the equipment and, along with the keywords, are used as means for searches within the databank.

The main headings are as follows:

Status: Production (Prod), out of production (Outp), prototype (Prot), homemade (Home), or unknown (Unkn);

Classification: Comprised of *categories*, *classes*, and *subclasses*, and based upon a combination of use, function and characteristics of the equipment. A list is given in Table 1.

Purchase Price: An approximate price, when available, is given along with the year, currency and F.O.B. location.

Production: The years in production.

Comments: A brief description including models, attachments, power required, dimensions, etc.

Contacts: A list of names for additional information. These include manufacturer (M), distributor (D), owner (O), user (U), and owner/user (B). The owner, usually a contractor, is a good contact concerning mechanical availability, modifications and productivity. On the other hand, a forest company or provincial government user is usually better informed on the performance, work quality, purpose of treatment and the site and stand types being treated.

Reference: A list of publications pertaining to the equipment.

Keywords: Used to further describe the equipment, its uses, prime mover requirements and attachment, etc.

CONCLUSION

The databank is therefore able to respond to requests such as: What types of equipment for a certain use are on the market?; How many are presently working in Canada?; and, What agencies can be contacted for further information?

Additional information on the equipment is stored in a hardcopy file. This file may contain specifications, owners manual, pictures, published literature and more. This information, along with the printout, can be sent depending upon the request.

Updating of the information and additions to the databank are done on a continuous basis. To facilitate the process and to improve on the information, users of the databank and outside agencies are encouraged to send any information or comments on the databank to FERIC.

To obtain more information on the databank, or if you have specific requests that could be answered using this service, please contact Jacques Lurette or Mark Ryans of our Silvicultural Operations Group at the letterhead address below.

Table 1. Classification system for silvicultural equipment

CATEGORY	CLASS • SUBCLASS	CATEGORY	CLASS • SUBCLASS
Site Preparation	Manual Tools Motor-manual Scarifiers Blades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight and angle blades • Shear blades • Brush blades • Slash dividers Rakes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retractable piling rakes • Clearing rakes • Stacking rakes • Clamp rakes • Detachable blade rakes and teeth • Excavator-mounted rakes • Yarder rakes Front-mounted Plows Tree Pushers Rear-mounted Plows <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ripper-tooth plows • Sub-soilers • Arch plows • Disc plows • Other plows Bedding Harrows Disc Harrows Choppers Drags <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrels • Chains Stump Removal Chippers Patch Scarifiers Mounders Disc Trenchers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanical • Powered Powered Cultivators Other Powered Scarifiers	Seeding	Seedling Carriers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual distribution • Attachments • Integral unit • Seedling handling equipment Seeding Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcast • Row • Spot Seeding Machines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground broadcast • Ground row • Ground spot • Aerial Seed Shelters
		Cone Collection	Ground Cone Collectors Aerial Cone Collectors
		Pruning	Manual Tools Motor-manual Tools Pruning Machines
		Girdling	Manual Tools Motor-manual Tools
		Burning	Ground Ignition Devices Aerial Ignition Devices Accessories
		Herbicide Application	Manual Tools Motor-manual Tools Ground Application Machines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boom nozzle assemblies • Other nozzle assemblies • High pressure guns • Air-blast sprayers • Nozzle mounted on scarifier • Granular spreaders Other Ground Application Aerial Application
Brush Cutting	Manual Brush Cutters Motor-manual Brush Cutters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saws • Shears and clippers • Blades • Accessories Integral Brush Cutters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizontal shaft • Vertical shaft Brush Cutting Attachments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizontal shaft • Vertical shaft Brush Harvesters	Fertilization	Manual Spreaders Motor-manual Spreaders Ground Application Aerial Application
Planting	Planting Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual • Motor-manual Planting Machines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous furrow • Intermittent furrow • Spot planters with continuous advance • Spot planters with intermittent advance 	Drainage	Ditchers
		Commercial Thinning	Fellers and Feller/Bunchers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integral • Attachments Single-grip Harvesters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integral • Attachments Processors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm tractor-mounted • Forwarder-mounted

NOTE: Requests concerning owner and user information will be judged on a case-by-case basis as to their sensitivity.

Jacques Lurette, Forest Technician
 Silvicultural Operations, Eastern Division