

June 1991

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 Lirette 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		Seedling Carriers
	Motor-manual Scarifiers		• Manual distribution
	Blades		• Attachments
	• Straight and angle blades		• Integral unit
	• Shear blades		• Seedling handling equipment
	• Brush blades		
	• Slash dividers	Seeding	Seeding Tools
	Rakes		• Broadcast
	• Retractable piling rakes		• Row
	• Clearing rakes		• Spot
	• Stacking rakes		Seeding Machines
	• Clamp rakes		• Ground broadcast
	• Detachable blade rakes and teeth		• Ground row
	• Excavator-mounted rakes		• Ground spot
	• Yarder rakes		• Aerial
	Front-mounted Plows		Seed Shelters
	Tree Pushers		
	Rear-mounted Plows	Cone Collection	Ground Cone Collectors
	• Ripper-tooth plows		Aerial Cone Collectors
	• Sub-soilers	Pruning	Manual Tools
	• Arch plows		Motor-manual Tools
	• Disc plows		Pruning Machines
	• Other plows		
	Bedding Harrows	Girdling	Manual Tools
	Disc Harrows		Motor-manual Tools
	Choppers		
	Drags	Burning	Ground Ignition Devices
	• Barrels		Aerial Ignition Devices
	• Chains		Accessories
	Stump Removal		
	Chippers	Herbicide Application	Manual Tools
	Patch Scarifiers		Motor-manual Tools
	Mounders		Ground Application Machines
	Disc Trenchers		• Boom nozzle assemblies
	• Mechanical		• Other nozzle assemblies
	• Powered		• High pressure guns
	Powered Cultivators		• Air-blast sprayers
	Other Powered Scarifiers		• Nozzle mounted on scarifier
			• Granular spreaders
Brush Cutting	Manual Brush Cutters		Other Ground Application
	Motor-manual Brush Cutters		Aerial Application
	• Saws		
	• Shears and clippers	Fertilization	Manual Spreaders
	• Blades		Motor-manual Spreaders
	• Accessories		Ground Application
	Integral Brush Cutters		Aerial Application
	• Horizontal shaft		
	• Vertical shaft	Drainage	Ditchers
	Brush Cutting Attachments		
	• Horizontal shaft	Commercial Thinning	Fellers and Feller/Bunchers
	• Vertical shaft		• Integral
	Brush Harvesters		• Attachments
			Single-grip Harvesters
Planting	Planting Tools		• Integral
	• Manual		• Attachments
	• Motor-manual		Processors
	Planting Machines		• Farm tractor-mounted
	• Continuous furrow		• Forwarder-mounted
	• Intermittent furrow		
	• Spot planters with continuous advance		
	• Spot planters with intermittent advance		

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

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