

Record Number of Trees Being Planted in County

A record number of trees — 57,000 — are being planted in Davis County this spring, Bruce Plum, district forester with the

State Conservation Commission, said today.

Plum said this will bring the number of trees planted in the county in the last nine years to one-third of a million.

He said most of the trees planted are of the evergreen type with the white pine and the red pine being the most popular species.

"**THESE TWO** trees show the best growth characteristics and survival rates of any trees field planted in this part of Iowa," Plum said. Other trees being planted here this year include Virginia pine, Austrian pine, Scotch pine, Larch, Norway, spruce and walnut.

Plum said that the Davis County Izaak Walton League, Marvin Logan, Bill Howk, Norman Hansen, James Olinger, Glen Thompson, E. F. Campbell, the Exchange Bank, James Bailey, Henderson Brothers and Charles Scott are among the Davis County residents planting trees.

He said a tree planting machine built by the Bloomfield FFA Chapter has received heavy use this spring. The planter is available to those field planting trees.

"The purpose of most of the planting is for reforestation," Plum said. "These trees are being planted on poor land with the idea of thinning them for products later.

"**PRODUCTS THAT** can be thinned from these plantations vary with the size of the trees being cut," he said. "The first

cut probably would be for Christmas trees in seven or eight years. This would be followed by a post thinning in 15 years, perhaps held to 20 years, and start a series of pulpwood thinnings. Pulpwood thinnings

would occur every eight or 10 years until the trees reach saw-log size."

"One question often asked is why conifers are planted instead of native trees," Plum said.

"Native trees have a much higher site requirement than conifers," he explained. "Most of the areas available for planting trees are the poorest sites. Native trees do not develop good form on sites of this nature so it is necessary to plant a more primitive tree which is adapted to poor soil."

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