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Louisiana

Pinus palustris

August, 192

Longleaf

FIRE AND RAZOR-BACK HOGS PLAY HAVOC WITH YOUNG PINE

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Research - Compilation

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FILE COPY As the result of experiments carried on during the past six years some unusually interesting facts have been brought out in regard to the struggle for existence of young longleaf pine on cut-over lands in the South.

Millions of longleaf seedlings sprang up over the South in the fall of 1913, resulting from a very heavy seed crop and favorable weather conditions. At the request of Mr. Henry E. Hardtner of Urania, Louisiana, the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Louisiana Department of Conservation, laid out a series of permanent experimental plots. They were established at Urania in January 1914, the aim being to secure reliable information regarding natural reproduction of longleaf pine, particularly as to what would happen to a fine young stand of seedlings without protection as compared with similar stands completely protected from the common "razor-back" hog and from yearly burning.

Four sample tracts of one-quarter of an acre each were selected of about the same character and about equally well stocked with one-year-old longleaf pine seedlings. Two of these plots were fenced against cattle and hogs and two left unprotected, and further one plot in each of these two series has since been burned over yearly (or nearly every year) and the other two protected against fires. A remeasurement of the sample areas in the winter of 1919-20 furnishes some interesting information.