

Larix leptolepis.—This is the first sowing of this variety at this station. The results are only fairly satisfactory, about 40,000 plants being produced from 6 lb. of seed.

Cupressus Lawsoniana.—These germinated well, a very satisfactory crop of about 14,000 plants being raised from 2 lb. of seed.

Pseudo-tsuga taxifolia.—Germination poor, the 2½ lb. of seed producing only about 14,000 plants. These are very sturdy, however.

Betula alba.—About ½ lb. of seed was collected from trees growing in the adjoining plantations. The germination was poor, only about 4,000 plants being raised.

Cotoneaster Simonsii.—This seed was collected from plants growing in the nursery. Germination was only fair, the 2 lb. of seed producing about 5,000 plants.

Two-year-old Seedlings.

Pinus Laricio.—These trees have made fine growth, and have rooted well, and should give very satisfactory results in transplantation.

Two-year-old lined-out Trees.

Lining-out operations were carried out under favourable conditions throughout, and the 1,184,580 young trees dealt with have done exceedingly well with but one or two exceptions, the percentage of deaths being small. About 5 per cent. would cover the loss quite easily.

Pinus Laricio.—The percentage of loss in the crop through transplantation is very small. The trees have made excellent headway, and are very sturdy and healthy looking.

Pinus ponderosa.—This variety has made satisfactory progress, the loss through transplanting being slight. The plants are very sturdy.

Pinus Benthamiana.—The above remarks also apply to this crop.

Pinus radiata.—The percentage of loss in this crop through transplanting is high, and could be put down at over 25 per cent.; the remaining plants are, however, very sturdy and well rooted.

Larix europaea.—Immediately following transplantation from the seed-bed this species appeared to be attacked with a form of needle-cast, complete defoliation taking place in many instances, and partial defoliation occurring almost throughout the break. The disease was soon shaken off, however, and the plants assumed their normal appearance, and have done exceedingly well, though not making quite the vertical growth of previous years. It is anticipated that the percentage unfit for transfer to plantation during the coming season will be very small.

Alnus glutinosa.—This crop has made the rapid growth characteristic of the species, and the whole crop is fit for transfer to plantation.

Sequoia sempervirens.—A failure. The trees have made poor growth and are easily affected by frost.

Sequoia gigantea.—This variety has done very well indeed, and the plants are all sufficiently well forward for transfer to their permanent places in the plantations.

Pseudo-tsuga taxifolia.—The loss through transplanting was slight; but the plants have not made great vertical headway, though otherwise satisfactory.

Three-year-old Trees.

Pinus Laricio.—Though they have not made the vertical growth of previous years, the trees are very sturdy and well rooted, and should transplant with a minimum percentage of loss when transferred to their permanent position in the plantation. A percentage of *Pinus austriaca* is again noticeable, the seed apparently being again mixed (this matter was referred to in my report for 1912-13).

Pinus ponderosa.—The trees are quite on a par with the crop grown last season, the plants having made fine growth. The whole crop will be transferred to the plantations during the coming winter.

Pinus Benthamiana.—This is a very sturdy crop, the whole being quite fit for transfer.

Pinus muricata.—This crop is a very medium one, the trees having made only fair headway.

Pseudo-tsuga taxifolia.—The growth made is very satisfactory, the whole of the crop being fit for transfer to plantations.

On the whole, the average tree-growth is quite up to that of previous years. The trees are healthy throughout, and, with the exception of the slight attack of needle-cast mentioned in the paragraph referring to larch, the nursery has been quite free from disease. The keeping-in-check of weed-growth, and the other operations necessary to the well-being of the young trees, was a large item of expenditure for the year.

It is expected that the output of trees for the coming season will be about 1,100,000. The total number of trees in stock on the 31st March was 2,841,150, valued at £4,936 1s. The number of seedlings raised during the year was 1,199,000, valued at £1,207 15s. making a total of 10,520,480 raised since the initiation of the nursery. Trees to the number of 1,105,455 were transferred to plantations and Domain Boards during the year, details of which are shown in Schedule V.

General.

Horse-feed.—The production of horse-feed is a large item of expenditure at this station. An area of about 30 acres was sown in oats, 10 acres during the autumn and the balance during the early spring. An excellent crop resulted, and should be sufficient for the year for all purposes. The crop of hay was also satisfactory, and will be sufficient for the winter months. The carrot crop was a poor one.

General Maintenance.—A considerable amount of work was necessary in connection with the general upkeep of the nursery, the work consisting of repainting buildings, gates, &c., upkeep of harness, implements and vehicles, horse-shoeing, attention to ornamental borders, reshingling roads, and the maintenance of general neatness of workshops, stables, and implement-sheds.