

FOREST NURSERIES AND TREE IMPROVEMENT

5110

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Three state nurseries produce up to six million seedlings annually of a wide variety of species from as many different seed zones and elevations as possible. We want to publish a seedling availability inventory of private and public nurseries in California, maintain a seed bank of forest tree seed for use by state and private nurseries, participate in a statewide tree improvement cooperative by providing a qualified forest geneticist as coordinator, and share the cost of establishing cooperative seed orchards.

The forest nursery system was initiated in 1922 to provide seedlings for state planting projects. In response to direction from the Legislature in 1947, the nursery system was expanded in the early 1950s to provide a reliable source of quality forest tree seedlings for private forest landowners in California.

The tree improvement program started in 1970 to promote genetic tree improvement for private landowners. In 1979, the program joined with the California Tree Improvement Association in a cooperative effort to provide genetically improved seed for private landowners.

The legislation for the forest nursery system is located in PRC §4681-4695 and 4799.04

Each forest nursery shall maintain a Nursery Procedures Manual.

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