

Crop Tree Release Tolerant Hardwoods

The spacing of healthy, tolerant hardwood stands (including red maple but excluding diseased beech) in the polewood stage or greater to mold species composition, to encourage the crown expansion needed to sustain rapid growth during the later part of the rotation and to favour trees of high quality. The management objective is for a final product of high value bolt wood, veneer wood, or sawlog material.

Eligibility Criteria:

- ✱ The stand must contain a minimum of 300 uniformly distributed potential crop trees per hectare with a minimum bole length of 5.5 meters.
- ✱ Crop trees must require releasing in at least 2 sides of their crown.
- ✱ Basal area prior to treatment must fall within section C of the Stocking Chart for Tolerant Hardwoods (Appendix II I).
- ✱ A maximum of 90 m³(st)/ha (10 cd/ac.) of merchantable volume can be removed.
- ✱ Crop trees are defined as: Healthy, vigorous, dominant or co-dominant tolerant hardwoods (including red maple but excluding diseased beech) with a minimum diameter of 12 cm at breast height.
- ✱ Crop trees must have a bole of at least 5.5 meters free of the following major defects:
 - bulges
 - hollow but
 - cankers (cat faces)
 - porcupine scars
 - bear peels
 - large burls
 - seams
 - butt rot
 - conks
 - open cracks
 - branches (on two or more faces of the bole)
 - poor form (very crooked trees; excessively large branches)
 - dead top
 - serious crook or sweep (more than 25%), or crotch
 - large holes or large dead branches

Inspection Criteria:

A minimum of 250 uniformly distributed crop trees/ha must be crown released on two or three sides.

Crop trees must have a clear bole of a minimum of 5.5 meters.

Basal area following treatment must fall within section B of the Stocking Chart for Tolerant Hardwoods (Appendix II).

A minimum of 25% of the basal area must be removed from the stand.

All merchantable material has been removed or prepared for extraction and non-merchantable material laid close to the ground.

Total merchantable volume removed does not exceed 90 m³(st)/ha.

S.N.B. Fund Assistance Rate: \$450/ha

