Project Subject/Title: White Birch Regeneration  
County: Vilas  
TRS: T40N R4E sec. 28,33  

Contact Person: Tim Friedrich, 715-358-9201  
Type Of Prescription: Regeneration  
Year Initiated: 1989  

Abstract/Prescription:  
A white birch regeneration trial was conducted on 5 acres of Vilas county reserve land. A shelterwood harvest with 50% crown cover of dying birch was set up on the 5 acres. Site preparation with JD 450 tractor/plow blade, discing with single and double-discing (at right angles). Vilas County forestry equipment was used at the site (MR Rome Disc Plowing Harrow). Site was checked one year and again 5 years after treatment.

Results:  
- Blading produced highest number of seedlings (23,000/ac). Avg. height 2 ¼ feet.  
- Discing (single pass) produced 4,500 seedlings/ac. Average height 2 ½ feet.  
- Double-discing at right angles produced 12,000/ac. Average height 4 ½ feet  
- Results in 1994 (5 yrs later) average of all plots 13,000 saplings/ac. Sapling height was 3.5 feet. Crown cover at end of study was 25%.

Discussion:  
- Aspen competition was severe.  
- Raspberry was present but not so much of a problem.  

Recommendations:  
- Type of disc blends humus with soil and non-clogging  
- Don’t cut aspen or try to control/kill since it is a severe competitor.  
- Leave as much red maple in overstory. Stump sprouts are severe competitors.  
- White birch regen was a good competitor with rubus, seemed to achieve faster height growth.

Site statistics:  
Habitat Type  
Covertype:  
Soils:  
Equipment: MR Rome disc plowing harrow and JD450 tractor/plow  

Enclosed data document
White Birch

Silviculture Trials

- Two regeneration trials
- Aesthetic reasons
- By Natural Succession
- By Harvesting
- Birch Stands being replaced

- Stands dying
- Drought of Mid 1980s
- Age of Birch in the County

REGENERATION ATTEMPTS
REASONS FOR WHITE BIRCH