

*AMERICAN*  
**FORESTS**

The Magazine of Forests, Soil, Water, Wildlife, and Outdoor Recreation

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AFA's Social Register of Big Trees

85 NEW CHAMPS

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# The Social Register

# 85 NEW CHAMPS

By KENNETH B. POMEROY and LORNA C. LITTLECOTT

**E**IGHTY-FIVE champions have been added to the Social Register of Big Trees since the last report (AMERICAN FORESTS, May 1966.) Georgia and Iowa have joined the list of states containing these elite trees.

Interest abounds in the controversy, "where is the tallest Coast Redwood?" The tallest redwood recognized by The American Forestry Association to date is on Redwood Creek in California. It is owned by the Arcata Redwood Company. Its height is 367 feet 10 inches. However, due to a larger circumference, the National Champion Coast Redwood is the "Dyerville Giant" in Founder's Grove, Humboldt Redwoods State Park, Humboldt County, California.

Several other large western champions have been crowned recently. The 248 foot tall Clapp Sitka Spruce in Washington, with a circumference over 56 feet, is estimated to have been growing 126 years before Columbus sailed. The new Champion Plains cottonwood in Colorado has a circumference of 29 feet 8 inches, over three times that of the previous champion. A Ponderosa pine in California, towering at 262 feet, has replaced both trees of this species listed previously. And a new species on the list, Desert willow in Arizona, has an unusual conformation—it grows almost horizontal to the ground.

East of the Mississippi a Sycamore stump over 50 feet in circumference—gigantic for a hardwood—has been enshrined in memory of "the World's largest sycamore" in Kokomo, Indiana.

Departure of a Champion of any kind is noted regretfully. The passing of the Locke Breaux Oak, President of the Southern Live Oak Society, triggered inquiries from anxious admirers. This magnificent monarch, with a crown spread of 168 feet, located at Hahnville, Louisiana, was barren of leaves this past spring. The new Champion Live Oak is the "Goose Creek Oak" on Lamar Peninsula, Arkansas County, Texas. It is 35 feet 2 inches in circumference, 44 feet in height, and has an average crown spread of 89 feet.

Missing from the new list are two quarter-century monarchs, The "Hurd" Silver Maple and the Yellow-poplar "Liberty Tree". Both have been replaced by larger Champions. Also missing is "Big Linn", the North Carolina White basswood which had to be cut down. A replacement has yet to be nominated. Lost to "progress" was the Champion Weeping willow in Beverly Hills, Michigan. The tallest White spruce in Minnesota succumbed in a storm. And the Champion Eastern Wahoo in Manhattan, Kansas, died but has been replaced by a neighboring tree.

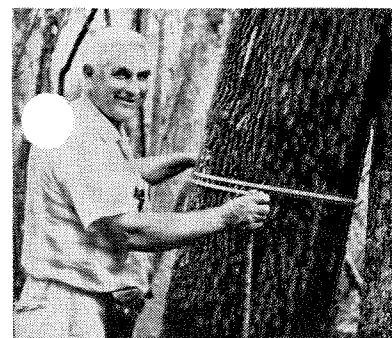
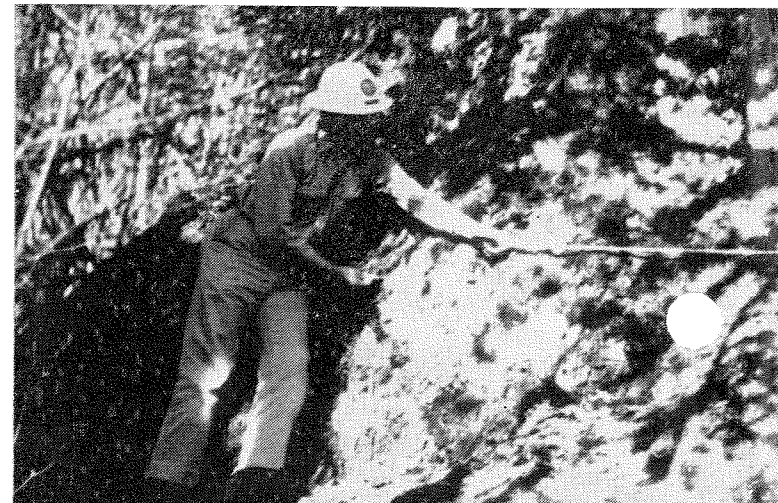
The Big Tree program, designed to halt the tragic

disappearance of these magnificent specimens, has attracted wide-spread interest. Special Big Tree surveys have been launched in Florida, Georgia, Maine, Oklahoma, Texas, and Virginia by conservation agencies in those states. Only five States do not have qualified champions. They are Delaware, Nebraska, Rhode Island, Vermont and West Virginia. Interest is high because Champions have only been discovered for about one-half of the 865 species native or naturalized in the United States. Consequently the Social Register changes frequently; in fact, five species, Siberian elm, Eastern cottonwood, Common hoptree, Flowering dogwood, and Weeping willow, each have changed crowns twice during the past year.

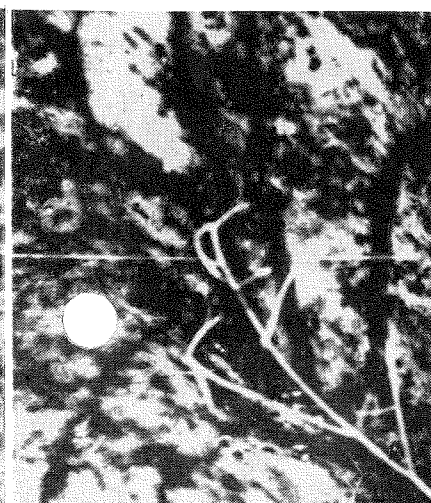
An alder in Rock Creek Park, Washington, D. C. has been dropped from the Social Register because of mistaken identity. This tree, formerly called a seaside alder has now been identified by Park Service naturalist Kevin O'Shaughnessy, as a European alder, *Alnus glutinosa*. It is slightly smaller than the National Champion in Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois. The species takes its name from the gummy or gluey nature of young twigs and young leaves.

If you know of an exceptionally large tree, you can be the nominator of a Champion. Determine what species it is, measure its circumference to the nearest inch at a point 4 feet 6 inches above the ground, measure the total height and average width of crown to the nearest foot, and report your find to your State Forester or to the Chief Forester, The American Forestry Association.

Too big for the official foresters' diameter tape, the "Helen Clapp Spruce," biggest-known Sitka Spruce in the world, is measured by Henry Zepeda of the Department of Natural Resources, Wash.

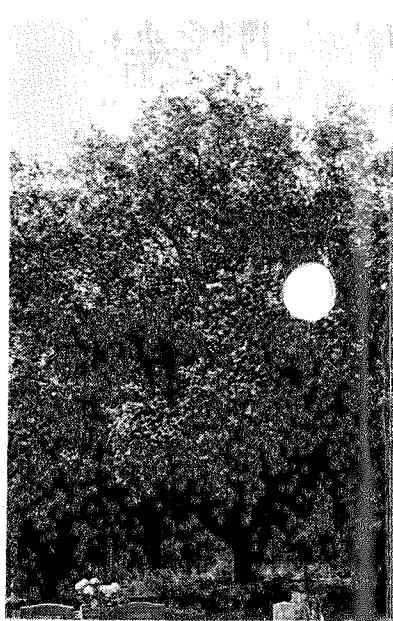


Buckwheat tree, known also as "titi," was named for its attractive buckwheat-like fruits. Hugh W. White, Jr., found champion on land of St. Joe Paper Co.



Species and Year Reported	Circumference at 4½ feet	Height	Spread	Location of Tree and Nominator
<b>ACACIA</b>				
Catclaw, <i>Acacia greggii</i> (1966)	4'10"	38'	34'	Uvalde County, Texas. William Graves, Uvalde.
<b>ALDER</b>				
European, <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (1967)	5'8"	69'	47'	Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Ill. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham, Michigan.
Sitka, <i>Alnus sinuata</i> (1967)	1'9"	28'	—	Saddle Mountain State Park, Clatsop County, Oregon. Maynard C. Drawson, Salem.
Thinleaf, <i>Alnus tenuifolia</i> (1966)	3'5"	59'	29'	Bandelier National Monument, New Mexico. Stanley W. Stroup, Penasco.
<b>APPLE</b>				
Southern crab apple, <i>Malus angustifolia</i> (1967)	1'11"	18'	35'	Near Northville, Michigan. H. J. Nett, Detroit.
<b>ASH</b>				
Carolina, <i>Fraxinus caroliniana</i> (1967)	2'5"	30'	34'	Myakka River State Park, Sarasota Florida. Eldredge T. Carnes, Sarasota.
Texas, <i>Fraxinus texensis</i> (1966)	4'3"	32'	33'	Near Vanderpool, Texas. William Graves, Uvalde.
White, <i>Fraxinus americana</i> (1966)	24'	80'	82'	Glenn Mills, Pennsylvania. S. Glidden Baldwin, Danville, Ill. T. V. Palmer, Concord, Pa. John T. McNeill, Philadelphia, Pa.
<b>BEECH</b>				
American, <i>Fagus grandifolia</i> (1966) (Co-Champion)	20'6"	55'	78'	Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Samuel Cabot, Jamaica Plain.
American, <i>Fagus grandifolia</i> (1967) (Co-Champion)	12'9"	144'	96'	Near Three Oaks, Michigan. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham.
<b>BUCKEYE</b>				
Painted, <i>Aesculus sylvatica</i> (1967)	13'3"	75'	50'	Sosby Cone, Union Co., Ga. Buster Harris, Dawsonville.
<b>BUCKWHEAT-TREE</b>				
<i>Cliftonia monophylla</i> (1967)	5'6"	30'	21'	Near Crooked Creek, Fla. Hugh W. White, Jr.; Johnny MacBrown, Panama City.
<b>CATALPA</b>				
Southern, <i>Catalpa bignonioides</i> (1967)	17'0"	75'	80'	University of Mississippi campus. Alfred A. McCorquodale, Houston.
<b>CEDAR</b>				
Southern redcedar, <i>Juniperus silicola</i> (1967)	6'7"	61'	42'	Hidden Lake, Manatee Co., Fla. Eldredge T. Carnes, Sarasota.
<b>CHINABERRY</b>				
<i>Melia azedarach</i> (1967)	11'4"	60'	54'	Lake Jackson, Leon County, Fla. E. T. Carnes, Sarasota.
<b>CHERRY</b>				
Escarpment, <i>Prunus serotina</i> var. <i>eximia</i> (1966)	5'2"	38'	43'	Bandera County, Texas. William Graves, Uvalde.
Mahaleb, <i>Prunus mahaleb</i> (1966)	6'1"	30'	50'	Dayton, Ohio. Larry E. Morse, Dayton.
Mazzard, <i>Prunus avium</i> (1966)	16'7"	60'	70'	Stark County, Ohio. John Aughanbaugh and Harry Muckley, Columbus.
<b>CHOKECHERRY</b>				
Common, <i>Prunus virginiana</i> (1967)	5'3"	65'	53'	Ada, Michigan. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham.
<b>COFFEETREE</b>				
Kentucky, <i>Gymnocladus dioica</i> (1966)	14'6"	101'	74'	Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. H. Sheridan Baketel, Jr., Philadelphia.

Species and Year Reported	Circumference at 4½ feet	Height	Spread	Location of Tree and Nominator
<b>COTTONWOOD</b>				
Eastern, <i>Populus deltoides</i> (1967)	30'3"	118'	100'	Near Perry, Iowa. Glenn Snyder, Iowa Falls.
Fremont, <i>Populus fremontii</i> var. <i>fremontii</i> (1967)	19'7"	113'	99'	Near Aztec, New Mexico. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham, Michigan.
Narrowleaf, <i>Populus angustifolia</i> (1967)	15'6"	105'	55'	Near Mancos, Colorado. Ray Colyer, Mancos.
Plains, <i>Populus sargentii</i> (1967)	29'8"	120'	93'	Hygiene, Colorado. Mrs. Allegra Collister, Longmont.
<b>CYPRESS</b>				
Sargent, <i>Cupressus sargentii</i> var. <i>goveniana</i> (1967)	7'0"	55'	35'	Los Padres National Forest, Calif. Don L. Arundell, San Luis Obispo.
<b>CYPRESS-PINE</b>				
Blue, <i>Callitris glauca</i> (1967)	7'7"	58'	18'	Brandenton, Florida. Eldredge T. Carnes, Sarasota.
<b>DESERTWILLOW</b>				
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i> (1966)	6'5"	36'	32'	Near Wintersberg, Arizona. Mrs. Lester Luxenberg, Tonopah.
<b>DEVILWOOD</b>				
<i>Osmanthus americanus</i> (1967)	6'4"	38'	41'	Mayo, Florida. Thomas W. Hunt, Tallahassee.
<b>DOGWOOD</b>				
Alternate-Leaf, <i>Cornus alternifolia</i> (1966)	1'9"	30'	22'	Leelanau County, Michigan. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham.
Flowering, <i>Cornus florida</i> (1967)	5'1"	50'	44'	Tallahassee, Fla., Maclay Gardens State Park. Charles E. Salter, Tallahassee.
Pacific, <i>Cornus nuttallii</i> (1966)	9'0"	60'	42'	Tacoma, Washington. Mrs. M. H. Ellis, Tacoma.
<b>EBONY</b>				
Blackbead, <i>Pithecellobium flexicaule</i> (1966)	10'11"	40'	40'	On Santa Anna Refuge near Almo, Texas. Richard J. Hitch, San Benito.
Mountain, <i>Bauhinia variegata</i> (1967)	8'10"	46'	37'	Ellenton, Florida. Eldredge T. Carnes, Sarasota.
<b>ELM</b>				
Florida, <i>Ulmus americana</i> var. <i>floridana</i> (1967)	7'4"	66'	36'	Manatee County, Florida. Eldredge T. Carnes, Sarasota.
Siberian, <i>Ulmus pumila</i> (1967)	12'1"	77'	66'	Fort Collins, Colorado. H. A. Sandhouse, Fort Collins.
<b>GRAPEFRUIT</b>				
<i>Citrus paradisi</i>	5'7"	38'	37'	Ellenton, Florida. E. T. Carnes, Sarasota.
<b>HAWTHORN</b>				
<i>Crataegus succulenta</i> (1967)	1'5"	23'	21'	St. Paul's Woods, Morton Grove, Ill. Kendall Laughlin, Chicago.
<b>HEMLOCK</b>				
<sup>a</sup> Carolina, <i>Tsuga caroliniana</i> (1966)	9'9"	101'	54'	Linville Falls, North Carolina. James W. Maxwell, Hickory.
<b>HICKORY</b>				
Water, <i>Carya aquatica</i> (1967)	22'2"	150'	87'	Near Blountstown, Florida. G. O. House, Blountstown.
<b>HONEYLOCUST</b>				
Thornless, <i>Gleditsia triacanthor</i> var. <i>inermis</i> (1966)	11'3"	101'	81'	Near Ypsilanti, Michigan. Dale Minick, Ypsilanti.
<b>HOPTREE</b>				
Common, <i>Ptelea trifoliata</i> (1967)	2'	37'	22'	Bransford, Connecticut. Nickolas Nickou, Bransford.

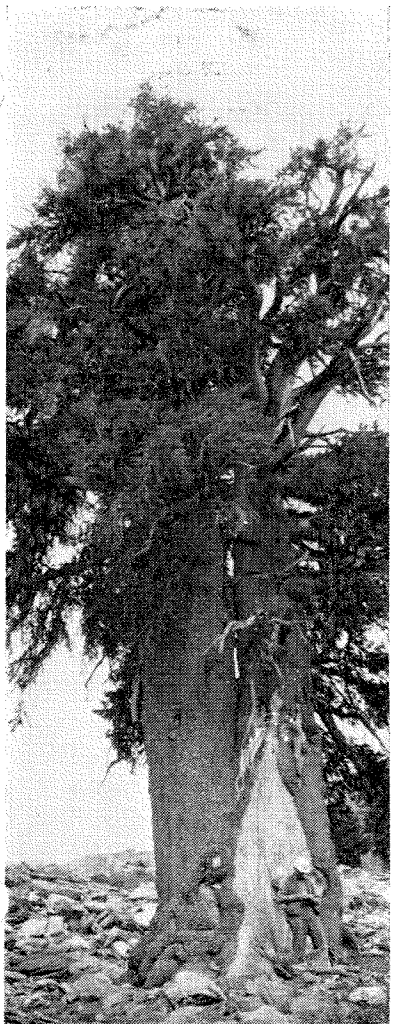


Champion Devilwood, sometimes called wild olive, growing in cemetery of Riverside Baptist Church, Mayo, Fla.

Bark and flowers of champion Flowering Dogwood, found in Maclay Gardens, Fla.



Foxtail Pine, Sequoia National Forest, California one-half mile east of Timber Gap



Species and Year Reported	Circumference at 4½ feet	Height	Spread	Location of Tree and Nominator
<b>JUNIPER</b>				
Ashe, <i>Juniperus ashei</i> (1967)	3'10"	28'	33'	Stone County, Missouri. John E. Wylie, Jefferson City and Bill Todd, Branson.
<b>KOA</b>				
<i>Acacia koa</i> (1966)	24'2"	84'	106'	Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii. Glen T. Bean, Park Superintendent.
<b>LARCH</b>				
Subalpine, <i>Larix lyallii</i> (1967)	13'3"	82'	42'	Bitterroot National Forest, Montana. Stephen F. Arno, Missoula.
<b>MAGNOLIA</b>				
Pyramid, <i>Magnolia pyramidata</i> (1967)	2'3"	51'	19'	Near Bristol, Florida. E. R. Howard, Tallahassee.
Southern, <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> (1967)	21'10"	72'	71'	Lighthouse Hotel, Biloxi, Miss. C. W. Comfort and J. Lee Bardwell, Gulfport.
<b>MAPLE</b>				
Bigleaf, <i>Acer macrophyllum</i> (1966)	24'5"	98'	104'	San Juan Island, Washington. John B. Pinkerton, Olympia.
Silver, <i>Acer saccharinum</i> (1966)	23'2"	115'	108'	Near Stratford, Iowa. Glenn C. Snyder, Iowa Falls.
<sup>a</sup> Uvalde Bigtooth, <i>Acer grandidentatum</i> var. <i>sinuosum</i> (1966)	5'4"	60'	61'	Near Vanderpool, Texas. William Graves, Uvalde.
<b>MOUNTAIN-ASH</b>				
European, <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> (1966)	3'8"	40'	32'	Beulah, Michigan. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham.
Showy, <i>Sorbus decora</i> (1966)	5'2"	37'	31'	Houghton County, Michigan. Harold J. Nett, Detroit.
<b>OAK</b>				
Chinkapin, <i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i> (1966)	21'2"	71'	87'	Ross County, Ohio. Bryon Kent, Chillicothe, Ohio.
Emory, <i>Quercus emoryi</i> (1966)	12'4"	84'	84'	Greenback Valley, Arizona. E. C. Conway, Tonto Basin.
English, <i>Quercus robur</i> (1967)	7'3"	44'	40'	Morrisville, Pennsylvania. Bradshaw Nipes, Morrisville.
Canyon Live, <i>Quercus chrysolepsis</i> var. <i>chrysolepsis</i> (1967)	33'10"	72'	97'	Cleveland National Forest, California. Stanley R. Stevenson, San Diego.
	35'2"	44'	89'	Goose Island State Park, Texas. John A. Haislet, College Station.
Pin, <i>Quercus palustris</i> (1967)	19'10"	110'	85'	Carrollton, Missouri. Harold N. Calvert, Carrollton.
Post, <i>Quercus stellata</i> (1966)	14'5"	105'	50'	Madison County, Texas. R. D. Teddlie, Buffalo.
Shumard, <i>Quercus shumardii</i> var. <i>shumardii</i> (1966)	15'4"	130'	107'	Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge, Brooksville, Mississippi. Burton S. Webster, Brooksville.
<b>PALOVERDE</b>				
Blue, <i>Cercidium floridum</i> (1967)	5'6"	52'	35'	Ajo, Arizona. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham, Michigan.
<b>PAWPAW</b>				
<i>Asimina triloba</i> (1966)	3'2"	41'	27'	Near Smith Mills, Kentucky. Henry Converse, Madisonville; and Ruby Keelan, Henderson.
<b>PINE</b>				
Foxtail, <i>Pinus balfouriana</i> (1966)	26'5"	70'	35'	Mineral King, Sequoia National Forest, California. Peter J. Wyckoff, Porterville.
Jeffrey, <i>Pinus jeffreyi</i> (1967)	23'	182'	67'	Sierra National Forest, Huntington Lake, California. Forest Service Staff.



Species and Year Reported	Circumference at 4½ feet	Height	Spread	Location of Tree and Nominator
Lodgepole (Co-Champion) <i>Pinus contorta</i> (1967)	21'2"	91'	36'	Stanislaus National Forest, Sonora, California. Richard T. Virgin, Sonora.
Pitch, <i>Pinus rigida</i> (1967)	9'11"	88'	50'	Hiddenite, North Carolina. Dale A. Sutton, Lenoir.
Ponderosa, <i>Pinus ponderosa</i> var. <i>ponderosa</i> (1966)	18'2"	262'	54'	Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Platina, California. Glenn Gottschall, Platina.
Shortleaf, <i>Pinus echinata</i> (1967)	13'10"	127'	50'	Near Sandy Creek, Texas. Claude Shumate, Mt. Enterprise.
Southern Florida Slash <i>Pinus elliotti</i> var. <i>densa</i> (1967)	7'7"	66'	50'	Venice, Florida. E. T. Carnes, Sarasota.
Sugar, <i>Pinus lambertiana</i> (1967)	34'	230'	78'	Pickering Lumber Co., Standard, California. Richard T. Virgin, Sonora.
Spruce, <i>Pinus glabra</i> (1966)	11'	125'	35'	Near Mt. Holly, South Carolina. William B. Lawrence, Kingstree; and W. Glenn Britt, Mt. Holly.
<b>REDWOOD</b>				
<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i> (1966)	50'6"	350'	80'	"The Dyerville Giant". Founder's Grove, Humboldt Redwoods State Park, California. Dr. Paul Zinke, Berkeley.
<b>SAW-PALMETTO</b>				
<i>Serenoa repens</i> (1967)	1'3"	15'	8'	Marie Selby Campsite, Manatee Co., Fla. Edwin S. Sweeten, Lakeland.
<b>SILK OAK</b>				
<i>Grevillea robusta</i> (1967)	8'2"	55'	30'	Oneco, Florida. E. T. Carnes, Sarasota.
<b>SILKTREE</b>				
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i> (1966)	3'10" (at 4'1")	42'	40'	Marshall Hall Park, Charles County, Maryland. Cliff Dennis, Brandywine.
<b>SILVERBELL</b>				
Two-wing, <i>Halesia diptera</i> (1967)	3'1"	55'	32'	MacLay Gardens State Park, Tallahassee, Florida. Charles E. Salter, Tallahassee.
<b>SPRUCE</b>				
<sup>5</sup> Black, <i>Picea mariana</i> (1967)	4'4"	94'	20'	Superior National Forest, Minnesota. Raymond O. Benton, Carl Jauhola, and Nels R. Lee, Foresters.
Sitka, <i>Picea sitchensis</i> , (1967)	56'2"	248'	88'	"The Helen Clapp Spruce", Forks, Washington. Steve Arno, Missoula, Montana.
White, <i>Picea glauca</i> var. <i>glauca</i> (1967)	10'10"	82'	43'	Near Herbster, Wisconsin. Charles E. Rieck, Hayward.
<b>SUGARBERRY</b>				
<i>Celtis laevigata</i> (1967)	14'2"	78'	50'	Cumby, Texas. John A. Haislet, College Station.
<b>SWEETLEAF</b>				
<sup>6</sup> Common, <i>Symplocos tinctoria</i> (1967)	2'8"	55'	27'	Tallahassee, Florida. Malcolm B. Johnson, Tallahassee.
<b>SYCAMORE</b>				
Arizona, <i>Platanus wrightii</i> (1967)	12'4"	76'	47'	Montezuma Castle National Monument, Camp Verde, Arizona. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham, Michigan.
<b>TALLOWTREE</b>				
<i>Sapium sebiferum</i> (1967)	8'7"	40'	66'	Polk County, Texas. Burl Patterson, Goodrich.

Malcolm Johnson measures prize wining Sweetleaf, also known as Horsesugar or Yellowwood. Lower photo shows characteristic gall of the tree



<b>TAMARISK</b>				
Five-Stamen, <i>Tamarix pentandra</i> (1967)	7'3"	44'	45'	Albuquerque, New Mexico. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham, Michigan.
<b>TORREYA</b>				
Florida, <i>Torreya taxifolia</i> (1967)	4'6"	50'	40'	MacLay Gardens State Park, Tallahassee, Florida. Paul C. Willis, Tallahassee.
<b>TUPELO</b>				
Swamp, <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> var. <i>biflora</i> (1967)	6'7"	86'	47'	Hidden Lake, Manatee Co., Fla. Eldredge T. Carnes, Sarasota.
Water, <i>Nyssa aquatica</i> (1966)	10'11"	98'	32'	Near Jackson, Mississippi. Charles E. Ward, Jackson.
<b>WAHOO</b>				
Eastern, <i>Euonymus atropurpureus</i> (1967)	10'6"	13'	16'	Manhattan, Kansas. Mrs. Harold H. Munger, Manhattan.
<b>WILLOW</b>				
Weeping, <i>Salix babylonica</i> (1966)	19'4"	96'	106'	Detroit, Michigan. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kropp, Detroit.
<b>WITCH-HAZEL</b>				
Common, <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> (1967)	1'1"	39'	30'	Franklin, Michigan. Paul W. Thompson, Birmingham.
<b>YELLOW-POPLAR</b>				
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> (1967)	19'3"	176'	112'	Russ Forest near Dowagiac, Michigan. Paul W. Thomson, Birmingham.
<b>YUCCA</b>				
Aloe, <i>Yucca aloifolia</i> (1967)	1'6"	15'	4'	Lakeland, Florida. E. T. Carnes, Sarasota.

<sup>1</sup>New Measurements

<sup>2</sup>Previously reported as Chokecherry

<sup>3</sup>The previously reported Champion Carolina Hemlock was determined to be an Eastern Hemlock.

<sup>4</sup>Previously reported as Bigtooth Maple, *Acer grandidentatum*

<sup>5</sup>Circumference of previous Champion listed incorrectly



U.S. Forest Service crew, consisting of Stephen A. McShane, Donald D. Wood, and John P. Schlotter measure mammoth Ponderosa pine in the Siskiyou National Forest of Oregon. They are measuring diameter at breast height. Two other measurements are needed to determine whether or not a tree is a "champion," — total height and crown spread. Detailed instructions on how to measure a tree are available on request from AFA's Chief Forester



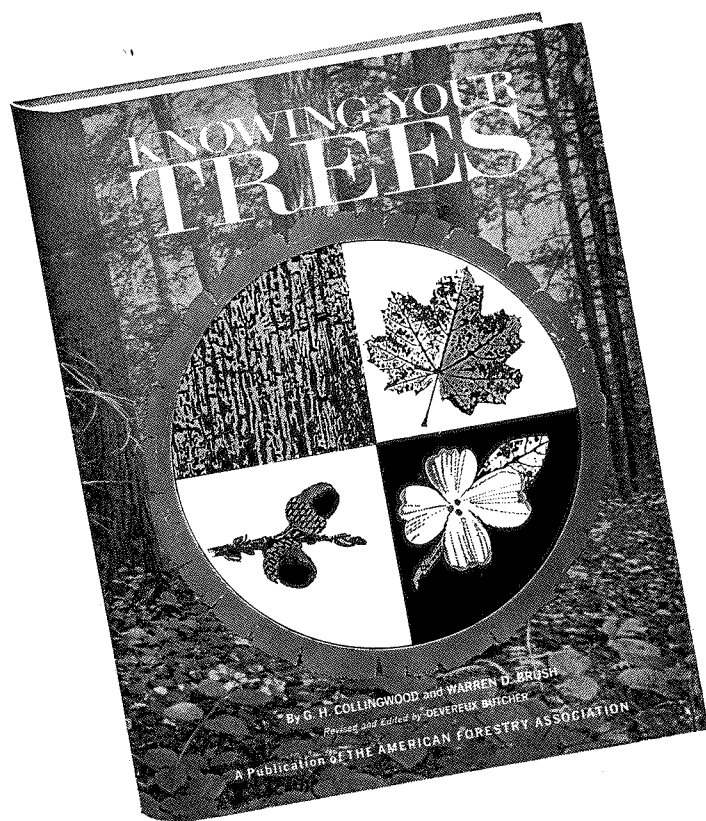
Foliage of the Florida Torreya, also called stinking cedar because of a fetid odor when leaves are bruised

# WHAT IS THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION?

**THE PURPOSE**—The American Forestry Association is a national organization—educational in character—for the advancement of the intelligent management and use of the country's forests and related resources of soil, water, wildlife and outdoor recreation. Its purpose is (1) to bring about adequate protection and perpetuation of these resources by creating an enlightened public appreciation of the need of conserving them through wise use for the present and future welfare and enjoyment of all the people; (2) to make available to Americans in all walks of life a wider knowledge and appreciation of their forest resources and the part they can play in the social and industrial life of our nation.

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