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FOREST ENTOMOLOGY 6.

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Brief Information on
PREVENTION OF INSECT INJURIES TO CRUDE FOREST PRODUCTS.

Character of Injury.- Newly felled trees, saw logs, telegraph poles, posts and like material, cut in the fall and winter and left on the ground or in close piles with the bark on during a few weeks or months in the spring and summer as well as those cut during the spring and summer offer conditions most favorable to attack by insects which are detrimental to the wood. The presence of bark is absolutely necessary for successful infestation by most of the wood-boring grubs, because the eggs and young stages must occupy the bark before the later can enter the wood. A large percentage of the injury to this class of products can be prevented, as follows:

Prevention.- (1) Provide for as little delay as possible between the felling of the tree and its manufacture into rough products. This is especially necessary with trees felled from April to September in the region north of the Gulf States and from March to November in the latter, while the late fall and winter cuttings should all be worked up by March or April.

(2) Do not leave the round timbers in the woods, or on the skidways during the danger period, or, if this is unavoidable, take every precaution to facilitate the rapid drying of the inner bark by keeping the logs, bolts, cordwood, etc. off the ground, in the sun, or in loose piles, or else, if possible, the opposite extreme should be adopted and the logs kept in water.

(3) Damage to products cut from saplings can be prevented by transporting the material from the woods soon after it is cut, so that it will not be left in piles or bundles in or near the forest during the season of insect activity. Damage may also be prevented if care is taken not to leave the material stored in one place for several months.

(4) Pinhole damage to stave and shingle bolts cut during a warm season can be prevented by removing the bark from the timber as soon as it is felled and by converting the bolts into the smallest practicable dimensions and piling them in such a manner as to facilitate rapid drying.

(5) Damage to unseasoned handle and wagon stock in the rough can be prevented as in Paragraph 2. This is especially necessary with hickory and ash if cut during the winter and spring.

(6) Damage to pulpwood and cordwood can be prevented to a great extent by placing the sticks of wood in triangular or crib piles immediately after they are cut from the trees, especially if the timber is cut during the danger period, or must be held for a few months during the warm season. Peeling or splitting the wood, or both, before it is piled will also provide against damage from insects.

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