

IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

MOBILE DRUM BARK PEELER



A dual-purpose machine has been developed in the south to peel and concentrate pulpwood. This machine operates as a truck-mounted drum that peels pulpwood while it is in transit to a central loading point. Its appearance and operating principle are similar to those of ready-mix concrete trucks (fig. 1).

Small scattered piles of unpeeled pulpwood in the timber or along woods roads are loaded into the drum. The truck then drives to the landing or main road where it discharges peeled wood that can be mechanically loaded for hauling to the mill.

Unlike previously developed machines of this type, the drum does not rotate. Instead, a rotating axle running through the center of the drum has fixed arms that form five pockets for carrying the wood. The inside of the drum is equipped with steel brushes or lugs to facilitate barking and cleaning.

In southern pine, where pulpwood sticks are cut 5 feet 3 inches long, this machine normally peels 12 to 15 cords per day with a crew of three men, but has peeled more than 23 cords in 8 hours. When the machine is used at a single location, it is capable of producing 4 to 5 cords per hour. Loading the drum requires two-thirds, and peeling one-third, of the time for each charge where wood is scattered.

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E. W. Fobes



Figure 1.--A load of peeled wood being discharged from the peeler.

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