

substantial reduction in variability. Since that time, other priorities have emerged. Without the Foresters' guidance, restricting interpretations of codes to one standard, ensuring operational differences are identified and standardized and that regular inspections to verify the accuracy of unit counts are carried out, the variability has resurfaced. For the measurements to be truly comparable variability needs to be minimized. Figure 7 implies this requires centralized control. Further, there is an ongoing requirement to exercise this control as variability spread widely 4 months after the Foresters left the field.

We see the reporting system as an invaluable tool. It has permitted the quantification of a hotspotting program; the impact of poor supervi-

sion, turning a work force on and off, operational variations, utility supervision; contractor strengths. It has highlighted the need for centralized control. Generally, it has put information into our hands on a timely basis. We are thereby empowered to make decisions which mean more trees handled per dollar, advancing the first cycle towards completion.

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## Abstracts

JACOBI, W.R. 1989. **Populus problems**. *Am. Nurseryman* 169(2):48-55.

Foliage diseases can reduce the aesthetic value of *Populus* species. Though leaf diseases look bad, they are not generally life-threatening to trees. This article describes five of the most common leaf spots found on *Populus* species: Marssonina leaf spot; ink spot of aspen; leaf and shoot blight; leaf rust; and Septoria leaf spot. Most native and hybrid poplars are susceptible to one or more of these diseases. My discussion of the disease's symptoms and life cycles is followed by some general tips for control.

ANONYMOUS. 1988. **The effects of ozone on landscape plants**. *Landscape Contractor*, October, pp 8-10.

When pollutants combine in sunlight, the resultant ozone is very unstable and rapidly causes oxidation on such varied surfaces as metals, paints and landscape plants. Ozone enters the stomates. Ozone is a very strong oxidizer, so it affects the membranes of the cells within the leaf whose stomates it has entered. When these membranes are damaged, they die. Some plants have much better ability than others to resist ozone because their stomates are smaller, so they are better able to keep the toxic gas out of their inner workings.