

The Ecology of the Bog Birch
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Project Number 135

One hundred bog birch had twigs marked on them and the growth of these twigs was recorded during and at the end of the growing season. Seven samples of 100 twigs each of bog birch were collected and a growth curve for the season was made from these samples. Thirty bog birch were collected in the field and returned to Lincoln, Nebraska for further study. A search was made for seedlings of bog birch and they were found at two sites. A number of seeds were also collected to be used in germination and further seedling studies. This was the second year of this study and a comparison of the growth curves of the two years showed about 33% more elongation growth during the summer of 1964.

This research will be used for a Ph.D. in Botany at the University of Nebraska to be granted in June of 1966.

Observations on Some Bird Communities in Grand Teton National Park
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Observations were made on the bird communities bordering the north edge of the Snake River from the Research Station (not including the Station) to the Cattlemans Bridge and Ox Bow backwaters. The species nesting and feeding in each habitat or vegetational type were recorded and estimations of species abundance were made. The waterfowl of the river and Ox Bow was studied to learn something of reproductive success in the population and learn how productive these waters are. The majority of observations was made between 6 and 11 A.M., beginning in late June and ending in late August. Observations could not be made every day and there are frequent gaps of as much as four or five days. The majority of observations on waterfowl was made from vantage points along the shore, boats proving helpful only on a few occasions when disturbance of the birds would not be detrimental. The species observed are summarized below according to their relative abundance in the study area. Birds having large territories are simply listed as present.