

Reviews

Collins Guide to Tree Planting and Cultivation

Collins. £2.10 (42 shillings).

This book is the latest in Collins' excellent series of pocket guides and is stated to be for the gardener no less than the forester. It is in fact much more comprehensive than the title would indicate and covers virtually the same ground as "Forestry Practice." It includes, in addition to planting and cultivation, information on protection, pruning, tree surgery, thinning, felling, planning, nomenclature, arboriculture, trees and the law etc. From a forester's point of view it is a most satisfactory book as it is practical and concise and provides for the layman a wealth of forestry common sense. If only the general public could digest the advice given in this small volume the calls on the advisory services would be very greatly reduced.

Foresters will find it rewarding reading and will be surprised at the interesting asides which Edlin always manages to introduce into his articles and books. How many for example know that Bachelor in the academic sense comes from *baccalaurus* meaning the berried laurel of the green bay tree, or that dogwood comes from dog meaning a spike or skewer.

I liked the statement that no one would plant Monkey Puzzle outside a Botanic Garden except in some nightmare. There must have been a lot of sleepless nights in this part of the world!

One could find fault with a few statements where outdated views are expressed but the only actual error detected is the statement that there is no quarantine as far as trees are concerned between Great Britain and Ireland. In fact it is forbidden to import elm into either part of Ireland from Great Britain.

As it is Forestry Commission policy to use only the rifle in deer control it is regretted that he mentions the use of the shot gun for this purpose even though allowed by law.

Mr. Edlin keeps Ireland in mind throughout the book and mentions the Society of Irish Foresters and our publication "Irish Forestry" as well as the 2 Forestry Divisions. It is therefore surprising that in his list of "Leading Arboreta open to the Public" he only mentions under Ireland Glasnevin and Tollymore Park omitting the Kennedy Memorial National Arboretum at New Ross and Castlewellan Forest Park with its famous Annesley Arboretum.

This book is a potted version of Mr. Edlin's many other

publications on forestry and trees. It deserves to be widely read by the general gardening public to whom it presents in a readable form the relevant parts of our every day work among trees.

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