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Y1815-J

July 13, 1956

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Three  
From: Assistant Director  
Subject: Accepted Scientific Name for Douglas-fir

We have received Mr. Natt Dodge's memorandum to the Director dated July 6 inquiring about the current status of the scientific name for Douglas-fir.

It is true that the change from Pseudotsuga taxifolia to Pseudotsuga menziesii in the Agriculture Handbook No. 41, Check List of Native and Naturalized Trees of the United States (including Alaska), published by the Forest Service in 1953, has been the subject of considerable controversy. However, Mr. Bert Lexen, Assistant Chief of the Division of Forest Management Research of the Washington Office of the Forest Service, advised us that no official change has been made by the Forest Service in the nomenclature of Douglas-fir as published in the 1953 Check List. It is expected that this matter will be reviewed at the next Botanical Congress to be held next year and any changes in the 1953 edition will be announced following the Congress.

The 1953 Check List should continue to be used as the National Park Service standard as outlined in Mr. Allen's memorandum to the Regional Directors dated December 7, 1953.

(SGD) JACKSON E. PRICE

Assistant Director

Copy to: Regional Directors, Regions One, Two, Four and Five