

# South Dakota Joins Tree Farm States

South Dakota became the nation's 34th Tree Farm state on Arbor Day, April 25. At seven simultaneous dedication ceremonies throughout the state, 29 private woodland owners received Tree Farm certificates in recognition of their outstanding forest management. Over 20,000 acres of the state's privately owned woodlands now carry Tree Farm signs.



Gov. Sigurd Anderson presented Tree Farm certificates to three of the forestland owners at ceremonies held on the Homestake Mining Company's Western Pine Tree Farm area in the Black Hills. Rapid City school children and Boy Scouts, over 400 strong, planted trees during the ceremony. State and private foresters conducted tours of the Homestake Tree Farm, showing visitors the highlights of a well managed timberland.

Other Tree Farm ceremonies were held at Aberdeen, Flandreau, Lemmon, Sioux Falls, Madison and Gettysburg.

The South Dakota program is sponsored by the South Dakota Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks and, in the Black Hills, the Western Pine Assn. The Western Pine Assn. has certified Tree Farms in nine other states.

Tree Farms are encouraged nationally by American Forest Products Industries. Over 3,600 of the nation's private woodland owners are certified tree farmers, with more than 25 million acres in the program.

Rapid City launching ceremonies, held in a scenic Black Hills Canyon, included talks by Robert Asheim, Rapid City Junior Chamber of Commerce president; Leonel Jensen, commissioner of the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks; Gareth C. Moon, assistant state forester in charge of fire protection; Guy Bjorge, manager of Homestake Mining Co.; John Calkins, American Forest Products Industries; G. L. Barkhurst, Western Pine Assn.; John T. Louckes, Soil Conservation Service; Francis Murphey, tree farmer-rancher of Hermosa; E. R. Lepley, supervisor of Harney National Forest, and Gov. Anderson.