The long-vacant position with the seed certification section of the Florida Division of Inspection has been filled. Pine seed certification activities have now resumed and interest among our CFGRP cooperators continues to increase.

If all goes as planned, Mitch will have an information package regarding the details of pine seed certification in Florida by this fall.

Among cooperators who have submitted historical seed orchard records, it appears that 1983 and 1984 were the best years for seed production. Once we get these data on the computer we'll be looking at correlations among climate conditions and various cultural activities in hopes of identifying variables which have significant influences on seed production.

If you haven't completed your historical records, please do so before our 1986 harvest. The potential benefits from this system will more than justify the small amount of effort on your behalf (Mitch).

Our slash pine cross-pollinated master file is nearly complete. The file contains information on every cross-pollinated family that is successfully established in a progeny test. The final stage of completing the files involves checking for accuracy. To accomplish this, we will sort the file by company and then ask each company to check it against their records. We feel this is the best way to produce a file that is complete and accurate.

For those who have not finished checking the listing of first generation slash pine selections, please make corrections and return the list to Greg as soon as possible. We can then make the necessary corrections on our master file and send each cooperator a final copy.
Plans are underway for the 1986 CFGRP Fall Contact Persons' Meeting which is being hosted by the St. Joe Land and Development Company. The meeting will be held at the Wakulla Springs Lodge beginning at 1:00 pm on November 12 (Wednesday) and ending at 12:00 noon on November 13 (Thursday). For the most part, the meeting will involve business discussion items such as second generation selections, pine seed certification, the orchard management recording system, and clone bank development. We have eliminated a field trip due to the importance of the business items.

The entire hotel has been reserved. There are 26 rooms, most of which have two beds. The room rates are $28.00 single (plus tax) and $36.00 double (plus tax). People wishing to stay over on Thursday night following the meeting will have the same special group room rates.

Since the 26 rooms will not accommodate all of us for single occupancy, it would be helpful if you would consider sharing rooms. People not making plans early enough to reserve a room at the Wakulla Springs Lodge will have the option of staying at Shell Point Motel (about 8 miles south of Wakulla Springs on the Gulf) or at one of the Tallahassee Motels (about 20 minutes north).

By now you should have read Tim's August 5, 1986 memo regarding slash pine second generation selection and clone bank development. We will discuss these topics in detail at the fall meeting, however, many of the field activities must be conducted prior to the meeting. If you have questions about any of these activities, please contact Tim or Gary.

Champion International, Owens-Illinois, Div. of For. and St. Joseph Land and Development Co. will participate in planting 4 additional Longleaf tests this coming winter. A recent inventory of the survival of the seedlings at Gilman's nursery revealed that each company can receive 85 families. Planting design will be 8 blocks, 4 tree row plots and spacing 3' x 12'. Please be on the lookout for a suitable site (roughly 2.5 - 3 acres) and plan site preparation well ahead of time.