Shade Tree Evaluation
Project at Wooster, O.

A 10-year street tree evaluation program is underway at the Ohio Research and Development Center, Wooster, O. Purpose of the program, sponsored by Ohio utility companies, is to spot trees which can fit the needs of city streets and at the same time adapt to the growing conditions with which such trees are faced.

First planting was made during the 1966-67 season with 30 maple cultivars. Data will be kept on IBM cards for each numbered tree. During the first year, survival, amount of die-back, initial caliper and height, and soil data are collected. In succeeding years, growth rate, hardiness, leaves, and branch development will be checked. Further, some trees will be removed and the entire root system checked. Additional plantings will be made of many types of trees, according to Dr. O. D. Diller, curator of Secrest Arboretum, a 115-acre development at the Research Center. Dr. Diller formerly served as chairman of the Center’s forestry department.

Utility companies who are paying for the study are interested in plantings under lines which require a minimum of maintenance. Each has assigned

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