



Control (or prescribed) burning is a forestry tool many landowners like to use to prepare tracts for planting. What does burning accomplish, and should you spend the money on it?

The primary benefit of control burning is to improve planter access by reducing logging debris and vegetation. The clearing effect of a controlled burn allows hand planters or machines to cover the entire area, be more accurate with tree spacing, and make good contact between the seedling and the soil. It's important to note that any effects on vegetation are temporary. The brush can be top-killed by burning, but the root system remains unaffected and will generally sprout back vigorously. Occasionally, a fire will be hot enough to affect the root system. Really hot fires can have detrimental effects on the litter layer that helps prevent erosion and sheet washing on slopes and adds organic matter to the soil over time. Hot fires should be avoided for these reasons. Unless logging debris is very heavy, hand planters and machines are usually able to work around tops and brush piles and give a quality planting job with the adequate spacing of seedlings. The firelines that are typically necessary for control burning can improve access for walking and four-wheelers but must be carefully installed to prevent erosion. Seeding with grasses or wildlife beneficial plants should be considered.

Control burning costs can range from around \$10 per acre to \$50 or more. Landowners should consider whether this cost is necessary for a quality planting job. Spending this money on weed control and improved genetics is often better than investing a few more dollars per acre. Control burning can be a valuable tool, but consider if it is essential and review all of your options that could be better investments in the long term.



A newly burned pine plantation in Ward, Alabama shows great competition control of undesirable understory species.



Prescribed burn site preparation in Choctaw County, Mississippi.



Mississippi prescribed burn manager, Doug Stone, overseeing prescriptions that were implemented to replant the Cork Place tract.

Your experienced ArborGen Reforestation Advisor (RA) can assist you in looking at your goals and options as you begin site preparation. Contact the RA in your area.

[Find Your Reforestation Advisor](#)

ArborGen is Hiring



WE ARE HIRING

MULTIPLE POSITIONS

- IT Systems Administrator - SC
- Product Development Research Associate - TX
- Forestry Nursery Specialist - SC
- Forestry Nursery Specialist - GA
- Forestry Nursery Specialist - AL

APPLY NOW

Click "Join Our Team" on:
www.ArborGen.com



ArborGen is hiring multiple positions companywide:

- 1. IT Systems Administrator**
• Ridgeville, South Carolina
- 2. Product Development Research Associate**
• Nacogdoches, Texas
- 3. Forestry Nursery Specialist**
• Blenheim, South Carolina
- 4. Forestry Nursery Specialist**
• Shellman, Georgia
- 5. Forestry Nursery Specialist**
• Selma, Alabama

Our company is made up of innovative and passionate people; foresters, scientists, biologists, conservationists, tree farmers and researchers. We provide a professional yet fun work environment where your input and abilities will have a direct impact on every seedling we grow. Consider joining us!

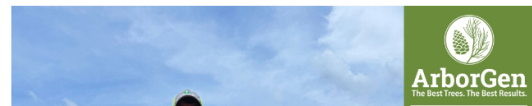
[Join Our Team](#)

Customer Success Story

ArborGen customer, Sid Dromgoole, of Nacogdoches, Texas discusses his experiences as a first-time pine tree farmer and the factors that have led to his success. Sid shares why ArborGen seedlings were the obvious choice to generate revenue and build a future legacy for his children.



Client Results





OP Elite at 3 years

Bay County, Florida



MCP® at 1 year

Midway, Alabama

[See More Client Results](#)

[Click here for the previous edition of TreeLines.](#)



Download a Copy of this TreeLines Edition

Need a trusted partner to guide the way? Get in touch with a Reforestation Advisor to explore your options!



Austin Heine
North Carolina and Virginia

910-660-3209

[See More](#)



Jason Cromer
Florida, Georgia

229-310-0648

[See More](#)



Greg Hay
Arkansas, Northern
Louisiana, and Oklahoma

501-350-4217

[See More](#)



Shannon Stewart
Eastern Texas, Southern
Louisiana

936-239-6189

[See More](#)



Paul Jeffreys, Ph.D.
Alabama & Mississippi
Manager Special Projects &
Sustainability
205-712-9582

[See More](#)



Kylie Burdette
U.S. Sales Manager
Reforestation Advisor
South Carolina
864-650-4454

[See More](#)

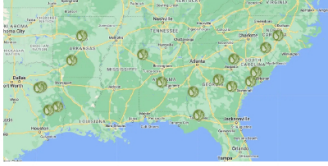


Jason Watson
Director, U.S. Sales

404-840-7489

[See More](#)

FIND AN ADVISOR OR NURSERY



- Blenheim, SC Nursery
- Bellville, GA Nursery
- Shellman, GA Nursery
- Selma, AL Nursery
- Bluff City, AR Nursery
- Bullard, TX Nursery
- Livingston, TX Distribution Point
- Jasper, TX Nursery

GET IN TOUCH

2011 Broadbank Court
Ridgeville, S.C. 29472

888.888.7158

info@arborgen.com



[Request Catalog](#)

QUICK LINKS

- [Find a Reforestation Advisor](#)
- [ArborGen TreeLines – News & Updates](#)
- [Join Our Team](#)
- [Helpful Resources](#)
- [About ArborGen](#)
- [In the News](#)
- [Press Releases](#)
- [Search Website](#)

[Get TreeLines](#)