

# Keeping Records

**C**ollecting seeds and growing seedlings can be a rewarding hobby. Keep detailed notes from year to year on all aspects of your hobby—when cones were collected, how seeds were processed, stratification techniques and results, soil amendments, planting medium, time of planting, outdoor weather conditions, seedling growth characteristics, outplanting success and/or failure. One good way is to keep track of a particular seedlot all the way from the time of cone collection until the seedlings are planted in the field—and why stop there? You could track them for a few more years to see how they survive. Keeping good, detailed notes will make you a better grower over time.

Experience is the best teacher.

**Have fun!**

