Giant Cypress Tree, 1300 Years Old is Cut in Louisiana Swamp

A giant cypress tree, 1,300 years old and containing 16,175 board feet, was cut in the Amite River swamp of lower Livingston parish recently, reports Robert Moore, extension forester, Louisiana State University.

This tree, the property of the Lyon Lumber Company of Garyville, is thought to be the largest cut in recent years. The entire tree was sound and will make more than a carload of lumber, says Mr. Moore, who scaled it. Five logs were cut with a total length of 80 feet. The diameter of the stump was 92 inches and the diameter at the top of the first log was 71.

Including all allowances for trimming, the tree had a merchantable length of 86 feet, eight inches. The age was determined by a careful count of the annual rings.

“While this may not be the largest cypress ever cut in the state, it would be interesting to have records of larger ones,” Mr. Moore says. Persons having records of larger trees are requested to send them to B. A. Bateman, Head of Forestry Department, L. S. U., or to Robert Moore, Agricultural Extension Service, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.