Timber Stand Improvement and Thinning Practicum

For this practicum there are 20 trees flagged in blue/white striped and numbered 1-20 within an area marked by pink flagging. For each tree using the goals/guide below determine the scoring of each tree. Scoring options are as follows,

- A=Harvest (Utilize the tree)
- B=Leave (leave the tree in the stand for a good reason)
- C=Deaden (undesirable tree, not merchantable or beneficial to wildlife, should be deadened or felled and left in the woods.)

Scenario:

This stand is a mixed hardwoods cover type with a good representation of oak and hickory and is currently fully stocked. For the understory it is mixed hardwood. With this the area is ready for a thinning and TSI. Goals for this management area are to improve the overall health and quality of the stand for timber growth, enhance wildlife habitat, and to promote moderately shade tolerant species to germinate and grow. To achieve these goals, trees of poor form/vigor, tree in poor health, and damaged trees will be the focus for removal or deadening, leaving adequate residual crop tree stocking. With this, there are no pulp markets in the area. Below are the current stumpage values for sawtimber trees in the surrounding area. Also, inventory shows the number of snags (standing dead trees) that are less than 6” DBH are deficient in number for wildlife goals and needs to be increased by deadening low quality/vigor trees in this size class.

Median Sawtimber Price/Thousand Board Feet (mbf), Doyle Rule

Black Cherry	$675
Sugar Maple	$1,000
Red Oak	$600
American Beech	$60
Hickory spp.	$275
White Oak	$925
Tulip Poplar	$300
Black Walnut	$2250
Chestnut Oak	$700
Black Oak	$475

Some Factors Affecting Value of Standing Timber

1. Timber quality
2. Volume to be harvested per acre

3. Variability of terrain
4. Market demand
5. Distance to market
6. Season of year
7. Distance to public roads
8. Costs of harvesting
9. Size of timber
10. Species mix
11. Type of logging equipment
12. Landowner requirements for harvest
13. Landowner knowledge of values.
14. Insurance Costs
15. Performance bond and other Requirements