

# MODELING TREES

A photograph of a forested hillside. The foreground and middle ground are filled with a variety of trees, including tall, dark green pines and shorter, lighter green deciduous trees. The background shows a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

Brad Lloyd &  
Darrell Dennis

(Dave Connery, Consultant Emeritus)

**Trees are important - we need a lot**

**Trees vary greatly –we need variety**

**Trees add a lot of color and texture to our scenes**

**Purchase vs. Make**

**There are a lot of good pre-made trees available**

- Expensive if you need a lot**
- Most are the same tree to tree**
- Often hard to find just what you want**

**Many types of trees are easily created**

- Can be time consuming**
- Each tree is unique even after making hundreds!**

A photograph of a forest scene. In the foreground and middle ground, there are several tall, dark green coniferous trees with dense, needle-covered branches. To the right, there are shorter, lighter green deciduous trees with broad, leafy canopies. The background is a clear, bright blue sky. The text "CONIFERS and DECIDUOUS" is overlaid at the bottom in a bold, yellow, serif font.

**CONIFERS and DECIDUOUS**



## **Individual Trees**



**Rows of Trees**



## **Mixture of Tree Varieties**

A large hillside covered in dense green forest, with a green barn and a white car in the foreground. The hillside is the central focus, showing a thick canopy of trees. In the foreground, there is a vineyard with bare grapevines. To the right, a green barn with a grey roof is visible, and a white car is parked nearby. A utility pole stands in the middle ground. The sky is clear and light blue.

# Solid Hillside

(Looks like WS clump foliage)



**Leafless**

# Full Foliage





**Irregularly shaped**



**Well Proportioned**  
(With lots of human help!)



**Somewhere in-between**



**Open and airy or dense**



**Take photos of trees in the area you are modeling**

**Individual trees**

**Groups of trees**

**Build trees in bunches**

**A good group activity (round-robin group)**

**Vary sizes and shapes**

**Use several layers of colors - light highlights**

**Slightly alter colors - include dead or dying branches**

**& trees & stumps**

**Plant in odd numbered groupings**

**Make holes - use toothpicks as place holders**

**Include miniature trees and “pucker brush”**



**We will show you a wide variety of model trees  
- and discuss making them, but we will not  
cover making a specific tree types**

**Three basic tree parts:**

**Trunks**

**Branches / Armatures**

**Foliages**

**Mix and match for a variety of tree types**

Now -

Let's see how to make Trees



# TRUNKS / BRANCHES / ARMATURES



A

# BRANCHES / ARMATURES / FLOIAGE



**B**

# CEDAR SHAKE TRUNK, SCRUB PAD ARMATURE, FLOCKING



# SCRUB PAD CONIFER



AMSI Conifer Green

1

Trunk cut to rough shape; carved and sanded round, distressed with razor saw to highlight bark texture;  
& Alcohol; scrubbing pad branch structure

## FURNACE FILTER PINES



2. - **Furnace Filter Pines** – Prepare trunks from Cedar shakes, shape, rasp and stain. Paint blue furnace filters green, brown or gray and cut up filters into approximate 2" squares. Remove backing material and split apart into very thin pieces of about 6 to 8 individual strands. Glue to trunk with Aileen's Super Tacky Glue. Flock with Noch Fir Needles \$8050. Same armature flocked with AMSI Conifer Medium #452.

# FURNACE FILTER PINES



Noch Fir Needles

AMSI Conifer Green

# TOM BEATON BROOM BRISTLE CONIFERS



3 - **Tom Beaton Conifers** – Carved cedar trunk stained light gray. Drill and insert artificial bristles from push broom, through trunk and glue in place with white glue. Trim to general shape of tree desired. Coat bristles with Walther's Goo and stick on small pieces of Woodland Scenics Clump Foliage Medium Green #FC 183 and Light Green #FC 182 randomly mixed. Cut sisal into 1/4" pieces and sprinkle over bristles coated with Hobi-tac. Spray sisal with dark gray or black paint, then spray with cheap hair spray and sprinkle on Noch Fir Needles #8050 or spray with hair spray and flock with JTT Burnt Grass Coarse Turf #TU 1065.

# TOM BEATON BROOM BRISTLE CONIFERS

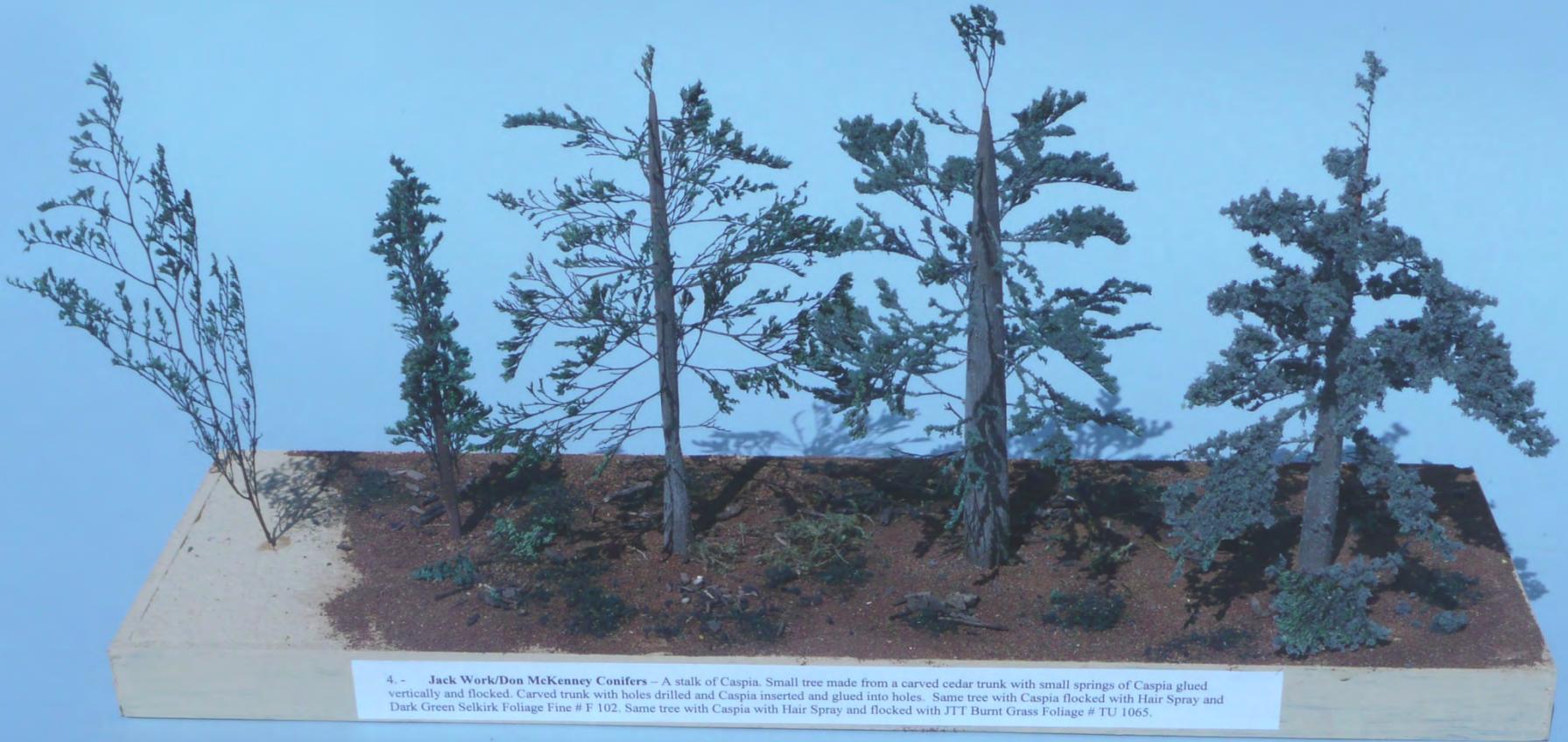
WS Clump Foliage

Sisal w/ Noch Fir Needles

Sisal w/ JTT Burnt Grass

3  
k stained light gray. Drill and insert artificial bristles from push broom, through trunk and glue in  
e desired. Coat bristles with Walthers Goo and stick on small pieces of Woodland Scenics Clump  
#FC 18 randomly mixed. Cut sisal into 1/4" pieces and sprinkle over bristles coated with Hobi-tac.  
ay with cheap hair spray and sprinkle on Noch Fir Needles #8050 or spray with hair spray and flock

# JACK WORK / DON MCKENNEY CONIFERS



4. - Jack Work/Don McKenney Conifers - A stalk of Caspia. Small tree made from a carved cedar trunk with small springs of Caspia glued vertically and flocked. Carved trunk with holes drilled and Caspia inserted and glued into holes. Same tree with Caspia flocked with Hair Spray and Dark Green Selkirk Foliage Fine # F 102. Same tree with Caspia with Hair Spray and flocked with JTT Burnt Grass Foliage # TU 1065.

# JACK WORK / DON MCKENNEY CONIFERS

Vertical Caspia

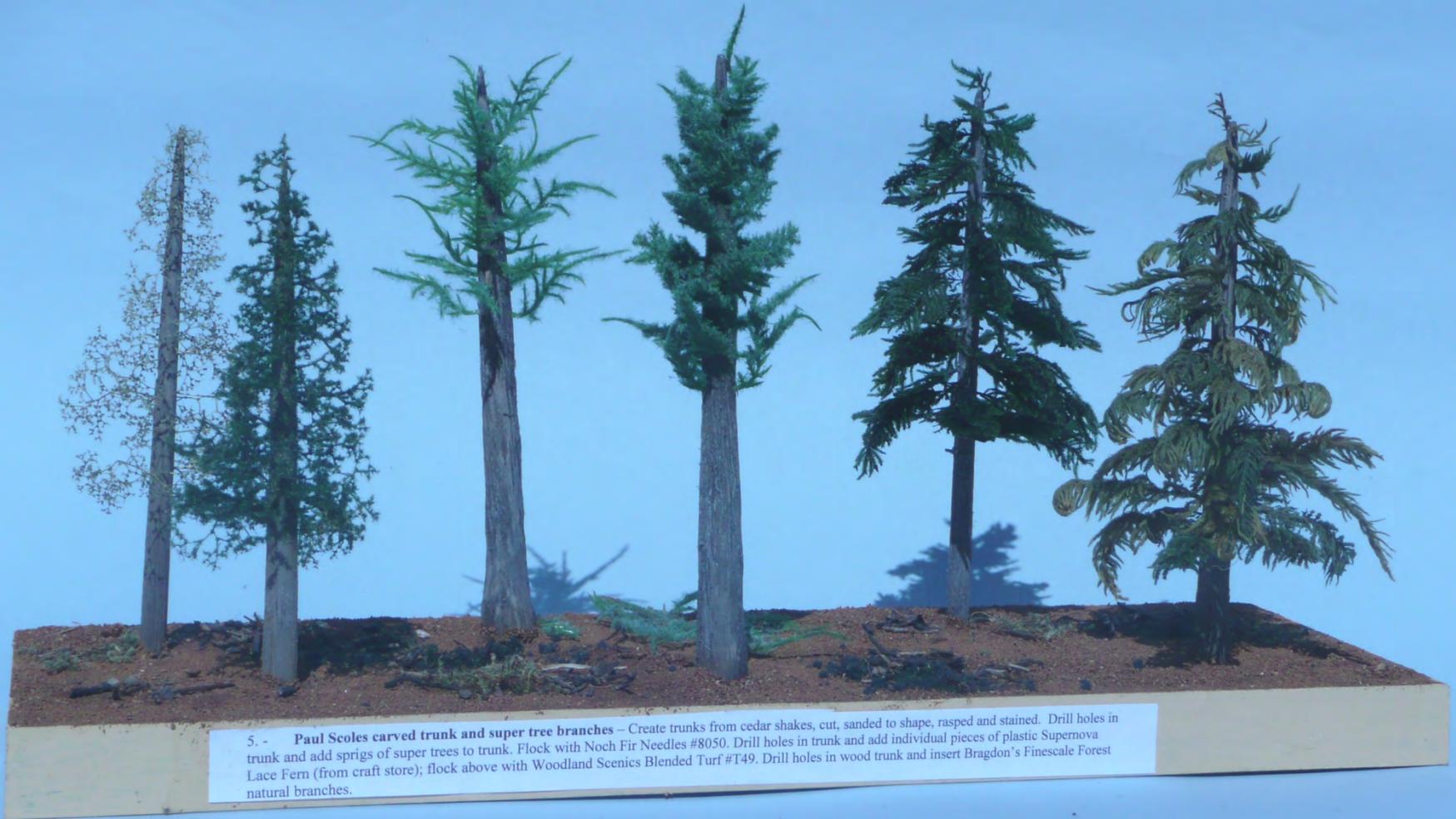
Caspia only

Caspia w/ Selkirk Dark  
Green Foliage

Caspia w/ JTT Burnt  
Grass Foliage

Don McKenney Conifers - A stalk of Caspia. Small tree made from a carved cedar trunk with small springs of Caspia glued into holes. Same tree with Caspia flocked with Hair Spray and JTT Burnt Grass Foliage # TU 1065.

# CARVED TRUNK WITH INSERTED BRANCHES



5. - **Paul Scoles carved trunk and super tree branches** – Create trunks from cedar shakes, cut, sanded to shape, rasped and stained. Drill holes in trunk and add sprigs of super trees to trunk. Flock with Noch Fir Needles #8050. Drill holes in trunk and add individual pieces of plastic Supernova Lace Fern (from craft store); flock above with Woodland Scenics Blended Turf #T49. Drill holes in wood trunk and insert Bragdon's Finescale Forest natural branches.

# CARVED TRUNK WITH INSERTED BRANCHES



Super trees ala  
Paul Scoles

Super Trees w/  
Noch Fir Needles

Super Nova  
Lace Fern

# CARVED TRUNK WITH INSERTED BRANCHES



Super Nova Lace Fern flocced  
with WS Blended Turf

# CARVED TRUNK WITH INSERTED BRANCHES



5

Bragdon's Finescale Forest  
branches

# BOTTLE BRUSH STYLE TREES



# BOTTLE BRUSH STYLE TREES



Front- Noch Static Grass  
Back - AMSI Spruce

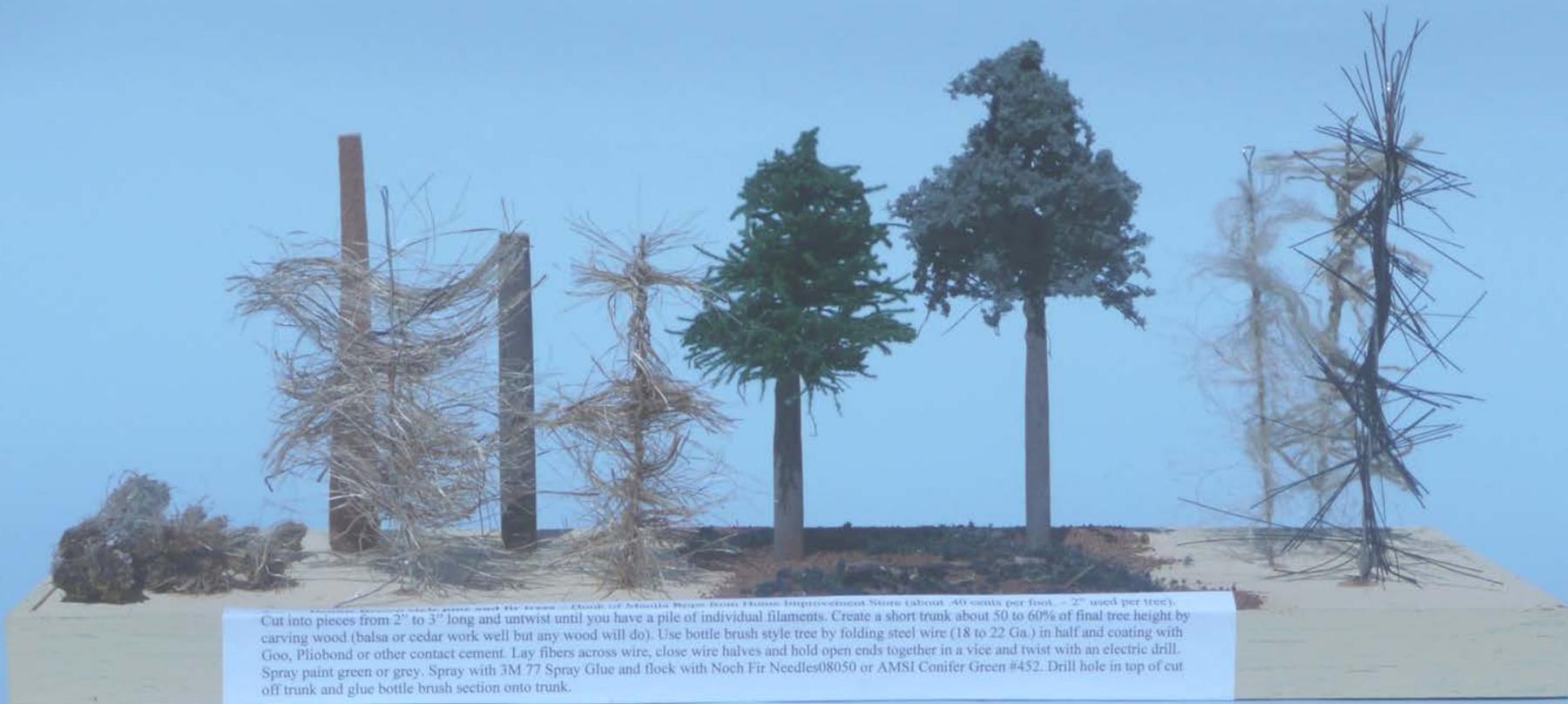
Front - AMSI Conifer  
Back - WS Blended Turf

Front - JTT Moss Green  
Back - Noch Fir Needles

6

3 to 22 ga.) to just over twice desired tree length. Bend in half and glue 2' to 3" strands of sisal  
back and chuck the other end in a drill and twist until all the strands are held tight with the  
Static Grass. Same tree only flocked with AMSI Spruce Medium  
Scenics Blended Turf #T49.  
#1066

# DENNIS BROWN STYLE MATURE CONIFERS



# DENNIS BROWN STYLE MATURE CONIFERS

Bottle Brush top made with Hemp



# DENNIS BROWN STYLE MATURE CONIFERS

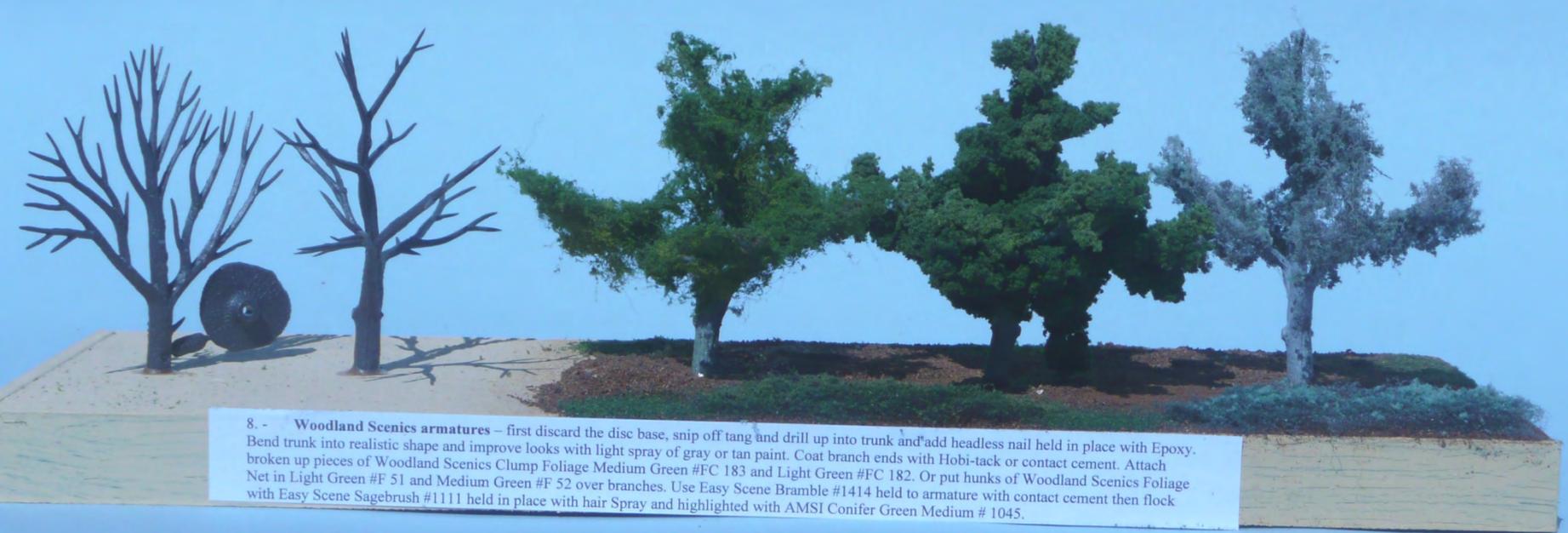
Mounted on carved wood trunks



Noch Fir Needles

JTT Moss Green

# WOODLAND SCENICS ARMATURES



8. - **Woodland Scenics armatures** – first discard the disc base, snip off tang and drill up into trunk and add headless nail held in place with Epoxy. Bend trunk into realistic shape and improve looks with light spray of gray or tan paint. Coat branch ends with Hobi-tack or contact cement. Attach broken up pieces of Woodland Scenics Clump Foliage Medium Green #FC 183 and Light Green #FC 182. Or put hunks of Woodland Scenics Foliage Net in Light Green #F 51 and Medium Green #F 52 over branches. Use Easy Scene Bramble #1414 held to armature with contact cement then flock with Easy Scene Sagebrush #1111 held in place with hair Spray and highlighted with AMSI Conifer Green Medium # 1045.

# WOODLAND SCENICS ARMATURES



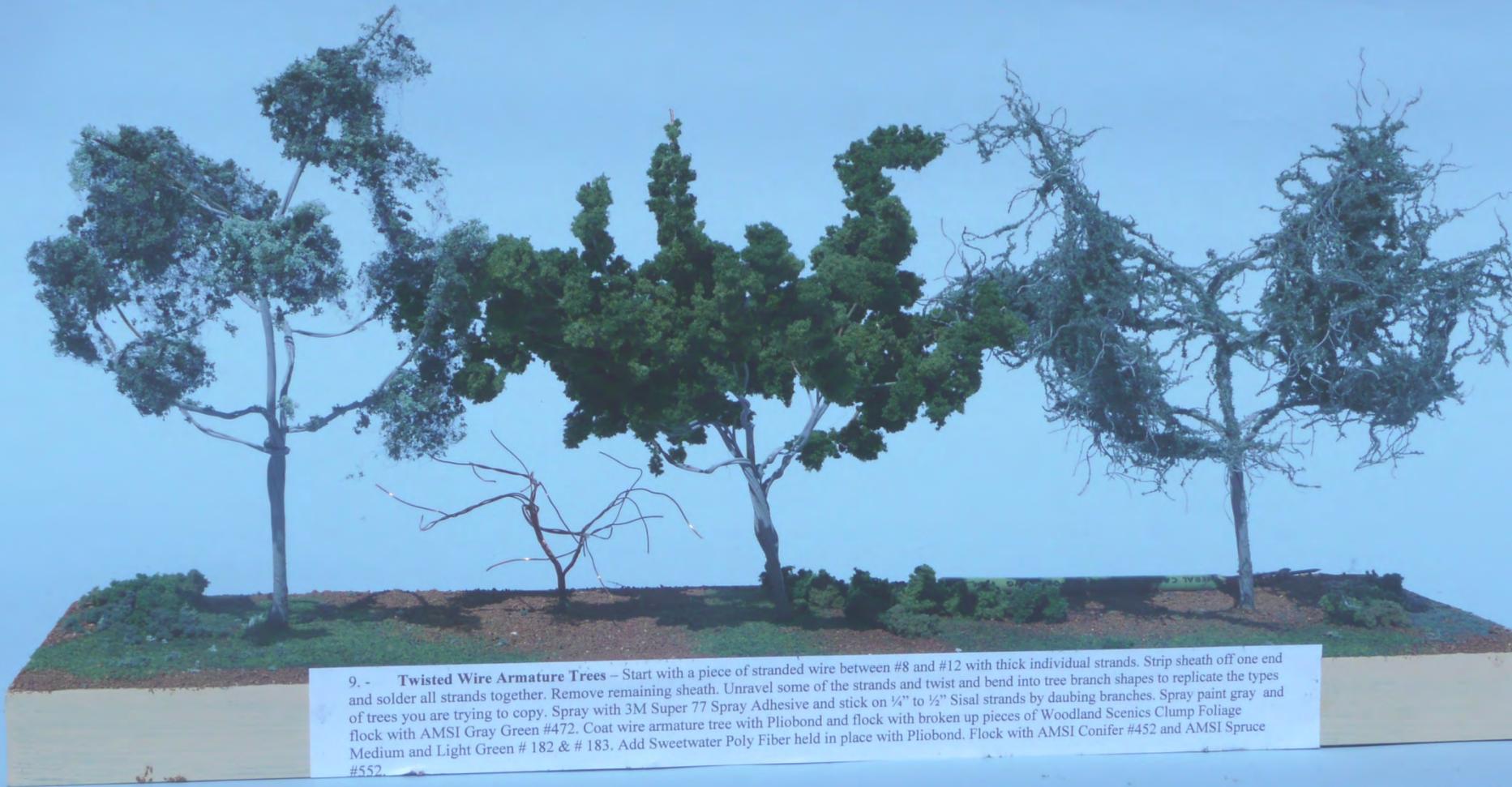
WS Foliage Net w/ Medium Green & Light Green

WS Clump Foliage Medium & Light Green

Easy Scene Bramble & Sagebrush w/ AMSI Conifer

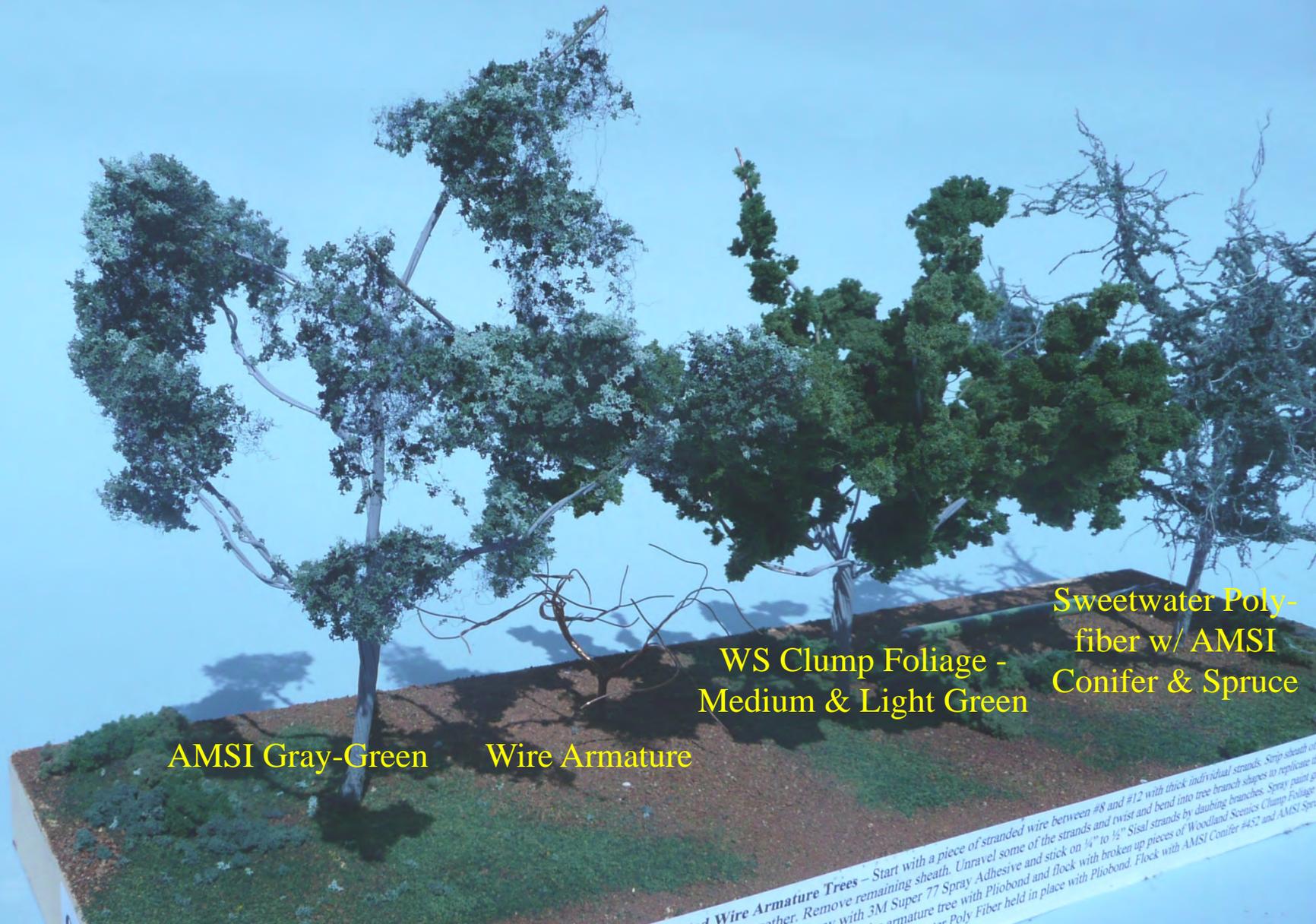
Discard the disc base, snip off tang and drill up into trunk and add headless nail held in place with Epoxy. Coat trunk with light spray of gray or tan paint. Coat branch ends with Hobi-tack or contact cement. Attach WS Clump Foliage Medium Green #FC 183 and Light Green #FC 182. Or put hunks of Woodland Scenics Foliage Net #F 52 over branches. Use Easy Scene Bramble #1414 held to armature with contact cement then flock with hair Spray and highlighted with AMSI Conifer Green Medium # 1045.

# TWISTED WIRE ARMATURE TREES



9. - **Twisted Wire Armature Trees** – Start with a piece of stranded wire between #8 and #12 with thick individual strands. Strip sheath off one end and solder all strands together. Remove remaining sheath. Unravel some of the strands and twist and bend into tree branch shapes to replicate the types of trees you are trying to copy. Spray with 3M Super 77 Spray Adhesive and stick on ¼" to ½" Sisal strands by daubing branches. Spray paint gray and flock with AMSI Gray Green #472. Coat wire armature tree with Pliobond and flock with broken up pieces of Woodland Scenics Clump Foliage Medium and Light Green # 182 & # 183. Add Sweetwater Poly Fiber held in place with Pliobond. Flock with AMSI Conifer #452 and AMSI Spruce #552.

# TWISTED WIRE ARMATURE TREES



AMSI Gray-Green

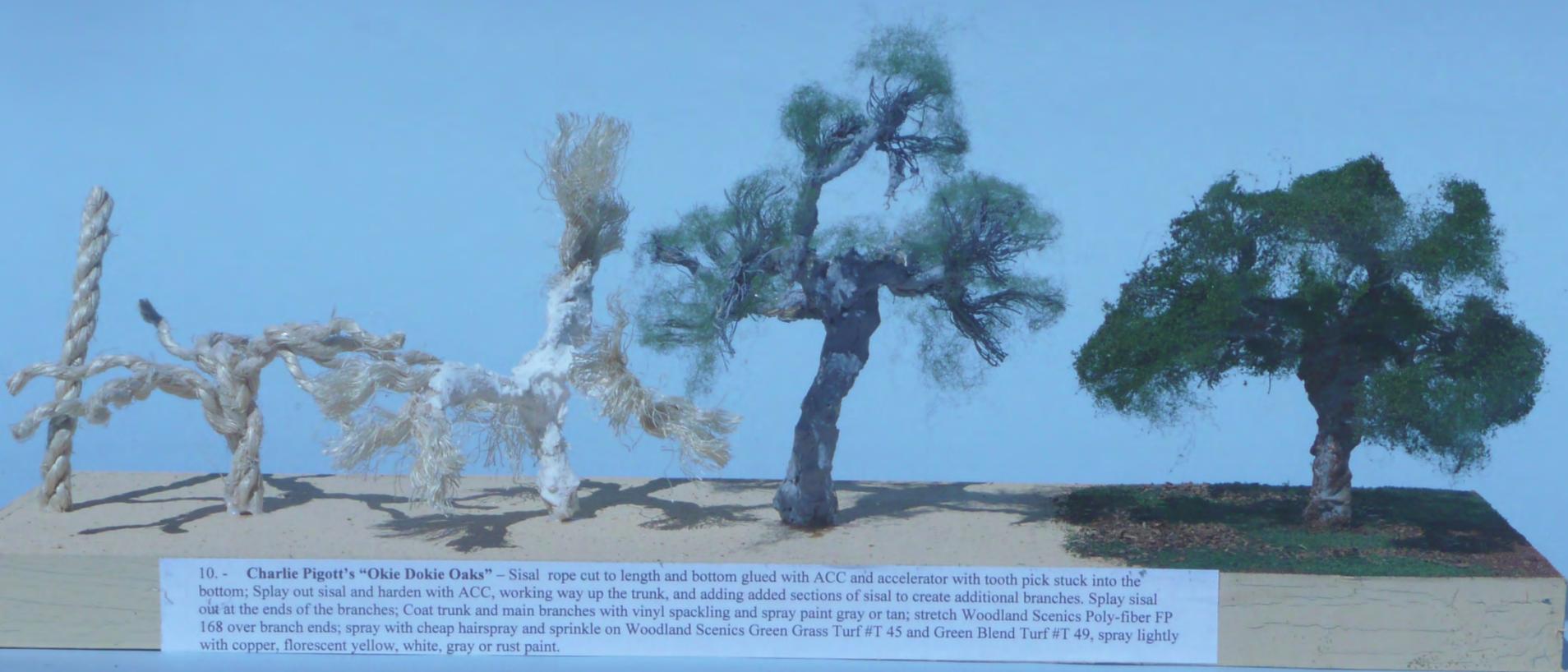
Wire Armature

WS Clump Foliage -  
Medium & Light Green

Sweetwater Poly-  
fiber w/ AMSI  
Conifer & Spruce

Twisted Wire Armature Trees - Start with a piece of stranded wire between #8 and #12 with thick individual strands. Strip sheath of wire and twist together. Remove remaining sheath. Unravel some of the strands and twist and bend into tree branch shapes to replicate the desired tree shape. Spray paint green. Attach AMSI Gray-Green foliage to the wire armature tree with Pliobond and flock with broken up pieces of Woodland Scenics Clump Foliage. Attach Sweetwater Poly Fiber held in place with Pliobond. Flock with AMSI Conifer #452 and AMSI Spruce #453.

# CHARLIE PIGOTT'S "OKIE DOKIE OAKS"



10. - Charlie Pigott's "Okie Dokie Oaks" – Sisal rope cut to length and bottom glued with ACC and accelerator with tooth pick stuck into the bottom; Splay out sisal and harden with ACC, working way up the trunk, and adding added sections of sisal to create additional branches. Splay sisal out at the ends of the branches; Coat trunk and main branches with vinyl spackling and spray paint gray or tan; stretch Woodland Scenics Poly-fiber FP 168 over branch ends; spray with cheap hairspray and sprinkle on Woodland Scenics Green Grass Turf #T 45 and Green Blend Turf #T 49, spray lightly with copper, florescent yellow, white, gray or rust paint.

# CHARLIE PIGOTT'S "OKIE DOKIE OAKS"

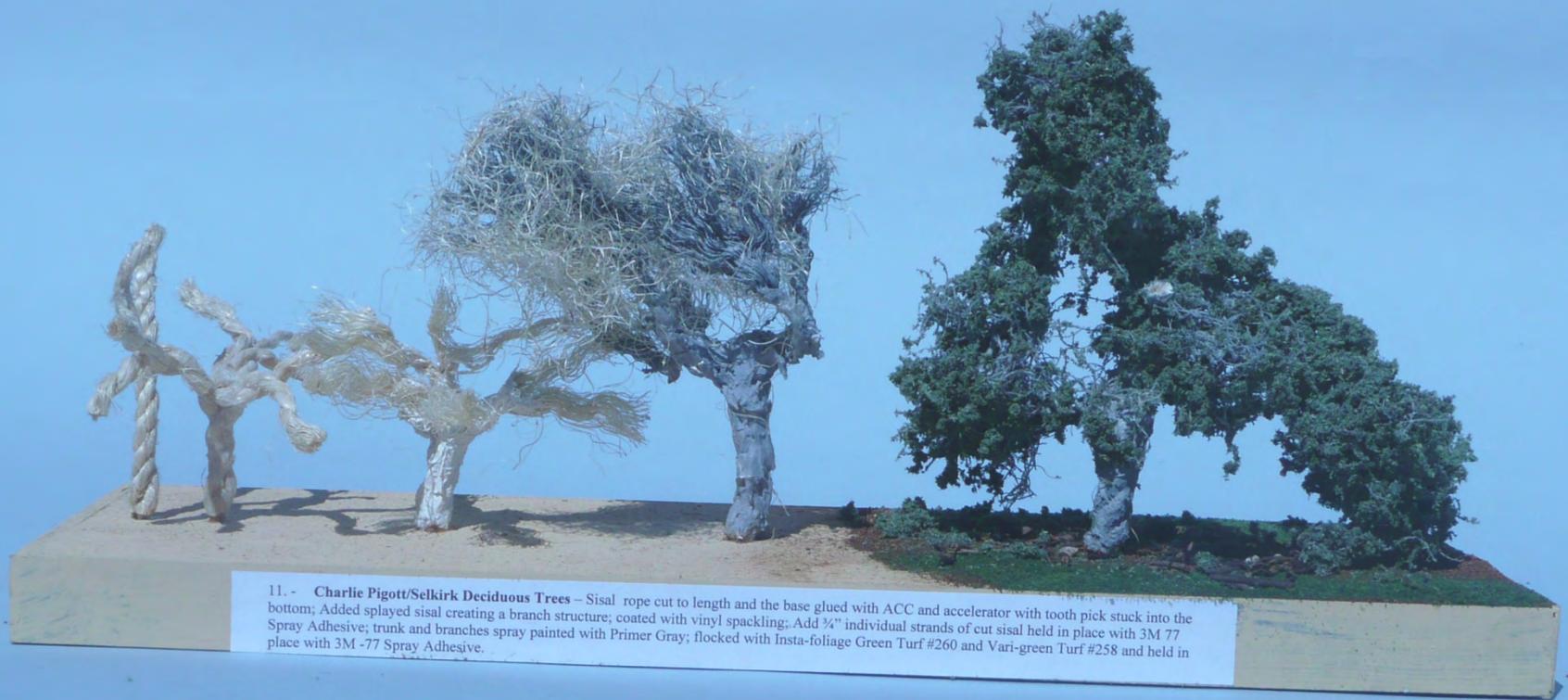
WS Poly-fiber

WS Poly-fiber w/ Green  
Grass & Green Blend Turf

10

bottom glued with ACC and accelerator with tooth pick stuck into the  
adding added sections of sisal to create additional branches. Splay sisal  
kling and spray paint gray or tan; stretch Woodland Scenics Poly-fiber FP  
Scenics Green Grass Turf #T 45 and Green Blend Turf #T 49, spray lightly

# PIGOTT / SELKIRK DECIDUOUS TREES





# SCENIC EXPRESS SUPER TREES



12

12. - **Scenic Express Supertrees** - First clean out leaves, then soak in dilute Matte Medium (1:5), hang to dry with a weight (clothes pin) hanging from end to hold as straight as possible. Build up trunk with spackle and spray paint gray. Trees made with Noch Plane leaves (yellow) #8040; Noch Elm (dark green) #8030; Noch Birch (light green) #8010. We did a large tree with 1/2 Noch Lime #8020 and 1/2 Noch Elm #8030

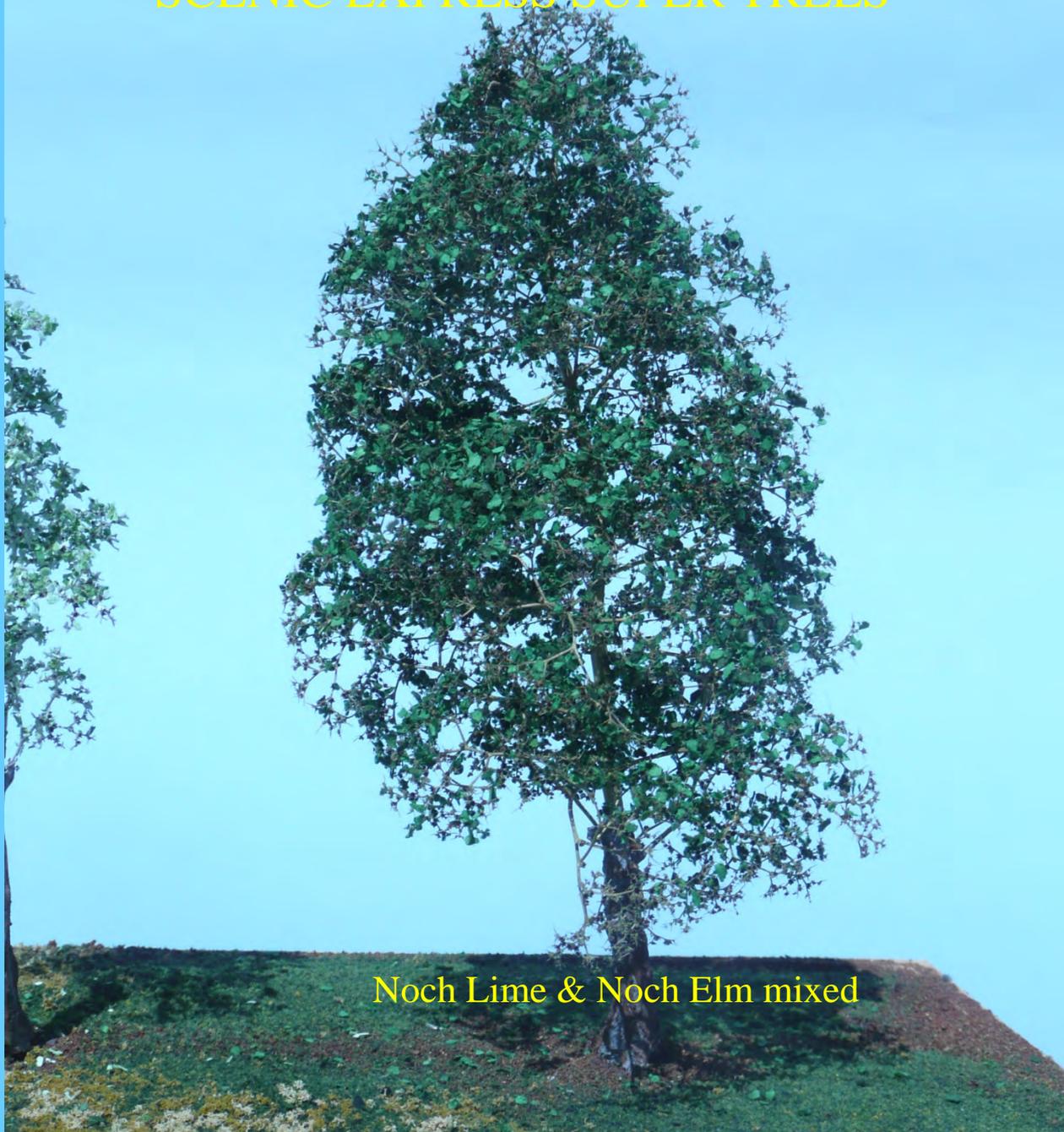
12

# SCENIC EXPRESS SUPER TREES



Rear - Noch Elm Front - Noch Plane

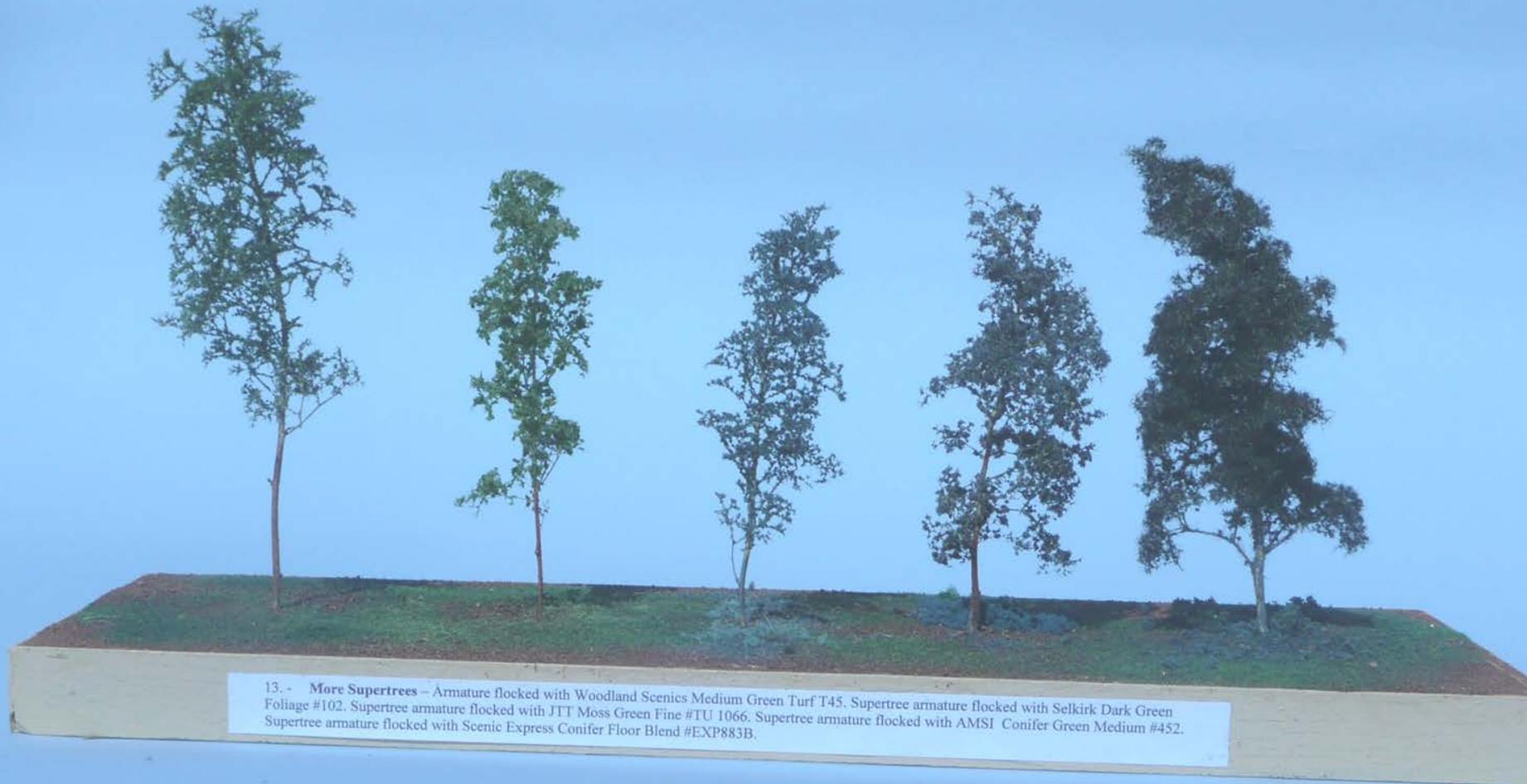
# SCENIC EXPRESS SUPER TREES



12

Noch Lime & Noch Elm mixed

# ADDITIONAL SUPER TREE EXAMPLES



# ADDITIONAL SUPER TREE EXAMPLES



WS Medium Green Turf



Selkirk Dark Green Foliage



JTT Moss Green

# ADDITIONAL SUPER TREE EXAMPLES



AMSI Conifer Green



Scenic Express Conifer  
Floor Blend

# NANDINA DOMESTICA FLOWER STALKS (HEAVENLY BAMBOO)



14. - *Nandina Domestica* (Heavenly Bamboo) flower stalks - Flower stalks(stalk with white flowers, stalk with red berries) harvested when mature - after berries ripen and fall off. Tie nail to trunk with fine wire, then bulk up trunk with Spackling, spray with gray or tan paint; add Woodland Scenics Poly-fiber FP #178, spray with cheap hair spray and flock with Woodland Scenics Green Grass Turf #T45 and Green Blend Turf #T49.

# NANDINA DOMESTICA FLOWER STALKS



Spring flower stalk

Fall berries



Winter bare stalks



Trunk Spackled



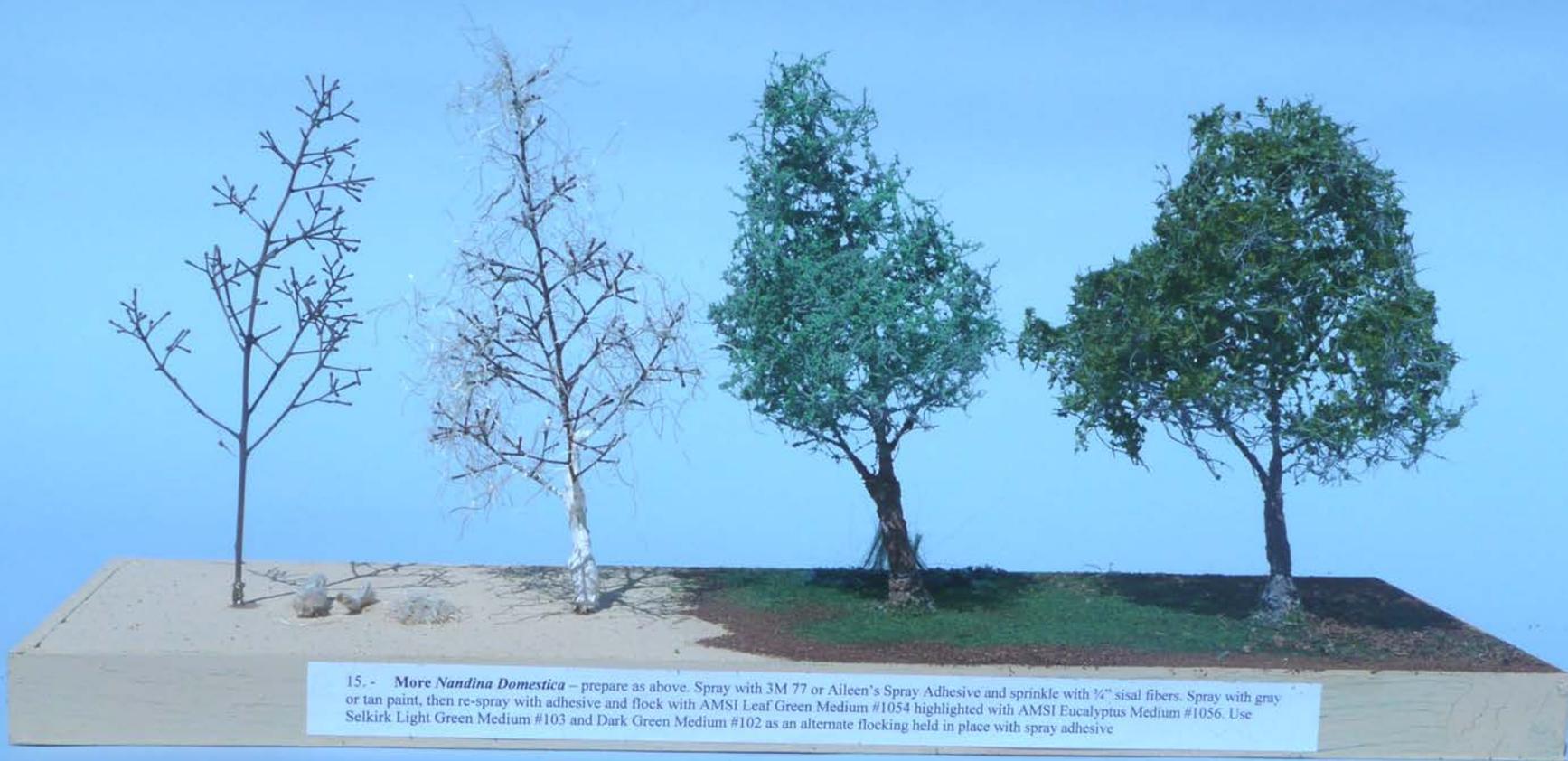
# *NANDINA DOMESTICA* FLOWER STALKS



WS Poly-fiber

WS Green & Green Blend Turf

# MORE *NANDINA DOMESTICA* (HEAVENLY BAMBOO)



15. - *More Nandina Domestica* – prepare as above. Spray with 3M 77 or Aileen’s Spray Adhesive and sprinkle with ¼” sisal fibers. Spray with gray or tan paint, then re-spray with adhesive and flock with AMSI Leaf Green Medium #1054 highlighted with AMSI Eucalyptus Medium #1056. Use Selkirk Light Green Medium #103 and Dark Green Medium #102 as an alternate flocking held in place with spray adhesive

Add 1/4” - 3/4” Sisal

*MORE NANDINA DOMESTICA (HEAVENLY BAMBOO)*



*AMSI Leaf Green & Eucalyptus*



*Selkirk Light & Dark Green*

## SAGE BRUSH ARMATURES



16. - Sage Brush/Rick Reimer Selkirk Oaks – Armatures cut to size, cleaned and with a hole drilled in base and a nail epoxy-ed with point sticking out; Woodland Scenics Poly-fiber FP #178 stretched very thin over branches; flocked with Woodland Scenics Green Grass Turf #T45 and Green Blend Turf #T49; Sage Brush with ½" to 1" sisal fibers held on with spray adhesive and then spray painted gray; AMSI Eucalyptus Medium #1056 and Olive Medium #1043 used as flock and held in place with cheap hair spray.

# SAGE BRUSH ARMATURES

WS Poly-fiber

WS Green Grass &  
Green Blend Turf



# SAGE BRUSH ARMATURES

1/2" Sisal

AMSI Eucalyptus & Olive



# SMALL TREES, SHRUBS AND STUMPS

(Brad's Baby Trees!)



17. - **Small Trees, Shrubs and Stumps** – Woodland Scenics Armature cut down and flocked with Clump Foliage. Nandina with fine turf, wire armature with AMSI Gray- Green, Wire Armature with JTT Foliage, carved wood trunks with scrub pad and foliage. Pieces of Supertrees with flocking. Sage Brush with sisal and flocking. Wire screen with foliage.

## SMALL TREES, SHRUBS AND STUMPS



WS cut-down armature w/ clump foliage, *Nandina* w/ turf, wire armature w/ AMSI Gray-green, wire armature w/ JTT foliage, carved trunk w/ scrub pad & foliage

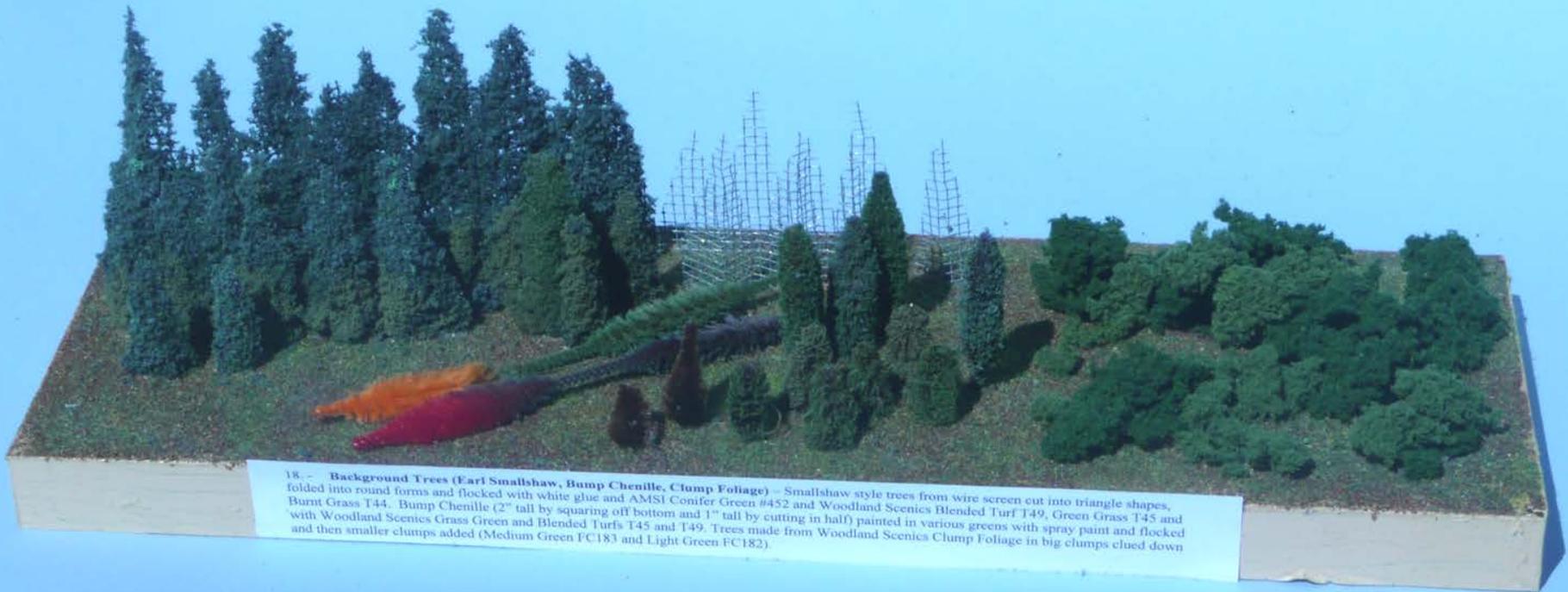
## SMALL TREES, SHRUBS AND STUMPS



Stumps, Super Trees with flocking, Sage Brush w/ sisal & flocking, wire screen w/ foliage

and flocked with Clump Foliage. Nandina with fine turf, wire  
trunks with scrub pad and foliage. Pieces of Supertrees with flocking.

# BACKGROUND TREES - EARL SMALLSHAW, BUMP CHENILLE, CLUMP FOLIAGE



18. - **Background Trees (Earl Smallshaw, Bump Chenille, Clump Foliage)** - Smallshaw style trees from wire screen cut into triangle shapes, folded into round forms and flocked with white glue and AMSI Conifer Green #452 and Woodland Scenics Blended Turf T49, Green Grass T45 and Burnt Grass T44. Bump Chenille (2" tall by squaring off bottom and 1" tall by cutting in half) painted in various greens with spray paint and flocked with Woodland Scenics Grass Green and Blended Turfs T45 and T49. Trees made from Woodland Scenics Clump Foliage in big clumps glued down and then smaller clumps added (Medium Green FC183 and Light Green FC182).

# BACKGROUND TREES –

## EARL SMALLSHAW, BUMP CHENILLE, CLUMP FOLIAGE



Wire screen cut & bent, flocked w/ AMSI Conifer, WS Green Blend, Green Grass & Burnt Grass Turf

Bump Chenille

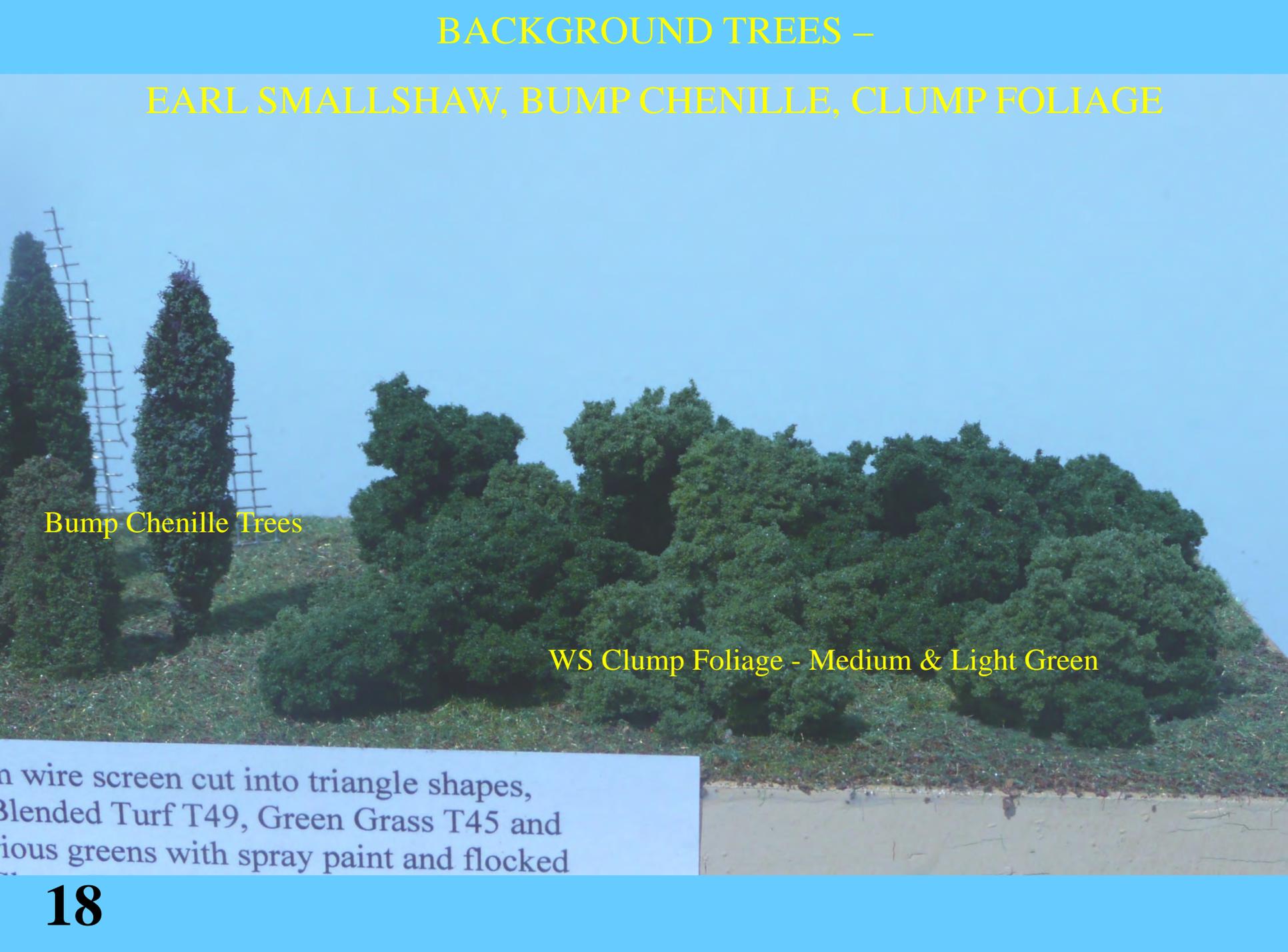
18. - Background Trees (Earl Smallshaw)  
folded into round forms and flocked w/  
Burnt Grass T44. Bump Chenille (2")  
with Woodland Scenics Grass Green and  
and then smaller clumps added (Medium)

18

18

## BACKGROUND TREES –

### EARL SMALLSHAW, BUMP CHENILLE, CLUMP FOLIAGE



Bump Chenille Trees

WS Clump Foliage - Medium & Light Green

n wire screen cut into triangle shapes,  
Blended Turf T49, Green Grass T45 and  
ious greens with spray paint and flocked

# MODELING TREES

A photograph of a forest landscape. In the foreground and middle ground, there are several tall, slender pine trees with dark green needles. Interspersed among them are shorter, broader deciduous trees with vibrant green leaves. The trees are growing on a slight incline or hillside. The background shows a clear blue sky with a few wispy white clouds. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

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