NORDAMERIKANSKE TRÆFRØLEVERANCER TIL DANMARK O. 1800¹

af BO FRITZBØGER Institut for historie, Njalsgade 102, 2300 København S

SUPPLIES OF NORTH AMERICAN FOREST SEEDS TO DENMARK c. 1800

Key words: history; silviculture; horticulture; plant introduction; exotics; seed trade; North America; Denmark.

Summary

The late 18th century experienced a vivid European interest in acquisition of North American trees and bushes for gardening and forestry. Until 1800, when the first Danish diplomatic representation in the United States of America was founded, all seed and plant supplies to Denmark were brought about by English or German commercial houses. But since then, the consul general in Philadelphia arranged almost annual supplies of several hundred species and varieties to Danish botanical and silvicultural institutions. In this way, the political and commercial rapprochement with USA during the Napoleonic Wars, contributed to intensify the experimental introduction of North American tree species to Denmark.