Reading Questions from Sifuentes *Whip that Hoedad in the Ground*.

These are study questions that do not need to be turned in. Some of the material in the questions will be the basis for exam questions.

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Describe in detail the nature of the work planning trees in the National Forest. Include a description of what a hoedad is, and how it is used.

Describe the origins of the hoedad collectives, their ideological perspective, and how it was that they came to dominate tree planting in Oregon in the 1970s. Characterize the degree to which there was competition between them in the earliest years.

Describe the competition that the collectives increasingly faced through the 1970s. Who were the workers, where they were from, and what other work did they do during the May – October time of year when there was little or no tree planting work?

How did the cooperatives originally view the new workers in competition with them? Compare the role of the contractors vs. the workers in your answer. Was this resolution anti-Mexican worker? Nativist? Racist?

Explain how the Forest Service officials were complicit in allowing the illegal practices.

List ways and an explanation of how the undocumented workers suffered more and were mistreated more than the citizen laborers. In other words, what is it about being undocumented that makes workers more vulnerable?

Read and know the themes in the middle paragraph on page 89. Be familiar with the story of Brigido Reyes. Why did he leave the industry?

Discuss what would be involved with walking off the job, vs. the serious and dangerous risk of abandonment. Explain.

Describe how 2,4,5 –T is used, and its health effects. Sifuentez makes the case that the EPA was more concerned about consumer safety than worker health. What is his evidence for this assertion?

Francisco Diaz Bernal: know his story, and how it ended.

What is it about the nature of forest work that makes abuses more possible than with farm work? (p.92)

List the major points made by tree planter Jerry Rust in his testimony at the hearing initiated by the Northwest Farm Workers Association, at the behest of Representative Jim Weaver.

The basis for the eventual strategy adopted by the Weaver interagency task force included an assumption about what was needed to eliminate unscrupulous contractors. What was the assumption and the concordant action taken to this end?

What was the subject of the series of articles published in the Statesman Journal, and what were some of the outcomes described in the same paragraph in Sifuentez?

Evading deportation: what were common health consequences (4) at the bottom of page 95?

Write a summary paragraph of the material about the ongoing conflict between the NFWA and the WVIP, from pages 94-99.

Summarize the remarks made by Ramon Ramirez on page 98 regarding the effects of sanctions against employers who hire undocumented workers. Hint: the key word starts with a “d”.

While the claim was made by the NFWA that workers could make a living tree planting, and that accordingly there was little need to hire undocumented workers because there were citizens willing to do the work…how long did the average worker last in tree planting?