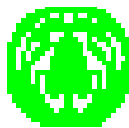




NEW ZEALAND
FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.



NEW ZEALAND
FARM FORESTRY ASSOCIATION



A NATIONAL EXOTIC FOREST DESCRIPTION

AS AT 1 APRIL 2006



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INTRODUCTION

This is the 23rd edition of the *National Exotic Forest Description* (NEFD) report. The report provides a detailed description of New Zealand's planted production forests as at 1 April 2006. It represents the net stocked area of the entire planted production forest estate; that is, all forests planted with the primary intention of producing wood or wood fibre.

New Zealand's forest resource description is published annually to assist with resource and policy planning. It provides data to be used for government policy advice, to meet a range of international reporting obligations and to assist with infrastructure planning decisions. The information may also be a useful starting point for investigating wood processing opportunities in New Zealand.

The report provides:

- › an overview of New Zealand's planted forests;
- › a description of survey methods, sources of information and details on the reliability of the data;
- › statistical tables that describe New Zealand's planted forests in detail.

Much of the report's content consists of detailed tables that show the plantation forests' area by age class and territorial authority. This information is provided for key species. For radiata pine, area by age class tables are also provided by silviculture regime.

The 2006 edition also updates the results of questions first asked in the 2005 survey. This information includes separate age class tables for cypress species and eucalyptus species, previously included in "other softwoods" and "hardwoods" respectively. Information on harvested areas not intended to be replanted and the volumes of radiata clear felled by log grade are also provided. Work in these areas is still incomplete, and this information should still be regarded as preliminary.

The collection and publication of NEFD information are overseen by the NEFD Steering Committee – a forest industry committee with members nominated by the New Zealand Forest Owners Association and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Each year the NEFD area database is compiled from a survey of forest owners and consultants who own or manage planted production forests. The yield table database is compiled periodically and is based on data provided by forest owners and managers of larger forests.

An electronic copy of this report is available on the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry's website (www.maf.govt.nz). The tables from this electronic report can be downloaded as Microsoft Excel files.