



1 February 2016

Provisional Estimates of Tree Stock Sales and Forest Planting in 2015

Purpose

1. *This report provides the provisional estimates of the sales of tree stocks and the areas of forest planted in 2015.*

Provisional Estimates

2. The provisional estimates are based on returns from 27 of the 28 forestry nurseries covered by this annual survey. Tree stock sales for the residual nursery were estimated, based upon the previous year's return.

Background

3. Each spring the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) undertakes a survey of tree stock sales from commercial forestry nurseries. This information is then modelled to estimate total sales, and to generate estimates of planting by species or species groups, and the total area planted.

Tree Stock Sales

4. Tree stock sales reported in 2015 totalled 49.5 million seedlings, compared to 50.8 million seedlings sold in 2014. Table 1 provides a breakdown of sales since 2008, by species and species groups.

Table 1: Tree Stock Sales from 2008 to 2015 (millions)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 ^p
Radiata pine	36.2	37.7	46.4	58.9	64.6	48.5	47.2	45.8
Douglas fir	2.3	3.0	3.6	5.1	4.0	3.1	1.9	2.0
Other softwoods	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.7	0.8	0.5
All hardwoods	1.2	1.0	1.9	2.3	2.6	1.9	0.9	1.3
TOTAL	41.2	43.2	53.2	67.6	72.5	54.1¹	50.8	49.5¹

p Provisional.

Notes: 1. The total does not equal the sum of the component cells due to rounding of each cell to the nearest 100,000.

Radiata Pine

5. Annual radiata pine tree stock sales by categories are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Radiata Pine Tree Stock Sales from 2003 to 2015 (millions)

Year		GF < 14	GF 14 - 19	GF > 19	Cuttings	GF Plus	Total ¹
2003		0.1	14.6	7.6	14.0	11.2	47.4
2004		less than 0.1	13.8	4.8	16.0	8.8	43.5
		GF < 14	GF 14 - 19	GF > 19	Cuttings/clones		
2005		less than 0.1	9.0	10.6	12.9		32.6
2006 ²		less than 0.1	7.6	11.3	9.9		28.8
2007		0.1	11.2	17.2	8.1		36.7
2008		0.3	11.7	15.4	8.8		36.2
2009		0.2	10.9	17.0	9.6		37.7
	Stand Select	GF < 14	GF 14 - 19	GF > 19	Cuttings/clones		
2010	1.9	1.1	17.6	13.2	12.6		46.4
2011	12.2	0.4	16.1	16.8	13.4		58.9
2012	16.6	0.7	15.1	20.3	11.9		64.6
2013	9.9	less than 0.1	9.1	17.1	12.3		48.5
2014	5.8	0.2	11.6	14.5	15.1		47.2
2015	4.4	0.2	10.1	17.1	14.0		45.8

Notes: 1. If the total does not equal the sum of the component cells it is due to rounding of each cell to the nearest 100,000.

6. The proportion of the area planted in radiata pine with a Growth and Form (GF) rating of 20 or more and a GF rating of 19 or less (and Stand Select) is estimated in Table 3.

Table 3: Estimated Percentage of Total Area of Radiata Pine Planting by GF Category

Radiata pine GF Rating	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 ^P
Seedlings ≤ GF19	31	28	44 ¹	49 ¹	48 ¹	38 ¹	36 ¹	31 ¹
Seedlings / cuttings ≥ GF20	69	72	56	51	52	62	64	69

p Provisional.

Note: 1. Includes Stand Select.

Forest Planting

7. The total area of forest planting in the winter of 2015 is provisionally estimated by the nursery survey and associated modelling to be 46 000 hectares.

Table 4: Estimated Areas Planted in 2015 by Species and Species Groups

Species / species group	Area (hectares) ¹	Percentage of total area
Radiata pine	44 000	95
Douglas fir	1 000	2
Other exotic softwoods	less than 1,000	1
All exotic hardwoods	1,000	2
Total	46 000	100

Note: 1. The estimated areas in Table 4 have been rounded to the nearest 1 000 hectares or recorded as less than 1 000 hectares where the area is between 1 and 999 hectares.

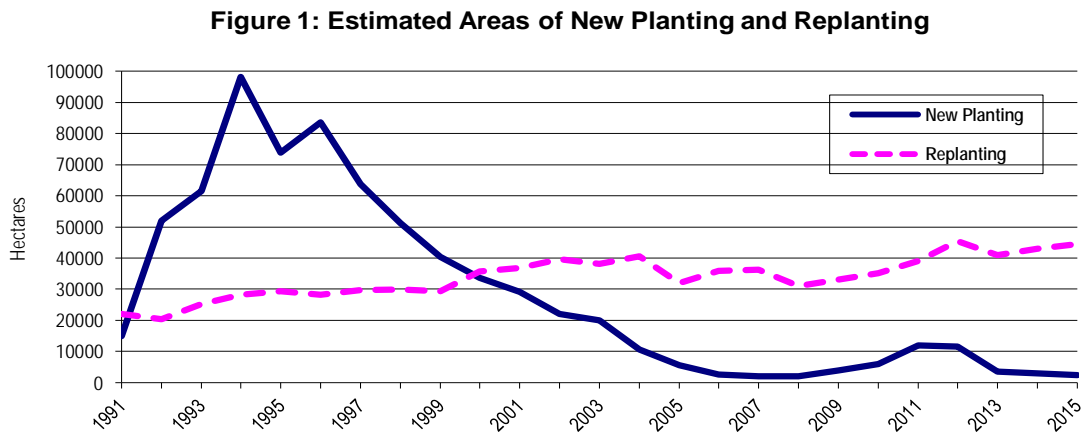
8. From a separate survey of large-scale forest owners, combined with information from the Erosion Control Funding Programme, it is provisionally estimated that there were 2 500 hectares of new planting in 2015.
9. Replanting of harvested areas is provisionally estimated to be 43 500 hectares in 2015. This is the residual area from the estimated total area of planting (46 000 hectares) minus the estimated area of new planting (2 500 hectares).
10. The total areas of new planting and replanting by species and species groups for 2015 are provided in Table 5. These allocations are based on the estimated percentage of total planting accounted for by each species or species group.

Table 5: Estimated Areas¹ (hectares) of New Planting and Replanting for 2015 (provisional)

Species / species group	New Planting	Replanting
Radiata pine	3 000	41 000
Douglas fir	less than 1000	less than 1000 ²
Other exotic softwoods	less than 1000	less than 1000
All exotic hardwoods	less than 1000	less than 1000
Total³	3 000	43 000

- Notes:
1. The estimated areas in Table 5 are either rounded to the nearest 1 000 hectares or recorded as less than 1 000 hectares where they are between 1 and 999 hectares.
 2. May include harvested areas of radiata pine replanted with Douglas fir.
 3. The sums of the component areas do not necessarily equal the total areas as a result of rounding to the nearest 1 000 hectares or recording as less than 1 000 hectares.

11. Figure 1 provides a visual outline of the estimated areas of new planting and replanting since 1991.



Provisional estimates for 2015.

Looking Towards 2016

12. The 2015 nursery survey asked nursery managers whether they expect sales in 2016 to be similar to, lower or higher than, 2015. Of the 22 nurseries that responded, five indicated that they expect sales to be lower, ten indicated they expect sales to be at similar levels, and seven indicated they expect sales to be higher in 2016.

Review of 2015 Planting Estimates

13. The nursery survey and the associated modelling are only intended to provide early approximations of the areas of total planting and planting by species or species groups for the year. These are subsequently reviewed and revised as necessary when data are received directly from forest owners through the annual survey for the National Exotic Forest Description (NEFD).

Acknowledgements

14. MPI thanks all the nursery managers who supplied information in 2015 that enables these estimates of tree stock sales and planting rates to be made. MPI also thanks forest owners, managers and consultants who provided information on stocking rates for forest establishment.

John Novis
 MPI, Policy and Trade Branch (Christchurch)
 Phone 03 943 1708
 Email john.novis@mpi.govt.nz