

FORESTRY FACTS & FIGURES 2006

2006

A summary of statistics
about woodland and forestry

**ECONOMICS AND
STATISTICS**
Forestry Commission



Forestry Commission

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ISBN: 0 85538 706 8

FCFS206/FG(CLM)/IA-3K/SEP06

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Notes:

Tables 6–8 have United Kingdom coverage, drawing data from UK Timber Statistics 2006, compiled with assistance from the Northern Ireland Forest Service. All other tables are Great Britain only.

The figures in the tables are individually rounded, so the constituent items may not sum to the total given.

Table 1 Area of woodland

thousands of hectares

	Conifers	Broadleaves	Total woodland
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Forestry Commission

England	151	53	204
Wales	95	12	108
Scotland	433	27	460
Great Britain	679	92	772

Non-FC

England	217	701	918
Wales	64	113	178
Scotland	615	261	876
Great Britain	897	1 075	1 972

All woodland

England	368	754	1 121
Wales	160	126	285
Scotland	1 049	288	1 337
Great Britain	1 576	1 167	2 743

Notes:

1. Areas as at 31 March 2006.
2. Figures for non-FC woodland are based on data obtained from the 1995–1999 National Inventory of Woodland and Trees and adjusted for new planting and sales of Forestry Commission woodland, but at present no adjustment is made for woodland converted to another land use. They include non-FC publicly owned woodland.
3. Broadleaves include coppice and coppice with standards.

Table 2 Forestry Commission land use

thousands of hectares

Land use	England	Wales	Scotland	GB
Woodland	203.6	107.8	460.2	771.6
Other land	55.4	17.4	207.8	280.5
Total land area	258.9	125.3	667.9	1 052.1

Notes:

1. Areas as at 31 March 2006.
-

Table 3 Planting

	hectares			
	England	Wales	Scotland	GB
Forestry Commission				
Conifers	1 903	1 050	4 105	7 058
Broadleaves	658	624	402	1 685
Total	2 562	1 674	4 508	8 743
Non-FC – all grant schemes				
Conifers	282	524	4 020	4 826
Broadleaves	3 265	729	3 678	7 672
Total	3 547	1 253	7 698	12 498
All planting				
Conifers	2 185	1 574	8 125	11 884
Broadleaves	3 923	1 353	4 080	9 357
Total	6 109	2 927	12 206	21 241

Notes:

1. Figures shown are for the areas of planting (new planting and restocking) in the year ending 31 March 2006.
2. Areas receiving grant aid are allocated to years by date of payment.
3. The areas of new planting and restocking include areas of natural colonisation and regeneration for which the second instalment of grant has been paid.
4. The table excludes areas planted on non-FC woodland without grant aid, estimated to total 721 hectares in the year (all in England).
5. The use of natural regeneration in non-clearfell systems is increasing substantially – particularly with regard to broadleaves in England. These systems are not satisfactorily represented by measuring 'restocking area' within any given year, so broadleaf planting is likely to be under-reported in this table.

Table 4 New planting

thousands of hectares

Year	England		Wales		Scotland		Great Britain		
	FC	Non-FC	FC	Non-FC	FC	Non-FC	FC	Non-FC	Total
(to 31/3)									
2002	0.6	4.7	0.0	0.3	0.1	7.9	0.7	12.9	13.7
2003	0.7	5.2	0.0	0.3	0.1	6.6	0.8	12.1	13.0
2004	0.1	4.6	0.0	0.5	0.1	6.7	0.2	11.7	11.9
2005	0.1	5.3	0.0	0.5	0.0	5.6	0.1	11.5	11.5
2006	0.2	3.5	0.0	0.5	0.1	3.9	0.3	7.8	8.1

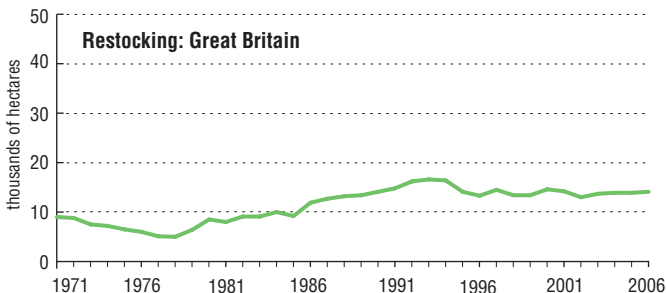
**Notes:**

1. FC = Forestry Commission; Non-FC = All other woodland, including some other publicly owned woodland.
2. Areas receiving grant aid are allocated to years by date of payment.
3. Figures for non-FC woodland include an estimate of areas planted without grant aid.
4. Includes woodland formed by natural colonisation.

Table 5 Restocking

thousands of hectares

Year	England		Wales		Scotland		Great Britain		
	FC	Non-FC	FC	Non-FC	FC	Non-FC	FC	Non-FC	Total
(to 31/3)									
2002	2.3	1.1	1.1	0.8	4.9	2.9	8.3	4.7	13.0
2003	2.3	1.1	1.2	0.7	5.0	3.5	8.4	5.3	13.7
2004	2.2	0.9	1.4	0.4	5.3	3.6	8.9	5.0	13.9
2005	1.8	0.9	1.3	0.3	5.3	4.2	8.5	5.4	13.9
2006	2.4	0.8	1.7	0.8	4.4	3.8	8.5	5.4	13.9



Notes:

1. FC = Forestry Commission; Non-FC = All other woodland, including some other publicly owned woodland.
2. Areas receiving grant aid are allocated to years by date of payment.
3. Figures for non-FC woodland include an estimate of areas planted without grant aid.
4. Includes woodland formed by natural regeneration.
5. The use of natural regeneration in non-clearfell systems is increasing substantially – particularly with regard to broadleaves in England. These systems are not satisfactorily represented by measuring 'restocking area' within any given year, so broadleaf planting is likely to be under-reported in this table.

Table 6 UK wood production

thousands of cubic metres overbark standing

Year	Conifers			Broadleaves	Total
	FC/FS	Non-FC/FS	Total		
2001	5 630	3 540	9 170	710	9 880
2002	5 680	3 700	9 380	690	10 070
2003	5 890	4 390	10 280	630	10 900
2004	5 980	4 650	10 630	570	11 200
2005	5 600	5 160	10 750	660	11 420
2007–2011	5 840	6 210	12 050		
2012–2016	6 660	7 150	13 810		
2017–2021	6 870	7 780	14 650		
2022–2026	6 170	7 970	14 140		

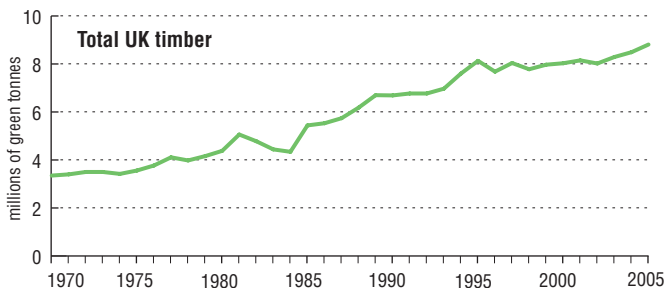
Notes:

1. One m³ overbark standing equals approximately 0.80 m³ underbark, and weighs approximately 0.82 tonnes (softwood) or 0.90 tonnes (hardwood) when freshly felled.
2. Most broadleaved production comes from private estates; the figures shown for broadleaves are estimates based on reported deliveries to wood processing industries.
3. The forecasts of future production are annual averages for the five-year periods. Conifer forecasts are taken from the 2006 UK forecast of softwood availability (not part of National Statistics).
4. All figures are rounded to the nearest 10 000 m³.
5. FC/FS = Forestry Commission and Forest Service; Non-FC/FS = All other woodland, including some other publicly owned woodland.

Table 7 UK timber deliveries

thousands of green tonnes

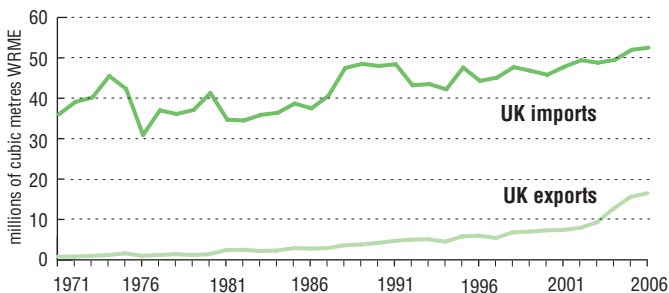
Year	Soft-wood logs	Hard-wood logs	Wood-based panels	Paper products	Other	Total UK use	Direct exports	Total UK timber
2001	4 590	190	1 720	880	710	8 090	60	8 150
2002	4 660	160	1 500	910	660	7 890	130	8 020
2003	4 790	140	1 490	920	650	7 990	310	8 290
2004	4 890	90	1 530	700	670	7 880	610	8 490
2005	4 980	70	1 500	710	830	8 110	710	8 810

**Notes:**

1. All figures are based on processing industries' estimates of purchases of timber grown in the UK.
2. Woodbased panels are particleboard and fibreboard; Paper products include paperboard; Other includes timber for fencing and fuelwood.
3. Data for exports from Northern Ireland before 2004 are not available.
4. Figures for 2004 for direct exports and total have been revised down by 320,000 green tonnes.
5. All figures are rounded to the nearest 10 000 green tonnes.

Table 8 UK imports/exports and consumption

						millions of cubic metres WRME		
Imports					Exports	UK production	Apparent consumption	
Year	Wood	Pulp	Panels	Paper	Total			
2001	16.9	7.1	7.3	18.2	49.4	7.9	7.9	49.4
2002	18.0	7.2	8.2	15.4	48.8	9.3	7.8	47.3
2003	19.6	6.8	8.0	15.1	49.5	12.7	8.1	44.9
2004	18.4	7.1	8.0	18.4	52.0	15.6	8.3	44.7
2005	20.0	7.2	7.7	17.6	52.5	16.5	8.6	44.6



Notes:

1. Source: UK Overseas Trade Statistics and conversion factors.
2. WRME = wood raw material equivalent, softwood + hardwood, underbark.
3. Wood = roundwood and sawnwood.
4. Panels = particleboard, fibreboard, plywood and veneers.
5. Paper includes paperboard.
6. UK production estimated from total UK timber deliveries in Table 7.
7. Apparent consumption = imports – exports + UK production; it excludes recycled wood and waste-paper of UK origin.

Table 9 Forest employment

Activity	full-time equivalent numbers			
	England	Wales	Scotland	GB
Forest nurseries	421	2	201	624
Establishment	1 088	252	1 189	2 529
Maintenance	1 680	380	1 304	3 364
Harvesting	2 330	493	1 947	4 770
Road construction	181	47	179	407
Other forest	466	144	372	982
Total forest	6 166	1 318	5 192	12 676
Haulage	326	142	593	1 061
Processing	5 952	2 192	3 083	11 227
Other non-forest	2 295	447	1 826	4 568
Total non-forest	8 573	2 781	5 502	16 856
Total	14 739	4 099	10 694	29 532

Notes:

1. All figures are from the Forest Employment Survey 1998/99, published in January 2001 (not a National Statistics publication).
2. Other non-forest includes employment in local authorities, forestry education and training and other sectors not covered by previous Forest Employment Surveys.

Notes for Table 10:

1. Number of sites where a given facility or activity is present. Some sites may be recorded more than once.
2. Facilities and activities on the Forestry Commission website in August 2006.
3. Some changes since 2005 result from changes on FC website, rather than actual changes to facilities or activities.

Table 10 Forest Enterprise recreation facilities and activities

	England	Wales	Scotland	GB
Total sites on FC website	242	117	294	653
Parking: free	178	79	230	487
Parking: paid	39	12	12	63
Facilities				
Information	113	21	110	244
Easy access	92	19	41	152
Toilets	74	17	56	147
Refreshments	53	8	22	83
Visitor centre	28	6	20	54
Shop	23	5	11	39
Walking	177	83	235	495
Cycling	108	37	108	253
Picnic	115	41	91	247
Horse riding	71	58	58	187
Education	55	14	41	110
Wildlife activities	66	11	53	130
View point	27	12	53	92
Activities				
Heritage	25	5	37	67
Play area	29	6	17	52
Orienteering	33	7	15	55
Fishing	23	14	20	57
Barbecue	32	14	6	52
Camping	21	3	11	35
Arts	17	0	13	30
Forest drive	15	1	10	26
Arboretum	7	4	3	14
Watersports	4	2	3	9
Skiing	0	0	1	1

Table 11 Forest cover: international comparisons – 2005

Country	Forest area (000 ha)	Total land area (000 ha)	Forest as % of land area
United Kingdom	2 845	24 088	11.8
Finland	22 500	30 447	73.9
France	15 554	55 010	28.3
Germany	11 076	34 895	31.7
Italy	9 979	29 411	33.9
Spain	17 915	49 944	35.9
Sweden	27 528	41 162	66.9
Other EU	38 192	120 178	31.8
Total EU-25	145 589	385 135	37.8
Non-EU	47 189	187 046	25.2
Russian Federation	808 790	1 688 850	47.9
Total Europe	1 001 568	2 261 032	44.3
Total Asia	571 402	3 087 112	18.5
Total N./Central America	705 849	2 143 909	32.9
Total South America	831 540	1 743 232	47.7
Total Africa	635 412	2 968 458	21.4
Total Oceania	206 254	849 111	24.3
World	3 952 025	13 052 852	30.3

Source: FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005 (not National Statistics).

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The correction to direct exports in 2004, which also affects total UK timber in Tables 7 and 8, was published on the website in March 2006, but web versions of last year's publication were not amended. This correction is indicated by a footnote to Table 7, but other minor revisions are not identified.



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