



Conifer Timber Quality Conference

John Kissock

11th February 2009

Growing Timber for Quality



- Provide some background on TDP
- Provide an introduction to the day's proceedings
- Some thoughts on why we should grow timber for quality

The Timber Development Programme

Key themes:

Climate change

TIMBER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Business development

Community development

Access and health

Environmental quality

Biodiversity



What is it?

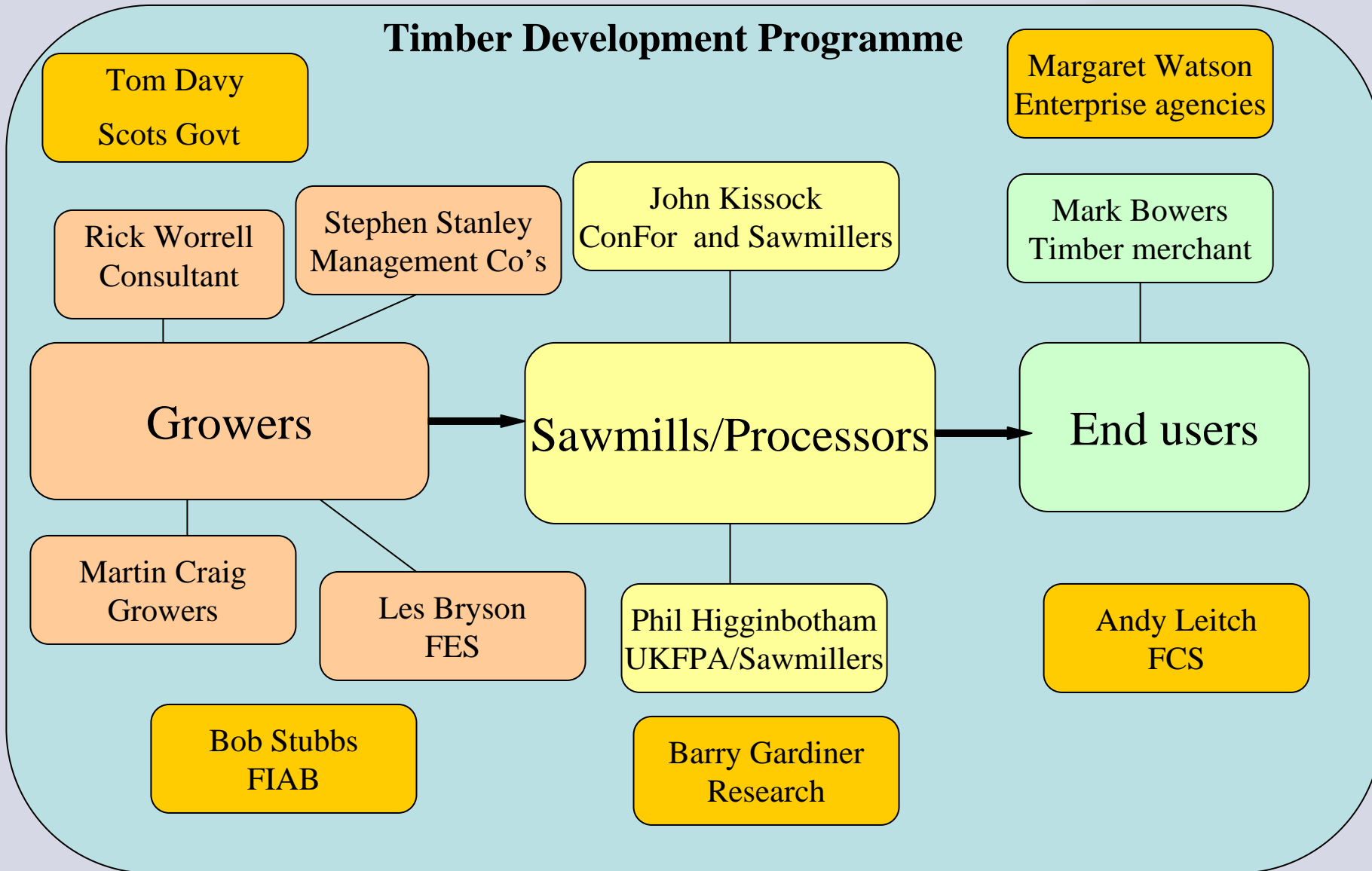
Timber Industry response (pre-FIAB) to challenges within the SFS.

Produced following widespread consultation within the forestry sector during 2006.

Development and implementation is overseen by a Steering Group chaired by John Kissock.

Partnership approach.

Timber Development Programme



What is the TDP?

Launched by Environment Minister in December 2007.

Great opportunity to develop a supply chain and a value chain which will significantly benefit Scotland's economy and environment.

Approximately £1m budget over three years including co-funding.

Broken into four objectives with a total of 60 tasks with various leads and partnerships.

TDP Key Objectives

Promote a predictable and stable timber supply.



Production Forecast

Encourage more use of timber and timber products.



Innovation and R&D. Markets.

Encourage improvements to timber supply chain efficiency.

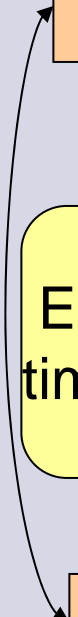


Supply chain

Encourage improvements to the quality of the growing stock



Skills and training



Key Issues

Forecasting of future timber quantity and quality

Achieving a sustainable yield

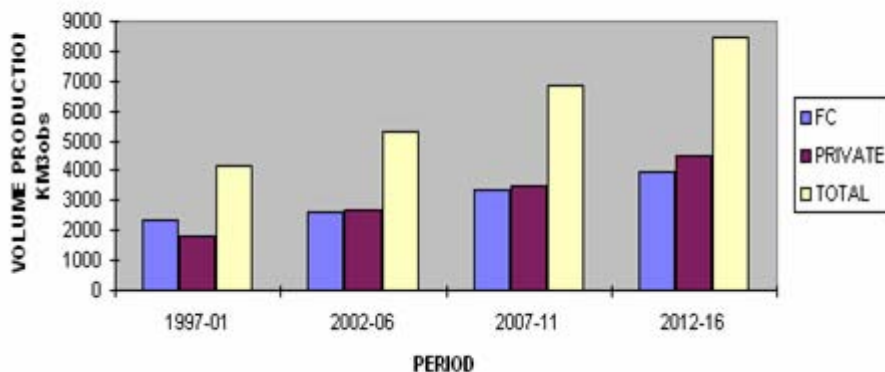
Deliverables

Production Forecast Industry Working group - workshops and meetings.

Work validating assumptions from acoustic tools and lasers for quality assessment.

Running scenarios to assist in smoothing of softwood production for national strategy.

TIMBER PRODUCTION FORECAST FOR SCOTLAND



Key Issues

Understand the “timber” market better.

Understand and promote the carbon benefits of timber.

Optimise outputs from scarce research resource.

Deliverables

Exploring indicators for success of home grown timber in market.

Guidance for using UK grown timber in construction.

NTAS publication and distribution.

Prototype affordable home.

Contribution to National Housing Fair.

Conference in January.

Outputs of research

Fire tests for cladding

SIRT benchmarking

Larch durability

Key Issues

Minimising the total financial and environmental costs of harvesting and transporting timber to primary producers

Enhancing the skills base within the timber supply chain

Deliverables

Support and encourage local Timber Transport Groups

Continue to provide funding through the Strategic Timber Transport Scheme

Commission a study to investigate issues surrounding shortfall in labour supply in forest and haulage.

Key Issues

Take forward the recommendations of the Growing Quality Broadleaves Working Group.

Improving the quality and quantity of the timber resource, both softwood and hardwood.

Deliverables

Work with industry to establish a plan of actions and monitor.

FE implementing demonstration plots

FR and ASHs workshops and seminars in 21 Nov 08 and 11 Feb 09.

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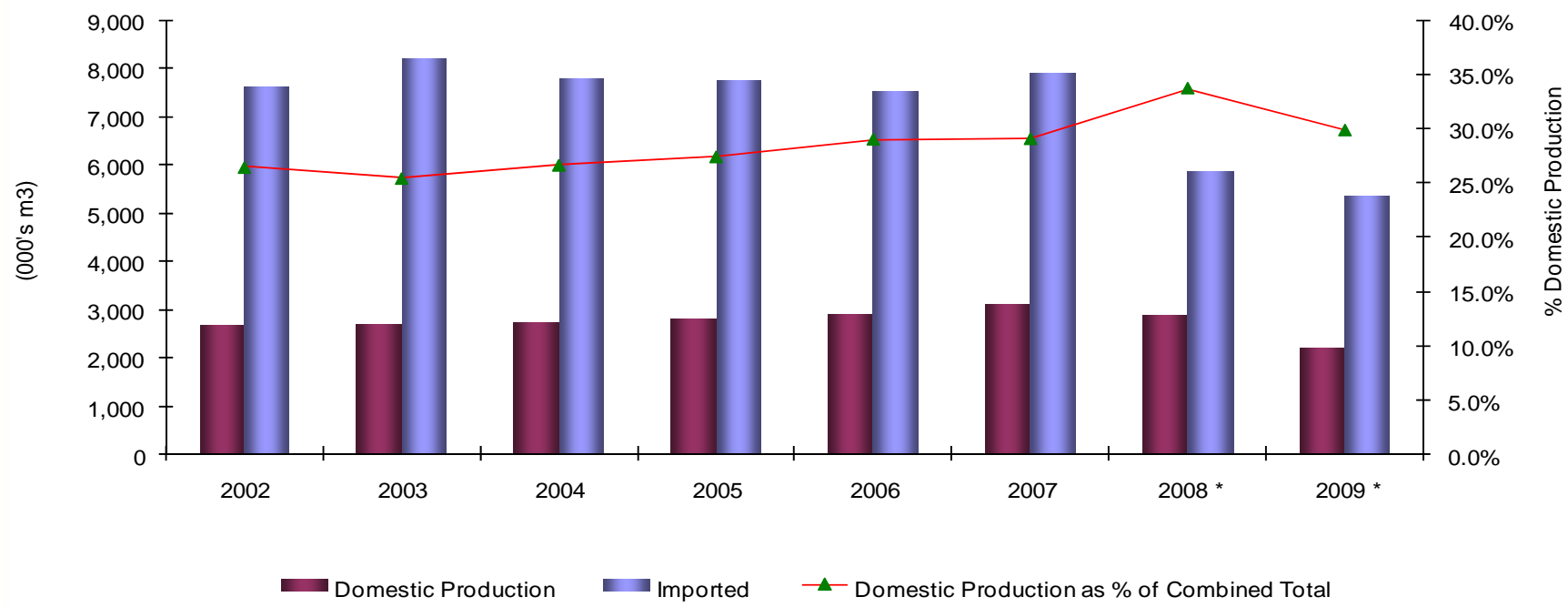
- What is meant by quality?
- Sawmillers
- Pulp and Paper Producers
- Board Manufacturers
- Power Generators
- Depends on who you ask
- Stem Form, Strength and Stiffness
- Fibre Length/Brightness
- Moisture Content, Chip Geometry
- Moisture Content, Uniformity of Material

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- Why Concentrate on Quality?
- Economic Sustainability
- Competitiveness
- Value for Taxpayers Money

Volumes Consumed UK Total (000's m3) 2008 & 2009 Figures are Estimates



Figures taken from National Softwood Division (TTF)

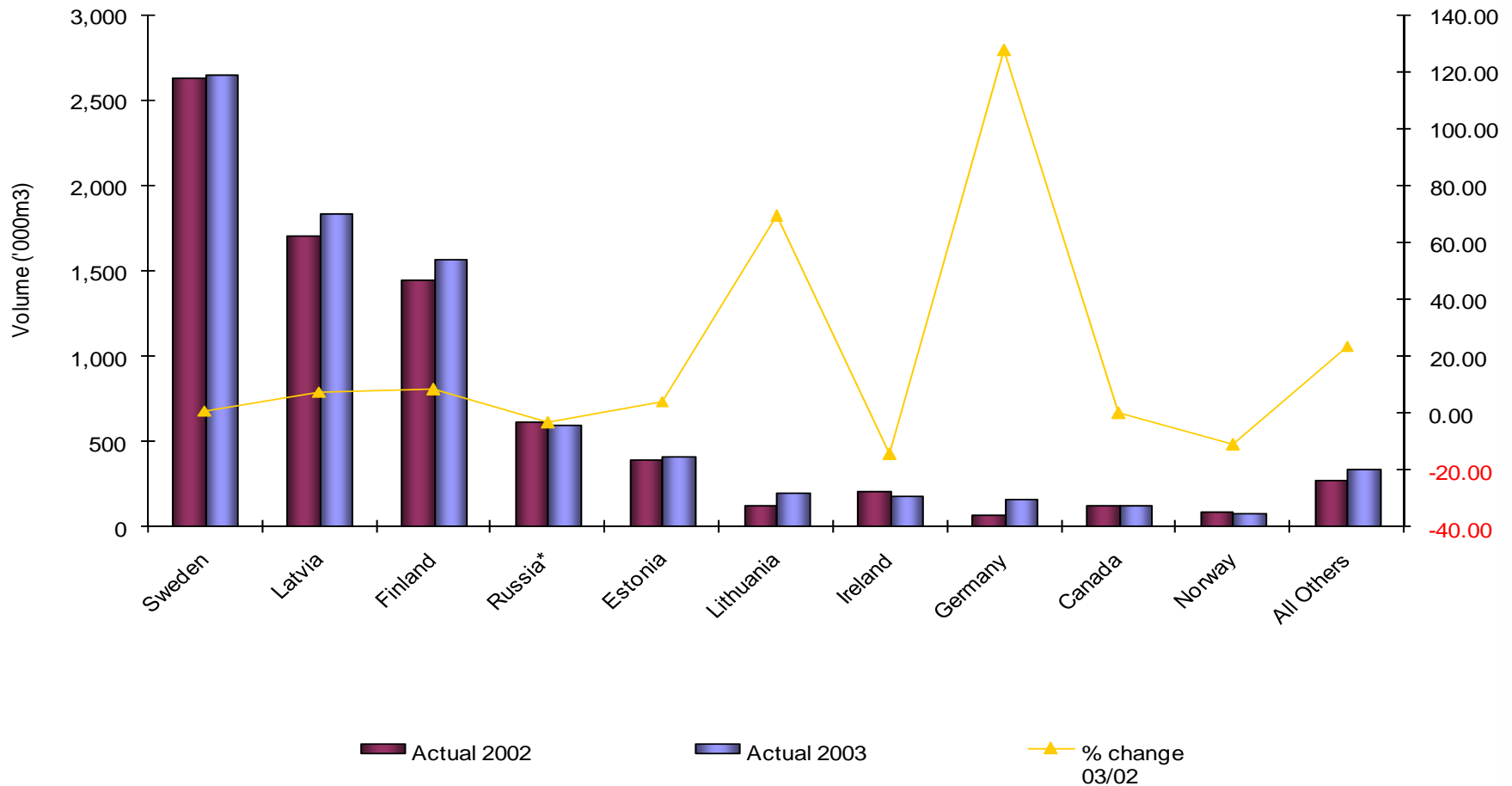


With a Production Approaching 3 Million m³ Sawn

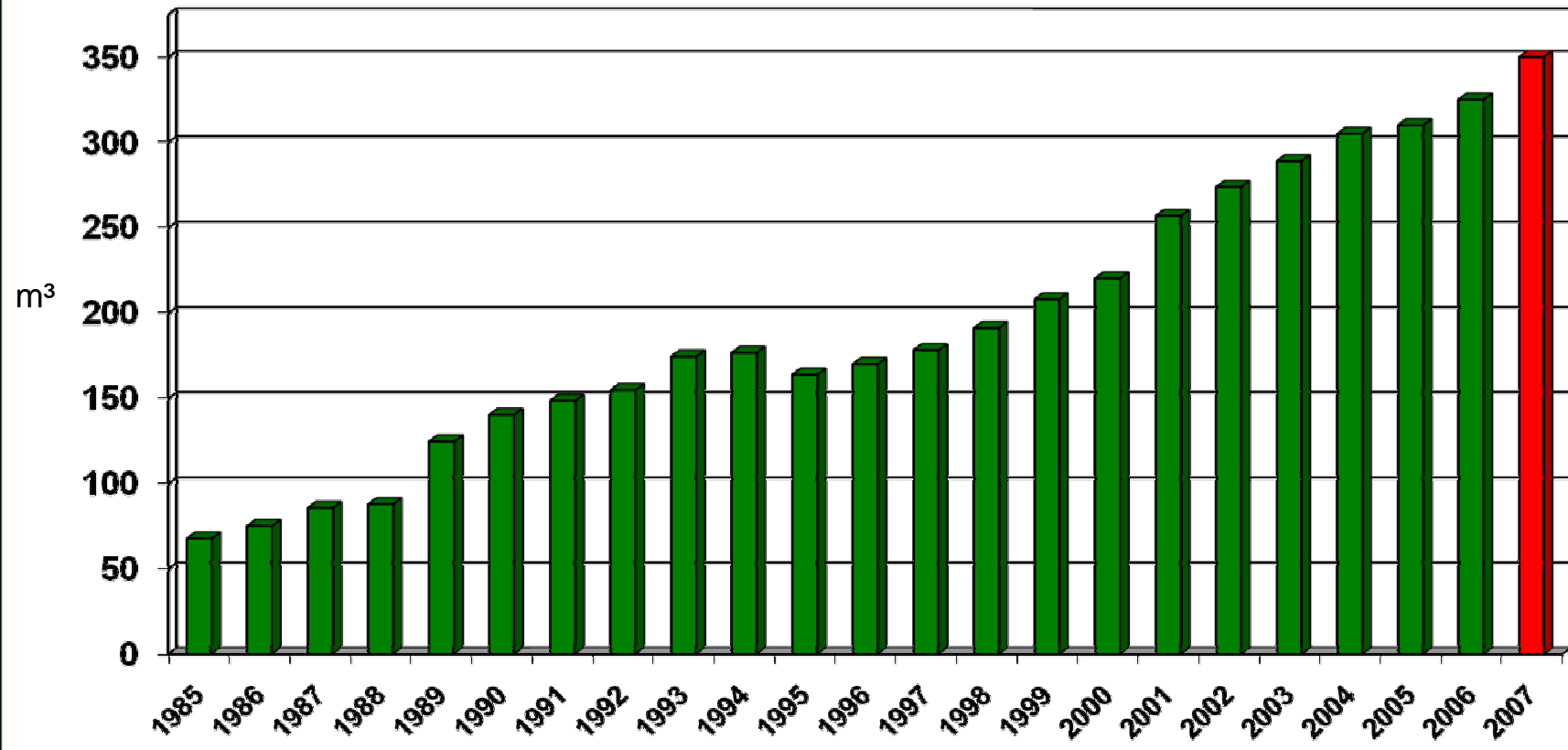
**THE UK IS THE SECOND LARGEST
SUPPLIER TO THE UK**

Sweden remains the largest with about 47%
market share.

Softwood Exporters to the UK ('000m3)

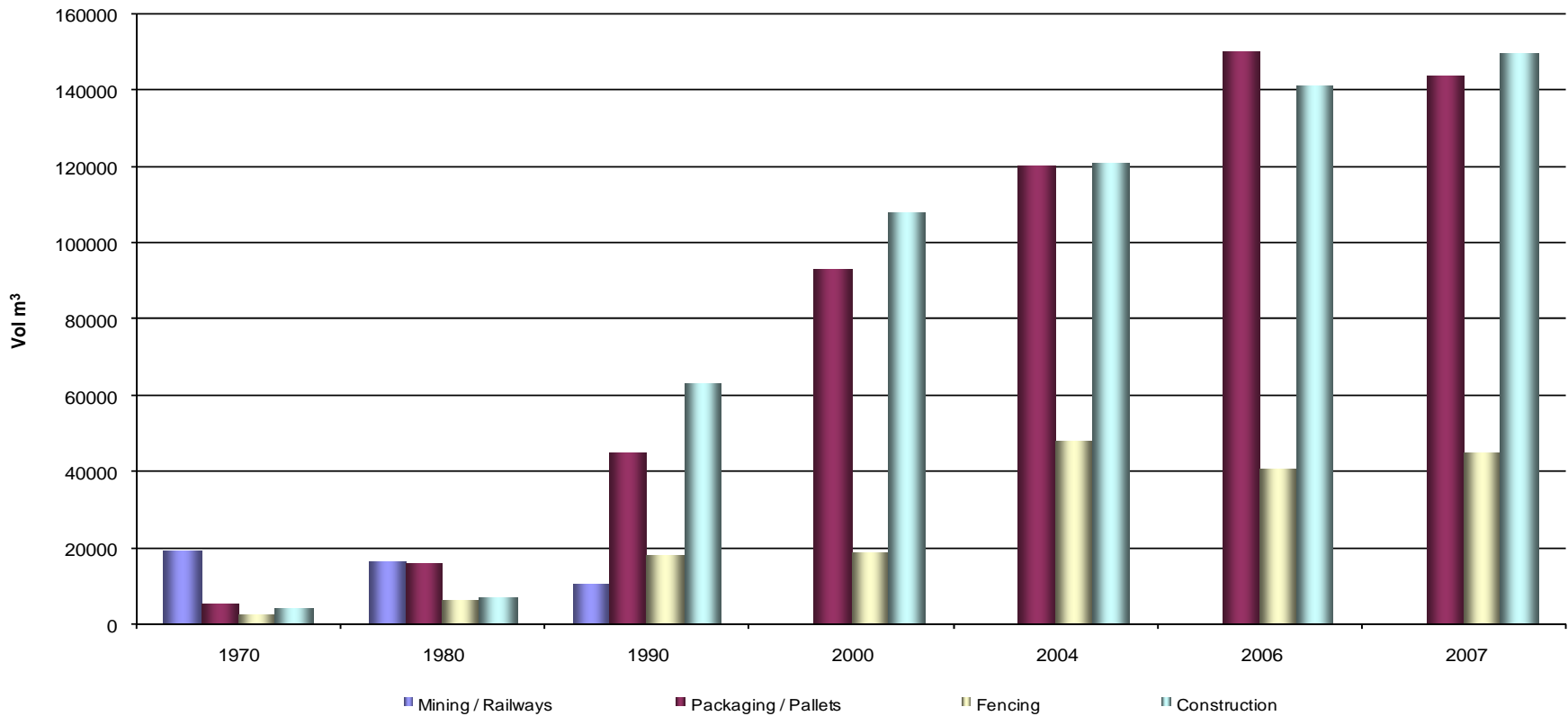


Total Sawmill Production (m³)



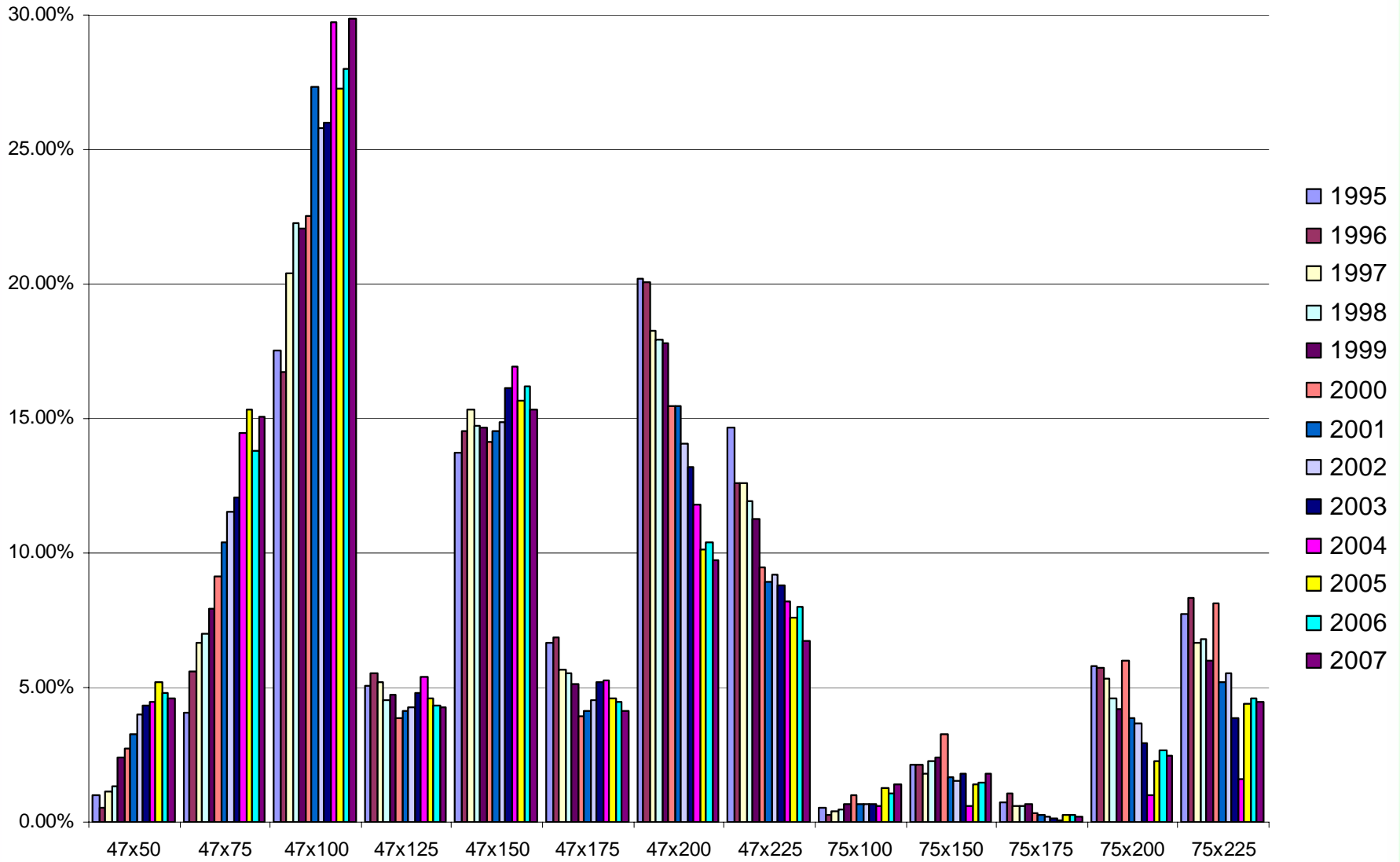
James Jones & Sons Ltd

Sales Volume by Market Segment

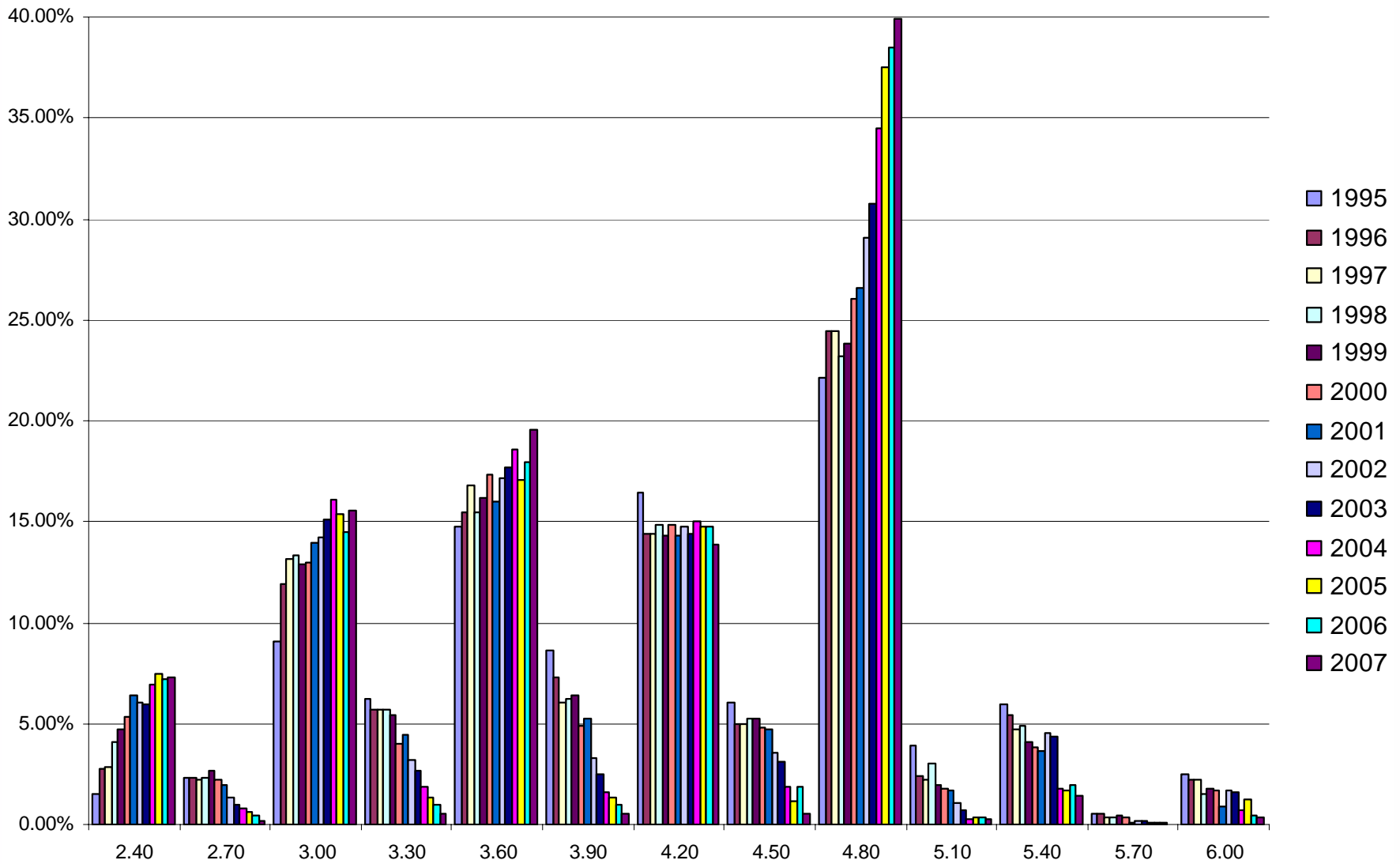




Changing Dimensional Specification 1995 - 2007



Changing Length Specification 1995 - 2007







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- The Climate Change debate offers some real opportunities for productive plantations in terms of their ability to act as carbon sinks
- It also poses some challenges in terms of species selection and adaptation
- There is a need for more research into the topic and evidence based support for the creation of productive plantations
- The establishment of a dedicated resource to research Climate Change as related to forestry within FR is welcome

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- Climate Change offers a real opportunity for the promotion of solid wood in construction – longer term carbon storage(0.9tCO₂/m³) with end of life opportunity to recycle
- Locally sourced is increasingly an important selling point
- Timber used in conjunction with other materials offers great potential as an alternative to building solely in concrete and steel
- Technology can help but we have to get the basics right – quality first

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- What is required to deliver quality crops?
- Policy makers ensuring the correct land is made available with the correct level of incentive to produce quality crops.
- Researchers providing foresters with the correct tools.
- Foresters applying the results of research
- Processors understanding the limitations for Growers
- Processors, Foresters and Researchers maintaining dialogue

