



16 Case Study 3: Mitigation and adaptation at Bedgebury

Wood fuel at Bedgebury

In 2006 a new woodchip boiler was installed at Bedgebury, the national pinetum. Home-grown coppiced chestnut from Bedgebury forest is chipped and used as fuel for the new boiler which provides heating and hot water for the Visitor Centre.

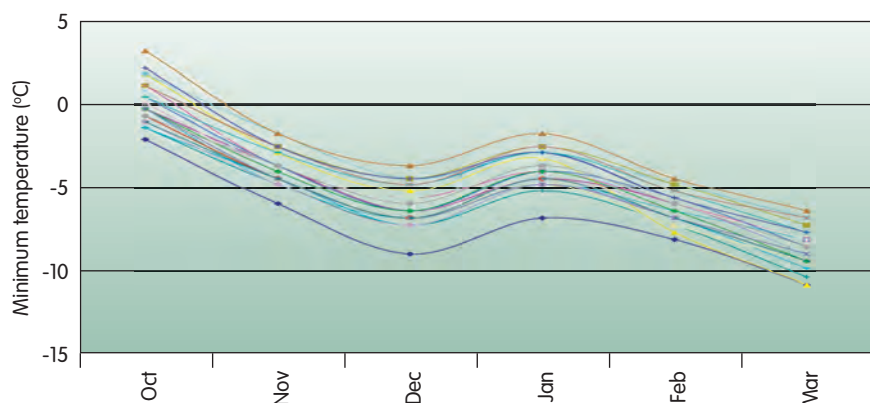
This is one of 10 wood fuel heating systems used at Forestry Commission sites designed to reduce carbon emissions and dependence on fossil fuels. The woodchip boiler also helps to combat climate change by using wood waste from the site to fuel the boiler – thus reducing transport miles.

Studying temperature variation at Bedgebury

Scientists from Forest Research are exploring how temperature and other climatic changes are affecting the tree species that are able to grow at Bedgebury. Attempts are being made to

grow trees from warmer regions that were unable to grow at Bedgebury 50 or even 10 years ago. Monitoring these trials helps to assess the impacts of climate change. Scientists are also looking at temperature variation within the pinetum to identify where to plant the most temperature sensitive species,

in order to extend the range of species that Bedgebury can conserve. This detailed monitoring will also demonstrate how adaptation to climate change can be achieved simply by using topography and aspect within a site.



Minimum monthly temperature in each section of Bedgebury Pinetum during October-March 2005

Graph showing temperature variation across site at Bedgebury. Each line shows the minimum monthly temperature of a different section of the pinetum. This demonstrates that we can adapt to climate change by simply choosing carefully where in a particular site to plant different species.