



Corporate and Forestry Support Forest Reproductive Material

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Head of Division
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Consultation on:

- **Method of obtaining (and retaining) approval to become a Forestry Commission Approved Forest Tree Seed Testing Facility**
- **Draft "Guidance for Seed Testing at Forestry Commission Approved Forest Tree Seed Testing Facilities"**

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the consultation on the above.

One of the requirements of The Forest Reproductive Material (Great Britain) Regulations 2002, which implements EU Directive 1999/105/EC, is that all seed of the 46 controlled species and the genus *Populus* must be tested before it can be marketed.

The purpose of this consultation exercise is to allow current and potential seed testers and others with an expertise or interest in seed testing, the opportunity to comment on the options available for the future implementation of the Regulations. Corporate & Forestry Support are administering the consultation process and welcomes input from all interested parties.

The full consultation document is available to download from the Forestry Commission website¹. Hard copies of the consultation document can be obtained on request from frm@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.

Due to the specialist nature of the subject, this invitation is only being sent to the organisations and companies listed at Appendix 5 of the consultation document. If you think we should send this invitation to anyone else, please let us know or

¹ Forestry Commission website: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/consultations>

refer them to the website where they are free to download the documents. Comments will be accepted from anyone, not just those listed in the Appendix.

This consultation has been prepared following the general principles of the Government's Code of Practice on Consultation². This means that the consultation will run for 12 weeks and we will feedback regarding the responses and how the consultation process influenced the final decision.

The deadline for consultation responses is **30 September 2010**.

How to respond to this consultation

If you are responding on behalf of a representative group, we would be grateful if you would provide a summary of the people and organisations you represent.

We would prefer responses to this consultation to be sent by email. Responses should be sent to frm@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.

Anyone unable to respond by email should post his or her response to:

Forest Reproductive Material
Corporate & Forestry Support
Forestry Commission
Silvan House
231 Corstorphine Road
Edinburgh
EH12 7AT

In line with Forestry Commission policy of openness, at the end of the consultation period copies of the responses we receive may be made publicly available. The information they contain may also be published in a summary of responses.

If you do not consent to this, you must clearly request that your response be treated confidentially. Any confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system in email responses will not be treated as such a request. You should also be aware that there may be circumstances in which Forestry Commission will be required to communicate information to third parties on request, in order to comply with its obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations.

² Code of Practice on Consultation available at: <http://www.berr.gov.uk/files/file47158.pdf>

Comments or complaints about the consultation process (as opposed to comments about the issues that are the subject of the consultation) should be addressed to:

Linda McGinley
Corporate & Forestry Support
Forestry Commission
Silvan House
231 Corstorphine Road
Edinburgh
EH12 7AT

Thank you in advance for your contribution.
We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully



Alister Henderson
Forest Reproductive Material