

5 Table T5 – Forest establishment and reforestation

5.1 FRA 2010 Categories and definitions

Term	Definition
Afforestation	Establishment of forest through planting and/or deliberate seeding on land that, until then, was not classified as forest.
Reforestation	Re-establishment of forest through planting and/or deliberate seeding on land classified as forest.
Natural expansion of forest	Expansion of forests through natural succession on land that, until then, was under another land use (e.g. forest succession on land previously used for agriculture).

5.2 National data

5.2.1 Data sources

References to sources of information	Quality (H/M/L)	Variable(s)	Year(s)	Additional comments
Forestry statistics databases for new planting and restocking	H	All	1990 to 2008	Includes figures on natural colonisation and regeneration.

5.2.2 Classification and definitions

National class	Definition
New planting	Includes natural colonisation. Data for years ending 31 March
Restocking	Includes natural regeneration. Data for years ending 31 March

5.2.3 Original data

Thousand hectares

UK 5 year totals	New planting		Restocking	
	Broadleaves	Conifers	Broadleaves	Conifers
1988/89 to 1992/93	31.7	77.4	23.0	54.6
1993/94 to 1997/98	51.2	39.0	18.5	56.2
1998/99 to 2002/03	55.8	25.7	14.0	59.0
2003/04 to 2007/08	42.0	9.2	17.0	67.8

Thousand hectares

GB 5 year totals	Natural colonisation		Natural regeneration	
	Non-FC	FC	Non-FC	FC
1988/89 to 1992/93	0.0	0.0	0.0	Total to 2001 = 1.5
1993/94 to 1997/98	0.8	0.0	0.5	
1998/99 to 2002/03	5.1	0.0	2.8	
2003/04 to 2007/08	4.0	0.0	2.5	

5.3 Analysis and processing of national data

5.3.1 Estimation and forecasting

For FC natural regeneration before 2003, estimate breakdown into 5-year periods, of 0.0 to 1993, 0.7 to 1998 and 1.3 to 2003 (including 0.5 for two missing years in original data).

Areas of natural regeneration/colonisation for Northern Ireland are small, so use GB figures as estimates for UK.

In general, all reforestation (restocking by planting) since 1990 will have been on areas previously planted. In the past, many plantations were created by reforesting ancient woodland sites. The area of such PAWS was estimated to be 224,000 ha in 1990, but the practice was ended when the environmental value of ancient woodland sites was recognised.

Data have not been compiled for the area of native and introduced species in new planting and restocking. Since 1990, most broadleaved planting will have been native species, and most conifers introduced species; planting of introduced broadleaves may roughly balance native conifers (Scots pine). So use the conifer totals above as estimates of the areas of introduced species.

5.3.2 Reclassification into FRA 2010 categories

Afforestation = new planting – natural colonisation
 Reforestation = restocking – natural regeneration
 Natural expansion of forest = natural colonisation
 (Natural regeneration is not reported in Table T5)

5.4 Data for Table T5

FRA 2010 Categories	Annual forest establishment (hectares/year)			...of which of introduced species ¹⁾ (hectares/year)		
	1990	2000	2005	1990	2000	2005
Afforestation	21,800	15,300	9,400	15,500	5,100	1,800
Reforestation	15,400	13,900	16,100	10,900	11,800	13,600
...of which on areas previously planted	15,400	13,900	16,100	10,900	11,800	13,600
Natural expansion of forest	0	1000	800	0	0	0

Note: The figures for the reporting years refer to the averages for the 5-year periods 1988-1992, 1998-2002 and 2003-2007 respectively.

5.5 Comments to Table T5

Variable / category	Comments related to data, definitions, etc.	Comments on the reported trend
Afforestation		
Reforestation		
Natural expansion of forest		

Other general comments to the table