

## Sawmill Survey Questionnaire

### Introduction

The Sawmill Survey is an annual survey conducted by the Forestry Commission (in association with the Forest Service) of sawmills in the UK that are believed to use UK-grown logs. Results from the survey are published in statistical releases produced by the Forestry Commission and are used by a range of others.

The survey comprises two separate questionnaires. A detailed questionnaire ([www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/sawlongqgb12.pdf/\\$FILE/sawlongqgb12.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/sawlongqgb12.pdf/$FILE/sawlongqgb12.pdf)) goes to around 50 sawmills that have annual production of at least 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> of sawnwood and a short questionnaire ([www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/sawshortqgb12.pdf/\\$FILE/sawshortqgb12.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/sawshortqgb12.pdf/$FILE/sawshortqgb12.pdf)), asking for summary data only, is sent to all other sawmills (around 160 mills).

This paper describes the most recent changes to the questionnaires and explains the purpose of each question included in the survey.

### Questionnaire

The need for and wording of each question used in the survey for the year ending December 2012 was last reviewed at the November 2012 meeting of the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics (information on the group can be found at [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-5rabj3](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-5rabj3)).

As a result of the latest review, the following changes were made:

- Sawnwood product markets (detailed questionnaire): one category (furniture) has been dropped, as little has been reported for this category over the past few years;
- Other products: the wording of the question has been simplified to make it easier to understand; and
- Other products (short questionnaire): the units used for the destination categories has been changed from quantities to percentages, for consistency with the detailed questionnaire.

Information on why each question is included in the survey is provided below. Links to the releases listed are provided in the Annex to this paper.

## 1. Consumption of logs

Data on the consumption of logs by sawmills are used (alongside data from other processors and users of roundwood) by the Forestry Commission, the UK timber industry and others to monitor trends in the supply of, and demand for, UK grown timber.

Results from the survey are reported in the following Forestry Commission statistical releases:

- Forestry Statistics (tables 2.5 to 2.7, 2.10 to 2.12 and alongside consumption data for others in table 3.1);
- Forestry Facts & Figures (tables on deliveries); and
- UK Wood Production & Trade: provisional figures (tables 2-4, for early, provisional results).

The results are also:

- Provided to international organisations (Eurostat, FAO, UNECE) through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire and the UNECE Timber Committee Questionnaire, for use in international statistics on wood production and trade;
- Reported in FC Scotland's Scottish Forestry Strategy indicators (for sawmills in Scotland); and
- Reported in the Scottish Government's High Level Summary of Statistics (for sawmills in Scotland).

More detailed data on consumption, covering the source of logs (provided in the detailed questionnaire only) is used to monitor cross-border flows of logs and is reported in:

- Forestry Statistics (tables 2.16 and 2.16a); and
- Reported in the Woodlands for Wales Indicators produced by FC Wales.

## 2. Production of sawnwood

Data on the production of sawnwood by sawmills are used by the Forestry Commission, the UK timber industry and others to monitor trends in the supply of, and demand for, UK grown timber.

Results from the survey are reported in the following Forestry Commission statistical releases:

- Forestry Statistics (tables 2.7, 2.13 to 2.14 and 3.2, and are used to derive the size of mill categories used in tables 2.8, 2.11 and 2.14);
- Forestry Facts & Figures (table on production of wood products); and
- UK Wood Production & Trade: provisional figures (table 5, for early, provisional results).

The results are also:

- Provided to international organisations (Eurostat, FAO, UNECE) through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire and the UNECE Timber Committee Questionnaire, for use in international statistics on wood production and trade;
- Used by the Office for National Statistics in their Environmental Accounts publications;
- Reported in FC Scotland's Scottish Forestry Strategy indicators (for sawmills in Scotland);
- Reported in the Scottish Government's High Level Summary of Statistics (for sawmills in Scotland);
- Reported in the Woodlands for Wales Indicators produced by FC Wales; and
- Used in Timber Utilisation Statistics, commissioned by the Forestry Commission.

More detailed data on sawnwood production, covering estimated sawnwood market (provided in the detailed questionnaire only) is used to monitor trends in the use of UK sawnwood and is reported in:

- Forestry Statistics (tables 2.17 and 2.17a); and
- Timber Utilisation Statistics.

## 3. Other products

Figures on sales to bioenergy (including pellet manufacture), sales as firewood and internal use for heat/energy (including kiln use) are used to produce estimates of woodfuel supply.

Results from the survey are reported in the following Forestry Commission statistical release:

- Forestry Statistics (table 2.30).

The results are also used to derive estimates of woodfuel supply and use, provided to international organisations (UNECE) through the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry, for use in international statistics on wood energy.

More detailed data on other products, covering type of product and estimated destination (provided in the detailed questionnaire only) is used to monitor trends in other products and is reported in:

- Forestry Statistics (tables 2.18 and 2.18a).

## 4. Certification

Data on chain of custody certificates and certified timber are used by the Forestry Commission, UK timber industry and others to monitor trends in certification.

Results from the survey are reported in the following Forestry Commission statistical release:

- Forestry Statistics (tables 2.28 to 2.29).

The results are also:

- Provided to international organisations (UNECE) through the UK Timber Market Statement, for use in international comparisons of certification.

## 5. Employment

Data on the sawmill employment are used by the Forestry Commission, the UK timber industry and others to monitor trends in the UK timber industry.

Results from the survey are reported in the following Forestry Commission statistical release:

- Forestry Statistics (table 7.2).

More detailed data on sawmill employment, covering type of employment (provided in the detailed questionnaire only) is reported in:

- Forestry Statistics (tables 2.19 and 2.19a).

## Your views

In order to improve the statistics that we produce and to ensure that they remain relevant, we are interested in hearing from users of our statistics and respondents to our surveys.

If you wish to provide comments or suggestions for the sawmill survey questionnaire, please contact us at any time:

- by e-mail - [statistics@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:statistics@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)
- by telephone - 0131 314 6171

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## Annex: links to releases

Copies of the releases referred to in this paper are available at the following links:

- Forestry Statistics – [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aqdgc](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aqdgc)
- Forestry Facts & Figures - [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aqf6j](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aqf6j)
- UK Wood Production & Trade: provisional figures - [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aql5b](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aql5b)
- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire - [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aqhzh](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aqhzh)
- UNECE Timber Committee Questionnaire and UK Timber Market Statement – [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aqjql](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aqjql)
- Joint Wood Energy Enquiry - [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-8ekjqc](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-8ekjqc)
- Environmental Accounts (Office for National Statistics) - [www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Environmental+Accounts](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Environmental+Accounts)
- Scottish Forestry Strategy indicators (FC Scotland) - [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-6aggzw](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-6aggzw)
- High Level Summary of Statistics (Scottish Government) - [www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Agriculture-Fisheries](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Agriculture-Fisheries)
- Woodlands for Wales Indicators (FC Wales) - [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7gde7a](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7gde7a)
- Timber Utilisation Statistics - [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7fgkh4](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7fgkh4)