

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Growth Modelling of Radiata Pine

Sir,

Dr Tennent's article on "The Status of Growth Modelling of Radiata Pine in New Zealand" (Vol. 27, No. 2, pp. 254-8) would appear to be either incomplete or incorrectly titled. Whether the contents adequately summarise the history of growth modelling within the N.Z. Forest Service I am not in a position to judge, but for New Zealand as a whole there is a definite omission.

When describing the development of so-called "second generation" growth simulators, no mention is made of the N.Z. Forest Products Ltd growth model discussed in depth by Clutter and Allison (1974). Reference is made solely to the Kaingaroa model, citing Elliott and Goulding (1976). Interested readers will be disappointed to find that this article is a one-page abstract of a paper which has never been published.

Belatedly, the author does allude to the Clutter and Allison system, which is cryptically described as a "diameter-distribution" model. Following the terminology of Munro (1974) it is very largely a stand-level simulator in structure, analogous to the Kaingaroa model.

It is not my intent to compare the two second generation models, but in fairness to its originators, the Clutter and Allison system has proved a flexible and reliable model, and would rank as one of New Zealand's better radiata pine stand simulators. Dr Tennent states in his introduction that future models will provide information on the distribution of tree sizes; much of this is already available from the Clutter and Allison system.

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REFERENCES

- Clutter, J. L.; Allison, B. J., 1974. A growth and yield model for *Pinus radiata* in New Zealand. pp. 136-60 In J. Fries (Ed.), *Growth Models for Tree and Stand Simulation*, Royal College of Forestry, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Elliott, D. A.; Goulding, C., 1976. The Kaingaroa growth model for radiata pine and its implications for maximum volume production [abstract]. *N.Z. J. For. Sci.*, 6 (2): 187.
- Munro, D. D., 1974. Forest growth models—a prognosis. pp. 7-21 In J. Fries (Ed.), *Growth Models for Tree and Stand Simulation*, Royal College of Forestry, Stockholm, Sweden.

Dr Tennent replies:

Sir,

Mr Woollon's comments on my paper are appreciated. The sections describing the various generations growth modelling has passed through were intended to be illustrative as opposed to enumerative. As such