

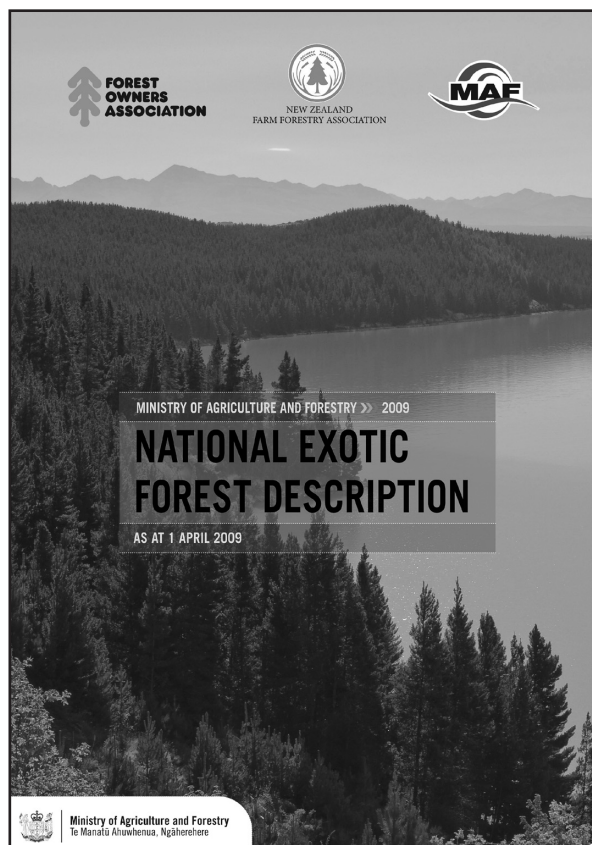
2009 National Exotic Forest Description

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has released the *National Exotic Forest Description* (NEFD) 2009 report, confirming last year's provisional figures. The report shows the total production forest standing volume in New Zealand is estimated to have increased 11 million cubic metres over the past year to 457 million cubic metres.

Other identifiable trends across the industry include:

- Small increases in average stand age and the average clearfell age for radiata pine, indicating an increase in maturity of New Zealand's planted forests.
- The species mix of the forest estate remains stable with radiata pine the dominant species, making up 90 percent of the planted forest area. Douglas-fir is the next most common species making up 6 percent.
- In recent years there has been a slow but steady reduction in the percentage of the radiata pine estate that is, or is expected to be, pruned. As at 1 April 2009 this was 60 percent, compared with 67 percent in 2002.
- It is provisionally estimated that new forest planting increased to 4000 hectares in the year ending 31 December 2009, with the majority of this increase from planting under the Afforestation Grants Scheme.
- There was a significant reduction in reported deforestation in the year to 1 April 2009 attributable to the Forestry Emissions Trading Scheme.

MAF produces this information in cooperation with the New Zealand Forest Owners' Association and the New Zealand Farm Forestry Association and the report is now in its 26th edition. The National Exotic Forest Description 2009 report contains the final results from an annual survey covering planted forests and related forestry activities such as harvesting and planting statistics.

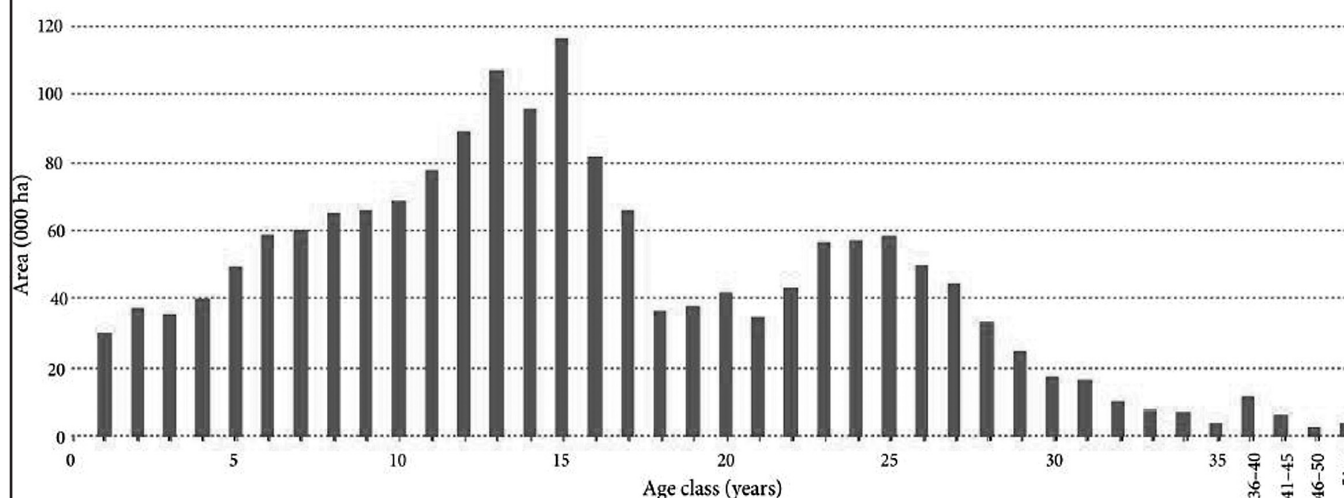


The 2009 NEFD report along with previously published NEFD reports are available at the following web address:

<http://www.maf.govt.nz/mafnet/publications/nefd/>

Hard copies are available by emailing policy_publications@maf.govt.nz, or by writing to Policy Publications, MAF Policy, PO Box 2526, Wellington.

FIGURE 2.1: TOTAL ESTIMATED PLANTED PRODUCTION FOREST AREA BY AGE CLASS, AS AT 1 APRIL 2009¹



Note

1. The area is shown for each age in single years up to 35 years. After this, age classes are aggregated.