Irish Forestry Woodland & Bio energy Show 2013

ITGA Yearbook Conference centre
- Forest Research Projects on Display

Examples of Forest Research Projects funded through the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine, CoFoRD Forest Research Programme

The Forest Energy Research Programme

The Forest Energy Research Programme 2010–2014 aims to investigate cost-effective wood fuel supply chains from Irish forestry and describe the energy parameters of six commercial tree species in Ireland: Sitka spruce, Norway spruce, lodgepole pine, ash, birch and alder. The project team is made up of WIT, UCD and the Danish Forestry Extension and is funded by DAFM under the CoFoRD research programme.

Coordinator Name & Lead Institution; Mr. Tom Kent Waterford Institute of Technology

PHYTOFOR

The project is investigating the detection, epidemiology and control of the plant pathogens *Phytophthora ramorum* and *P. kernoviae* in Irish forests. An all-island approach is being taken, as the project includes five different project partners from both the Republic and Northern Ireland. The outcomes of this project will improve our understanding of the pathogen in Ireland our diagnostic methods and our management strategies for its control.

Coordinator Name & Lead Institution; Dr. James Choiseul Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine

FORDEER

FORDEER (The use of forests by deer in Ireland) is a three year collaborative project at UCC and WIT. This research aims to quantify deer populations in Ireland and identify habitat and silvicultural elements that influence local deer population densities and behavioural patterns. The findings of this work will inform national deer management strategy.

Prof. John O'Halloran University College Cork

FORGEN - Forest Genetic Resources Research Programme

FORGEN addresses tree improvement efforts in both broadleaf and conifer species through the selection and propagation of superior individuals using breeding, propagation, and storage techniques as well as developing new varieties that will improve the productivity and quality of selected tree species. FORGEN is a large collaborative research programme led by University College Dublin, and includes Teagasc, the National Botanic Gardens and Coillte.

Coordinator Name & Lead Institution; Dr. Conor O'Reilly University College Dublin

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CForRep - Additions and refinements to the Irish forest carbon accounting and reporting tool

The project aims to improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions/reductions in Ireland, which are subject to international compliance criteria. The Irish national forest GHG reporting system is CARBWARE. The project focuses on refinement of a spatially explicit soil carbon reporting framework; development of a system to track changes associated with deforestation and disturbance; and improved characterisation of changes in forest carbon stocks associated with disturbance and management interventions. CForRep is led by University College Dublin, and includes Teagasc, University College Cork and the University of Limerick.

Coordinator Name & Lead Institution; Professor Maarten Nieuwenhuis University College Dublin

STANDMODEL - Development of dynamic yield models for conifers, broadleaves and mixtures
PI. Maarten Nieuwenhuis

The project has produced new dynamic yield models for Japanese larch (thinned and unthinned) and ash (thinned) and these have been integrated into the existing Irish Dynamic Yield Model User Interface (GROWFOR). STANDMODEL investigated the potential for generating growth forecasts for species mixtures using existing model combinations and the potential for utilising National Forest Inventory plot data in validating and strengthening existing dynamic yield models and in generating new ones.

Coordinator Name & Lead Institution; Professor Maarten Nieuwenhuis University College Dublin

LISS - Low Impact Silvicultural Systems

LISS is investigating the practice of Continuous Cover Forestry in Ireland and aims to estimate the area of woodland in Ireland managed under this system and to establish a database of such forests in Ireland. This database will provide a summary of the techniques being used to convert stands to LISS / Continuous Cover and the responses of the stands (i.e. stability; regeneration, biodiversity etc.) to these interventions.

Coordinator Name & Lead Institution; Dr Aine Ni Dhubhain University College Dublin

NATFOREX - Establishing a National Resource of Field Trials and a Database for Research and Demonstration

The project comprises an inventory and evaluation of a network of forest-based field trials in Ireland and a search for all raw data available from the experiments covering the period from the early 1960s to the present day. The project identified those surviving experiments worthy of long-term retention and a designed programme of maintenance and assessment. Raw data from retained trials as well as from significant closed experiments have been standardised, validated and stored.

Coordinator Name & Lead Institution; Professor Maarten Nieuwenhuis University College Dublin

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