

NFI provisional estimates of poplar in woodland in Great Britain

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Website: www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory
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Summary

This report provides estimates for the stocked area and age class structure of poplar in Great Britain. These estimates are a subset of those published as part of the 2012 stocked area estimates presented in the National Forest Inventory (NFI) *50-year forecast of hardwood timber availability* (2014) report. NFI reports are published at www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory.

The estimates provided in this report are provisional in nature.

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Approach

The approach taken in the derivation of these results and to be used in their interpretation is described in the full suite of forecast reports which can be found at www.forestry.gov.uk/forecast. Refer to the *Standing timber volume in coniferous trees in Britain* (2012) and the *NFI preliminary estimates of quantities of broadleaved species in British Woodlands with special focus on ash* (2012) reports for a description of the underlying methodologies and interpretation, and also for the wider GB context.

The estimates reported here are based upon field samples assessed between October 2009 and August 2013, the results of which have been subjected to rigorous data quality assurance procedures. These field samples constitute approximately two thirds of the sites to be sampled within the first cycle of NFI field sampling. As a consequence, the estimates in this report are classified as provisional.

Results

The results presented in this report are estimates of stocked area of poplar at 31 March 2012. The estimates have not been broken down by the ownership categories as in the main suite of NFI reports due to the relatively small area of poplar within Britain's woodlands. Furthermore, the estimates have been derived solely from information collected in the NFI field survey which covers all woodland in GB that is more than 0.5ha in size irrespective of whether publicly or privately owned and managed. A fuller description of this data source and how it is used in the production of estimates, including sampling standard errors attached to the estimates, is provided in the earlier published documents.

Map 1 shows the NFI reporting regions and the countries within GB.

Table 1 shows the poplar species recognised under the NFI field sampling protocol and the grouping used in this report.

Estimates are provided of stocked area of poplar at 31 March 2012 for the NFI reporting regions, countries and GB (**Table 2**) and for age classes (**Table 3**). Age class breakdowns are not provided for individual NFI reporting regions since, in general, the sample size is too small to provide reliable estimates at this scale.

The values in the tables have been independently rounded, so may not add to the totals shown. Sampling standard errors (SE) attached to the estimates are expressed in relative terms (%) to the right of the relevant estimate.

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Map 1 NFI reporting regions

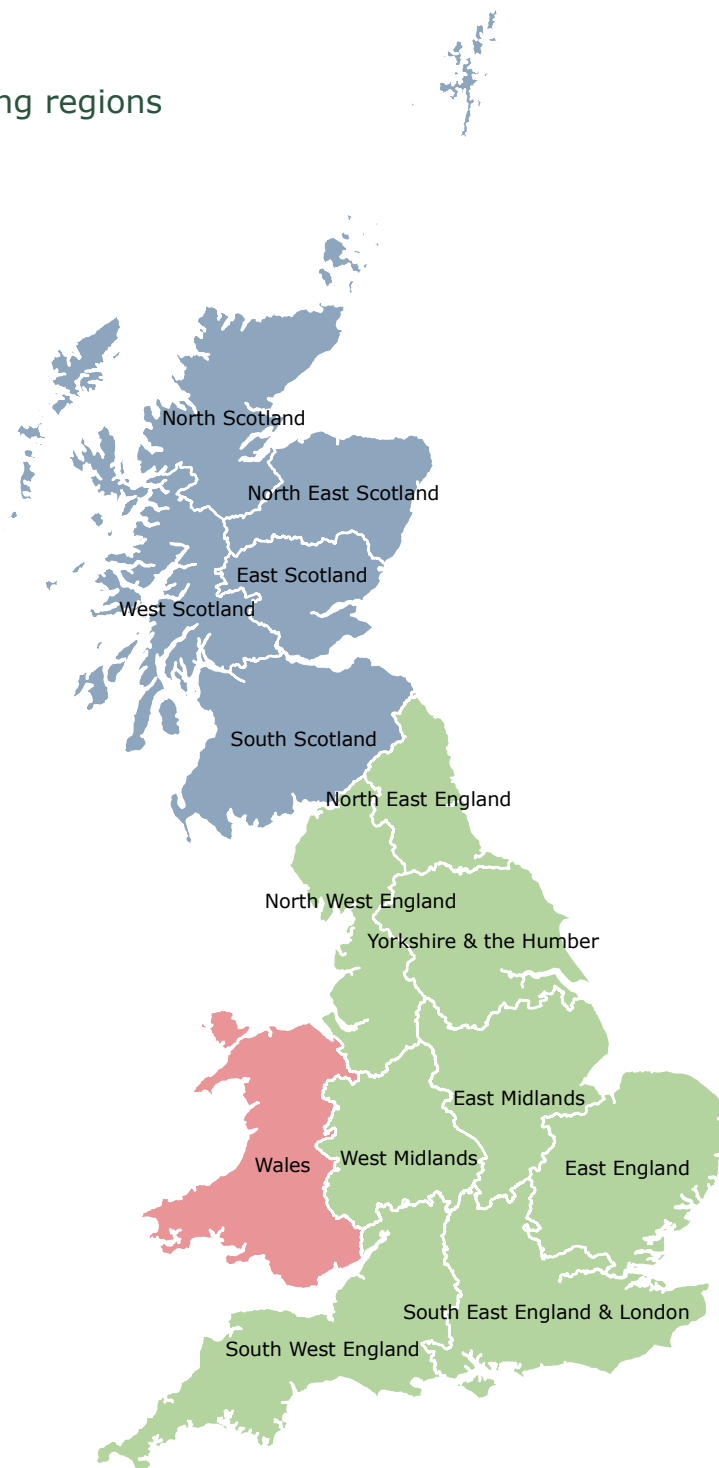


Table 1 Poplar species recognised by the NFI field sampling protocol

Group	Common name	Botanical name
Poplar	Hybrid poplar	<i>Populus serotina/trichocarpa</i>
	Aspen	<i>Populus tremula</i>
Other poplars	Black poplar	<i>Populus nigra</i>
	Grey poplar	<i>Populus canescens</i>
	White poplar	<i>Populus alba</i>
	Other poplars	<i>Populus spp.</i>

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Table 2 Stocked area of poplar for NFI reporting regions and countries

Country / region	Poplar		Other poplars		Total poplars	
	area (ha)	SE%	area (ha)	SE%	area (ha)	SE%
England	3,291	23	8,000	11	11,291	10
North West England	10	90	233	42	243	41
North East England	8	98	38	77	46	66
Yorkshire and the Humber	28	72	528	35	556	33
East Midlands	476	67	949	37	1,425	33
East England	503	62	1,368	30	1,871	28
South East England and London	1,116	32	2,926	17	4,042	15
South West England	323	49	1,025	36	1,349	30
West Midlands	827	58	932	36	1,759	33
Scotland	117	18	1,613	38	1,731	35
North Scotland	0	-	83	66	83	66
North East Scotland	94	17	724	73	818	64
East Scotland	0	-	32	53	32	53
South Scotland	23	63	747	41	770	40
West Scotland	0	-	27	54	27	54
Wales	10	86	603	47	614	47
Great Britain	3,419	22	10,217	11	13,635	10

Table 3 Stocked area of poplar by age class for countries

Country / region	Poplar		Age class 0-20		Age class 21-40	
	area (ha)	SE%	area (ha)	SE%	area (ha)	SE%
England	3,291	23	103	67	631	53
Scotland	117	18	22	51	13	89
Wales	10	86	0	-	1	86
Great Britain	3,419	22	125	56	645	52

Country / region	Age class 41-60		Age class 61-80		Age class 81-100	
	area (ha)	SE%	area (ha)	SE%	area (ha)	SE%
England	1,099	46	1,271	35	188	68
Scotland	83	17	0	-	0	-
Wales	9	86	0	-	0	-
Great Britain	1,191	42	1,271	35	188	68

NFI national reports and papers

The principal themes reported on for the 2011 woodland profile and future forecasts are:

- GB 2011 preliminary estimates of broadleaved species
- GB 2011 standing coniferous timber volume
- UK 25-year forecast of softwood availability
- GB 25-year forecast of coniferous standing volume and increment
- Biomass in live woodland trees in Britain
- Carbon in live woodland trees in Britain

The principal themes reported on for the 2012 woodland profile and future forecasts are:

- 50-year forecast of softwood timber availability
- 50-year forecast of hardwood timber availability

Each theme has a series of reports, papers and data, tailored for different audiences and uses. All the documents and data can be found on the NFI website www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory.

Glossary

A glossary of terms is presented in the full suite of forecast reports which can be found at www.forestry.gov.uk/forecast.

Official Statistics

This is an Official Statistics publication. More information about Official Statistics and the UK Statistics Authority is available at www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk

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