

FORESTRY COMMISSION (SCOTLAND)
EAST CONSERVANCY

FOREST RECORD BOOK

PITFICHIE FOREST

DISTRICT OFFICER'S COPY

Forest Pitfichie.

DIVISIONAL & DISTRICT OFFICERS.		FORESTERS & FOREMEN-IN-CHARGE.		
Names.	Dates.	Names.	Grades.	Dates.
I. GILLESPIE	1945	C. McDowall.	II.	1945
do.	1946	do.	do.	1946

Forest Records-Part I. ANNUAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, ETC.

Form R.4.

F.Y. 19 45 to 19Forest Pitfichie.

FOREST YEAR.	WORK DONE, ETC.		SITUATION (by Compartments).	
	Description.	Acres.	Normal Treatment.	Exceptional Treatment.
1945	<u>Thinning.</u>	69.	1st Thin. in P. 27 & 28.	
1946.	<u>Planting.</u>	62.5	1, 2	
	<u>1st Thinning</u>			
	P. 27	17.	3, 6	
	P. 28	32.7	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12	
	P. 94	4.	2	

Forest Pitfichie.F.Y. 1945 to 19 FOREST
YEAR.

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS.

- 45 Drainage. 83 chns. new drains for P.46.
 54 chns. drain repairs in P.27, 28 (Cluny).
 Cleaning. 76.5 acres brashing in P.27 and 28 (Cluny).
 Thinning. 69. acres 1st Thin. in P.27 and 28 (Cluny).
46. Prep. Ground. 259.5 acres. Incl. 98. acres brush-burning.
 Drainage. 387. chains new drains
 Planting. 62.5 acres. Incl. 38. acres S.S./S.P. NS on turves,
 other species notched.
 Weeding. 62.5 acres Bracken, grass, etc. Part double weeded.
 Cleaning. 100.8 acres. All brashing P.27,28, 29
 Thinning. 53.7 acres. All 1st Thinning P.27,28,94.

F.Y. 19____ to 19____

Forest PitfichieFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

47

Prep. Ground:- 137 acs. Clearing H.W. Scrub and burningDrains New:- 495 chainsDrains Upkeep:- 1769 chains. Mainly P.27, 28, 29 and 30Planting:- 181 acs.35 acs. S.S. and S.P. mixture ($\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$)

12 acs. S.P. and E.L. " (3 to 1)

Remainder S.S. and N.S. J.L. and D.F. with
 $\frac{1}{2}$ ac. oak.B.U.:- nil.Weeding:- 363 acs. P.46 and P.47 Grass and Heather
and BrackenBrashing:- 72 acs. P.27, 28, 29 and 30Under Planting:- 13 acs. of E.L. P.27 8.m. D.F. usedThinning:- 1st Thin. 33.8 acs.

2nd " 29. acs.

Produced:- 6980 c.ft.

F.Y. 19____ to 19____

Forest PitfichieFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

48

Prep. Ground:- 76.5 acs. Clearing and Burning Scrub for P.49Drains New:- 690 chains including turf laying } for P.49
476 " ordinary }Planting:- 302 acs. old woodland felled 1914/18
Main species S.P. - 45 acs. on inverted turvesB.U.:- Nil.Weeding:- P.46, 47 and 48 - 322 acs.
All double weededBrashing:- 10 acs. P.29, 30High Pruning:- P.28 opt. 100 200 D.F. pruned to 15-20'Drains Upkeep:- 130 chains - P.46 deepening drains put in at time of PlantingThinning:- 1st Thin. 54 acs.

Produced 7420 c.ft.

F.Y. 19⁴⁹ to 19Forest PitfichieFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

49

Prep. Ground- 25 acres ploughed with Guthbertson Plough for P.50.
82 acres cutting and burning scrub for P.50.
28 acres mounding for P.49.

Drains New- 321 chains including turf laying
228 chains ordinary.

Planting- 278 acres Compts. 12,13,14,15,16,29
61,62,63.
S.P. NS SS DF Red Oak & Oak
111.5 96 60.5 10 (Border Cpt.63
S.P. - Screefed (mostly heather)
N.S. - Mound planted
S.S. - Inverted turves - 8 aacs.
D.F. - Notched bracken area.

Beating Up- 41.5 aacs. Compts. 2,3,6,7,91,92.
S.P. NS. SS. DF. Totals
Acs. 9. 10 3.5 19 41.5
Plants 6.3 11.8 8.2 12.5 38.8
Compts. 91,92 - D.F. used for P.U.
plants underplanted P.48.

Weeding- 332 Acs. P46,47,48,49. (Bracken,
Grass and Heather) - mostly all
double weeded.
Sheep were grazed on Cpts. 4,5,7,7b.
29 from May to September.

Thinning- 73 Acres. Produce - 16,549 c.feet.
1st Thin. - 12.13 aacs. Cpt. 96,98,100
2nd Thin. - 60.68 aacs. Cpt. 67,68,69
92/93,96,100,101.
Felled - Scattered trees Compt. 45.

F.Y. 19 51 to 19Forest Pitfichie.FOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

'51 P.28, 29, 30.

Cpts. 102 - 105.

The area was marked for thinning and the trees sold standing.

The general principle was to thin lightly, on a 3 year cycle and to make a minimum of break in the canopy.

P.51. Selection of Species:-

N.S. on old woodland (C.29) of flush type planted in Anderson groups.

N.S. on flush (ploughed).

D.F. on more fertile sites sheltered from West and in areas where shelter and side shade would be given by birch regrowth.

S.P. in moderate exposure on the slopes.

S.P./E.L. on the better, more fertile slopes (Bracken/Whin/Grass).

J.L. in belts on the planting limit where the site was bad and hard and exposure severe. On the hard sloping bank above the Pitmunie Burn J.L. was planted amongst rough, open, old S.P. (not felled because of fear of attracting Weevil).

Planting Methods.

N.S. planted on mounds.

S.S., Larches and S.P. were notched in after a large screef had been made. The principle being that the screef eliminated plant competition above and below the surface.

P.50/51. Drains New.

The Pitmunie Burn forms the Monymusk water supply, consequently drainage work in C.25, 27 and 28 had to be restricted for fear of fouling the supply. The problem is

/not

F.Y. 1951 to 19____Forest Pitfichie (Continued)FOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

not yet solved but it appears that no action can be taken.
The area badly requiring drainage is confined to a narrow
strip beside the burn hence the gross undrained area is small.
Over this area a reduced increment must be accepted.

F.Y. 19____ to 19____

Forest PITELCHIEFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

53 PREP GROUND :- Scrub clearing (birch) was not done and planting was done in such a way as to incorporate the birch in the crop. Where it was possible to walk through the birch plants were inserted. Where it was not possible to walk through the birch scrub it was accepted as part of the crop. Broom cutting was done over 100 aca. and heather burning over 20 aca. Fine ploughing was done over a badly leached area. On the unploughed slope in Compt. 56 planting was done by mattock (SP).

Selection of species :- No change in policy.

PLANTING :- Planting distances and numbers per acre were increased as follows:-

Spec.	Normal Sites		Optimum Sites	
	Spacing	No. per ac.	Spacing	No. per ac.
SP	4½	2150	5	1740
JL	6	1210	7	889
DF	6	1210	7	889
NS	5	1740	6	1210
SS	5½	1440	7	889

otherwise no change in planting methods and policy.

MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS:-

(1) Beating Up was not heavy and only badly damaged areas were beaten up.

(2) Weeding. The dry spring and moist summer produced a luxuriant weed growth. Weeding was delayed until the end of July. First weeded were JL and SP plantations. Spruce plantations were last to receive attention.

(3) Thinning/

F.Y. 19____ to 19____

Forest PITKICHIEFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

- 53 (3) Thinning. P27 - 28 (Scare Wood) Antre Block. This was partly thinned by a merchant. IN marking preference was given to good quality trees by opening up the canopy. The merchant had completed approximately half of the contract by 31.1.53 when a gale seriously damaged the wood. The thinning ceased and was replaced by clearance of blown trees. 80,700 cu.ft. of blown timber being cut by the end of the F.Y.
- P51 - 52 Weeding :- This was done where necessary to free plants.

F.Y. 19 54 to 19 Forest PitfichieFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

54

PREP GROUND

Long rank heather was burned and Hydraulic Tine plough was used to break up ground on hard sites.

On plough pines and larches were notched into the furrow beside the subsoiled portion.

Selection of species followed normal procedure. Groups of J.L. were planted in S.P. for unevenness. Individuals of *Pinus Strobus* were planted through S.P. in Compts. 59, 60, 76, 107 & 108 at 30' centres to determine if in this way they would grow without blister rust.

DRAINS NEW

All flushes were drained with contour drains.

DRAINS UPKEEP

P52 area drains deepened and widened on contract.

WEEDING

Due to high frequency of rainfall grass and bracken areas were weeded twice. Excessively strong whin growth in Compt. 35 cut back to ground.

Work in older plantations was confined to clearance of damage done by gale of 31.1.53.

F.Y. 19⁴⁹ to 19Forest CorrennieFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

49

Forest operations commenced in January, 1949.

Prep. Ground- 30 acres of derelict arable land was
ploughed by Ferguson Tractor using
single furrow agricultural plough.
15 acres scrub was burned.

Planting- S.S. - 33 acres.

30 on plough and 3 on inverted turves

Weeding- Although plants were mainly on plough
it was necessary to weed. The
furrows were found to be too narrow.

F.Y. 19 51 to 19Forest CorrennieFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

'51

P.36

(Acquired S.P.). This plantation was partially cleaned and brashed. The plantation is heavily stocked and poor in quality at present. The work consisted of making the plantation more accessible, removing few bad trees and brashing some of the best trees to 6'. Racking was also done.

P.51. Selection of Species:-

J.L. on hard stony and/or heathery sites where exposure is severe.

S.P. on less hard sites with less exposure and with slight admixture of E.L.

N.S., S.S., C.P. on old arable sites after ploughing.

N.S. on mounds in flushes.

D.F. on lower slopes in more fertile pockets sheltered from West. In such sites the regrowth of birch was not completely removed, some being left to provide side shade.

Planting Methods.

(a) On ploughed land a garden spade was used for notching on the furrow slice, the roots being inserted between the two layers of decaying vegetation (as the slice was broad and thus no reduction in depth was required before planting).

(b) On all hard, tough, unploughed sites, the mattock was used, the ground screefed and picked before the plant was inserted.

F.Y. 19____ to 19____

Forest COMBENIEFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

53

PREP GROUND :- Hard heathery tops below the planting limit were ploughed with the hydraulic tine after heather burning. A minimum of scrub clearing was done and plants inserted in openings. Advance draining was done in P54 areas.

PLANTING :- Selection of species followed the usual pattern. On ploughed area plants were inserted in the subsoiled areas. 3 Pruces were mounded and other species notched except PC which was mounded in wet areas. 15 acres were manured with G.M.P. On unploughed slopes most of the planting was done by mettock. On optimum sites spacing was increased as follows :-

Spec.	Normal Sites		Optimum Sites	
	Spacing	No. per ac.	Spacing	No. Per ac
SP	4 ¹	2150	5	1740
JL	6	1210	7	889
DF	6	1210	7	889
NS	5	1740	6	1210
SS	5 ¹	1440	7	889

otherwise no change in planting methods and policy.

WEEDING:- Despite a wet season and luxuriant weed growth a minimum of weeding was done. Sheep were grazed in P49 SS and kept the grass under control without adverse affect to plants.

F.Y. 19 54 to 19____Forest CorrennieFOREST
YEAR

GENERAL PROCEDURE AND OBSERVATIONS

54 PREP GROUND :- Very old arable land (heather clad) ploughed by Solotrack plough. Shallow Tine plough used on hard ground.

Holes cut in scrub for inter-planting with groups of plants in F.Y.55.

Heather burning to facilitate planting and ploughing (P54 & P55)

DRAINS NEW :- Deep drains were cut in P55 area to drain bogs (deep peat).

Selection of Species :- This followed the usual pattern. The wider spacing was used. Use was made of groups of Larch, Thuya, Ab. Pro. & R. Oak in matrix of S.P., Pop. Serotiva, S. Erecta, Gelrica, Robusta and Canescens were planted on old arable.

PLANTING - was done by mattock mainly. 75 acres on poorer ground manured with 2 ozs. G.M.P.

WEEDING :- The wet season caused luxuriant growth of grass and bracken. P52 - 54 were extensively weeded to free plants.

P49 S.S. on old arable ground was grazed by sheep.

F.Y. 1946 to 19__Forest Pitfichie

1. Description.

F.Y. 46. 4. acres 1st Thinning N.S. in C.2 (520 cu. ft.)

F.Y. 19⁴⁵ to 19

Forest Pittishie.

1. Description.

50.2 acres brashed as follows:- S.L. 28.2; E.L. 10.4; N.S. 9.3;
S.S. 2.3

54. acres 1st Thin. (S.P. 16.; E.L. $23\frac{1}{2}$; D.F. $9\frac{1}{4}$; S.S. $2\frac{1}{4}$;
N.S. 3.) 8087 cu. ft.

F.Y. 46. 17. acres 1st Thinning S.P. and E.L. in C's 3 and 6
(1573 cu. ft.)

33.6 acres brashing (S.P. 3.2; E.L. 21; 7; N.S. .7; D.F. 8.)

F.Y. 19 45 to 19Forest Pitfichie.

1. Description.

26.3 acres brashed (S.P. 11.2; N.S. 11.5; S.S. 3.8).

15. acres 1st Thin. (S.P. 1.; D.F. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; S.S. $\frac{3}{4}$; N.S. 1.)
3129 cu. ft.F.Y. 46. 32.7 acres 1st Thinning S.P., D.F., N.S. and S.S.

(5570 cu.ft.)

64.3 acres brashing (S.P. 20.4; N.S. 16.3; S.S. 13.5; D.F. 14.1)

F.Y. 1946 to 19__Forest Pitfichie

1. Description.

F.Y146. 2.9 acres S.P. brashed in C.11.

F.Y. 1946 to 19__

Forest Pitfichia.

1. Description.

<u>Compt.</u>	<u>S.P.</u>	<u>S.S./S.P.</u>	<u>S.P./E.L.</u>	<u>N.S.</u>	<u>S.S.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	2.	38.	-	3.	-	43.
2	-	-	6.	10.	3.5	19.5
	2.	38.	6.	13.	3.5	62.5

<u>Compt.</u>	<u>Acs.</u>	
1	43.	Mainly grass heath with patches of juncous flash. Clumps of Bi and broom.
2	19.5	Pteris/grass, grass heath and large aira caespitosa
	62.5	flash.

Choice of Species. S.P./E.L. on pteris/grass, S.S./S.P. on grass heath, S.S. on drier grass and N.S. on flash type.

F.Y. 46. 62.5 acres weeding bracken, etc.

PLANTATION AREA STATEMENT.

Forest Pitfichie.

Original Area : _____ acres.

	TOTAL ACRES.	ACREAGES BY SPECIES.									
Planted_____	Nil				Nil.						
Sown_____											
Nat. Regen_____											
Totals_____											
Established—											
At_____years											
At_____years											
At_____years											
At_____years											
1st Thinning											
F.Y. 19____											
F.Y. 19____											
F.Y. 19____											
Deductions (Fire, etc.)											
F.Y. 19____											
F.Y. 19____											
F.Y. 19____											

PLANTATION AREA STATEMENT.

Original Area: _____ acres.

Forest Pitfichie

	TOTAL ACRES.	ACREAGES BY SPECIES.				
		S.P.	E.L.	N.S.	S.S.	
Planted_____	62.5	25.5	1.5	13.	22.5	
Sown_____						
Nat. Regen_____						
Totals_____	62.5	25.5	1.5	13.	22.5	
Established—						
At_____years						
At_____years						
At_____years						
At_____years						
1st Thinning						
F.Y. 19____						
F.Y. 19____						
F.Y. 19____						
Deductions (Fires, etc.)						
F.Y. 19____						
F.Y. 19____						
F.Y. 19____						