

H.M. FORESTRY COMMISSION
CENSUS OF WOODLANDS, 1947
INSTRUCTIONS FOR FIELD PARTIES

I. GENERAL

1. Contact with owners

Wherever possible contact should be made with owner or agent before woods are entered. No ownership need be recorded on field form except distinction between:-

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| (a) Private | 1 |
| (b) Forestry Commission | 2 |

2. Stands

- (a) Each block of 5 acres or over, whether on one map or several, which is now woodland, or which is shown on the map as such, must be visited, demarcated into stands and these stands entered up on separate field forms.
- (b) Strips of woodland less than 1 chain wide to be excluded.
- (c) A minimum distance of $\frac{1}{2}$ chains to constitute a division between blocks and between similar stands within a block.
- (d) Stands to be numbered consecutively from (1) upwards. A fresh sequence of numbers must be begun for each 6" O.S. quarter sheet or for each part of each County shown thereon. Except by arrangement with the Conservator, field parties will omit Forestry Commission areas, leaving the numbering and recording of F.C. stands to the local staff.
- (e) Stands normally to be stopped at edge of map. Where a wood extends on to adjacent quarter sheets, field parties must see that description and data agree for each sheet. Overlaps of less than four acres may be included on the map showing the major portion of the stand.
- (f) Each Stand is to comprise an area which is uniform for purposes of description, i.e. as regard Type, Age-class, Species, and Condition. All stands 5 acres or more in area (within each block inspected) must be differentiated. Stands below 5 acres in area are to be recorded only when important changes in description are involved.
- (g) Where two or more stand categories occur within one block, and these cannot easily be delimited on the ground, the approximate percentage by area of each stand category must be estimated and a separate form prepared for each. In "Stand No." space, write e.g. (15) + 16 indicating that the form refers to the encircled stand category. In space for area, write estimated percentage of area and under it the corresponding acreage, e.g. if the total area of Stand 15 + 16 is 10 acres and 15 is 80% of the whole, the space for area on the field form applying to stand (15) + 16 should read

Area

80%
8

and for Stand 15 + (16) should read

Area

20%
2

(h) In the case of blocks, of over 5 acres, of scrub or natural regeneration which has invaded land not previously woodland, the outer limit of the scrub etc. should be roughly mapped to include that area which is at least 50 per cent stocked.

(j) When operations such as planting or felling are in progress when the area is inspected, the actual state of affairs as observed on that date to be recorded.

(k) Each stand form and map will on completion be initialled and dated by the Surveyor, and marked with his serial number in the space provided.

3. Maps

(a) Stand boundaries are to be delineated in pencil (H.B.) in the field, and the stand given the appropriate number.

(b) Areas. The total area of each block must be measured by acre grid (to nearest acre). Individual stands comprising the block will be measured and their sum should agree with the total for the block, any necessary adjustments being made in the area of the larger stands.

4. Coding of Maps

Field surveyors will code

(a) The County according to the appropriate serial number on the list provided;

(b) the 6" O.S. maps. The four quarters of each 6" O.S. Sheet will be coded numerically as follows:- N.W. = 1, N.E. = 2, S.W. = 3, S.E. = 4. These numbers will follow the number of the 6" sheet, i.e. $\frac{1}{4}$ -sheet 23 N.E. will be coded as "23-2".

(c) Ordnance sheets having a letter (e.g. A) prefixed to their numbers will be regarded for all purposes (numbering of stands etc.) as part of the sheets whose numbers they bear, so the prefix will not be coded.

II CLASSIFICATION OF STANDS

A. Types of Woodland

1. Coniferous High Forest (C.H.F.)

Include:- Coniferous forest with broadleaved mixture (or standards) if these form less than 20% of the crop (as a rule in terms of canopy).

2. Mixed High Forest (M.H.F.)

Include all mixture of conifers with broadleaved trees where either category forms 20% or more of the crop.

3. Broadleaved High Forest (B.H.F.)

Include:-

(a) Broadleaved forest with conifer mixture (or standards) if these form less than 20% of the crop (as a rule in terms of canopy).

(b) More or less widely-spaced standards over coppice, if the coppice is too poor to class the stand as Coppice with Standards (Type 4). Stands of this type but with fewer than 6 sizeable standards per acre are not to be classified as High Forest, but as Scrub.

(c) Poles of coppice origin (with or without standards) with an average of less than two stems per stool.

4. Coppice with Standards

Stands carrying Standards of actual or potential timber value; the coppice to be capable of being worked or marketed, or suitable for conversion to High Forest.

5. Coppice

To include all coppice growths (except osiers) if averaging more than two stems per stool; the coppice to be capable of being worked or marketed, or suitable for conversion to High Forest.

6. Scrub

Inferior growth unlikely to develop into a utilizable crop of coppice, poles, or timber.

7. Devastated

Stands from which the best timber has been removed leaving a scattered or patchy remnant of the original crop, not capable of satisfactory development. The removal of standards from coppice will not be included in this category so long as the coppice remains capable of being worked as coppice.

8. Felled

To include all High Forest Stands which have been more or less completely clear-felled. Coppice which is being worked over on rotation will not be included in this category. Birch regeneration which has sprung up on recent fellings should be classed as Broadleaved High Forest 1-10 years, if over 3 feet in height, dense and uniform, provided that the locality conditions are suitable for the satisfactory development of birch (given proper tending). If the conditions are not suitable, such a stand should be classed as Scrub.

Note: Suitability for satisfactory development depends on local conditions and must be decided by the Census Officer.

If the regrowth is thin or very patchy, the stand should be classified as Felled.

9. Lost

Areas, irrespective of stocking, now converted or obviously under conversion to non-forestral uses such as agriculture, housing, gardens, sports grounds, aerodromes, etc.

B. Age Classes

Apply to High Forest Types, 1, 2 and 3 only.

Years 1/10, 11/20, 21/30, 31/40, 41/60, 61/80, 81/120, Over 120, Unevenaged.

Each stand in the High Forest Types must be put into its appropriate age class.

C. Sub-Types

Coppice with Standards - Type 4

- Sub-Type 1: Coppice mainly composed of Spanish Chestnut.
- do. 2: Coppice mainly composed of Hazel.
- do. 3: Coppice mainly composed of Oak.
- do. 4: Coppice composed of other species, mixed coppice, etc.

Uneven-aged Class (9) of High Forest Types 1, 2 and 3

- Sub-Type 5: Two-storied forest resulting from under-planting.
- do. 6: Natural regeneration under mother trees.

Felled - Type 8

- Sub-Type 7: Felled before September, 1st, 1939.
- do. 8: Felled after September 1st, 1939.

D. Condition as regards Form of Stem and Degree of Stocking

Each stand and Types 1 to 4 inclusive must be further classified according to the form (straightness) of the tree stems and the degree of stocking.

There are 4 Classes for Stem Form:-

1. Elite trees for purposes of seed collection; i.e. trees of outstanding quality as regards straightness of bole and crown development.
2. Satisfactory. Majority of stems reasonably straight.
3. Poor. Many defective stems but capable of improvement.
4. Bad. Stems very defective. Improvement doubtful.

There are 4 Classes for Degree of Stocking:-

1. Badly overstocked. Comprises neglected stands long overdue for thinning.
2. Satisfactory - 80% to 100% stocking, in terms of canopy.
3. Poor - From 50% to 80% stocking, in terms of canopy.
4. Bad - Below 50% stocking, in terms of canopy.

E. Suitability for Economic Management

The object is to classify the stands, irrespective of ownership, according to their capability of being managed as part of the economically productive woodlands of the country.

There are 3 classes:-

1. Suitable for Economic Management. Stands forming part of a larger block of woodland; or in manageable proximity to other blocks. Isolated relatively small blocks of woodland must be of compact shape and have reasonable access for the extraction of forest produce.
2. Doubtful. Borderline cases.
3. Unsuitable for economic Management. Blocks of scrub on land incapable of growing timber. Blocks of woodland occurring on common land. Blocks of ornamental trees and similar areas planted purely for amenity.

Small isolated blocks in areas of a predominantly agricultural or rough grazing character. Small blocks with a long boundary in relation to their total area (e.g. shelterbelts). Isolated blocks with no reasonable access.

F. Species

All stands in Type 1 to 7 inclusive are to be classified according to species. Pure stands are stands in which at least 90 per cent of the crop is composed of the same species, and in such cases only one entry is made in the appropriate square on the front of the form against pure or principal species. In the case of mixed stands, the most abundant species in the mixture should be entered in the appropriate square in one of the rows headed "pure or principal species", and the next most abundant species in one of the rows headed "subsidiary species in mixture". In the case of coppice with standards, the standards only are to be recorded in the sections for species. (The coppice species will have already been roughly classified under "Sub-types 1 to 4").

"Other Conifers" and "Other Broadleaved" are to refer to species not listed on the Stand Data form; these headings are not to be applied to undifferentiated mixtures of codeable species.

In the case of felled areas, if there is a substantial regrowth from broadleaved stumps or coppice the species concerned should be entered in the appropriate squares in the species rows, and a note made under "remarks".

N.B. Only one cross may be put in the four lines of "Pure or principal species", and only one cross in the four rows of "Subsidiary species in Mixture". All information regarding species other than the two most abundant ones, will be included in the statement on the back of the form.

G. Statement of Proportion of Species
(on reverse of form)

This information is to be given wherever more than one species occurs in the stand. Species which individually compose less than 10% of the crop should be grouped together, e.g.

S.P.	40%
E.L.	30%
N.S.	} 30%
Oak	
Sp. Chest)	

In the case of Coppice-with Standard (Type 4) and where both standards and coppice are mixed, the species and proportions should be given separately for the standards and the coppice.

Remarks

Record whether felling or thinning is actually in progress at time of the visit of the census surveyor. Also note any points of outstanding silvicultural interest.

Director of Research and Education.
January, 1947.

COUNTY			MAP NO.		STAND NO.		AREA : Acres, gross		
SURVEYOR, NO. ITLS. DATE			CODE NO.		CODE NO.		CODE NO.		PRIVATE 1
									FOR. COM. 2
NAME OF F.C. FOREST			CODE NO.		COMPT. NO.		CODE NO.		
TYPE	C.H.F. 1	M.H.F. 2	B.H.F. 3	COPP. W.STD. 4	COPP. 5	SCRUB 6	DEVST. 7	FELLED 8	LOST 9
AGE CLASS	1/10 1	11/20 2	21/30 3	31/40 4	41/50 5	61/80 6	81/120 7	OVER 120 8	UNEVEN 9
SUB-TYPE	CHEST. COPP. 1	HAZEL COPP. 2	OAK COPP. 3	OTHER COPP. 4	UNEVEN UND. PL. 5	AGED NT.REG. 6	BEFORE 8/39 7	AFTER 8/39 8	
TREE FORM	ELITE FOR SEED 1	SATIS. 2	POOR 3	BAD 4	STOCK- ING 1	BADLY OVER- STOCKED 1	SATIS. 2	POOR 3	BAD 4
SUITABILITY for ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT	SUIT- ABLE 1	DOUBT- FUL 2	UNSUIT- ABLE 3						
PURE OR PRINCIPAL	S.P. 1	C.P. 2	P. CON. 3	E.L. 4	J.L. 5	H.L. 6	N.S. 7	S.S. 8	D.F. 9
CONIFERS	TSUGA 1	L. CYP. 2	AB. GR. 3	AB. PEC. 4	AB. NOB. 5	THUYA 6	OTHER CONIF. 7		
PURE OR PRINCIPAL	OAK 1	ASH 2	BEECH 3	BIRCH 4	SPAN. CHEST. 5	SYCA- MORE 6	COMM. ALDER 7	HAZEL 8	HORN- BEAM 9
BROAD- LEAVED	POPLAR 1	LIME 2	ELM 3	WILLOW 4	NORWAY MAPLE 5	CHERRY 6	OTHER B/L 7		
SUBSIDIARY (IN MIXT.)	S.P. 1	C.P. 2	P. CON. 3	E.L. 4	J.L. 5	H.L. 6	N.S. 7	S.S. 8	D.F. 9
CONIFERS	TSUGA 1	L. CYP. 2	AB. GR. 3	AB. PEC. 4	AB. NOB. 5	THUYA 6	OTHER CONIF. 7		
SUBSIDIARY (IN MIXT.)	OAK 1	ASH 2	BEECH 3	BIRCH 4	SPAN. CHEST. 5	SYCA- MORE 6	COMM. ALDER 7	HAZEL 8	HORN- BEAM 9
BROAD- LEAVED	POPLAR 1	LIME 2	ELM 3	WILLOW 4	NORWAY MAPLE 5	CHERRY 6	OTHER B/L 7		

[illegible]

*Or by number of stems in young crops where the canopy has not closed.

REMARKS

FOR OFFICE USE

COUNTY		MAP NO.		STAND NO.		AREA Acres, gross			
SURVEYOR, NO. ITS. DATE		CODE NO.		CODE NO.		CODE NO.			
						PRIVATE	1		
						FOR. COM.	2		
NAME OF F.C. FOREST				CODE NO.		COMPT. NO.			
TYPE	C.H.F. 1	M.H.F. 2	B.H.F. 3	COPP. W.STD. 4	COPP. 5	SCRUB 6	DEVST. 7	FELLED 8	LOST 9
AGE CLASS	1/10 1	11/20 2	21/30 3	31/40 4	41/50 5	61/80 6	81/120 7	OVER 120 8	UNEVEN 9
SUB-TYPE	CHEST. COPP. 1	HAZEL COPP. 2	OAK COPP. 3	OTHER COPP. 4	UNEVEN UND. PL. 5	AGED NT. REG. 6	BEFORE 8/39 7	AFTER 8/39 8	
TREE FORM	ELITE FOR SEED 1	SATIS. 2	POOR 3	BAD 4	STOCK- ING	BADLY OVER- STOCKED 1	SATIS. 2	POOR 3	BAD 4
SUITABILITY for ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT	SUIT- ABLE 1	DOUBT- FUL 2	UNSUIT- ABLE 3						
PURE OR PRINCIPAL	S.P. 1	C.P. 2	P.CON. 3	E.L. 4	J.L. 5	H.L. 6	N.S. 7	S.S. 8	D.F. 9
CONIFERS	TSUGA 1	L.CYP. 2	AB. GR. 3	AB.PEC. 4	AB.NO.B. 5	THUYA 6	OTHER CONIF. 7		
PURE OR PRINCIPAL	OAK 1	ASH 2	BEECH 3	BIRCH 4	SPAN. CHEST. 5	SYCA- MORE 6	COMM. ALDER 7	HAZEL 8	HORN- BEAM 9
BROAD- LEAVED	POPLAR 1	LIME 2	ELM 3	WILLOW 4	NORWAY MAPLE 5	CHERRY 6	OTHER B/L 7		
SUBSIDIARY (IN MIXT.)	S.P. 1	C.P. 2	P.CON. 3	E.L. 4	J.L. 5	H.L. 6	N.S. 7	S.S. 8	D.F. 9
CONIFERS	TSUGA 1	L.CYP. 2	AB. GR. 3	AB.PEC. 4	AB.NO.B. 5	THUYA 6	OTHER CONIF. 7		
SUBSIDIARY (IN MIXT.)	OAK 1	ASH 2	BEECH 3	BIRCH 4	SPAN. CHEST. 5	SYCA- MORE 6	COMM. ALDER 7	HAZEL 8	HORN- BEAM 9
BROAD- LEAVED	POPLAR 1	LIME 2	ELM 3	WILLOW 4	NORWAY MAPLE 5	CHERRY 6	OTHER B/L 7		

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SPECIES

SPECIES	PER CENT (BY CANOPY)*	SPECIES	PER CENT (BY CANOPY)*

*Or by number of stems in young crops where the canopy has not closed.

REMARKS

FOR OFFICE USE