



No. 1

Tree Scribe

JOURNAL OF THE TILHILL FORESTRY GROUP

MAY 1977

GOVERNMENT POINTS WAY FOR PRIVATE FORESTRY

THE NEW GRANTS

The new grants payable from 1st October 1977 are, per hectare:—

Dedication Basis II

Planting Grant	£75
Management Grant	£2–11 per annum as a mean, apportionment details to be decided.

Dedication Basis III

Planting Grant	
Conifers	£100
Hardwoods	£225
Approved Caledonian Pine	£225
Management Grant	£3 per annum, payable quinquennially in arrears on conifers under 25 years old and hardwoods and approved Caledonian Pine under 50 years.

Small Woods Planting Grant

£300 on areas 0.25 to 3 hectares.
£250 on areas 3 to 10 hectares.

75% of the Small Woods grant is payable on planting, the balance after 5 years' satisfactory establishment, as was the case before the previous Small Woods scheme was suspended.

AS "Tree Scribe" goes to press Treasury Minister of State Denzil Davies has announced new measures "in accordance with the Government's aim of encouraging private forestry to play an appropriate part in the rural economy, in harmony with the needs of agriculture and the environment".

These measures include:

- * The removal of Dedication as a condition for the exercise of the deferral option available for Capital Transfer Tax.
- * Improvements in the Dedication grant structure for both Basis II and Basis III, including the introduction of a management grant for Basis III.
- * The re-introduction of a small woods planting grant.
- * Approved planting of Caledonian Pine of local origin under Basis III in special areas to be agreed with the Nature Conservancy Council to attract planting and management grants at the same rates as hardwoods.
- * The grants review procedure will in future be formalised, with the first review of the new grants to be in October 1980.

Aid to flexibility

The release of the Dedication condition from the deferral option in Capital Transfer Tax will be welcomed as an aid to flexibility as will the severance of a fiscal measure from a grant-aided scheme.

The industry's plea to have the value assessed for CTT related to the value at death when the deferral option is exercised, instead of the value at realisation, apparently has gone unheard. This will not pass unnoticed wherever forestry's case is pressed and clearly further work is required here to succeed with the necessary amendment.

However the most important aspect of the new measures is the improvement in the grant structure and what this means in the restoration of confidence among those involved in forestry. Grants have long been eroded by inflation and contained anomalies such as a conifer planting grant lower under Basis III than Basis II and the omission of a management grant under Basis III. The new measures are aimed at correcting these deficiencies. The new measures announced follow upon the report of the Interdepartmental Review of Forestry Taxation and Grants which was chaired by the Treasury and which was set up as Government's response to repeated pleas from the industry for action to reverse the recent decline in private planting.

Tilhill submitted written evidence to the interdepartmental review and chairman Archie Aitkins and group MD David Brierton attended at the Treasury last November to give oral evidence. One of the main constituents of Tilhill's recommendations was that a meaningful improvement in grant aid was urgently required.

YOUR NEW NEWSPAPER

by Archie Aitkins
Tilhill chairman

IN JULY Tilhill will be 29 years old. Looking back over the years of development it could be said that it has taken us a long time to reach the well based position we enjoy today. But I am proud to think we have built on private recommendation, personal service and a great sense of loyalty from all members of the staff.

Our progress has been steady, solid and sustained, and by the very nature of our development we have managed to weather the storms of recent changes in forestry policy and downturns in planting better than most. And we will continue to do so.

Landmark

"Tree Scribe" is a landmark in Tilhill's development. We have just concluded one of our most successful financial years and the directors and myself

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Since the publication of the Conservative Government's White Paper in 1972 together with the ill-starred Treasury cost benefit study and the troubles which have assailed the forestry industry since then, the new measures represent the first tangible evidence of Government's commitment to support and encourage private forestry and, as such, will be given a warm welcome by all with the interests of the forestry industry at heart.

This applies to Tilhill who, with others, have laboured to press forestry's case with the Government.

Import bill tops £2,000m

THE TGO announced in March that the British timber and wood products import bill was above the £2,000m mark for the first time last year.

Main timber imports were wood and lumber at £584m, wood pulp at £457m, paper and

board at £827m, and wood manufactures £285m.

The TGO said: "The Government must act now to give foresters an incentive to start planting again and give the British timber industry some stability."



After the stake lengths have been peeled and graded, they are pointed as shown here and banded into pre-determined bundle size, before going for air seasoning.

'LONGLYF' FENCING FROM GREENHILLS

TWO years ago the Greenhills stake and fencing unit was established — including a fully automated treatment plant — to meet the expanding market for treated fencing products, writes Marketing man Andy Chalmers.

The planning of the layout and building of the whole complex took about 15 months and was carried out by Tilhill Forestry Marketing's staff, together with various local contractors.

Tilhill have been involved in processing and selling pressure and vacuum impregnated fencing, fruit and tree stakes, hop poles, jump poles, half round post and rail fencing for about 10 years.

Raw material — about 50 tons a week — for the plant is drawn both from private estates and Forestry Commission forests in central southern England. Only pine is used as it has proved to be the most satisfactory to treat.

On arrival at the plant, the raw material is off-loaded on to ex BR truck bogies. The stake lengths are then peeled, graded, pointed and banded and bundled into pre-determined bundles by sizes.

The prepared material is carefully laid out for air seasoning. Drying time can take from 2 weeks to 14 weeks, depending on the weather conditions.

When the stock is dry enough for treatment it is loaded on to bogies for transport into the treatment cylinder. The complete treatment process is controlled automatically with average cycle time for a 4 cubic metre charge of an hour.

At the end of the charge, the treated products are ready for despatch or go as stock replacements.

All treatment is carried out to BS 4072 standard, and the material, pressure-treated with 'Celcure A' to 33lb. cu. ft/5.3kgm³ nett dry salt retention, gives a serviceable life for all products of 25 years plus.

The quality of all production is strictly controlled. This takes place from the forest through to the finished treated product.



The Highland Bear crane/tractor/trailer combination transports the stakes to stock for air seasoning.

JUBILEE PLANTING

TILHILL Forestry managing director Bob Gray is also local regional secretary of the Institute of Foresters and earlier in the year attended a ceremonial planting of five silver birch on Parliament Hill at Hampstead Heath.

The trees were presented by the institute to mark the Queen's Jubilee and the ceremony was attended by local dignitaries, the press and institute members. John Hillman of the Greater London Council received the trees on the council's behalf.

THE



Jeffrey Graham and Ian Thomson manhandle a straining post into position.



. and tension the wires of the new fence.



BORDERERS

Fencing... felling... planting

FENCING is good winter business. Bryson Middleton, Tilhill Forestry Scotland's border branch manager was supervising a contract for 3,000m on the Lothians Estate when "Tree Scribe" looked in early in February. A further 7,000m was waiting to be done on three other estates, so the pressure was on.

Two fencing teams were working in all weathers to get the job finished by the end of February.

The first team consisted of two very experienced operators — Jeffrey Graham and Ian Thomson. They were completing an awkward corner at Mossburnford which ran down to the water — the swift running Jed.

Man-handling the straining post into the hole was heavy work and the two men had a breather to explain how the next step was to place the "rance" — a local term — against the butt of the strainer jamming it in position.

Highly tuned structure

They were at pains to point out that a common fault was to position the rance too high up on the strainer, through a wrong mechanical assumption, so when tension is put on the fence wires the rance can act as a lever and push the corner post out of the ground. When strainers, rances and intermediate stakes (stobs in Scotland) are in position the fence wires are stapled and tensioned with a patent levering device.

Quite a highly tuned structure, the common fence, with its wires close enough together near the ground to keep out sheep, and tall and robust enough to contain beefy cattle.

On the other side of the hill veteran fencer and local character Sandy Robson was putting a team of three youngsters through their paces and carrying out the same procedures.

At Tilmouth Park Hotel the Borders branch was harvesting and marketing an 11 acres clearfell of mixed hardwood. It was necessary to meet an interesting set of felling and extraction problems as the timber in question stood on the banks of the river, had to be extracted through attractive parkland and loaded on lorries over a high wall.

Well judged direction

The solution lay with subcontractor Adam "Yed" Law and a two man team: his son Alastair on the chain saw and Jock Elliot operating with a Nuffield tractor and single drum winch. Additionally a Matador was on site for the wall lift.

Well judged directional felling kept the trees out of the river — the 11 acres included a stand of fair sized beech — and Bryson Middleton was pleased with the way things were going.

At Gattonside, planting was in progress. Mick Cairns, who has worked for Tilhill for many years was running the planting gang which included local man Jim Hogg and Canadian Bill Glen.

Bill has a Canadian degree in forestry and is over here to see if he prefers British forestry and social conditions for himself and family.

He had enjoyed an exceptionally mild winter and conditions on the day on the west facing slopes were relatively springlike.



Fast feed wire — spun out by Ian Thomson.



Bill Glen, Canadian forester, trying it out in Scotland.



Mike Cairns probes stony Gattonside for a hospitable pocket of soil.



Borders Branch manager Bryson Middleton shares a joke with planter Jim Hogg.

THE NURSERY — A FUNDAMENTAL FACTOR IN

Cold store helps the frost

AFTER years in commercial forestry Tilhill's continued development depends — as did its growth to date — on maintaining its high standards. Certainly a fundamental factor in the mix of forestry services and supplies is the nursery.



Larch early in February was 'flushing' already and demonstrates the need for holding larch seedlings in the cold store so that transplanting can be carried out when the danger of late frost has receded.



The plant pro

Tilhill Forestry (Nursery) Ltd., run by its managing director John White, has been in business for over a quarter of a century. The demands made on it for young trees at various stages of growth have meant that it has had to turn into one of the largest and most efficient operations of its kind in the UK.

And while it is run on good traditional, well-proven horticultural principles its modus operandi has been revolutionised by the introduction 13 years ago of a facility which is still a source of new information about the characteristics of seeds and seedlings — the cold store.

Stock loss

The cold store has become vital to minimise stock loss through unexpected late frosts and to extend the planting season in Scotland into early summer.

Without it, it is difficult to see how the ten degree Fahrenheit basic temperature difference and the conflicting climatic patterns between southern England and Scotland could be overcome serving the northern market from Surrey. Or for that matter how the imperative demand brought about by such a seasonal industry could be met.

The cold store is also useful for keeping in suspended animation the stocks of mixed forest and ornamental tree and shrub seeds which Tilhill Nurseries distribute in the UK for Martin Renz

of Emmingen, West Germany, now running at 21,000 Kgms of seed per annum.

What makes life awkward for tree nursery men, one learns, is the relatively slow growth of their raw material. Market pressures are seasonal. But as the majority of plants cannot be sold until they have had two seasons of growth — one as a seedling, one as a transplant, giving the 'one plus one' formula — response to demand is necessarily out of phase.

If you increase your sowing programme to meet this year's increased demand you may find in two years' time that you have plants left on your hands as climatic and economic factors affect the market on an annual basis. So a careful line of expansion has to be followed related to the overall growth of the industry, not fluctuating according to its momentary whims.

Seed sowing

Such problems were more acute in pre-coldstore days, John White told "Tree Scribe". But with growth safely stopped and ample storage room available, large stocks of young trees of all varieties can be held ready to cope with known and foreseeable demands during the UK-wide planting season.

The company year starts in October when the nursery, with the growing season just concluded, begins to sell its product. At the same time transplanting begins together with planning for seed sowing from February to April. Some stock is sold to other nurseries as one year seedlings, but generally plants are not sold until they are transplants e.g. 1+1 or 1+2.

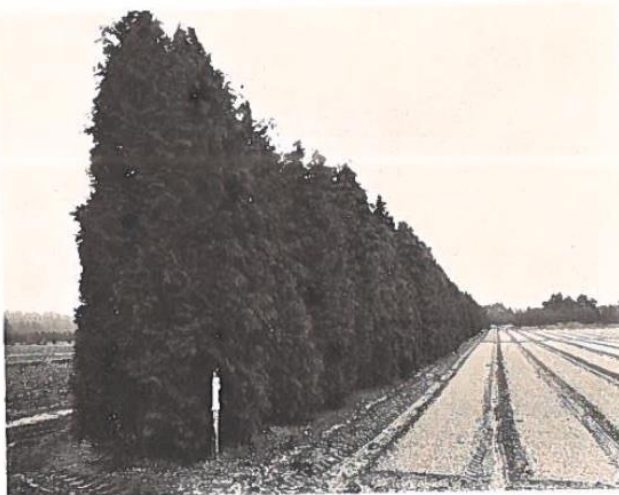
In the local climate of the Tilford district severe late frosts are a danger. The cold store is a real aid in the case of species such as oak, beech and larch which suffer badly from attack by frost in spring after they have quickened into seasonal life. So all seedlings that are lifted at one season's end are stored until the danger of late frost recedes before transplanting.

Tilhill Nursery's method is to put new seed straight into the cold store where by control of humidity and temperature



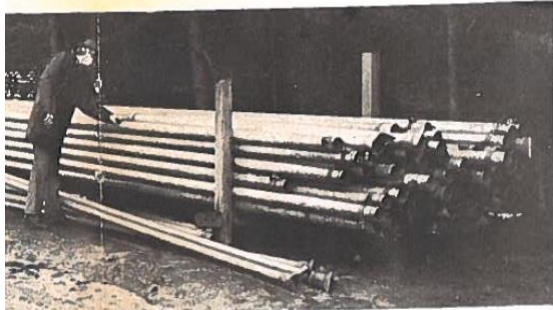
The Nisula seedling system: Tilhill executives went to Finland to make an appraisal six years ago and came back enthusiastic about it. After germination seedlings are lifted, and instead of being transplanted in the nursery are wrapped 20-25 at a time in a roll of polythene, each seedling having its own individual quantity of growing medium. The rolls are put out for a season and sold as Nisula transplants.

Nursery manager Peter Gatfield has twenty years service with Tilhill at the Greenhills nursery. He controls 35 workers including sub contractors for planting and lifting. Here he demonstrates the Nisula system which occupies eight people full time on wet days. This Corsican pine tree demonstrates the sturdy root growth developed by this means.

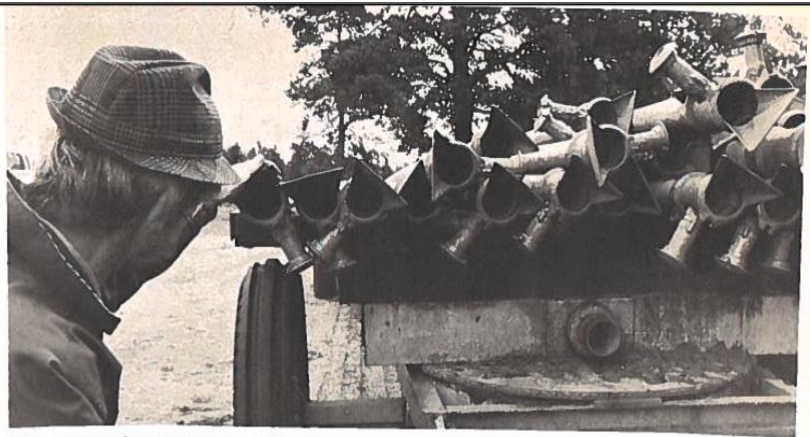


Windbreaks are very important, not only to reduce soil loss by strong winds, but also to slow down windspeed for the effects of moisture conservation and warmth.

os to beat



protection pipe stock — John White gives a pre-season check.



The nursery pipe system provides a moveable safe area of 15 acres as plant frost protection, or as irrigation — 10 acres.

it stays dormant. Germination is obtained by moving seed to a warmer place, in phase with the sowing programme and sowing is carried out when the weather is favourable.

Because of the work load some sowing has to be carried out before the final risk of late frosts has passed. However a further safeguard is at hand — frost protection by irrigation.

Alarm goes

This involved the excavation 9 years ago of a reservoir containing five million gallons of water now stocked and fished by Tilhill Anglers Club — and the provision of irrigation pipes and pumps linked to an early warning system.

A network of pipelines and sprinklers covers species susceptible to frost damage and in the chancy late spring the Tilhill nursery staff monitor local weather forecasts carefully. When the night temperature drops below the acceptable minimum an alarm is triggered in the duty nurseryman's home and he races in to switch on and stand by.

The system covers the plants with water which quickly freezes, giving a protective coating to the plants without damage. If frost were allowed to strike without the irrigation protection the moisture in the plant cell structure would freeze, damaging its tissue irreparably.

Vital role

On-going techniques on the growing side of the nursery are a fundamental part of the success of the operation. Equally, administration back-up dealing with a very high throughput of invoices and ordering plays a vital role.

Probably the most vivid way to demonstrate the division's success is to lay out the statistics:

Over 6 million seedlings and transplants were ready for sale this year and orders for most of them have already been taken for delivery this season. In addition, other seedlings and transplants are growing on to bring next season's stock to a comparable figure.

David Reade



Lifting ornamental trees and shrubs, in this case Lawson Cypress and a selection of hardwood for delivery in response to a call-up order.



Workers have been lifting and grading trees previously wrenched by tractor lifter. These are one-plus-two Scots pines. Nicholas Marett holds up an example of a transplant — a good relationship between a balanced root system and the stem.



Seed bed sterilisation: polythene traps gas from Bazamid which has been rotavated in and left for a minimum of six weeks. When white polythene was used, swans and gulls would mistake it for water and try to make a landing. Sterilisation programme is continuous on a three year cycle.

With so much stock — seedlings and transplants — in such a concentrated area and forward ordering by clients, a practice made feasible by Tilhill's forestry companies' management structure, stock control is vitally important. Mrs Eileen Brunt (left in the picture) has been carrying out this function for seven years and during this period has been joined by a part-time administration assistant, Mrs Muriel Broomhead (right).

"Ordering," said Mrs Brunt, "begins as early as August before the season has really started. But our customers may not actually need their transplants and seedlings until much later in the season."

"Although we insist that there shall be no cancellations after December without a surcharge, in fact considerable trust has been built up on both sides."

As new orders come in, existing orders are despatched and others sometimes amended, she adjusts the stock cards simultaneously, and order-acknowledgements sent to customers are based on known day-to-day stocks, all the acknowledgements being priced according to the varied species by species price catalogue.



Fork lift operator Gill Simpson leaving the cold store and about to load part of the customer's conifer order on to a waiting vehicle.





Tilhill's Scottish affiliations are well demonstrated here by Bryson Middleton and partner at the North Berwick dinner/dance.



In animated conversation at North Berwick are (left) group managing director David Brierley and his wife Joyce with distinguished guest Jack Evans, president of the Institute of Foresters and a director of Firthland Forestry, Inverness.

SCOTS' DINNER

TILHILL group chairman Archie Aitkins has, like many Scots, a somewhat wry sense of humour, as evidenced by the story he told at the Tilhill Forestry (Scotland) dinner dance, house journals/company newspapers being currently a group preoccupation:

"The Thames Water Authority," he told an amused audience which included director general of the Forestry Commission George Holmes, "ran this notice in their staff magazine: 'For the

cost of a ten-minute call from London to Reading during the peak period the authority could supply sufficient water to flush 2,500 toilets, wash a car once a week for 25 years, provide drinking water for 5,000 people for a day, water the garden for ten years, or provide a birdbath for 25 million carrier pigeons — which may be needed if the telephone charges go up any more."

"I hope 'Tree Scribe' can be used for such a valuable area of economy," he said. "Group phone bills are far too high."



The top table at North Berwick. Left to right: Robin Pegna, managing director of Scottish Timber Products, director general of the Forestry Commission George Holmes, Tilhill director Mrs Margot Aitkins and wife of Tilhill chairman Archie Aitkins at the head of the table. Tilhill Forestry (Scotland) managing director Sandy Macpherson on the right was host for the evening.



£70,000 landscape contract

LANDSCAPING director Bob Galloway announced right on our deadline that he had secured a major contract worth over £70,000 with the Department of the Environment at nearby Arborfield as landscape subcontractors to the main building contractor James Longley.

It centres on the new REME Corps secretariat, museum building, medical and dental centre to be set in the grounds of the existing army garrison.

The project to replace "temporary buildings" put up at the end of World War II covers some 50 acres of gently undulating Berkshire countryside. Tilhill will implement the landscape architect's design for integrating this modern redevelopment into its rural setting.

Soiling, seeding, turfing, bulb and tree planting and the siting of shrubs and ground cover is programmed to begin this autumn. The contract, including maintenance, runs to March 1980.

NEW COUNCILLOR

Tilhill chairman Archie Aitkins has been elected to the governing council of the Commonwealth Forestry Society at its AGM together with other distinguished foresters from Britain, F.A.O., Nigeria and the Solomon Islands.

Foresters come in all shapes and sizes but not often are the component parts as well arranged as in this version.

Lindsey Anne MacPhee BSc (Forestry) is assistant manager at Jedburgh having joined Tilhill last year.

'Tree Scribe' — your new newspaper

FROM PAGE 1

are looking for new, exciting and greater avenues for expansion and development.

You could say that the first 25 years of our existence was the "establishment phase". We were kept busy acquiring land and producing plants in the nursery for ever increasing planting programmes. We evolved our own style of five year management plans for woodland owners and afforestation clients.

It is my proud boast that the clients who started with Tilhill are still with us after all these years.

While I feel certain that an upturn in the establishment of new forests and a resurgence of planting will come about in the very near future, increasing emphasis will also rest on harvesting and marketing.

It is interesting to note that the markets today for all types of British forest produce are more varied and much greater in extent than they were in 1947. I am proud to say that Tilhill was instrumental in intro-

ducing British chipboard manufacturers to the use of small roundwood for their product.

Influence

Weyroc at Weybridge was the first to carry out experiments in chipping and testing small roundwood which subsequently led to setting up their factory at Annan.

Again it was the influence of Tilhill and its reputation that helped to make possible the formation and setting up of Scottish Timber Products' chipboard factory near Stirling against all kinds of opposition.

In forest nursery production we have pioneered and introduced many up-to-date techniques — methods of sterilising land, cold storage, including portable cold storage, tree lifting machinery, the Nissula system for forest trees and ornamental stocks, and not least we were asked to co-operate in experiments in the growing of tobacco for Rothman's, a development

with great potential for the nursery company.

Landscaping

While our planting programmes have suffered from the changes in forest policy and the CTT it is most gratifying to see how the staff adapted themselves to seeking out new related fields of activity.

We have had to learn about landscaping and its many variations by practical application. I am full of admiration for the way the staff in the face of stiff competition in this field have stuck to their job and have built up a reputation for good workmanship and reliable service. I am certain that this will continue to be a major growth area.

Finally the members of Tilhill can rest assured that the Tilhill directors are very much alive to all the possibilities of the future among which we shall see figuring prominently:

— the pursuit of the case for a

strong forest policy in Great Britain and the revival of planting activity,

— the continued expansion and development of the harvesting and marketing capacity in the marketing company which already of course is operational in all conservancies in Great Britain,

— sustained growth in landscaping services and contracts,

— the development of closer associations with the timber-using industries.

I hope that all members of the staff will contribute to future editions of the company's first in-house newspaper. New ideas, innovations and items of interest to other branches together with news about members of the staff, their interests and prowess in other fields such as sport will be welcome.

I am sure "Tree Scribe" will develop as an alive and interesting house newspaper in which everyone will want to participate and I wish the venture all success.

Shifting the Sherwood windblow

TILHILL Forestry Marketing are the main contractors in the operation seen here at Carburton, Sherwood Forest, and have purchased 7,000 cubic metres of windblow from the Forestry Commission.

Their subcontractors have shifted some 3,000 cubic metres to date including 500 tonnes for export to Sweden which left the country via Wharton's Wharf, Scunthorpe, in late March.

Here local contractor Doug Freer and his team which includes his son Roland use a Fordson Major with mounted Igland double drum winch (top right) and a Ferguson 35X with Hydratongs (right). Pole lengths are winched to a central point and converted. Ferguson plus Hydratongs move on sawlogs to rideside stack, and smaller material is restacked.

Random length sawlogs are minimum 15cms top diameter. Other material includes lengths 1.85m x 12.5cms min top diameter for panel fencing plus pulpwood and chipwood.

Stakes are 1.7m x 7.5-10cms top diameter with pointed butt end used for temporary oil and gas pipeline fencing, sometimes doubled up to maintain the purity of brucellosis-free herds of cattle.

Orders, says Tilhill regional manager John Barnes, come in from as far away as the West Country and Scotland.

So far the windblow has supplied over 20,000 pieces for this purpose.

Top quality stakes go to Tilhill's treatment plants where they are peeled, pointed and treated.

Ground clearance (bottom left) is by the Forestry Commission Volvo front end loader. Unwanted material - stumps and brash are moved into windrows to rot away to humus, cleaning the ground for re-planting.

Chris Tomlinson, one of Tilhill's local operators, talking to John Barnes (bottom right) uses a Fordson 4-wheel drive County with Atlas loader as a forwarder combination to move previously converted material to rideside.

The Tilhill windblow experience in the East Midlands has been that Corsican pine - 7,000 cubic metres at Sherwood, 4,000 cubic metres at North Lindsey (Laughton and Willingham) is easiest to work. 1500 cubic

metres of Douglas fir and Norway spruce in the soft clay soil at Bardney provided slightly greater problems. The latter is almost completed, Sherwood and North Lindsey are half-way through.





Noel Gore

REAL GROWTH ON MARKETING SIDE

Tilhill Forestry (Marketing) are on schedule for a major increase in turnover during the current financial year.

Even allowing for inflation and a degree of recovery in market place timber values this

means real growth, says managing director Noel Gore.

One major contributing factor, he says, is the strengthening of the management structure, and to co-ordinate the increased business, new headquarters offices were recently opened at Timber House, Church

Stretton, Shropshire.

The potential for growth is tremendous throughout the country, says Mr. Gore, with forests growing into yield from the post-war plantings to serve the markets at home and overseas.

With the appointment of two area managers — Murray Ure, responsible for Scotland and Northern England, and Richard Craven for Wales and the rest of England together with a strong team of regional managers — most parts of the UK mainland are now serviced by Tilhill marketing personnel. Complete coverage is an early prospect.

Timber House was refurbished to provide good working facilities for the headquarters of Tilhill Forestry (Marketing), once run jointly between Farnham and Shrewsbury.

The sister management company Tilhill Forestry also operates a branch office at these premises, as does the West Midland Treatment Company, whose treatment plant, using the "Tanalith" process, is located at nearby Ditton Priors.

This partnership of forest growers and commercial enterprise comprises the Burwarton, Willey and Colonel A. T. Maxwell's Shropshire estates, as well as Tilhill.

Under the produce name "Forest Brand" the company pressure-treats and markets fencing materials of consistently high quality — mainly posts, rails and stakes — and provides service treatment for sawn timber and roundwood. It is managed by Tilhill Forestry (Marketing) Ltd.



Murray Ure



Mike Self



Richard Cooper.

Three new appointments

THREE appointments have been announced by Tilhill Forestry (Marketing).

Murray Ure is area manager for Scotland and Northern England based at Stirling; Mike B. Self is regional manager for Southern England based at Tilford; and Canadian Richard E. Cooper is an assistant regional manager based at Thirsk, Yorkshire.

Murray Ure was educated at Jordanhill College School, Glasgow, and Aberdeen University, where he graduated with a BSc in forestry. He was commissioned in the Royal Engineers Survey Squadron and saw service in Malaya.

He spent nine years from 1960 with Wallace Bros and North Borneo Timbers in Sabah and Malaysia.

When Murray returned to the UK in 1969 he joined Tilhill Forestry (Scotland) Ltd. and after six months at Jedburgh, was appointed branch manager at Stirling. He left in 1974 to join UAC International for two tours as a forest manager, supervising an annual log production of 200,000 cubic metres in Indonesia.

He retained his house at Callander as a base for his wife and their three children. A member of the Institute of Foresters, he is a keen golfer

and curler in his spare time.

Mike Self was educated at King's School, Bruton, and Aberdeen University, where he graduated with a BSc in forestry. He then spent five years employed by the Solomon Islands Government, specialising in timber utilisation research programmes.

Between tours, in 1972/73, Mike was employed on his own behalf, engaged in the buying and selling of timber in south-west England.

A further tour in the Solomon Islands followed from 1973 to 1977, when his work included the licensing and control of sawmills and checking on logging company operations.

Mike is setting up home in the Farnham area, with his wife and three small children.

Richard Cooper was born and educated in Toronto where he graduated from the Forestry Faculty of the University of Toronto in 1973, with a BSc in forestry.

He joined the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources as a management forester in 1973 and has mainly been concerned with harvesting and utilisation over a large piece of territory north of the Great Lakes.

He is married with one child and is no stranger to British

forestry conditions, having worked in Britain in the summer of 1972 on an estate in Invernesshire.



At a wharf on the Trent near Scunthorpe 500 tonnes of British timber marketed by Tilhill Forestry Marketing goes aboard a vessel bound for Sweden. (see story page 7).