

XIII. FORESTRY

Information on forestry is provided by the Committee of Forestry.

Data on forests refer to the areas administered by the Forest Authority.

Forest area according to the Law for Forests is every area over 1 decare under natural and planted stands of trees and brushwood out of settlements.

Forestry fund covers all forest areas, including glades, meadows, barrens, fire-damaged areas, forest roads, bogs, marshes, cliffs, screes, etc., which constitute an integral part of the forest. The forest fund in Bulgaria is entirely of state ownership. The forest reserves are included in forestry fund.

State forestry fund does not include:

1. Trees outside the forest - trees in arable areas, settlements, nearby irrigation canals, mill-races, railways, roads, etc.

2. Parks and wooded area nearby the monuments and cemetery.

3. Forest shelter belts in agricultural areas, forest plantations established by enterprises, organizations, farm cooperatives on their own land or on state land, lent for temporary use.

Total forest area covers all forested and non-forested areas. Forested area is a land under natural or planted stands of trees and brushwood. The area covered with pine-scrub, varying between 2,1 and 2,3 thousand ha, is excluded from the forested area. Non-forested area includes glades, meadows, barrens, fire-damaged areas, forest roads, bogs, marshes, cliffs, rivers, etc.

Coniferous include white-pine, spruce, fir, pitch pine and other trees of seedling origin.

To non-coniferous high forest stands are referred oak, beech, hornbeam, elm, ash, lime, chestnut and others of seedling origin which are natural or artificially established (through afforestation by planting or seeding).

Coppice is forest composed of stool-shoots or root-suckers of the same species as non-coniferous high forest stands are.

Data on afforestation are based on inventory of forests. Substitution of forest-trees is a cutting of unacceptable tree species out of condition and afforestation of new ones of good quality in genetic and technical sense.

Under afforestation in mature non-regenerated forest is understood the afforestation carried out in mature forest (at age for main cutting) for which natural regeneration is not sufficient.

Afforestation of sparse forests is carried out on areas with small number of trees per unit of area.

Establishment of two-storeyed plantations means afforestation of given forested areas by planting of saplings of appropriate tree species.

Establishment of industrial plantations covers the afforestation of areas with very good soil and climatic conditions with appropriate tree species aiming at speeded accumulation of wood mass.

Establishment of special forest-trees is the afforestation of appropriate areas with fruit tree species - walnut, chestnut, almond, hazelbush.

Reforestation of crops is the afforestation of artificially established forest areas where the density of saplings is lower than the expected one.

Growing of crops includes works undertaken for supporting the initial growth of the saplings (cutting of shoots, digging, etc.).

Support of natural regeneration includes all works done in order to facilitate the germination of seeds fallen down from the trees.

Fire-precaution mineralized strips are cuttings in the forests covered with inert materials (sand, ballast and other materials) aiming at limitation of fire in fire hazard forest areas.

Main cutting is a cutting in mature plantations for timber production and natural regeneration protection.

Thinnings and cleanings are regular cuttings in young and middle aged plantations with a view to regulating their species structure improving the growing conditions and timber production.