

2.—Tenure of Occupied Productive Forest Land, by Province, 1959

(Net area in sq. miles)

Province or Territory	Provincial Crown Land			Federal Crown Land			Privately Owned Land			Total Occu- pied Pro- ductive Forest Land
	Leases and Licences	Permits and Sales	Total	Leases and Licences	Other	Total	Farm Wood- lots	Other	Total	
Newfoundland.....	14,904	—	14,904	—	—	—	58	2,005	2,063	16,967
Labrador.....	8,489	—	8,489	—	—	—	—	—	—	8,489
Island.....	6,415	—	6,415	—	—	—	58	2,005	2,063	8,478
Prince Edward Island.....	—	—	—	—	3	3	541	—	541	544
Nova Scotia.....	589	113	702	—	34	34	2,884	8,914	11,798	12,534
New Brunswick.....	10,133	722	10,855	—	414	414	3,100	9,439	12,539	23,808
Quebec.....	62,020	—	62,020	—	227	227	9,172	12,669	21,841	84,088
Ontario.....	82,539	—	82,539	—	1,269	1,269	6,003	10,188	16,191	99,999
Manitoba.....	1,488	1,056	2,544	—	355	355	2,789	1,489	4,278	7,177
Saskatchewan.....	1,362	1,250	2,612	—	592	592	4,463	1,367	5,830	9,034
Alberta.....	6,100	—	6,100	303	26	329	4,436	—	4,436	10,865
British Columbia.....	3,835	2,343	6,178	—	811	811	1,726	8,561	10,287	17,276
Northwest Territories.....	—	—	—	—	11	11	—	—	—	11
Yukon Territory.....	—	—	—	—	16	16	—	—	—	16
Canada.....	182,970	5,484	188,454	330	3,731	4,061	35,172	54,632	89,804	282,319

Section 3.—Forest Depletion

General information on forest depletion and increment as well as statistics on forest fires and fire losses are presented in this Section. The scientific control of the influences that account for wastage, such as forest fires, insect pests, etc., is dealt with in Section 4.

The average annual rate and cause of depletion of reserves of merchantable timber during the ten years 1948-57, together with annual data for 1957 and 1958, are given in Table 3. Of the total depletion of the forests in the ten-year period, 92 p.c. was utilized and 8 p.c. was destroyed by fire. (Information on the extent of damage caused by agencies other than fire, such as insects, disease and natural mortality, is not available.) The average annual utilization of 3,164,329,000 cu. feet comprised 47 p.c. logs and bolts, 40 p.c. pulpwood, 11 p.c. fuelwood, and about 2 p.c. miscellaneous products. About 6 p.c. of the total utilization was exported in the form of logs and bolts and pulpwood.

The accessible portion of the productive forests of Canada, covering an area of 714,938 sq. miles, constitutes the reserve from which forest production will be obtained for many years to come. The supply of merchantable timber on this area is estimated at 589,107,000,000 cu. feet and the utilization in 1958 of 3,049,050,000 cu. feet therefore represented 0.5 p.c. of the accessible productive volume. However, it should be noted that utilization does not occur evenly throughout the accessible productive forest area but is concentrated on the relatively small area of occupied forest land (land under lease, licence or private ownership). Thus overcutting may occur on many of these occupied areas, emphasizing the need for orderly management of all commercial forests if the forest industries are to maintain a dominant position in the Canadian economy.

The more efficient utilization of cut timber is an important factor related to forest depletion, for there is little doubt that in the past too high a percentage of the sawn log was discarded. However, changes of great significance have taken place recently in the uses of wood, permitting the utilization of sizes, qualities and species previously considered unmerchantable. The development and manufacture of rayon, cellophane and other products of the cellulose industry have extended the use of wood and the increasing production of plastic-wood products, fibre board and laminated wood has resulted in greater use of inferior grades of wood and species of trees and therefore in the more complete utilization of forest resources and the elimination of much waste.