

3.—Tenure of Occupied Productive Forest Land, by Province, 1961

(Net area in sq. miles)

Province or Territory	Provincial Crown Land			Federal Crown Land			Privately Owned Land			Total Oc- cupied Pro- ductive Forest Land
	Leases and Licences	Permits and Sales	Total	Leases and Licences	Permits and Sales	Total	Farm Wood- lots	Other	Total	
Newfoundland.....	15,245	—	15,245	—	—	—	58	1,715	1,773	17,018
Labrador.....	8,489	—	8,489	—	—	—	—	—	—	8,489
Island.....	6,756	—	6,756	—	—	—	58	1,715	1,773	8,529
Prince Edward Island.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	461	348	809	812
Nova Scotia.....	1,148	77	1,225	—	3	3	2,884	8,797	11,681	12,937
New Brunswick.....	10,386	—	10,386	—	414	414	3,100	9,439	12,539	23,339
Quebec.....	65,944	—	65,944	—	227	227	9,171	10,135	19,306	85,477
Ontario.....	82,294	—	82,294	—	1,269	1,269	6,003	10,188	16,191	99,754
Manitoba.....	1,488	1,056	2,544	—	354	354	2,789	1,489	4,278	7,176
Saskatchewan.....	1,363	875	2,238	—	592	592	4,463	1,367	5,830	8,660
Alberta.....	6,653	—	6,653	303	1,338	1,641	4,436	—	4,436	12,730
British Columbia.....	3,834	2,344	6,178	—	811	811	1,727	8,561	10,288	17,277
Northwest Territories.....	—	—	—	—	28	28	—	—	—	28
Yukon Territory.....	—	—	—	—	11	11	—	—	—	11
Canada.....	188,355	4,352	192,707	342	5,039	5,381	35,092	52,039	87,131	285,219

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 1950-59, together with annual data for 1959 and 1960, are given in Table 4. 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 3,182,229,000 cu. feet comprised 48 p.c. logs and bolts, 40 p.c. pulpwood, 10 p.c. fuelwood, and 2 p.c. miscellaneous products. About 5 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 717,817 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 588,133,000,000 cu. feet and the utilization in 1960 of 3,413,500,000 cu. feet therefore represented less than 1 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.