The provincial forest inventory, a continuous system designed to operate on a 10-year cycle, commenced its second cycle in 1971. Aerial colour photography, begun on Cape Breton Island in 1969, is being extended to the rest of the province. Remeasurement of a system of 1,765 randomly located sample plots every five years provides continuing data on growth, harvest rates and mortality.

Forest research is carried on by federal government agencies and by the Nova Scotia Research Foundation. Investigations cover stand improvement, tree nutrition, cutting methods, and insect and disease activities. Extension projects include fire prevention, a province-wide motion picture program, distribution of information on forest and wildlife conservation, promotion of the Christmas tree industry, a hunter safety program, woodlot improvement, preparation of material for the mass media, and technical assistance to sawmill operators.

New Brunswick. Of New Brunswick's 27,835 sq miles (72 092 km^2), approximately 87% is classed as forest land suitable for regular harvest. About 46% of the forest land is owned by the Crown, administered and managed by the Department of Natural Resources through its five forest districts and four support branches. The Department of Natural Resources recently took over administration of forest extension programs for privately owned woodlots.

The forest industry is of prime importance to the economy of New Brunswick, directly contributing over $220 million in value-added from primary forestry and forest-related industries and directly employing nearly 14,000 people. The total volume of standing timber is estimated at 205 million cunits (580 million m^3); coniferous species make up 70% and deciduous species the remainder. Approximately 3 million cunits (8.5 million m^3) of timber are currently harvested annually with 70% of the harvest being cut as pulpwood.

A comprehensive examination of the province's forest resources and related industry was completed in 1974. The study's conclusions and the subsequent signing of a five-year federal-provincial forestry development agreement resulted in increased emphasis on more intensive forest management. A large-scale silvicultural program has been initiated by the Department of Natural Resources and funded under the agreement. In 1976, approximately 12 million seedlings would be planted on Crown lands with a planned increase to 25 million seedlings by 1978.

New Brunswick is initiating changes in allocating the timber from Crown land. The traditional system depends on issuing forest management licences to companies or individuals for certain areas. The licences authorize the cutting and removal of forest products in accordance with plans and permits approved by the Department of Natural Resources. Royalties are paid for the timber cut.

To evaluate new methods of timber allocation a pilot area has been selected in northeast New Brunswick. A forest management licence for approximately one million acres (404,686 ha) has been cancelled and replaced by a long-term guarantee to provide annually, to the former licensee, a specified volume of standing timber for harvesting. A Crown corporation has been established to coordinate the harvesting and allocation of timber from this reserve. The wood is allocated to industries in the area on the basis of "optimum use". The remainder of the province is still on a forest management licence system.

New Brunswick carries out an aerial spraying program to protect balsam fir and spruce from the spruce budworm which has been carried out since 1952 by a Crown corporation originally sponsored by the federal and provincial governments and by several of the major forest products companies.

New Brunswick does not maintain a forest research organization but cooperates with the Canadian Forestry Service in its research program. The University of New Brunswick has undertaken a small number of forest research projects in cooperation with the National Research Council, the provincial government and other organizations. The University of New Brunswick offers undergraduate and graduate courses in forestry leading to BSF and MScF degrees. It is also responsible for the administration of the Maritime Forest Ranger School