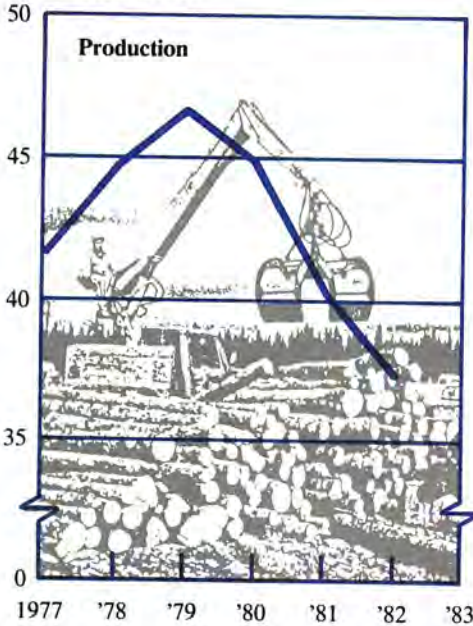
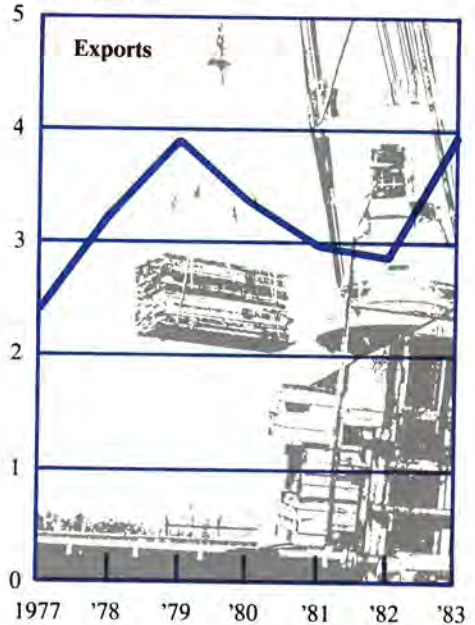


Chart 8.1
Production and exports of lumber

Million cubic metres



Billions of dollars



The forest sector makes a valuable contribution to the economy and to specific regions of the country. With strengthened resources, this sector has the potential to provide additional employment for about 100,000 workers, one-quarter of which could be in forest renewal.

In all provinces, silviculture programs promote regeneration and improvement of the forests. In Prince Edward Island, facilities include greenhouses and an in-ground nursery capable of producing up to 10 million trees per year. In Nova Scotia a tree improvement centre designed to produce genetically improved seed for a reforestation program was established in the early 1980s. A major nursery on Cape Breton Island provides stock for a large-scale reforestation of bud worm-ravaged areas through resistant species.

Under a large-scale silviculture program in New Brunswick, a total of 30 million seedlings were planted on Crown lands in 1981. This level was to be maintained for several years.

Quebec maintains some 100 million plants in nursery stock. The Laurentian Forest Research Centre works on studies to establish regeneration on cut-over forest land. The centre also established two hardwood plantations and completed studies on the growth and survival rate of black spruce seedlings in tubes.

In Ontario, 10 nurseries produced about 76 million bare root seedlings and five facilities produced 15 million container seedlings from 1980 to 1981.

In Manitoba a tree improvement program ensures seedlings are of the highest quality. About 4 million seedlings are planted annually in reforestation of Crown lands. Forest improvement by thinning, cleaning and chemical spraying removes undesirable species and encourages growth of preferred trees.

Both Saskatchewan and Alberta conduct reforestation projects on cut-over and burned-over forest land. In Saskatchewan four tree nurseries produce 12 million seedlings annually. The Alberta Pine Ridge Forest Nursery is capable of producing 20 million seedlings a year.

Several provinces have highly developed programs for fire detection and fire fighting. Nova Scotia, for example, has 35 observation towers and an aerial patrol service with five helicopters and two fixed-wing aircraft.

Quebec's energy and resources department works through regional conservation societies for protection against fire.

In Ontario, fires are detected by aerial patrols using contracted aircraft, backed up by lookout towers in recreational areas such as Algonquin Park