

Stand improvement projects, including thinning, spacing, cleaning and pruning, are increasingly being undertaken.

Prince Edward Island has begun a long-term, comprehensive forest renewal program, directed at private woodlots which make up 90% of the productive forest. In addition to the planting target of 2.5 million seedlings per year, forest renewal activities include plantation maintenance, thinning of natural stands, reclamation of non-productive sites, and the establishment of access roads, bridges and boundary lines.

In Nova Scotia, the reforestation program has doubled since 1980 with almost 18 million trees planted in 1985. Small private woodlots represent nearly 50% of Nova Scotia's productive woodlands, where silviculture programs have more than doubled, from 5 400 ha in 1980 to 12 700 ha in 1985.

In Newfoundland, a four-year federal-provincial agreement for forest resource development worth \$48 million was signed in 1985. In 1986, the provincial government undertook a pilot project to encourage private landowners in the southwestern part of the province to get involved in woodlot management.

Under a large-scale silviculture program in New Brunswick, a total of 29 million seedlings were planted on Crown lands in 1981. This level was to be maintained for several years.

Quebec is involved in natural forest regeneration projects and programs. A reforestation program, beginning in 1988, will provide for the planting of 300 million seedlings per year in a joint provincial and private enterprise operation. In addition, a network of plantations is being established to fill Quebec's needs for improved seed and research is continuing, particularly on the genetic improvement of softwoods and hardwoods and on the maintenance of plantations.

In Ontario, 10 nurseries, operated by the Ministry of Natural Resources, produced about 70 million bare root seedlings and 9 million container seedlings in 1986. Private contractors, hired by the Ministry, produced about 70 million container seedlings.

In Manitoba, a tree improvement program ensures seedlings are of the highest quality. About 12 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.

The Alberta Pine Ridge Forest Nursery has produced over 100 million seedlings since operations began in 1978. Various intensive forest management practices are employed in Alberta to improve

productivity; experimental work in wetland drainage and intensive tree improvement is underway; and improved reforestation and utilization programs are being developed.

Saskatchewan's four forest nurseries produce about 12 million seedlings a year for government and industry planting projects on forest land. The forest nurseries have three new facilities — two major pumphouses and one seedling processing/storage building.

Silviculture program spending in British Columbia amounts to nearly 50% of the provincial government's total forestry budget. The annual rate of reforestation is nearing 241 million seedlings, or five trees for every tree cut down. The new goal is to restock 75% of forest lands cleared annually, leaving 25% for natural regeneration.

Public information and awareness. In September 1985, an independent body of federal, provincial and territorial ministers was established as the Canadian Council of Forest Minister (CCFM). Its principal purpose is to stimulate essential consultation among forest industry, the public and private-landowners, on how to address the critical issues now facing forestry in Canada. A recent Gallup Poll revealed that the general public is becoming increasingly aware of the importance of the forest industry and the need to renew the forest resource. However, this poll, and others conducted by provincial governments, suggest that a large proportion of the population remains uninformed or apathetic about the value of the forest resource and the options for its management and development for the benefit of today's and future generations. In response, the CCFM has launched a national information campaign telling Canadians about their forest sector.

8.1.4 Overview of the forest industries

The forest industry is the top Canadian contributor to our balance of trade, with a \$14.3 billion net trade surplus in 1985. The forest sector which directly and indirectly employs 7% of all Canadian workers, contributes about \$33 billion to the Canadian economy in terms of the value of shipments of goods manufactured. This represents 14% of all manufactured goods in Canada.

The forest industries can be grouped into three major categories: the logging industry, the wood industry, and the paper and allied industries.

Logging industries. Table 8.5 gives the volume of wood cut in Canada by province for 1980-84. The total volume decreased steadily from 155 million m³ in 1980 to 144 and 127 million m³ in 1981 and 1982 respectively. In 1984, the volume was 167 million m³.