

# Native forestry practices in central Queensland



Central Queensland (CQ) has a diverse range of forests from wet eucalypt and rainforest to dry open woodlands, and everything in between. All forests on freehold land have the potential to be productive for forestry. However some forest types will be more productive than others and markets can influence the potential returns in some areas.

To determine the productive potential of your forest the following need to be done.

1. Determine the range of potential markets exist for the timber.
2. What are the accessible markets?
3. What are the products (log) dimensions (maximum and minimum sizes) for various markets?
4. Assess the product(s) volumes currently in your forest (inventory).

Forest practices in CQ include forest harvesting, silvicultural thinning, forest inventory, prescribed burning and many other associated activities such as roading and apiary management.

Most native forest species in CQ can be utilised for forestry in some way or another. In fact, CQ is unique in that as it has markets for smaller timber (such as for mining and landscape uses) and has good future timber prospects for more 'traditional' markets such as sawlogs and poles. This means that the options for forest management, in terms of profitable forest treatments are amongst the most diverse in Queensland, as many tree species that are considered 'non-commercial' in other areas, have some markets in CQ.

Prepared by Ross Miller, 2006



Trees that are utilised for forestry include:

Gum topped box	Poplar box
Ironbarks	Budgeroo
White cypress pine	Morton bay ash
Spotted gum/lemon scented gum	Rainforest species
Black iron box	River She oak
Rosewood	Brigalow
Lancewood	Gympie messmate
Blue gum	White mahogany
Red gum	Stringy barks
Grey gum	and many more species

These species are utilised for products such as poles, sawlogs, sleepers, fencing and landscape logs. The best way to find out if your trees are used by processors in the local area is to contact them. Locals who have sold timber and/or forestry organisations such as the Australian Forest Growers' and/or the Central Queensland Forest Association are also good sources of information.

Different log specifications (maximum and minimum dimensions) and grades apply to all forest products, which in turn; will affect the values of the product. In addition, some mills may only specialise in poles, another mill may cut sawlogs and another specialise in salvage timber.

Once information on local forest products and forest practices are determined, the forest production potential can be assessed and decisions made as to the best way to enhance and manage this resource.

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Other fact sheets in this series include:

- Native forestry practices in central Queensland
- Legislation relevant to conducting a native forest practice on freehold land
- Native forest inventory
- Steps to a successful native forestry enterprise in central Queensland
- Basic forestry principles
- Forest management planning
- Steps to a successful plantation enterprise in central Queensland.

For further  
information  
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