# Forestry Review and Outlook 2023

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# **Overview**

## Forest Sector 2021/2022

- Annual forest planting levels
- Indicative forestry returns
- Timber demand and supply
- Timber price trends

## Outlook 2023

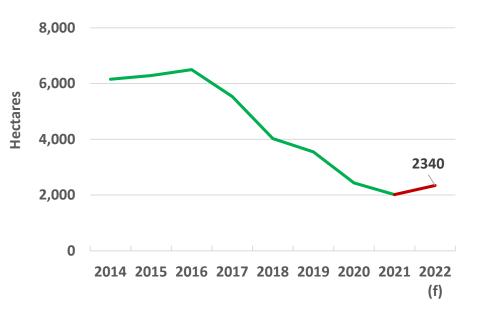
- Sustainable Forest Management supports
- Net realisable timber volumes
- Timber markets 2023
- 2023 challenges and opportunities





## **New forest creation**

#### Annual planting levels 2014 to 2020, with 2022 forecast

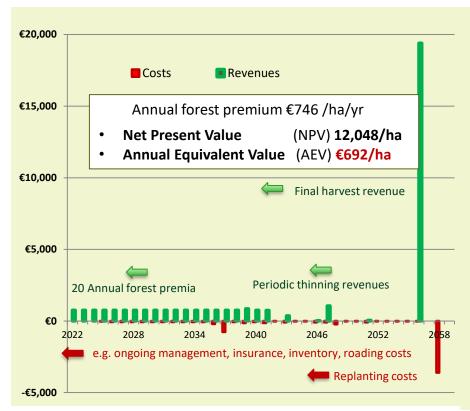


Source: DAFM (Various years)

- New Forest Programme 2023 -2027 being finalised
- Options for new forest Creation:
  - 12 Forest Types
  - Meeting economic, environmental and social objectives
  - Proposed premia increases 46 66%
  - 20 year farmer premia
- Need to support farmers and land-owners
  - Re-engagement with the forestry as a viable, complementary land use option
  - Continued progress on licensing

## **Indicative returns for proposed Forest Types (FTs)**

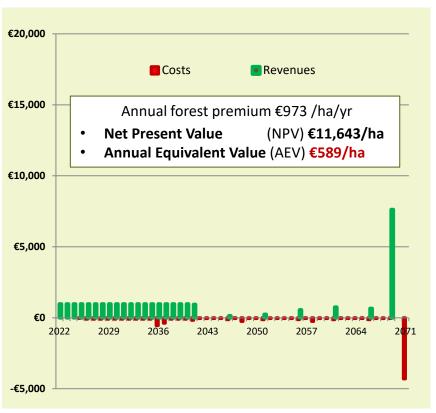
FT12 - mixed high forest with mainly spruce, 20% broadleaves



Forest Type 12: 65% Sitka spruce, Yield class 24 20% Broadleaf species, 15% Area for Biodiversity Enhancement (ABE)

(ABE = open spaces, retained habitat, hedgerows, environmental setbacks)

FT7- Productive broadleaf forest



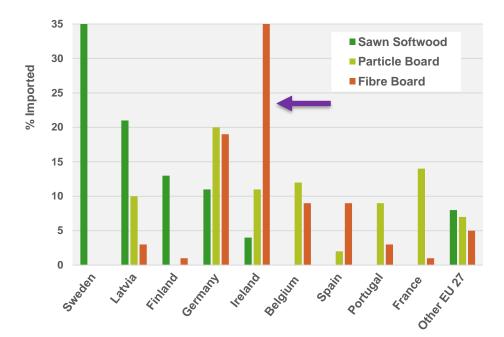
Forest Type 7: 85% Sycamore, Yield Class 8 15% Area for Biodiversity Enhancement (ABE)

## **Timber Markets**

## 2021

- Exports of 1.37 million tonnes of forest and wood based products
- Valued at €682 million

### Country of origin of wood imports to the UK, 2021



Source: Forestry Commission, 2022



# **Timber Prices**

- Published timber prices limited during 2021
- Prices have declined in 2022 from record highs in 2021
- Prices are indicative and fluctuate according to range of factors



Source: industry feedback, 2022

# **Sustainable Forest Management**

- Range of measures in draft Forest Strategy Implementation Plan
  - Woodland Improvement broadleaf thinning, conversion to Continuous Cover Forestry
  - Forest management plans
  - Native woodland conservation
  - Forestry Knowledge Transfer Group (KTG) scheme
  - Neighbourwood Scheme
  - Pilot Environmental Enhancement scheme
  - Pilot "Forest Classroom" scheme
  - Pilot "Heritage Forests" scheme





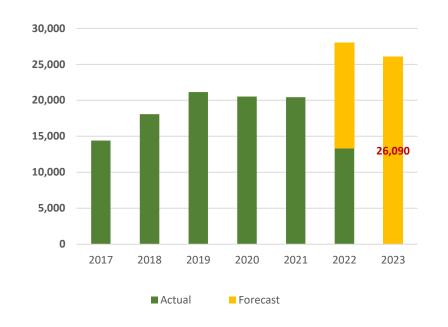


## **Domestic timber markets 2023**

BNP Paribas Real Estate Construction PMI Oct. 2019 to Nov. 2022



Dwelling completions Rol (actual and forecast) 2016-2023



Source: Tradingeconomics.com, 2022

Source: CSO and ESRI 2022

# **International timber markets 2022/2023**





Source: globalwoodmarketsinfo.com

Increasing need for low-carbon construction materials - Source: Timber Development UK



Source: UK Construction Products Association, 2022

# **2023 Challenges and Opportunities**



#### **New forest creation**

- Support to farmers and landowners
- Awareness raising of highly attractive opportunities

#### Sustainable management and timber mobilisation

- Support capacity building for forest owners to optimise, economic, environmental and social benefits of forests
- Urgent need for forest certification

#### Ash forests

 Feedback re availability of additional supports for owners of forests with Ash Dieback

#### **Timber demand**

- Forecast of 26,000 housing completions in Ireland 2023
- Challenges in UK timber market, optimise opportunities





