

A List of Timber Trees suitable for Artificial Plantations and Forests in New Zealand.

Pinus— pectinata cephalonica Nordmanniana Webbiana grandis amabilis excelsa Lambertiana Douglassii Ayacahuite communis Morinda Menziesii sylvestris leiophylla Strobus Coulteri Canariensis Jeffreyi insignis Sabiniana ponderosa radiata	Pinus— Laricio Austriaca Pinaster nobilis rigida. Cedrus— Deodara. Cupressus— macrocarpa Lawsoniana torulosa. Thuja— gigantea. Araucaria— excelsa imbricata. Sequoia— Wellingtonia	Sequoia— sempervirens. Taxodium— distichum. Larix— Kämpferii Europæa. Casuarina— quadrivalvis. Quercus— pedunculata Cerris macrocarpa alba Suber Sideroxylon. Populus— monilifera fastigiata	Populus— alba nigra. Fagus— sylvatica. Fraxinus— excelsior Americana. Ulmus— campestris Americana. Eucalyptus— amygdalina obliqua piperita marginata Siderophloia crebra globulus botryoides	Eucalyptus— rostrata resinifera Gunnii diversicolor maculata coccifera. Juglans— regia cinerea. Carya— tomentosa alba. Castanea— sativa. Acer— pseudo-platanus saccharinum macrophyllum platanoides.
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Native Trees.

The following are of more easy culture than the majority of native trees, and are kept in stock in the principal nurseries, but are not recommended for indiscriminate planting.

Phyllocladus— trichomanoides.	Podocarpus— Totara.	Fagus— fusca Solandri Menziesii.
Libocedrus— Bidwillii.	Dammara— australis.	

Trees suitable for Street Planting, Avenues, &c.

Quercus— Suber Ilex Cerris Toza.	Tilia— Europæa Americana.	Corynocarpus— lævigata.
Platanus— occidentalis.	Eucalyptus— platyphylla Gunnii.	Ficus— macrophylla.
Gymnocladus— Canadensis.	Liriodendron— tulipifera.	Casuarina— quadrivalvis.
		Grevillea— robusta.

ANNUAL CONSUMPTION OF TIMBER—EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

It is very difficult to estimate, even approximately, the annual consumption of timber and firewood in New Zealand, but it must be very large and daily increasing. The replies received from the Commissioners of Crown Lands on this point are very vague, and it will be seen by a reference to the statement that in only four instances* do they even attempt to answer my query No. 7, and that in a very general manner. The Commissioner for Taranaki goes most into detail, and estimates the consumption of his district at upwards of twenty millions of superficial feet of timber, forty-five millions of superficial feet of firewood (93,750 tons) per annum. He sets down the total consumption at 6,802,083 cubic feet, and estimates that ten millions of superficial feet of timber having an economic value, are annually destroyed in clearing. The Commissioner of Hawke's Bay gives the general requirements of his district at upwards of seven million superficial feet; Westland, at 1,200,000; and Southland at twelve million superficial feet; whilst the Commissioners of Auckland and Otago give the annual consumption of firewood alone at 25,000 tons (for the town of Auckland only), and 150,000 cords (480,000 tons) respectively. The annual requirements for Government works are estimated for six provincial districts†, omitting Wellington, Marlborough, and Auckland, for which there are no returns, at upwards of seven millions of superficial feet; whilst the Chief Engineer gives the probable requirements of railway sleepers at 20,000 in 1880, 75,000 in 1885, and 175,000 in 1890—each sleeper being 1·7 cubic feet, and the timbers required being kauri, totara, puriri, black pine, and beech (*F. fusca*).

A perusal of those returns serves but to show how large the general consumption must be; and the out-turn of the saw-mills, so far as we have been able to collect it, given in the next section, fully corroborates this view, especially when we consider the large quantities consumed by settlers for fencing, &c., of which no returns, however vague, can be expected.

It will form one of the first duties of the forest officers to collect accurate information and compile statements of the annual requirements of the colony, both for Government works and general purposes, in order that we may know how we stand for the present, although in a colony like this, rapidly increasing in prosperity and the number of its inhabitants, such returns will form little or no guide to what the consumption will be twenty or even ten years hence.

Turning to the exports and imports of timber, and what we style minor forest produce, I find that they stood as per following statement for 1875, compiled from the official statistics of New Zealand for that year:—

* Taranaki, Hawke's Bay, Westland, and Southland. † Taranaki, Hawke's Bay, Nelson, Canterbury, Westland, and Otago.