

TABLE 4.
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS IN PLANTATIONS AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1937.

Plantation.	Year of Commencement	New Area planted, 1936.	Total Net Area planted.	Gross Area of Plantation.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Waipoua	1925	294	1,364	12,600
Puhipuhi	1904	..	871	1,558
Riverhead	1926	..	11,029	11,956
Maramarua	1928	..	12,303	14,087
Tairua	1930	33	10,634	48,510
Whakarewarewa	1898	..	8,033	10,073
Waiotapu	1901	..	7,051	7,974
Kaingaroa	1913	5,568	259,193	327,931
Erua	1930	224	2,937	5,592
Karioi	1927	..	17,196	33,689
Golden Downs	1927	47	19,292	22,527
Westland	1922	..	3,000	5,839
Hanmer	1901	74	7,775	10,372
Balmoral	1916	311	21,074	24,000
Eyrewell	1928	34	18,340	19,266
Naseby	1900	..	3,009	4,032
Dusky	1898	..	4,470	6,866
Conical Hills	1903	..	3,612	3,798
Pukerau	1915	..	565	628
Blue Mountains	1925	..	8,775	9,661
Pebbly Hills	1930	..	4,353	5,330
Minor areas	1875-1935	116	1,287	6,492
Totals	..	6,701	426,163	592,781

5. SALES OF TIMBER.

The improvements in the sawmilling industry reported for the year 1935-36 continued during the year just closed, with the result that sales of milling timber under all heads (including Warden's areas) numbered 146; the volume of timber sold was 107,429,600 board feet and the value £124,522.

A great quantity of fencing material, posts, strainers, droppers, &c., firewood, and other miscellaneous forest produce was sold under splitting permits. A brisk demand for fencing-posts was particularly noticeable, due probably to the various Government and Native land development schemes; indeed, in certain parts of the North Island the retail price of posts has made their purchase almost prohibitive.

For comparison purposes the following table shows statistics of timber sales for the past five years:—

Year.	Number of Sales.	Quantity sold.	Sale Price.
		Board Feet.	£
1932-33	51	32,314,954	35,633
1933-34	83	49,026,302	52,118
1934-35	117	65,302,700	71,243
1935-36	130	102,219,800	131,447
1936-37	146	107,429,600	124,522

The total year's cut of milling timber from State forests, including Warden's areas, was approximately 111,700,000 board feet, an increase of 27,700,000 ft. over the figures for the previous year.

From all sources the volume of timber cut is estimated to be 320,000,000, of which 37 per cent. was cut from State forests and the remaining 63 per cent. from private and Native-owned forests.

6. WEST TAUPO TIMBER LANDS.

A Forestry officer continued the regular patrol of these lands, by arrangement with the Native and Lands and Survey Departments (*vide* report for 1935-36), and one case of trespass was reported to the Aotea Maori Land Board. These periodical inspections have resulted in the gradual suppression of the unauthorized tree-felling, vandalism, &c., which, unfortunately, was almost impossible of detection in former years owing to the isolation of the blocks and the lack of supervision.