

## Measuring Procedures for timber sales contracts

### Application

1. This is version 0.1 of these procedures and where they are referenced in version 0.1 of the terms and conditions of Forestry England's sales contracts for 'Forest Products' and for 'Standing Trees and Other Products to be Harvested', these procedures are incorporated into those terms and conditions.
2. These procedures apply to contracts for the sale of all forestry Products whether they are standing trees, roundwood or other Products (such as biomass, fibre or residues).
3. Nothing in these procedures can or is intended to change or affect the provisions in the sales Contracts. These procedures set out, for the avoidance of doubt, how certain Contract provisions are to be implemented.
4. "You" (and other terms used in this document) are as defined herein or in the Contract.
5. The standard terms and conditions for timber sales contracts along with these procedures and other incorporated documents and information are held on Forestry England's Contract Documents Webpage at <https://www.forestryengland.uk/timber/contract-documents>

### Contractual requirements

6. Forestry England will state in the Lot information and Conditions how the tree or Products have been, or are to be, measured for the purposes of sale and You must make Your Bid on that basis.
7. Where the sale requires You to weigh the Products and You fail to weigh any Product correctly or fail to verify the weight in accordance with the Contract, Forestry England is entitled to use other measurement methods to assign a Weight Ticket weight to those Products in accordance with the Contract, and demand payment.
8. Where Forestry England needs to measure Products, You must facilitate that process.

### Reference documents

9. The Forestry Commission "**Forest Mensuration Handbook**": A handbook for practitioners, 2006, ISBN 0-85538-621-5 (or any such other publication as may amend or replace it from time to time that is in effect at the time of the sale) will be the basis for the measurement of all Forestry England timber sales contracts.
10. For clarity, the Forestry Commission "Timber measurement Field Guide" 2008, ISBN 978-0-85538-749-5 is an abridged summary of the Forest Mensuration Handbook.

### Measuring procedures

11. Any of the measuring methods described in the Forest Mensuration Handbook may be used by Forestry England to create the Lot Information and Conditions prior to sale and the method used will be stated.
12. Generally, and unless otherwise stated in the Lot Information and Conditions the following methods will be used by Forestry England;
  - a. The volume of standing trees will be measured using a full or abbreviated tariff method.

- b. The volume of conifer logs up to 8.3m long will be measured under-bark using the top diameter x length method.
  - c. The volume of hardwood logs and conifer logs over 8.3m long will be measured over-bark using the mid diameter x length method.
  - d. The volume of stacked material will be measured using the average stack dimensions and the appropriate conversion factor from the Forest Mensuration Handbook.
  - e. The weight of Produce will be measured using the Weighing Procedures.
  - f. Conversion from over-bark to under-bark measurements will use a species-appropriate conversion factor taken from the Forest Mensuration Handbook or, where agreed, from scanner data at the mill.
  - g. Conversion between weight and volume measures will use a species appropriate, fresh-felled conversion factor taken from the Forest Mensuration Handbook or, where agreed, from periodic analysis of scanner data from the mill.
13. Where the Products being bought and sold under the Contract are not covered by the Forestry Mensuration Handbook (such as residues) and the weighing of any Load is not practicable then Forestry England will estimate the quantity and tell You how the estimate was made.

## Measured Load

14. If under the Weighing Procedures Forestry England agrees to measure a Load rather than require You to weigh it, Forestry England will agree with You a date and time that the measurement will take place and invite You to attend to confirm the measurements and the conversion factor if You wish to do so. In any event You agree to accept Forestry England's measurements of the Products provided there is no apparent error.
15. Measurement of logs must take place before (or at the same as) loading. Forestry England will not measure the Products by any method after they have been loaded and You must either unload to permit measurement or dispatch the Load and weigh it in accordance with the contract.
16. The measured volume of the Products will be converted to a weight by Forestry England as in point 12 and You will be informed of that weight and You must follow Forestry England's Dispatch Procedures and record that weight as the Weight Ticket Weight for the measured Load and pay for it in accordance with the Contract.
17. You will not be required to produce a Weight Ticket for a measured Load, but You will be required to pay Forestry England's additional costs for measuring that Load in accordance with the Contract and as set out in the Administration Costs information on the Contract Documents Webpage.
18. Where a number of Measured Loads are agreed in advance Forestry England may, if it is agreed in writing, agree to measure a some of the Loads and assign a weight to a number of subsequent Loads, for example, 1 in 5 or 1 in 10.
19. Where Forestry England offers to sell a number of Loads of Products by volume (for example, two loads of oak Logs) this measured Load procedure will apply but the conversion to weight will not be required.

## Stack Measure

20. Where Forestry England decides to sell stacked Products in a Lump Sum sale then the measurement of the volume of the Products will be by stack measure.

21. Also if Forestry England needs to measure Your stacked Products for any reason in accordance with the Contract, this will be done where possible by stack measure. In this case Forestry England will determine a date and time that the measurement will take place and invite You to attend to confirm the measurements and the conversion factors if You wish to do so. In any event You agree to accept Forestry England's measurements and selection of conversion factors provided there is no apparent error.
22. A stack measure involves measurement of the average dimensions of the stack of Products. The derived stack volume is then reduced by an appropriate 'solid:stacked' conversion factor to allow for the spaces between the Products. The stack dimension measurements will follow the method described in the Forest Mensuration Handbook. The solid:stacked conversion factor will be determined by Forestry England using Method 2 in the Forest Mensuration Handbook (an unscaled grid placed over a sample image, or images, of the stack face) or by using an estimated factor that is agreed with You.
23. Any required conversion to a weight will be as per point 12.
24. If You are in breach of the Contract and point 20 applies You will be required to pay Forestry England's additional costs for measuring the stacked Products in accordance with the Contract and as set out in the Administration Costs information on the Contract Documents Webpage.

### Moisture content adjustments

25. Where a measured volume is to be converted to weight for payment purposes as per point 20 the moisture content will be assumed to be that of fresh felled material and You must pay for the assigned weight in accordance with the Contract.
26. Once a measured volume has been converted to a weight for payment, Forestry England will require payment at that weight and will not later adjust it if You later weigh the Products that have been measured.
27. The sale of Products based on dry-weight will be at Forestry England's discretion and will be managed only by using an agreed procedure to periodically determine an average conversion factor based on regular and accurate measurements of the actual dry weight of the Products. The agreed conversion factor will be used to estimate the dry weight of the Products in each load that is weighed.

### Products not recovered

28. In accordance with the Contract should You not recover significant quantities of saleable Products and do not remove the Products for weighing and payment after receiving notice to do so, Forestry England may estimate the weight of those Products not recovered and demand payment for them. In this case the methods used may be any reasonable methods that Forestry England decides, which may include sampling, extrapolation and estimation.
29. Forestry England will determine a date(s) and time(s) that the measurements will take place and invite You to attend to confirm the measurements and the conversion factors if You wish to do so. In any event You agree to accept Forestry England's measurements and conversion factors provided there is no apparent error.
30. Forestry England will use best endeavours and will utilise the methods and conversion factors in the Forest Mensuration Handbook as much as possible. Forestry England will tell You how the measurement was done and notify You of the weight of Products not recovered that You must then pay for.

## Scanners

31. Forestry England will, in certain circumstances (such as a Long-Term Contract) and where agreed in writing, accept a measurement of the Product by Your sawmill's scanners before it enters the mill line, before or after debarking. Your scanner's measure of a complete and specific Load will be used periodically to determine or verify the conversion factor from weight to volume, only where it suits You to buy by volume, and it suits Forestry England to sell by weight. Because of the potential to mix the Products with others in the mill yard in error, the use of mill scanners is not accepted by Forestry England as a suitably verifiable measure upon which to buy and sell the Products.

## Harvesting heads

32. Measures of the Product made by the harvesting machine are not accepted by Forestry England as a suitably accurate or verifiable measure upon which to buy and sell the Products.

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