

FSC Certified Plantations

Overview of the FSC Plantation Portfolio

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Plantations Portfolio Overview

Starting Point

- What would we like to know?
- What information is available?

Data Source

- FSC certificates currently classified as “plantations”
- Reports submitted by certification bodies



Opportunities and Constraints

Constraints

- Plantations definition
- 163 certificates
- Variability in the data
- Coarse filter analysis



Opportunities

- Certain level of consistency exists
- Much useful information contained in reports
- Capacity exists to generate overview



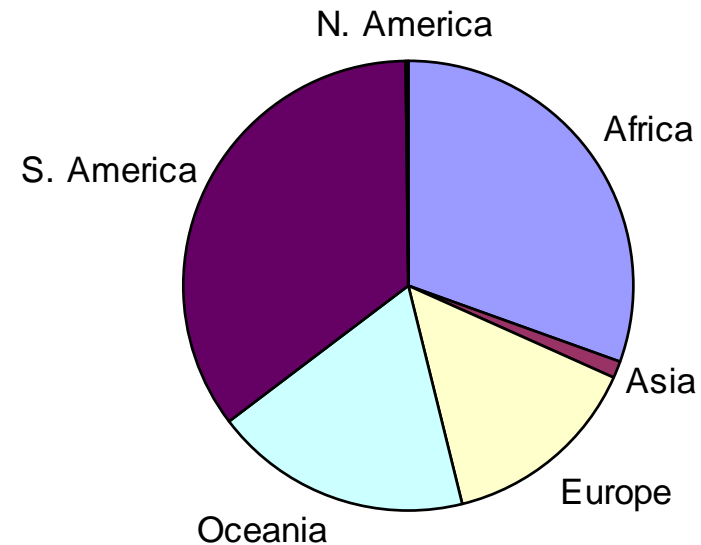
Distribution of Certificates

- 163 Certificates
 - 36 Northern Hemisphere
 - 127 Southern Hemisphere
 - 20 group certificates
- 28 countries
- All continents and regions
 - certain areas predominate



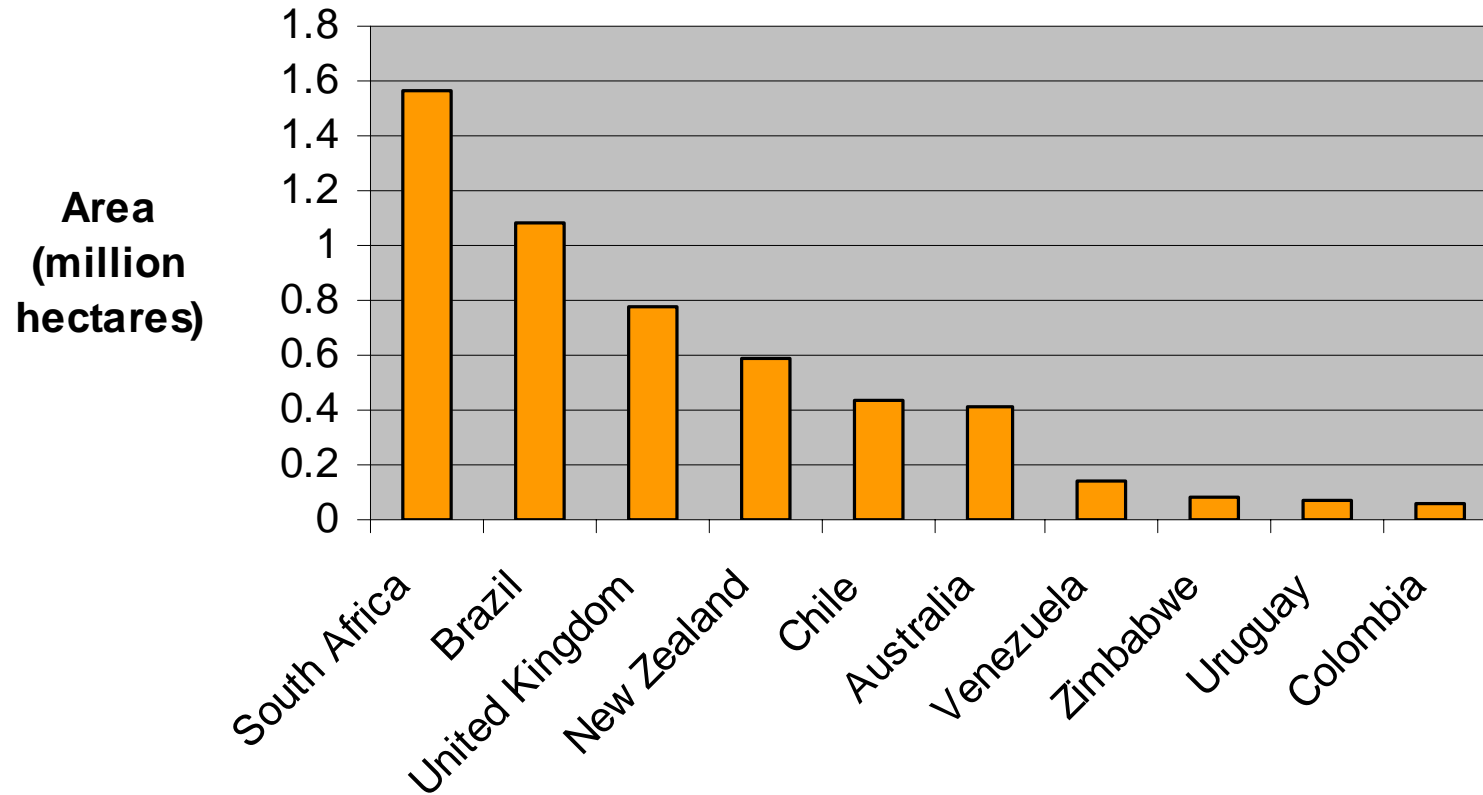
Area by Regions

- 5,445,733 hectares total
- Hemispheres
 - South 4,608,410
 - North 837,323
- S. America 1, 909,463
- Africa 1,868,398
- Oceania 1,001,202
- Europe 798,383
- Asia 49,551
- N. America 18,736





Predominant Countries





Management Areas

Total Certified Area

- 72 % production
- 23 % conservation

Median Values per Plantation

- 76 % production
- 16 % conservation

Maximums

- 98% production
- 93% conservation





Wood Fiber Production

Production Areas

- 11 m³ per hectare per year average
- 30 m³ per hectare per year maximum





Species Planted

- Exotic species cover 91% of production areas
- 35 plantations (16% total area certified) use one species for production





Ecosystem/ Land Use Immediately Prior to Establishment

- 43% degraded lands/ minimally productive agricultural lands
- 43% mix of natural habitats and degraded lands
- 16% established on natural habitats
 - 82% of natural habitats replaced are non-forested
- 35% established prior to 1950



Employment on Plantations

- 142 hectares employs one person on average
- Greatest employment – 3.7 hectares
- Least employment – 422 hectares
- 58% of workers are contractors – varies from 0-94 %





Contributions to Infrastructure

- 88% of certificates noted contributions to infrastructure
- Includes
 - financial and material support to community organizations
 - medical clinics, schools
 - maintenance of public roads
 - employee accommodation most common



Public Access and Multiple Use

Access

- 61 % open access
- 31 % limited access
- 8 % restricted access

Other Local Uses

- 10 % no other use
- 38 % non-consumptive uses only
- 52 % consumptive and non-consumptive use
 - e.g. firewood, thatch, non-timber product collection, grazing, agriculture





Conclusions

- Difficult to generalize about FSC certified plantations
- FSC reports have been written to demonstrate the Principles and Criteria are met, and not to provide quantitative information for research
- It may be useful to require in the future, consistent reporting of some basic quantitative parameters