

Broadleaf Forestry Research

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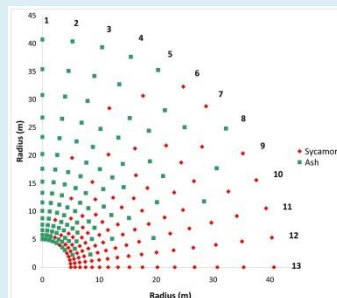
Context

- The national forest estate \approx 11% of land area.
 - Industry main focus is on Sitka spruce
 - $> \frac{1}{4}$ of forest area is broadleaf
 - Broadleaf planting increased from mid 1990s, planted by private owners
 - Broadleaf silviculture knowledge is limited
- Many broadleaf stands are poor quality
 - Incorrect species choice for site
 - Poor quality planting stock
 - Lack of timely management
 - Pests (e.g. squirrel), disease (e.g. 'Chalara' ash dieback)
 - Management options
 - Thinning
 - Remedial silviculture

RMIS project

Management, monitoring and dissemination of long-term broadleaf silviculture trials

- Establishment of broadleaf mixtures
 - Shelter-in-advance
 - Configuration
 - Spacing
- Tending/Thinning



- Remedial silviculture
 - Free-growth
 - Underplanting
 - Coppice-with-standards
 - Coppicing of oak
- Demo days for industry and farm-foresters
- Shade tunnels
 - Impact of light on tree growth
 - Four levels of shade
 - Previously planted with oak, beech and ash
 - Replanted with birch and sycamore



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including erection of shade tunnels