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FOREST SERVICE, U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, 6816 MARKET STREET, UPPER DARBY, PA.

## A PREVIEW OF OHIO'S FOREST RESOURCE

*Abstract.* The recent Forest Survey reveals that there has been a 933,000-acre increase in commercial forest land, a 32-percent increase in the cubic-foot volume of growing stock, a 30-percent increase in the board-foot volume of sawtimber, and an excess of net growth over removal since the 1952 inventory.

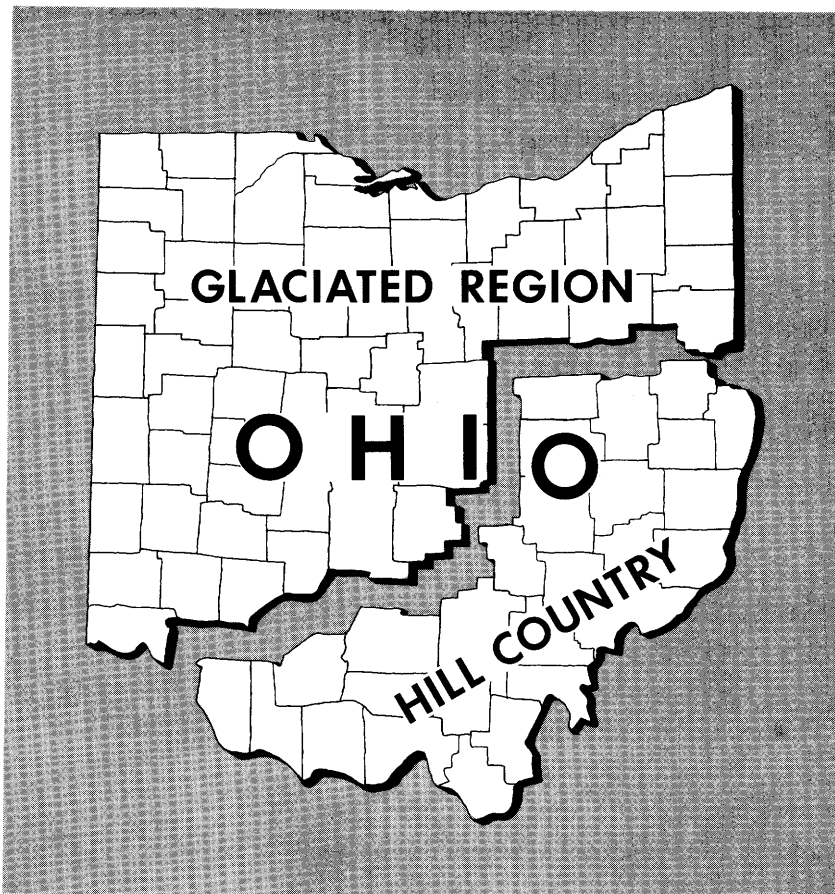
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The recently completed re-inventory of the timber resource of Ohio indicates that several noteworthy changes have occurred since the initial inventory in 1952. Statistical-analytical reports for the Hill Country and for the State, presenting in detail the current forest situation and the apparent trends since 1952, are being prepared for publication. These comprehensive reports will contain detailed data for 5 geographical units and area and volume data for all 88 counties.

One notable change for the State is the 933,000-acre increase in commercial forest land area. The current total of 6.3 million acres of commercial forest land is 24 percent of the total land area of Ohio. The change in forest land area was not uniform throughout the State. The Hill Country region increased 32 percent, to 4.4 million acres. The Glaciated region decreased slightly, to 1.9 million acres.

The timber-volume data<sup>1</sup> reveal a 32-percent increase in cubic-foot volume of growing stock and a 30-percent increase in the board-foot volume of sawtimber during the 16-year period between inventories. The current cubic-foot volume of 4.2 billion cubic feet is over 95 percent hardwood. Hardwood comprises more than 95 percent of the 14.6 billion board feet of sawtimber. The oaks and hickory comprise a major portion of the hardwood volume in both cubic feet and board feet.

<sup>1</sup>The 1952 inventory volume data have been adjusted to conform with 1968 standards in order to make the two inventories directly comparable.



Data on average annual growth, removal, and mortality reveal that the current net growth exceeds removal. The average annual cubic-foot net growth is 132.8 million cubic feet, and the average annual removal is 70.5 million cubic feet (almost a 2 to 1 ratio). The average annual board-foot net growth is 422.0 million board feet, and the average annual removal is 209.5 million board feet. For softwoods alone, the net annual growth is 14.0 million board feet and the removal is 12.5 million board feet.

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**Table 1. Area of commercial forest land by ownership classes and geographic regions, Ohio, 1968**

Ownership	Thousands of acres		Sampling error in percent of cell total <sup>1</sup>	
	Hill Country	Glaciated Region	Hill Country	Glaciated Region
National Forest	112.3	—	—	—
Other Federal	—	8.7	—	—
State	191.6	31.1	—	—
County and municipal	—	4.0	—	—
Total public	303.9	43.8	—	—
Forest industry	126.8	—	16	—
Farmer-owned	1,673.0	1,014.9	4	8
Miscellaneous private	2,277.6	889.2	3	9
Total private	4,077.4	1,904.1	1	4
All ownership	4,381.3	1,947.9	1	4

<sup>1</sup> There are no sampling errors for areas in public ownership. Acreages were obtained from public records.

**Table 2. Net volume of growing stock on commercial forest land by species and geographic regions, Ohio, 1968**

Species	Millions of cubic feet		Sampling error in percent of cell total	
	Hill Country	Glaciated Region	Hill Country	Glaciated Region
Softwoods	110.1	5.8	14	*
Select white oaks	444.3	148.7	4	16
Select red oaks	197.4	115.5	6	16
Other white oaks	245.0	7.0	7	**
Other red oaks	357.0	75.2	5	22
Hickory	304.1	178.4	5	15
Hard maple	124.5	115.4	8	19
Soft maple	90.8	136.6	9	16
Ash	127.1	142.3	7	10
Yellow-poplar	250.0	15.8	8	30
Elm	159.9	84.0	8	16
Other hardwoods	476.6	269.4	4	11
All species	2,886.8	1,294.1	1	4

\* Sampling error of 50 to 99 percent.

\*\* Sampling error of 100 percent or more.

**Table 3. Net volume of sawtimber on commercial forest land by species and geographic regions, Ohio, 1968**

Species	Millions of board feet <sup>1</sup>		Sampling error in percent of cell total	
	Hill Country	Glaciated Region	Hill Country	Glaciated Region
Softwoods	338.2	11.3	15	**
Select white oaks	1,661.4	698.2	5	17
Select red oaks	804.2	435.4	6	17
Other white oaks	811.4	35.0	8	**
Other red oaks	1,433.8	301.2	5	24
Hickory	804.7	440.4	6	18
Hard maple	373.8	436.5	10	22
Soft maple	262.2	520.2	12	18
Ash	389.2	468.5	9	13
Yellow-poplar	1,017.5	81.6	9	30
Elm	425.9	314.6	10	19
Other hardwoods	1,477.6	1,008.8	5	13
All species	9,799.9	4,751.7	2	5

<sup>1</sup> International ¼-inch rule.

\*\* Sampling error of 100 percent or more.

**Table 4. Average annual change on commercial forest land by species group, Ohio, 1951-67**

Major components	Thousands of cubic feet		Thousands of board feet <sup>1</sup>	
	Softwoods	Hardwoods	Softwoods	Hardwoods
Mortality	1,300	25,700	4,000	69,000
Net growth	4,200	128,600	14,000	408,000
Removals	2,700	67,800	12,500	197,000

<sup>1</sup> International ¼-inch rule.

