

ACADIA RESEARCH FOREST: A LIVING LABORATORY

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The Acadia Research Forest (ARF) is located approximately 25 km (16 miles) east of Fredericton, NB where the main office of the Atlantic Forestry Centre (AFC) is situated. It is the AFC's outdoor forestry facility and it comprises about 9000 ha (22,230 acres) of softwood, hardwood, and mixed forests of both the Grand Lake and Eastern Lowlands ecoregions. Since its establishment in 1933, many different experiments, studies, and projects have been conducted in various research disciplines or themes. The original purpose of the research forest was to research and demonstrate good forest management for greater productivity, sustained yield, and economic benefit (Place 1992). Sustainable forest management has been actively practiced and demonstrated since the founding days of the AFR. In the early 1930s, Canada's Department of the Interior used it for unemployment relief projects and the National Forestry Program to set up and establish long-term silvicultural experiments and demonstrations (Thompson 1955, Place 1992). During the early 1940s, many long-term silvicultural experiments and demonstrations were established by internees of a World War II internment camp that was set up at the ARF by the Department of National Defense. In the 1950s and 1960s, concerns about clearcutting resulted in the establishment of a number of long-term alternative silvicultural studies. Tree improvement experiments were established in the 1960s and 1970s. Since the 1980s, several experiments and studies have been established at the ARF to respond to environmental policy concerns over air pollution, global change, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity. This poster illustrates some of the past and current long-term experiments conducted in the ARF; it supplements the oral presentation.

More information is available at the following website:

<http://www.atl.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/index-e/who-e/role-e/role-e/acadia-e.htm>.

Literature Cited

Place, I.C.M. 1992. **Experiment forests in Canada: policy, problems, and commitment.** In: Proceedings of experimental forests workshops. Forest Research Development Agreement (FRDA) Report 202: 43–46.

Thompson, C.C. 1955. **The Acadia Forest Experiment Station.** Canada Department of Northern Affairs and Natural Resources, Forestry Branch Miscellaneous Publication No. 5. 19 p.