
Sources of wood fibre

Biomass in the form of wood fibre, currently used as heat plant fuel or for the production of engineered wood products such as MDF panel board, is also emerging as a feedstock for the production of [biofuels from biomass](#). Wood fibre is also used for the extraction of [biochemicals](#) for the production of bio-based materials to replace plastics such as which are currently produced from fossil fuel sources.

Sustainability

In New Zealand the forestry sector and the environmental NGO's signed the [New Zealand Forest Accord](#) in 1991. The Accord protected indigenous forest from clearance and conversion to plantations and supported plantations as legitimate land use that had economic and environmental benefits to New Zealand society. The Accord has been a good thing for both plantation forestry businesses and the environment. It supports the common view that New Zealand's economic and environmental performance are "joined at the hip". We need a pure/green New Zealand image to underpin both our safe food exports and our tourism that together make up the bulk of our export earnings. Plantation forests are an absolutely complimentary land use on farms. All our primary commodities, including pine logs, experience cyclical swings in price. But these swings happen at different times. A mix of land use at the individual farm level provides financial resilience.

The role of forestry in addressing climate change has only increased in importance. The country commitments made in Paris in 2015 were heavily reliant on forestry. It is wood products as well as the growing trees that have such an important role to play for New Zealand's climate mitigation efforts. The profitability of forestry, and also the GDP contribution we make by processing more logs onshore, is also closely linked to domestic wood markets, as without profitable wood processing we are subject to additional risk from volatile and very concentrated export log markets. The healthy forestry and wood processing sectors are an important source of the best quality wood fuel.