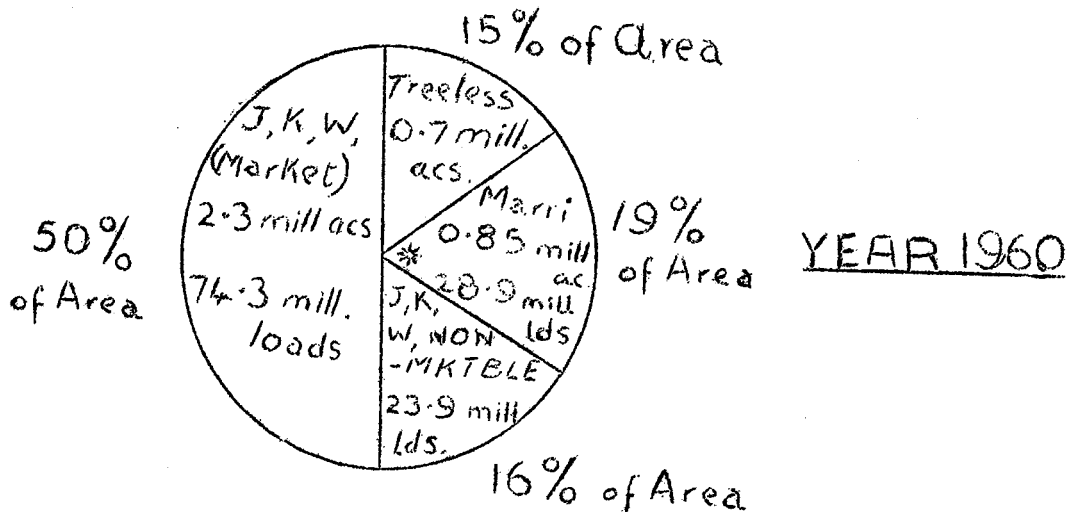


THE 1960 INVENTORY OF FOREST RESOURCES

By A. J. Williamson

In 1960 Western Australia became the first State in Australia to produce a forest inventory to National standards. The figures presented in this inventory explain the current departmental activity in the silvicultural fields of Karri cull falling and Jarrah thinning, as well as investigations into Jarrah and Marri cull falling. The importance of this work is shown diagrammatically in the following two "wheels".



STATE FORESTS AND TIMBER RESERVES

4.6 Million acres - 1960

* Assuming the area occupied is proportional to the volume present.



AV

Comments on the "wheel" for 1960Marketable J, K, W :

Thinning the marketable stems will increase the yield. A pulp industry will provide a market for some of the small sizes.

Non-marketable J, K, W :

Some is available for firewood; some is available for a chipboard industry; the rest should be removed in cull falling operations.

Marri :

Some Marri is marketable (small sizes are suitable for pulpwood); some Marri can be used to produce wood distillation products; the rest should be removed in cull falling operations.

Treeless Areas :

To be afforested by such species as Pinus pinaster, Pinus radiata and Eastern States Eucalypts. (Stone Pine (pinus pinea) on the granite outcrops, no doubt! Eds.)

It is this Working Plan Officer's hope that by the year 2060 (or about 3 cutting cycles away) State Forests and Timber Reserves in Western Australia will consist entirely of marketable timber. The doubling of the annual yield (from 0.74 to 1.5 million loads in the round) will be the reward of 100 years of cull falling, thinning and research into afforestation of the existing non-timbered areas. If the Forests Department's programme to obtain an increased yield from the forest is accompanied by an increased efficiency in the milling industry and the introduction of new forest product industries such as pulp, hardboard, chipboard, wood distillation and charcoal iron industries, Western Australia may continue to be a self supporting State with respect to timber, even with a greatly increased population.

