

THE ELITE STOCK (PINASTER)

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A tree which was planted in August 1933, as 2-year-old *Lieria* stock at Mundaring's Darkan Plantation, and grew into one of the finest specimens of *Pinus pinaster*, has become a casualty of the 1974 winter floods and gales.

Recently I took some approximate measurements amongst the debris of several other companions, and present the data on the right of the page. Some interesting aspects of a tree which was still growing in height as well as girth increment are shown. The total volume of the tree was 5.6 m^3 and the volume of the bole to 19.5 m was 3.75 m^3 .

The soil on this site is a fertile, deep alluvial that carried an original forest of *Eucalyptus patens* and *Eucalyptus calophylla*. Another elite specimen still remains. Though a little shorter, it is of better form and has greater stability.

