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WOOD GENERATED BY THINNING IN THE NORTHERN
JARRAH FOREST

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The following is a summary of a paper published recently in:

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For regrowth stands in the northern jarrah forests of Western Australia, a study was undertaken of the amount of wood, not commercial under current standards, that would be produced if the stands were thinned as a silvicultural treatment. Trees greater than 15cm dbhob along strip lines were assessed for a range of wood products, and then selected for retention to give either 10%, 20% or 30% canopy cover (the original canopy cover was 55%). The study area was then actually thinned to leave a 20% canopy cover, which yielded 90 m³/ha of currently unsaleable bole wood, though two thirds of the jarrah component of this was assessed as potentially usable, most of it being of good quality but under the currently accepted minimum log diameter of 50 cm. The use of these small diameter logs is therefore a major problem to which research should be directed.

PRODUCT	SPECIES	WOOD VOLUME (m ³ /HA)			STOCKING (STEMS/HA)				
		FOREST THINNED TO A CANOPY COVER OF:			FOREST THINNED TO A CANOPY COVER OF:				
		30%	20%	10%	30%	20%	10%		
A. CURRENTLY SALEABLE GENERAL PURPOSE SAWLOGS POLES	JARRAH	17.0	19.4	27.3	36.7	8.2	10.7	16.3	24.2
	JARRAH	0	0.2	0.3	0.8	0	0.5	0.7	2.7
	TOTAL	17.0	19.6	27.6	37.5	8.2	11.2	17.0	26.9
B. POTENTIALLY USEABLE VENEER SALVAGE SAWLOGS	JARRAH	0.4	0.9	1.3	4.5	0.5	1.2	2.0	6.8
	JARRAH	5.1	5.5	6.1	6.3	3.0	3.4	4.3	4.7
	SHEOAK	2.1	2.9	4.6	4.8	5.1	8.3	12.9	13.9
CHIPWOOD	JARRAH	3.8	5.3	7.1	10.9	3.6	7.5	12.2	20.0
	MARRI	11.9	11.0	13.1	13.5	4.2	3.7	5.9	6.7
	JARRAH	15.6	20.6	25.9	31.7	51.6	78.2	93.6	119.9
MINOR FOREST PRODUCE	MARRI	5.8	5.8	6.5	6.8	10.3	13.2	15.9	17.9
	SHEOAK	1.8	2.0	2.6	2.8	14.1	22.2	26.4	30.0
	TOTAL	46.5	54.0	67.2	81.3	92.4	137.7	173.2	211.9
C. NOT USEABLE	JARRAH	17.8	18.6	20.1	21.0	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.9
	MARRI	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.8	0	1.7	1.7	1.7
	SHEOAK	14.2	15.4	17.3	17.8	21.7	26.8	29.7	30.7
TOTAL	36.7	38.6	42.2	43.8	26.1	33.2	36.1	37.3	
TOTAL		100.2	112.2	137.0	162.4	126.7	182.1	226.3	276.1

TABLE : Volume (m³/ha) and stocking (stems/ha) of wood products assessed on the study area for removal in a thinning operation to leave a 30%, 20% or 10% canopy cover, or clear falling of total stand.