



Food and Agriculture
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United Nations

Global Forest Resources Assessment 2025

Report

Portugal

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FAO has been monitoring the world's forests at 5 to 10 year intervals since 1946. The Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA) are now produced every five years in an attempt to provide a consistent approach to describing the world's forests and how they are changing. The FRA is a country-driven process and the assessments are based on reports prepared by officially nominated National Correspondents. If a report is not available, the FRA Secretariat prepares a desk study using earlier reports, existing information and/or remote sensing based analysis.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

1. Forest extent, characteristics and changes
2. Forest growing stock, biomass and carbon
3. Forest designation and management
4. Forest ownership and management rights
5. Forest disturbances
6. Forest policy and legislation
7. Non wood forest products removals and value 2020
8. Sustainable Development Goal 15

Introduction

Introductory text

Forests and the forestry sector

Portugal has a total land area of 9.16 Mha including the Autonomous Regions of Azores and Madeira. Portugal mainland is covered by 36% forest and 17% other wooded land. Cork and holm oaks stands are the main forest cover (33%), while the major forest species available for wood supply are *Eucalyptus globulus* (26%) and *Pinus pinaster* (22%). The Azores Autonomous Region (232 kha) is covered by 21% forest where primary forest represents approximately 17%. The main species available for wood supply is *Criptomeria japonica* covering 22%, while about 43% is occupied by an invasive species, *Pittosporum undulatum*. The forest land cover in Madeira Autonomous Region represents 40% of the total land (80 kha), with primary forest covering around 47%, namely the Laurissilva Forest. The negative trend observed in forest mainland area between 1995 and 2010, with a loss of 4%, was reversed in the period 2010-2015, showing an increase of 2%. The dynamics of forest land cover are mainly driven by the occurrence of rural fires, which pose one of the major challenges in forest management.

Currently, over 30% of the mainland forest area is within legally established protected areas, and 57% has a management plan. Private land ownership is dominant in Portugal representing more than 93% of the forestland. In the mainland, private forests corresponds mainly to small holdings. These, on average, are smaller than 1,3 ha in the northern and central regions and above 10 ha in Alentejo region.

Forest resources play an important role in the national economy. In 2022, removals were around 19 Mm³ over bark, where fuelwood (incl. wood for charcoal) represented 16% of total roundwood production. Portugal has a leading role in the international cork trade, with a share of over 60% of world exports. Employment in forestry rose between 2004 and 2022 at an annual rate of 5%, reaching more than 16 thousand employees in 2022.

Forest governance

The main legal frameworks are the Forest Policy Act (1996), the National Forest Strategy (2015) and the National Plan for Integrated Rural Fire Management (2021). The Forest Permanent Fund (Part of the Environmental Fund) and Rural Development Programme are the main sources of national and EU public support for forest management. Forest management plans are obligatory in public areas and in private areas, if forest properties area exceed the threshold defined in the Regional Forest Programmes (PROF).

The Institute for Nature Conservation and Forests (ICNF) of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Action is in charge of implementing forest policies.

Data sources

The first Portuguese National Forest Inventory (NFI) took place in 1965, with subsequent updates conducted on a 10 year cycle. The Portuguese NFI uses a two-phase sample approach. The first phase involves land use/cover area evaluation, based on intensive point sampling using aerial photography. In the second phase, plot sampling is conducted on a subsample set, involving comprehensive and detailed field data collection. The most recent report is the NFI6, with reference data from 2015. The primary values used in this report were obtained from NFI6. A new NFI is currently underway, and new data will be updated upon its completion. It is planned to change the updating cycle to an annual frequency, using data acquired through remote sensing methods.

In NFI6, land cover from previous NFI's (1995, 2005, and 2010) was reassessed using a common point sampling grid (500x500m). This approach enabled the production of a highly detailed and precise land use/cover time series, essential for change detection and analysis. The Azores has a single regional forest inventory conducted in 2007 (IFRAA1), while Madeira has two regional inventories, one from 2004 and the other from 2011 (IFRAM1 and IFRAM2). Nevertheless, both Autonomous Regions collectively represent approximately 3% of the total Portuguese land area.

Portuguese land use/cover classes, as considered in national data points, are fully compatible with FAO definitions. The areas of FRA forest categories were determined by summing the area of forest species by their main silvicultural characteristics. It should be highlighted that agroforestry class includes cropland or pastureland combined with forest tree species where the canopy cover is below 10%. Otherwise, it is considered forest since the forest use is more permanent and economically relevant than the understory activities and, therefore, are under forest legal frameworks.

Several indicators were obtained based on the NFI land use and land cover data, through cross-referencing with thematic maps. These maps include: annual burnt area (SGIF), public ownership area and national areas under forest regime (REFLOA), areas under forest management plans, national protected areas network and Portuguese Natura 2000 network (SNAC). Additionally, data collection from the national program to monitor forest pests and diseases (2019-2021) was considered, and it was harmonized with the NFI grid.

Report preparation and contact persons

The present report was prepared by the following person(s)

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Mr. José Sousa Uva	National correspondent	Institute for Nature Conservation and Forests - ICNF	All
Mrs. Conceição	Collaborator		3c Forest restoration 4b Holder of management rights of public forests 6a Policies, Legislation and national platform for stakeholder participation in forest policy
Ms. Sónia Pacheco Faias	Collaborator	ICNF	All
Other Helena Martins	Collaborator	The Institute of Nature Conservation and Forest	All

1 Forest extent, characteristics and changes

1a Extent of forest and other wooded land

National data

Data sources

1995	
References	6th National Forest Inventory
Methods used	National Forest Inventory
Additional comments	Forest and other wooded land areas for Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions of Azores and Madeira.

2005	
References	6th National Forest Inventory
Methods used	National Forest Inventory
Additional comments	Forest and other wooded land areas for Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions of Azores and Madeira.

2010	
References	6th National Forest Inventory
Methods used	National Forest Inventory
Additional comments	Forest and other wooded land areas for Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions of Azores and Madeira.

2015	
References	6th National Forest Inventory
Methods used	National Forest Inventory
Additional comments	Forest and other wooded land areas for Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions of Azores and Madeira.

National classifications

1995	
National classifications	Definition
Forest	FAO definition
Shrubland	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having a cover of shrubs or bushes above 25% and height over 50 cm. It may include sparse trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Pastureland	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having a cover of herbs and other herbaceous plants, of spontaneous or seeded origin, suitable for livestock grazing. It may include sparse trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Agriculture	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, used for cultivation of temporary or perennials crops. It may include sparsely trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Urban	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having constructions made by man to support human activities. It includes trees in urban settings.
Unproductive land	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, barren land or with a very limited development capacity for plant communities due to site characteristics.

Inland waters	Freshwater surfaces and wetlands spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, including watercourses and bodies of water, of natural, heavily modified, and artificial origin; encompasses coastal lagoons, marshes and river estuaries.
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2005	
National classifications	Definition
Forest	FAO definition
Shrubland	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having a cover of shrubs or bushes above 25% and height over 50 cm. It may include sparse trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Pastureland	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having a cover of herbs and other herbaceous plants, of spontaneous or seeded origin, suitable for livestock grazing. It may include sparse trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Agriculture	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, used for cultivation of temporary or perennials crops. It may include sparsely trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Urban	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having constructions made by man to support human activities. It includes trees in urban settings.
Unproductive land	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, barren land or with a very limited development capacity for plant communities due to site characteristics.
Inland waters	Freshwater surfaces and wetlands spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, including watercourses and bodies of water, of natural, heavily modified, and artificial origin; encompasses coastal lagoons, marshes and river estuaries.

2010	
National classifications	Definition
Forest	FAO definition
Shrubland	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having a cover of shrubs or bushes above 25% and height over 50 cm. It may include sparse trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Pastureland	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having a cover of herbs and other herbaceous plants, of spontaneous or seeded origin, suitable for livestock grazing. It may include sparse trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Agriculture	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, used for cultivation of temporary or perennials crops. It may include sparsely trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Urban	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having constructions made by man to support human activities. It includes trees in urban settings.
Unproductive land	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, barren land or with a very limited development capacity for plant communities due to site characteristics.
Inland waters	Freshwater surfaces and wetlands spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, including watercourses and bodies of water, of natural, heavily modified, and artificial origin; encompasses coastal lagoons, marshes and river estuaries.

2015	
National classifications	Definition
Forest	FAO definition
Shrubland	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having a cover of shrubs or bushes above 25% and height over 50 cm. It may include sparse trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Pastureland	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having a cover of herbs and other herbaceous plants, of spontaneous or seeded origin, suitable for livestock grazing. It may include sparse trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.

Agriculture	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, used for cultivation of temporary or perennials crops. It may include sparsely trees with a canopy cover lower than 10%.
Urban	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, having constructions made by man to support human activities. It includes trees in urban settings.
Unproductive land	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, barren land or with a very limited development capacity for plant communities due to site characteristics.
Inland waters	Freshwater surfaces and wetlands spanning more than 0.5 hectares and 20 m width, including watercourses and bodies of water, of natural, heavily modified, and artificial origin; encompasses coastal lagoons, marshes and river estuaries.

Original data and reclassification

	National classifications		FRA classes		
	Class	Area (1000 ha)	Forest	Other wooded land	Remaining land area
1995	Forest	3 393.49	100.000 %	0.000 %	0.000 %
	Shrubland	1 191.35	0.000 %	100.000 %	0.000 %
	Pastureland	1 388.16	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Agriculture	2 559.97	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Urban	339.40	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Unproductive land	197.12	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Inland waters	153.08	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Total	9 222.57	3 393.49	1 191.35	4 637.73

	National classifications		FRA classes		
	Class	Area (1000 ha)	Forest	Other wooded land	Remaining land area
2005	Forest	3 303.64	100.000 %	0.000 %	0.000 %
	Shrubland	1 310.90	0.000 %	100.000 %	0.000 %
	Pastureland	1 448.90	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Agriculture	2 355.54	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Urban	422.13	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Unproductive land	202.12	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Inland waters	179.34	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Total	9 222.57	3 303.64	1 310.90	4 608.03

2010	National classifications		FRA classes		
	Class	Area (1000 ha)	Forest	Other wooded land	Remaining land area
	Forest	3 251.88	100.000 %	0.000 %	0.000 %
	Shrubland	1 501.20	0.000 %	100.000 %	0.000 %
	Pastureland	1 375.52	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Agriculture	2 265.34	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Urban	450.98	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Unproductive land	192.13	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Inland waters	185.52	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Total	9 222.57	3 251.88	1 501.20	4 469.49

2015	National classifications		FRA classes		
	Class	Area (1000 ha)	Forest	Other wooded land	Remaining land area
	Forest	3 311.83	100.000 %	0.000 %	0.000 %
	Shrubland	1 544.10	0.000 %	100.000 %	0.000 %
	Pastureland	1 268.36	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Agriculture	2 240.23	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Urban	465.73	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Unproductive land	198.17	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Inland waters	194.14	0.000 %	0.000 %	100.000 %
	Total	9 222.56	3 311.83	1 544.10	4 366.63

Comments

1995	The sum of land area classes is different from the FRA country land area.
2005	The sum of classes it is different from FRA country land area.
2010	The sum of classes it is different from FRA country land area.
2015	The sum of the classes is different from FRA country land.



FRA 2025 categories	Area (1000 ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Forest (a)	3 438.42	3 348.57	3 251.88	3 311.83	3 334.39	3 362.63
Other wooded land (b)	1 131.57	1 251.12	1 501.20	1 544.10	1 600.78	1 655.97
Remaining land area (c-a-b)	4 580.01	4 550.31	4 405.92	4 304.63	4 225.83	4 141.96
Total land area (c)	9 150.00	9 150.00	9 159.00	9 160.56	9 161.00	9 160.56

Climatic domain	% of forest area	Override value
Boreal	0.00	0.00
Temperate	27.00	100.00
Sub-tropical	73.00	0.00
Tropical	0.00	0.00

Forest area tier criteria		Tier
Status	Data sources: Recent ¹ National Forest Inventory or remote sensing (sample-based survey or wall-to-wall mapping) with accuracy assessment / field data calibration.	High
	Data sources: Old ² National Forest Inventory or remote sensing (sample-based survey or wall-to-wall mapping) with accuracy assessment / field data calibration.	Medium
	Data sources: Other, such as registers, expert estimates, or remote sensing without accuracy assessment / field data calibration.	Low
Trend	Estimates based on repeated compatible ³ National Forest Inventories where the most recent is not older than five years; and/or remote sensing- change assessments through multitemporal analysis for a period ending not more than five years ago (e.g., REDD+ forest reference [emission] levels).	High
	Estimates based on repeated compatible ³ National Forest Inventories where the most recent is older than five years; and/or remote sensing change assessments through multitemporal analysis for a period ending more than five years ago; or comparison of compatible maps without multitemporal analysis.	Medium
	Other data sources, e.g., expert estimates, or estimates based on non-compatible assessments.	Low

¹ Data not older than 5 years from year of submission of report (2018 or more recent for FRA 2025 country reports)

² Data older than 5 years from year of submission of report (older than 2018 for FRA 2025 country reports)

³ Compatible in terms of methods, categories and definitions used

Forest	Tier
Status	Medium
Trend	Medium

Comments

Forest and other wooded land areas for Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions of Azores and Madeira.

Forest area includes cork and holm oak stands that may have pastures in the understory.

Areas for 1990 were extrapolated and for 2000 were interpolated from the national data points in 1995 and 2005. Areas from 2015 onwards are forecasted based on the trends from the previous period, considering also relevant changes in forest policy, namely the cap on eucalyptus area expansion. The areas reported in FRA2020 are slightly different in the current report due to this methodology update. Since 2013, afforestation and reforestation operations have to be communicated, and in some case to require an authorisation, to the National Forest Authority. From 2017 onwards new eucalyptus plantations are only authorised in municipalities that have not reached the maximum area threshold for these plantations (established in the Regional Forest Plans) or by removing other eucalyptus plantations within a "compensation project".

The climate of Portugal (including the Autonomous Regions of Madeira), according to the Köppen classification, is divided into two regions: one with a temperate climate with a rainy winter and a hot, dry summer (Csa), and another with a temperate climate with a rainy winter and a dry, moderately warm summer (Csb). In the Autonomous Region of Azores, the Eastern Group has a Csb type climate, while in the Central and Western Groups, the climate is Cfb, meaning it is an oceanic climate, also sometimes referred to as a maritime temperate climate.

1b Forest characteristics

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory		Naturally regenerating forest ...of which plantation forest ...of which introduced species ...of which other planted forest	2015	
2nd Forest Inventory Madeira, Funchal	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Naturally regenerating forest ...of which primary forest ...of which plantation forest ...of which introduced species ...of which other planted forest	2011	
1st Forest Inventory Açores, Ponta Delgada	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Naturally regenerating forest ...of which primary forest ...of which plantation forest ...of which introduced species ...of which other planted forest	2007	

National classification and definitions

FRA categories areas are based on the sum of species areas, according to their main silvicultural characteristics.

Original data

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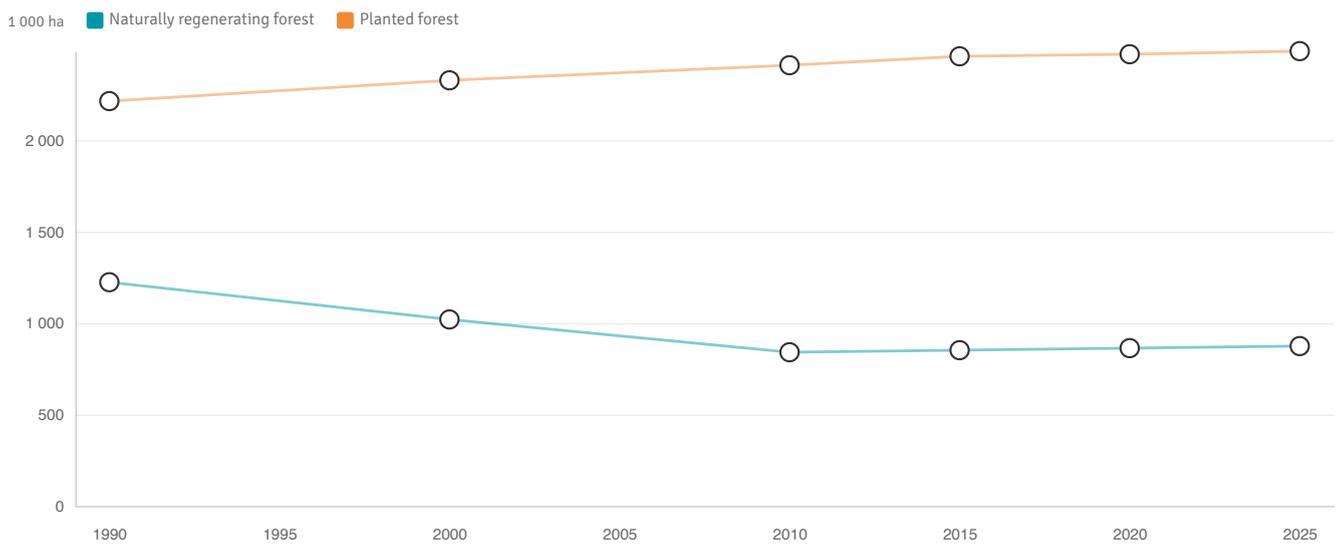
Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

Areas for 1990 were extrapolated and 2000 were interpolated from the national data points in 1995 and 2005. Areas from 2015 onwards are forecasted based on the trends from the previous period, considering also relevant changes in forest policy, namely the cap on eucalyptus area expansion.

Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

-



FRA 2025 categories	Forest area (1000 ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Naturally regenerating forest (a)	1 223.83	1 020.14	840.88	852.12	863.36	874.60
...of which primary forest	25.44	25.38	24.85	24.82	24.79	24.77
Planted forest (b=b1+b2)	2 214.60	2 328.35	2 411.01	2 459.71	2 471.03	2 488.02
...of which plantation forest (b1)	628.38	691.92	746.83	778.43	778.87	779.30
...of which introduced species	628.38	691.92	746.83	778.43	778.87	779.30
...of which other planted forest (b2)	1 586.22	1 636.43	1 664.18	1 681.28	1 692.16	1 708.72
Total (a+b)	3 438.43	3 348.49	3 251.89	3 311.83	3 334.39	3 362.62

Primary forest by climatic domain	Primary forest area (1 000 ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
...of which boreal primary forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
...of which temperate primary forest	25.44	25.38	24.85	24.82	24.79	24.77
...of which sub-tropical primary forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
...of which tropical primary forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	25.44	25.38	24.85	24.82	24.79	24.77

Comments

Data refers to Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions (Azores and Madeira).

Naturally regenerating forest includes *Laurissilva Forest* in Madeira's Autonomous Region, *Pittosporum undulatum* in Azores' Autonomous Region, and in the mainland area: *Acacia spp*, *Quercus spp* and Maritime pine.

Plantation forest corresponds mainly to *Eucalyptus globulus* pure stands, which is a naturalised introduced tree species.

1c Specific forest categories

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

-

FRA 2025 categories	Area (1000 ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Bamboos	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mangroves ⁴	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rubber wood	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

⁴Includes both Forest and Other wooded land

Comments

There are no bamboos, mangroves nor rubber wood as landcover classes in Portugal.

1d Annual forest expansion, deforestation and net change

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Forest expansion Deforestation	2015	

National classification and definitions

FRA categories areas are based on the sum of species areas, according to their main silvicultural characteristics.

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

Areas for 1990 were extrapolated and 2000 were interpolated from the national data points in 1995 and 2005. Areas from 2015 onwards are forecasted based on the trends from the previous period, considering also relevant changes in forest policy, namely the cap on eucalyptus area expansion.

Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

-

FRA 2025 categories	Area (1000 ha/year)				
	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025
Forest expansion (a=a1+a2)	37.07	32.74	51.63	40.91	42.05
...of which afforestation (a1)	24.08	25.63	38.76	29.36	30.43
...of which natural expansion (a2)	13.00	7.11	12.86	11.56	11.61
Deforestation (b)	46.05	42.40	39.63	36.39	36.39
Forest area net change (a-b)	-8.98	-9.66	12.00	4.52	5.66
Forest area net change calculated from table 1a	-8.99	-9.67	11.99	4.51	5.65

Comments

The forest area net change corresponding to the Autonomous Regions (Azores and Madeira) is assumed as not significant.

1e Other land with tree cover

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Tree orchards Agroforestry Trees in urban settings	2015	

National classification and definitions

FRA categories areas are based on the sum of species areas, according to their main silvicultural characteristics.

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

Areas for 1990 were extrapolated and 2000 were interpolated from the national data points in 1995 and 2005. Areas from 2015 onwards are forecasted based on the trends from the previous period, considering also relevant changes in forest policy, namely the cap on eucalyptus area expansion.

Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

-

FRA 2025 categories	Area (1000 ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Palms (a)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tree orchards (b)	533.79	528.65	559.01	590.86	622.71	654.56
Agroforestry (c)	334.85	330.98	314.17	335.14	356.10	377.07
Trees in urban settings (d)	25.18	29.63	32.30	17.45	17.45	17.45
Other (specify in comments) (e)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Comments

Data refers only to Portugal mainland, because no data is available for the Autonomous Regions (Azores and Madeira) regarding these categories.

Agroforestry includes cropland or pastureland combined with forest tree species where the canopy cover is below 10%.

2 Forest growing stock, biomass and carbon

2a Growing stock

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Naturally regenerating forest Planted forest ...of which plantation forest ...of which introduced species ...of which other planted forest Total Forest Other wooded land	2015	
2nd Forest Inventory Madeira, Funchal	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Naturally regenerating forest Planted forest ...of which plantation forest ...of which introduced species ...of which other planted forest Total Forest	2011	
1st Forest Inventory Açores, Ponta Delgada	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Naturally regenerating forest Planted forest ...of which plantation forest ...of which introduced species ...of which other planted forest Total Forest	2007	

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

-

FRA 2025 categories	Growing stock m ³ /ha (over bark)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Naturally regenerating forest	62.97	67.08	81.41	84.73	69.07	67.99
...of which primary forest	77.44	77.62	76.46	76.55	76.24	76.30
Planted forest	36.43	37.98	39.87	40.22	38.26	38.09
...of which plantation forest	40.91	45.41	39.14	34.33	29.61	29.15
...of which introduced species	40.91	45.41	39.14	34.33	29.61	29.15
...of which other planted forest	34.65	34.92	40.20	42.95	42.24	42.16
Total Forest	45.88	46.85	50.61	51.67	46.24	45.86
Other wooded land	8.45	8.46	8.49	8.48	8.41	8.35

FRA 2025 categories	Total growing stock (million m ³ over bark)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Naturally regenerating forest	77.07	68.43	68.46	72.20	59.63	59.46
...of which primary forest	1.97	1.97	1.90	1.90	1.89	1.89
Planted forest	80.68	88.43	96.13	98.93	94.54	94.76
...of which plantation forest	25.71	31.42	29.23	26.72	23.06	22.72
...of which introduced species	25.71	31.42	29.23	26.72	23.06	22.72
...of which other planted forest	54.97	57.14	66.90	72.21	71.48	72.04
Total Forest	157.75	156.87	164.59	171.13	154.17	154.21
Other wooded land	9.56	10.58	12.74	13.10	13.46	13.82

Growing stock tier criteria		Tier
Status	Data sources: Recent ¹ National Forest Inventory or Airborne Laser Scanning (ALS) with probabilistic ground samples.	High
	Data sources: Old ² National Forest Inventory, partial field inventories, or ALS without probabilistic ground samples.	Medium
	Data sources: Other data sources, such as satellite data, registers, questionnaires or expert assessments.	Low

¹ Data not older than 10 years from year of submission of report (2013 or more recent for FRA 2025 country reports)

² Data older than 10 years from year of submission of report (older than 2013 for FRA 2025 country reports)

Growing stock	Tier
Status	Medium

Comments

Forest data corresponds to Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions (Azores and Madeira). OWL data corresponds only to Portugal mainland. Plantation forest corresponds to eucalyptus pure stands.

The variation of the growing stock per hectare in the naturally regenerating forest is mainly due to the decreased in the forest area of maritime pine. That is due to the pine wood nematode disease and the impact of severe forest fires. In the period 2000-2010, the affected areas were mainly of low stock, while in the 2015-2020 were high stock areas.

Growing stock in primary forest was estimated considering only *Laurissilva* forest in Madeira's autonomous region.

2b Forest growing stock composition

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Native tree species #1 Ranked Native tree species #2 Ranked Native tree species #3 Ranked Native tree species #4 Ranked Remaining native tree species Introduced tree species #1 Ranked Introduced tree species #2 Ranked Introduced tree species #3 Ranked Remaining introduced tree species	2015	
2nd Forest Inventory Madeira, Funchal	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Remaining native tree species Introduced tree species #1 Ranked Introduced tree species #2 Ranked Introduced tree species #3 Ranked Remaining introduced tree species	2011	
1st Forest Inventory Açores, Ponta Delgada	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Introduced tree species #1 Ranked Introduced tree species #2 Ranked Remaining introduced tree species	2007	

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

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FRA 2025 categories	Scientific name	Common name	Million m ³	% of total
Native tree species				
Most recent year:			2020	
#1 Ranked	Pinus pinaster	Maritime pine	49.73	32.25
#2 Ranked	Quercus suber	Cork oak	25.33	16.43
#3 Ranked	Quercus rotundifolia	Holm oak	6.71	4.35
#4 Ranked	Pinus pinea	Stone pine	5.42	3.52
#5 Ranked	Castanea sativa	Chestnut	3.24	2.10
#6 Ranked	Quercus pyrenaica		2.69	1.74
#7 Ranked	Quercus robur		2.12	1.38
#8 Ranked	Quercus faginea		0.63	0.41
#9 Ranked	Pinus sylvestris		0.59	0.38
#10 Ranked	Ceratonia siliqua	Carob tree	0.25	0.16
Remaining native tree species			10.51	6.82
TOTAL native tree species			107.22	69.54
Introduced tree species				
#1 Ranked	Eucalyptus globulus	Eucalyptus	32.28	20.94
#2 Ranked	Cryptomeria japonica	Cryptomeria	6.47	4.20
#3 Ranked	Pittosporum undulatum	Pittosporum	1.40	0.91
#4 Ranked				
#5 Ranked				
Remaining introduced tree species			6.81	4.42
TOTAL introduced tree species			46.96	30.46
Total growing stock			154.18	

Comments

Data corresponds to Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions (Azores and Madeira).

Estimates have the year 2020 as reference and were extrapolated from the listed data sources.

The remaining native species include: Laurissilva forest and other broadleaves (Arbutus unedo, Betula pubescens, Fraxinus angustifolia, Populus species). The remaining introduced species include: *Acacia* species and other coniferous (Pinus halepensis, Pinus radiata, Pseudotsuga menziesii, Cupressus species).

2c Biomass stock

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Above-ground biomass Below-ground biomass Dead wood	2015	
2nd Forest Inventory Madeira, Funchal	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Above-ground biomass Below-ground biomass	2011	
1st Forest Inventory Açores, Ponta Delgada	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Above-ground biomass Below-ground biomass	2007	

National classification and definitions

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Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

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FRA 2025 categories	Forest Biomass (tonnes/ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Above-ground biomass	37.55	39.92	41.88	41.59	38.23	38.21
Below-ground biomass	10.21	10.98	11.77	11.85	11.43	11.77
Dead wood	0.72	0.79	0.86	0.88	0.81	0.83

FRA 2025 categories	Total forest Biomass (million tonnes)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Above-ground biomass	129.11	133.67	136.18	137.74	127.47	128.49
Below-ground biomass	35.10	36.78	38.27	39.24	38.12	39.58
Dead wood	2.48	2.64	2.80	2.90	2.69	2.79

Biomass estimation methods tier criteria		Tier
Status	Country-specific biomass conversion and expansion factors or allometric equations applied	High
	Application of generic or biome-level allometric equations or a combination of country/biome specific conversion factors and IPCC default biomass expansion factors.	Medium
	IPCC default biomass conversion and expansion factors applied (e.g. using the "biomass calculator"), or estimates based on remote sensing-based biomass maps.	Low

Biomass stock	Tier
Status	Medium

Comments

Living biomass data corresponds to Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions (Azores and Madeira).

Deadwood biomass is only for Portugal mainland.

2d Carbon stock

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Carbon in above-ground biomass Carbon in below-ground biomass Carbon in dead wood	2015	
2nd Forest Inventory Madeira, Funchal	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Carbon in above-ground biomass Carbon in below-ground biomass	2011	
1st Forest Inventory Açores, Ponta Delgada	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Carbon in above-ground biomass Carbon in below-ground biomass	2007	

National classification and definitions

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Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

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FRA 2025 categories	Forest carbon (tonnes/ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Carbon in above-ground biomass	18.50	19.65	20.59	20.43	18.74	18.72
Carbon in below-ground biomass	5.02	5.39	5.76	5.79	5.58	5.74
Carbon in dead wood	0.36	0.39	0.42	0.43	0.40	0.40
Carbon in litter						
Soil carbon						

FRA 2025 categories	Total forest carbon (million tonnes)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Carbon in above-ground biomass	63.61	65.79	66.96	67.66	62.50	62.96
Carbon in below-ground biomass	17.25	18.04	18.73	19.18	18.59	19.30
Carbon in dead wood	1.23	1.30	1.37	1.42	1.32	1.36
Carbon in litter						
Soil carbon						

Soil depth (cm) used for soil carbon estimates	
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Comments

Living biomass data corresponds to Portugal mainland and Autonomous Regions (Azores and Madeira).
 Deadwood biomass is only for Portugal mainland.

3 Forest designation and management

3a Designated management objective

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Multiple use Other (specify in comments)	2015	
2nd Forest Inventory Madeira, Funchal	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Conservation of biodiversity Multiple use	2011	
1st Forest Inventory Açores, Ponta Delgada	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Multiple use	2007	
Regional Forest Management Plans (PROF)	Other (specify in comments)	No designation	2019	Official plans regarding forest planning, which classifies the main forest management functions by regions.

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

Total forest areas from 2015 onwards are forecasted based on the trends from the previous period.

Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

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Primary designated management objective

FRA 2025 categories	Forest area (1000 ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Production (a)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Protection of soil and water (b)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Conservation of biodiversity (c)	15.36	15.36	15.36	15.36	15.36	15.36
Social Services (d)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Multiple use (e)	3 423.06	3 333.21	3 236.52	3 296.47	3 319.03	3 347.27
Other (specify in comments) (f)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
No designation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unknown	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total forest area	3 438.42	3 348.57	3 251.88	3 311.83	3 334.39	3 362.63

Total area with designated management objective

FRA 2025 categories	Forest area (1000 ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Production			3 007.63	3 062.14	3 083.62	3 110.50
Protection of soil and water			2 650.71	2 675.48	2 694.25	2 717.73
Conservation of biodiversity			841.04	868.76	874.85	882.13
Social Services			251.17	264.53	265.93	267.89
Other (specify in comments)			2 657.50	2 716.70	2 735.76	2 759.60

Comments

1st table: data in the category conservation of biodiversity, corresponds to primary forest in Madeira's Region (mainly *Laurissilva Forest*).

2nd table: data is only from Portugal mainland, according to the current Regional Forest Management Programs (PROF). The category "other", refers to grazing, hunting, honey production and fishing in inland waters.

3b Forest area within protected areas and forest area with long-term management plans

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Forest area within protected areas Forest area with long-term management plan	2015	
National Protected Areas Network and Portuguese Natura 2000 network (SNAC)	Other (specify in comments)	Forest area within protected areas ...of which in protected areas	2008	Dec.-Lei n.º 142/2008

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

Total forest areas from 2015 onwards are forecasted based on the trends from the previous period.

Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

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FRA 2025 categories	Area (1000 ha)					
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Forest area within protected areas			972.92	1 042.46	1 049.95	1 058.84
Forest area with long-term management plan			657.34	927.16	1 129.45	1 139.01
...of which in protected areas			113.21	194.37	256.52	258.69

Comments

Data is only from Portugal mainland. Forest area within protected areas refers to the current National Protected Areas Network (RNAP) and the Portuguese Natura 2000 network.

3c Forest restoration

Has your country forest restoration commitments?	Yes
Is there a law or other government mandate in support of restoration?	The National Forest Strategy established an general objective to control and restore degraded land.
Is there a national definition of "restoration" if yes, provide the definition the monitoring process and results.	No. The Law on the Sistema de Gestão Integrada de Fogos Rurais mentions the restoration of burnt areas, but there is no official definition.
What areas in need of restoration have been identified and how have they been identified?	Forest burnt areas, identified by satellite imagery
What are the targets set for the restoration? E.g. xxx hectares by year yyyy	N.A.
How many hectares of forest have been restored to date?	N.A.

Comments

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4 Forest ownership and management rights

4a Forest ownership

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
ICNF, REFLOA (National areas under forest regime)	Registers and statistics	Public ownership Other (specify in comments)	2021	
6th National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Private ownership Public ownership Other (specify in comments)	2015	
DRFF RAA (Azores)	Registers and statistics	Public ownership	2005	Internal statistics
IFCN RAM (Madeira)	Registers and statistics	Public ownership	2005	Internal statistics

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

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FRA 2025 categories	Forest area (1000 ha)				
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020
Private ownership (a)	3 181.63	3 112.04	3 019.60	3 071.81	3 092.75
...of which owned by individuals					
...of which owned by private business entities and institutions					
...of which owned by Indigenous Peoples and local communities					
Public ownership (b)	81.85	76.96	77.26	78.58	79.10
Other (specify in comments) (c)	174.95	159.57	155.02	161.44	162.54
Unknown (d)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total (a+b+c+d)	3 438.43	3 348.57	3 251.88	3 311.83	3 334.39

Comments

The category "Other" corresponds to communal land (named: "Baldios"). This type of ownership is recognised by the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic since 1976. The reported forest area includes only the "baldios" that are under the Forest regime in Portugal mainland.

4b Holder of management rights of public forests

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
ICNF, REFLOA (National areas under forest regime)	Registers and statistics	Public Administration	2021	
DRFF RAA (Azores)	Registers and statistics	Public Administration	2005	Internal statistics
IFCN RAM (Madeira)	Registers and statistics	Public Administration	2005	Internal statistics

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

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FRA 2025 categories	Forest area (1000 ha)				
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020
Public Administration (a)	81.85	76.96	77.26	78.58	79.10
Private business entities and institutions (b)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Indigenous Peoples and local communities (c)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other (specify in comments) (d)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unknown (e)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total public ownership (a+b+c+d+e)	81.85	76.96	77.26	78.58	79.10

Comments

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5 Forest disturbances

5a Forest damage

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
National Program to Monitoring Forest pests and diseases (2019-2021)	Registers and statistics	Insects Diseases Other (specify in comments)	2019-2021	Monitoring grid was harmonized with the NFI grid.

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

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	Predominant cause forest area affected (1000 ha)			
	Insects	Diseases	Severe weather events	Other (specify in comments)
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009				
2010				
2011		152.76	0.00	0.00
2012	130.00	181.42	0.00	0.00
2013	61.00	277.25	28.00	0.00
2014	62.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2015	75.00	344.39	0.00	0.00
2016	26.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2017	11.00	420.02	0.00	0.00
2018	649.31	293.13	0.00	173.71
2019	647.31	275.03	0.00	169.48
2020	648.90	275.37	0.00	169.30
2021	650.49	274.93	0.00	169.13
2022	652.08	274.50	0.00	168.96
2023				

Comments

Data refers only to Portugal mainland.

Data from 2011 to 2017 was reported in FRA2020. The area affected by insects includes only *Gonipterus*, while the area affected by diseases includes only the Pine Wood Nematode (PWN - *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*).

In 2019, it was implemented the National Program to Monitor Forest Pests (PNMFP), that considered additional forest types and biotic agents. From 2018 onwards PNMFP data were used to estimate the affected area, as it reflects the impact of the severe forest fires of 2017. Note that the change in the area affected after 2017 might be also due to a change in methodology.

The severe weather (c) refers to a storm in the year 2013 reported in FRA2015.

The "Other" class (d) corresponds to unidentified biotic agents.

5b Area affected by fire

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
ICNF, SGIF	Registers and statistics	Total land area affected by fire ...of which on forest	2000-2022	
IFCN, RAM	Registers and statistics	Total land area affected by fire ...of which on forest	2006-2022	
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Total land area affected by fire ...of which on forest	2015	

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2025 categories

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	FRA 2025 categories area affected (1000 ha)	
	Total land area affected by fire	...of which on forest
2000	159.60	68.65
2001	117.34	45.61
2002	130.78	65.16
2003	471.70	286.06
2004	151.44	56.27
2005	346.73	213.92
2006	86.49	38.59
2007	38.00	10.85
2008	20.48	5.79
2009	93.04	24.16
2010	150.47	50.32
2011	79.38	20.48
2012	125.91	51.97
2013	162.07	56.59
2014	23.35	9.11
2015	68.77	24.08
2016	174.49	81.51
2017	541.49	330.17
2018	44.76	22.03
2019	42.17	21.49
2020	68.56	32.36
2021	28.43	8.20
2022	110.18	55.36
2023		

Comments

Until 2005 it only includes data from Portugal mainland. From 2006 onwards data from Madeira's Region is also included.

5c Degraded forest

Degraded forest definition

Has your country a national definition of "Degraded forest"		No
If "yes"	What is the national definition of "Degraded forest"?	
	Criteria applied in the definition of degraded forest	

Forest degradation monitoring and assessment

Does your country monitor area of degraded forest		No
If "yes"	Main methods applied to monitor degraded forest area	
	Monitoring scale	
If national level data are available	Year of latest assessment	
	Degraded forest area for that year (in 1 000 ha)	

Comments

The concept of degraded forest is more commonly used when referring to forest habitats at a low conservation status, following the EU Directive criteria.

6 Forest policy and legislation

6a Policies, Legislation and national platform for stakeholder participation in forest policy

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
Forest Policy Act		Policies supporting SFM Legislations and regulations supporting SFM	1996	
National Forest Strategy		Policies supporting SFM Legislations and regulations supporting SFM	2015	
National Plan for Integrated Rural Fire Management		Policies supporting SFM Legislations and regulations supporting SFM	2021	

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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Indicate the existence of	Boolean (Yes/No)	
	National	Sub-national
Policies supporting SFM	Yes	Yes
Legislations and regulations supporting SFM	Yes	Yes
Platform that promotes or allows for stakeholder participation in forest policy development	Yes	Yes
Traceability system(s) for wood products	Yes	No

Comments

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6b Area of permanent forest estate

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
6th Portuguese National Forest Inventory	National Forest Inventory	Area of permanent forest estate	2015	
ICNF, REFLOA (National areas under forest regime)	Registers and statistics	Area of permanent forest estate	2021	

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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FRA 2025 categories	Forest area (1000 ha)						
	Applicable?	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025
Area of permanent forest estate	Yes	1 332.21	1 266.92	1 245.27	1 255.27	1 264.07	1 275.09

Comments

Data only from Portugal mainland. It includes area under the Forest Regime and the area of cork and holm oak stands, where tree harvesting is forbidden by law.

7 Non wood forest products removals and value 2020

7 Non wood forest products removals and value 2020

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Reference to data source	Type of data source	FRA variable	Year for data source	Comments
Statistics for Portugal	Annual statistics	#1 #2 #5 #9	2020	
ECOFOR.PT	Scientific Report	#4 #7 #8 #10	2021	
Pinecone harvesting 2021/2022	ICNF Technical Report	#3	2023	
Study on the Value of Hunting Areas	ICNF Study Report	#6	2015	
	expert estimation	All other plant products		

National classification and definitions

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Original data

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	Name of NWFP product	Key species	Quantity	Unit	Value (1000 local currency)	NWFP category
#1	Cork	Quercus suber	108 397	tonnes	226 330	8 Other plant products
#2	Chestnut	Castanea sativa	42 183	tonnes	78 536	1 Food
#3	Pinecone nuts	Pinus pinea	48 652	tonnes	50 598	1 Food
#4	Livestock forage	Forest and Shrubland	2 465 356	ha	42 158	2 Fodder
#5	Honey	Forest and Shrubland	9 817	tonnes	42 014	11 Wild honey and bee wax
#6	Game meat	Oryctolagus cuniculus; Ale ctoris rufa; Turdus philomel os; Cervus elaphus; Sus scr ofa;	7 007 568	ha	28 030	1 Food
#7	Wild mushrooms	Several species	6 500	tonnes	19 500	1 Food
#8	Carob	Ceratonia siliqua	41 000	tonnes	14 313	1 Food
#9	Resin	Pinus pinaster; Pinus pinea	6 310	tonnes	6 999	7 Exudates
#10	Acorns	Quercus species	43 730	tonnes	6 097	1 Food
All other plant products					6 000	
All other animal products						
Total					520 575	

Name of currency

€

Comments

The value for "Other plant products" is an estimate considering wild berries (e.g Arbutus unedo fruit), aromatic herbs and essential oils.

8 Sustainable Development Goal 15

8 Sustainable Development Goal 15

SDG Indicator 15.1.1 Forest area as proportion of total land area

Indicator	Percent									
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Forest area as proportion of total land area	36.60	36.12	35.50	36.15	36.40	36.46	36.52	36.58	36.65	36.71

SDG Indicator 15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management

Sub-Indicator 1	Percent					
	2000-2010	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2005-2015	2015-2025
Annual forest area change rate	-0.29	0.37	0.14	0.17	0.04	0.15

Sub-Indicator 2	Forest biomass (tonnes/ha)									
	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Above-ground biomass stock in forest	39.92	41.88	41.59	38.23	38.23	38.22	38.22	38.21	38.21	

Sub-Indicator 3	Percent (2015 forest area baseline)									
	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Proportion of forest area located within legally established protected areas		29.38	31.48	31.70	31.76	31.81	31.86	31.92	31.97	

Sub-Indicator 4	Percent (2015 forest area baseline)									
	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Proportion of forest area under long-term forest management plan		19.85	28.00	34.10	34.16	34.22	34.28	34.33	34.39	

Sub-Indicator 5	1 000 ha
Forest area under independently verified forest management certification schemes	
2000	0.00
2005	101.30
2010	438.89
2015	362.79
2016	380.04
2017	386.27
2018	424.73
2019	458.61
2020	503.06
2021	543.51
2022	577.05
2023	614.65
2024	613.03
2025	

Data for this SDG sub-indicator are provided by FSC and PEFC (forest certification organizations).

