

ForSite Specification for Estimating Biomass Fractions

User input

Output from GROWFOR is assumed as input to ForSite. This is the responsibility of the user.

Mean dbh ¹ at clearfell	cm
Age at clearfell	year
Stemwood overbark volume to 7 cm top diameter	m ³ /year

ForSite calculation of biomass fractions

Density estimation from Johnson *et al.*, 2015a; supplementary data to Johnson *et al.*, 2015b:

Stemwood density = 400	kg/m ³
Stem biomass = stem volume × 400	kg/ha

Equations for estimating biomass fractions are from McKay *et al.*, (2003) Appendix 3. These use mean dbh as inputs, and are all applicable for spruces.

Crown biomass = $0.00607220 + 0.00000958 \cdot \text{DBH}^{2.55784701}$	kg/(ha year)
Needle biomass = $0.22264859 - 0.22264859 \times (0.23934263^{\text{drycrown}})$	kg/(ha year)
Dry-branch biomass = Crown biomass – Leaf biomass	kg/(ha year)
Needle mass = $0.19823116 - 0.19823116 \cdot (0.10566005^{\text{drybranch}})$	kg/(ha year)
Root biomass = $0.00001115 \times \text{dbh}^{2.68358135}$	kg/(ha year)
Biomass removal rate = rotation-age biomass / rotation age	kg/(ha year)

Parameters are given by McKay *et al.* for Sitka spruce, Norway spruce, Douglas fir and lodgepole pine (may be used by ForSite), and for trees < 7 cm (not used by ForSite). Stembark estimation, and these other fractions excepting root biomass, are also available from Johnson *et al.*, 2015b.

References

- Johnson, Jim, Thomas Cummins and Julian Aherne. 2015. Critical loads and nitrogen availability under deposition and harvest scenarios for conifer forests in Ireland. *Science of the Total Environment*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2015.08.140>
- Johnson, Jim, Julian Aherne and Thomas Cummins. 2015. Base cation budgets under residue removal in temperate maritime plantation forests. *Forest Ecology and Management* 343 (2015) 144–156. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2015.01.022> <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378112715000419#m0005> (supplementary data)
- McKay, H., J.B. Hudson, R.J. Hudson (2003) Appendix 3, 4 & 5 in: WOODFUEL RESOURCE IN BRITAIN: APPENDICES FES B/W3/00787/REP/2 DTI/Pub URN 03/1436
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¹ Mean dbh is quadratic mean, the square root of the mean of the sum of squared dbh values.