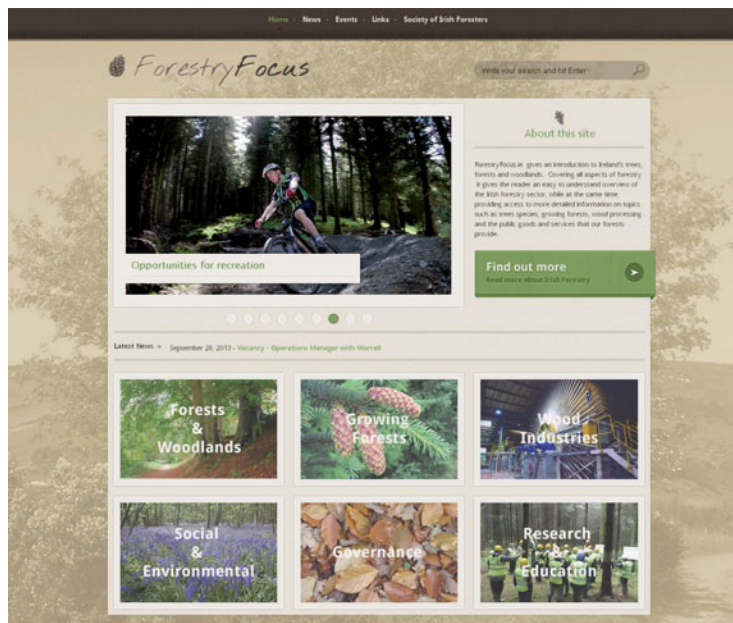


ForestryFocus.ie



The new Forestry focus website is an informative and comprehensive resource for many aspects relating to Irish forestry such as the timber industry in Ireland, forest governance, and social and environmental issues. The site is very easy to negotiate.

There is an excellent section on the history of Irish Forestry. However it contains a lot of information which does not directly pertain to forests and a shorter summary of forest related information might be useful. Perhaps a simple timeline graphic showing forest cover and very significant historic events might be useful (although I am not sure how easy it would be to produce). It is also not so easy (for example) to see how forests in modern times differ from those felled in the 16th and 17th Centuries.

As a scientist, I found the links to the Irish forest inventory data, summary statistics and news on development of *Chalara fraxinea* in Ireland very good. However, it would be good to be able to see at a glance on the main website, the forest area in Ireland, or how much area (approximately) is Sitka spruce, oak etc.

The section on forest management describing different silvicultural systems, fertilising, weed management, tending and thinning etc. is an excellent resource for the forest owner.

Every time I thought I had seen most of the website, I found another interesting page, it really is very comprehensive.

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