

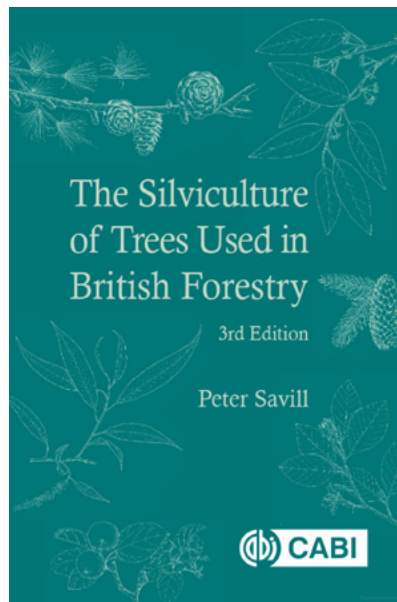
The Silviculture of Trees Used in British Forestry

Peter Savill

CABI. 2019

400 pages. Hardback. ISBN 978-1-78639-392-0

3rd edition. €125



The 3rd edition of this book authored by Peter Savill, former Reader in Silviculture at Oxford, has been fully updated to cover some 42 genera and 73 species of trees currently used in British forestry. It brings up to date the current state of knowledge on each of these species performance in Britain, drawing on experience derived from many years of observation, research and practice.

Following the Introduction, which discusses the importance of matching species to sites, provenances and climate change together with a brief commentary on British forestry, the remainder of the book deals with the chosen species in a more or less standard format. Information is provided about the origin and introduction (where applicable) of the species, climatic and soil requirements, other silvicultural characteristics, diseases, natural regeneration, provenance, seed production, nursery treatment, yield and timber characteristics and its place in British forestry. Species are listed alphabetically through the text by scientific name and those illustrated are readily identifiable in the line drawings by Rosemary Wise, which are clear and accurate. A simple field key for the identification of approximately half of the common forest

and woodland species covered in the book is also provided. There is an extensive bibliography of some 575 references to published literature on the species covered.

The book aims to provide a guide that can be used when selecting species and managing trees. It does not provide detailed botanical descriptions of trees nor has consideration been given to the relative economics of the different species: the main emphasis is upon the suitability of species to sites. This fully updated edition puts more emphasis on species suitable for changing climatic conditions, with accounts of several species that may become more prominent in the future such as silver firs, hickories, eucalyptus, poplars and wingnuts.

While the book is concerned with trees used in British forestry, most of the species listed occur in Ireland making it also relevant to Irish forestry.

The first and second editions, which this book will replace, have become standard textbooks on the subject in universities and colleges in both Britain and Ireland. It is a book for the reader who is reasonably well informed about the principles of forestry practice and is an essential resource for students, researchers and forestry professionals. In addition to its practicality, it is a valuable contribution to forestry literature in this part of the world and will remain relevant for many years to come.

Alistair Pfeifer

Sadly Dr Peter Savill passed away in November 2019. He will be missed by all in forestry.

Ed.