

# Letter to the Editor

The Editor,  
Irish Forestry

Dear Sir,

Without wishing to labour the points raised in our correspondence (Vol. 32, No. 2, 1975) we nevertheless feel obliged to comment briefly on the reply by Dickson and Savill, (last issue).

Our aim was simply to underline the dangers inherent in adopting vegetation as a sole criterion for site classification. We regarded it as unfortunate, (and we still do), that the authors rejected soil characteristic as an index of forest site quality on the basis of results obtained by analytical methods designed for agricultural crops. That was it, no more and no less. As stated in our original correspondence we find it "encouraging" that the authors were "successful in relating site vegetation to fertiliser needs on both deep peat and gley soils". Thus our comments should not be construed as criticism of Dickson and Savill's research or findings, but rather as a reminder to readers that there is another viewpoint, which in our opinion is a valid one.

Yours faithfully,

R. McCarthy  
M. L. Carey