

J. J. Deasy 1916-1980

Joe Deasy entered Avondale Forestry School in February 1936 to pursue a course of studies and practical training in forestry. From the outset he showed more than an average grasp of the scientific aspects of the course and as for the effective practice of the essential details of forest farming he was second to none. During those early years his social leanings were very evident. "He mixed with Kings — but didn't lose the common touch".

On conclusion of the training period at Avondale Joe was selected for a special course of study in Germany, where he spent about a year gleaning the "forest lore", German style. On his return to Ireland he went to Avondale as Housemaster and then as Forester-in Charge to Enniscorthy area — later to return again to Avondale as Forester-in-Charge and Housemaster. He was promoted Assistant Nursery Inspector in 1950 later to become Grade II and subsequently Grade I with complete responsibility for the organisation and management of all State nurseries. In addition he was responsible for directing the operation of the amenity section of the forestry service. It was during this period that he made his most significant contribution to forestry — while he always believed that he was still learning.

Joe was a prominent member of the Society of Irish Foresters filling many offices on Council. His contributions to the Journal were simple and informative.

His promotion to the post of Senior Inspector was the final step in a career dedicated to the advancement of forestry. Let us hope that he has left some rewards of his research — they should be worth preserving for future generations interested in forestry.

To his wife Maura and the children we offer our deepest sympathy. As a family man Joe, as in all his work, was a perfectionist.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a Anam.

A Colleague.