



SPECIES CHOICE SECOND SEMINAR SERIES – THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPECIES DIVERSITY.

THE TIMBER PROPERTIES AND UTILISATION OF ALTERNATIVE SPECIES FOR PRODUCTIVE FORESTRY

In 2010, with increasing pressure to diversify the range of species planted to mitigate the risk of disease and insect attack, Woodknowledge Wales, Forest Research and ConFor jointly ran seminars on species choice, which focused on the opportunities for widening species choice with reference to potential species, soils, altitude and the logistics of management.

This second series of seminars will examine the next range of issues affecting species choice – the properties and utilisation of species which could be planted with the objective of developing a productive forest.

The first seminar in this second series was held on Friday 7th October at Brechfa Forest, Abergorlech, Carmarthenshire.

Following a morning of presentations we were able to visit Forestry Commission Wales' Brechfa Forest Plots, which are an extremely valuable resource for future species choice. In the 1950's 89 different conifer species from around the world were planted in plots and small stands to create the Brechfa Forest Garden. We were able to look at these species and assess the potential of those trees which have performed well.

Click to view the presentations given by:

[Dr Barry Gardiner, Programme Group Manager for the Forestry Commission Centre for Forest Resources and Management.](#) Barry's field of expertise is the relationship between timber properties, growth and sawn timber performance.

Dr Scott McG. Wilson, Consultant Forester and Forest Ecologist. Scott has recently undertaken independent research on the potential of alternative conifer species in Britain, sponsored by Woodland Heritage and Forestry Commission Scotland. Following this work he authored an article on this subject in *Quarterly Journal of Forestry* (January 2010) and also a technical guide to 'Using alternative conifer species for productive forestry in Scotland'. [This presentation is too large to be put onto our website please email and a copy will be sent to you either by email or disk.](#)

[Dainis Dauksta – Sawmiller and Wood Scientist](#). Dainis runs his own sawmill and has extensive experience of milling a wide range of conifer and broadleaved species. He is currently undertaking a number of projects to examine various options for timber engineering using home grown timber.

If you wish to be advised of further seminars in this series please contact us at timber.info@wfbp.co.uk