Forests Business
How do we manage our forests in Hesse

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- Forestry division -
Forests and Forestry in Hesse/Germany

1 Forests in Germany (1)

Forest cover: 33% = 11.1 Mio. ha

Forest Ownership:

Private property: 43%
Community forests: 21%
State Government: 36%

Broad-leaved tree species (beech, oak): 40%
Conifers (Norway spruce, Scots pine): 60%
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1 Forests in Germany (2)

Standing volume: 317 m³/ha
Annual increment: 11 m³/ha
Annual timber harvesting: 6 m³/ha
Average revenues from timber: 50 €/m³
2 State of Hesse:

Area: 21,100 km²

Population / km²: 287
- Southern Hesse: 511
- Northern Hesse: 151

Gross domestic product per inhabitant: 34,000 €
- Agriculture, Forestry: 0.5%
- Service industries: 37.1%

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2 Land use:
Forestry: 42%
Agriculture: 41%
Built-up land: 7%
Traffic: 7%

Forests in Hesse:
Forest cover: 895,000 ha

Forest ownership:
State Government: 40%
Communities: 35%
Private Property: 25%

= 100 km
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2   Forests in Hesse (2)

Ecological conditions:

- altitude: 90m – 950m

- Average Temperature: 5-10°C

- Average temperature during May to September 12.5 -17°C

- Precipitation: 600-1.300 mm

- sand stone, quartz rock

- mostly brown earth types
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2 Forests in Hesse (3)

Broad-leaved tree species: 50 %
Standing volume: 319 m³/ha
Annual increment: 11.0 m³/ha
Annual timber harvesting: 7.5 m³/ha
Rotation period: 180 yrs. (Oak), 80-100 Yrs. (Spruce)
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30% of the Hessian Forests are covered by beech
Legal background of Forestry in Hesse (1)

Hessian Forest Act

§ 6  Basic obligations, orderly forest management

(1) The forest owner has to manage his/her forest sustainable, professional and according to plan as well for the benefit of the public and under consideration of the landscape ecology and preserving the protective, productive and recreational functions. ....
2 Legal background of Forestry in Hesse (2)

• Long-term existence and sustainability of forest production
• Multipurpose forestry on the same space (timber production, environmental protection, recreation)
• Avoidance of large area clear-cuttings
• Choice of tree species that are suited to the site.
• Extent abandonment of pesticides
• Mid-term (10 years) management plan obligatory
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2 Legal background of Forestry in Hesse (3)
Principles and objectives of forest policy and legislation

Safeguarding sustainability in forestry

- Maintaining and increasing forest area

- Protecting and strengthening forest functions

- Economic efficiency in forestry

- Promotion and control of orderly forest management
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3 Organisation of forest authorities in Hesse

Hessian Ministry for Environment, Power Supply, Agriculture and Consumer Protection
- Forestry division -

Regional Council
Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Nature protection

State enterprise HESSEN-FORST
Director General
Personel management Organization Real Estate management
Finances Budget IT
Silviculture Timber Production Marketing
Services for private and local authorities forest owners Public relations

41 State Forest Offices with 440 Ranger districts
1 National Park Office
1 Forest Logistics Office
1 Forest Training Center
1 Forest Seed Center

Agency for
• Forest Management planning
• Nature Data Management

Local County Authority
Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Nature protection

Advisory board

Carsten Wilke, reported by Sebastian Stoll
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3.1 Hessen-Forst is commissioned with (1)

1. the management of state-owned-forest (343,000 ha or 17 % of the land cover of the State of Hesse):
   - Timber production,
   - Other forest products,
   - Real estate management,
   - Hunting and fishing

1. Management of the Nationalpark Kellerwald (5,700 ha)

2. the management of 93 % of the common property forests (296,000 ha) upon contract,

3. Support of private forest owners through extension services and forest management upon contract (106,000 ha)
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3.1 State forest Enterprise Hessen-Forst

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3.1 Hessen-Forst Annual Timber production:

State forest: 2.0 Mio. m³ from the PEFC certified state forest:
800,000 m³ beech,
800,000 m³ spruce,
250,000 m³ pine
150,000 m³ oak

Community and private forests: 2.5 Mio. m³
3.2 Management of Community forests in Hesse:

- Towns and cities are not obliged to contract Hessen-Forst

- Reason for the option to contract Hessen-Forst:
  - Long experience in all forest management issues
  - State wide organization
  - Hessen-Forst is economically competitive

- Communities pay a fee (ha basis) for the service
3.2 Private forests in Hesse

- 226,000 ha = 25% of the forest area
- In average: 3.8 ha per owner/enterprise
- > 100 ha: 343 owners/enterprises
- < 100 ha: 60,000 owners/enterprises
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3.2 Private forests in Hessen, Support by Hessen-Forst

with contract and bill:

Forest management services i.e.: 
- Annual planning
- Afforestation/reforestation, forest protection
- Forest road construction and maintenance
- Timber harvest and logging
- Timber grading and preparation of timber sales
- Management of service contracts (Third party contracts)
- Measures for safeguarding road and traffic safety in forests
- Management of non-timber forest products marketing including fuel wood
- Forest inventory and long-term planning
- Studies and expertise
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4 Participation
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5 Relevance of Faustmann to the State forest in Hesse today
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Thank you for your attention