

# Updating Tree Sales Agreement for Growers

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## TIMBER FORECAST

The recently updated COFORD All Ireland Roundwood Production Forecast 2021-2040 predicts that the annual potential roundwood supply from forests in Ireland will increase from 4.9 million in 2021 to 7.9 million cubic metres by 2035. Most strikingly, within five years the forecast roundwood output from private forests will exceed that of Coillte for the first time ever. This will have significant implications for private growers and for the sawmilling and processing sector.

Forest owners are now selling more timber from their forests and a well drafted, comprehensive tree sales agreement is recommended for all roundwood sales. ITGA is currently updating and revising its Template Tree Sales Agreement which contains best practice and detailed standard procedures in timber harvesting and timber sales for growers.

The current Template Tree Sales Agreement is available from the ITGA website and is widely employed. The use of this template agreement is considered best practice and has been approved as forest certification compliant. Since 2018 it has been a mandatory topic in the DAFM supported forestry Knowledge Transfer Group programme. The original ITGA Template Tree Sales Agreement was developed in 2014 and now requires updating to ensure continued compliance with current legislation, revised forestry standards, forest certification revisions and new environmental requirements.

In updating the template Tree Sales Agreement, it is necessary to reference current legislation, new harvesting practices and newly introduced environmental requirements and processes. It is important for forest owners and managers to ensure and demonstrate compliance with all such environmental and related requirements, a number of which have been introduced and/or amended since the original Template Tree Sales Agreement was developed. It is also necessary to include references to the Forestry Act 2014 legislation, which was also commenced since the drafting of the original Template Tree Sales Agreement.

ITGA recently received funding from DAFM under the Woodland Support Projects 2021/2022 to undertake this revision and the Association is consulting and seeking comments, observations and suggestions on the updating of this Template Agreement from members and the sector. Stakeholders can email comments and suggestions on the Template Agreement to [info@itga.ie](mailto:info@itga.ie) prior to 21st January 2022 as part of this consultation process. As soon as the revised Template Tree Sales Agreement has been finalised, members will be notified by email and through our newsletters. It will also be made available for downloading from the ITGA website [www.itga.ie](http://www.itga.ie)



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