

ASSESSING THE SITUATION OF PRODUCTION PLANTATION FOREST IN DONG NAI PROVINCE

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Summary

The objective of this study was to assess the current development of production plantation forest in Dong Nai province. Many approaches, including secondary data, group interviews, stakeholder discussions, and field surveys on standard plots, were applied to obtain the objectives. Results showed that the total areas of the production forest in Dong Nai were about 34,485.1 ha, accounting for approximately 60% of the entire plantation forest areas of the province. Different groups of forest owners and commune people's committee managed these areas. Households and individuals own the largest of plantation forest with 11,333.9 ha (account for 33%), the economic organizations with 9,016 ha (account for 26.1%), commune people's committee with 6,194.5 ha (account for 18%), forest management board with 4,570.8 ha (account for 13.3%). Other organizations owned the remaining plantation forest for from 0.2% to 4.4%. Tree species for production forest are quite diverse and planted at various density depending on each species. However, the majority of Dong Nai's plantation forest is acacia plantation forest, accounting 62.8% of the total production plantation forest (21.6 thousand ha). The growth rate of acacia plantations varies at different age classes. Diameter at breast height ($DBH_{1.3}$) and height (Hvn) change strongly from year three to year seven, from the age of seven to nine, the growth $DBH_{1.3}$ and Hvn gradually decrease.

Keywords: *Plantation forest, forestry, Dong Nai.*