1129 FOREST AREA OF THE TROPICAL AND SOUTH TEMPERATE ZONES

Region	Total forest land 1		Productive
	Area (million acres)	Hardwood <sup>2</sup> (percent)	forest land 3 (million acres)
Latin America:			
Mexico	98. 1		
Central America		76	46. 1
Caribbean	17.7	82	5. 0
Northern South America	482. 7	100	197. 1
Southwest South America	382. 2	99	175, 5
Brazil		99	229. 8
Southeast South America	228. 8	99	148.3
Total	2, 152. 3	99	801.8
Africa:			
Western	1, 224. 9	100	670, 8
Eastern	597.8	100	248. 2
Northern	22. 8	65	10. 4
Southern	39. 3	64	2. 6
Total	1, 884. 7	99	932. 0
Near East:			
Mediterranean Basin	2.3	39	7
Southwest Asia	15. 9	100	. 7 2. 2
Arabian Peninsula	3.7		
Total	21.8	90	2. 9
Far East:			
Continental Southeast Asia	315.1	99	123, 4
Insular Southeast Asia	472.7	97	88. 9
South Asia	202.5	95	164. 6
East Asia (less Japan)	42.7	59	15. 3
Total	1, 033. 0	96	392. 2
Pacific	539, 1	64	101.5
China (mainland)	238. 2	04	101. 3
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Senator Morse. I have just a few remaining questions, some I am asking in behalf of committee members and some from counsel to the committee, and some on my own.

We have already put in the record of these hearings, Mr. Cliff, a letter from the Commerce Department of November 27. It has caused a considerable amount of discussion within the hearings already. One part of it reads as follows:

There is no shortage of softwood timber nationally or even regionally.

Would you make a brief comment as to what your position is as to whether or not there is an adequate supply of softwood timber to meet

our national needs at the present time?

Mr. Cliff. Senator Morse, we are currently taking a new look at the timber supply situation. The preliminary data indicates that we do have room for some additional expansion of the softwood timber industry, particularly in the Rocky Mountains and in the South. In parts of the North there is considerable growth overdrain of hardwoods. I don't believe that we could substantiate any statement that there is an excess of softwood timber in the Northwestern United

Total forest land including nonstocked areas.
Includes some "mixed" stands, i.e., stands containing both hardwoods and softwoods.
The estimates of productive forest lands supplied by individual countries are based on somewhat different concepts of what is "productive" ranging from forests that are not now in use to forests that are never likely to be in use. The estimates are therefore most meaningful in indicating the land that is presently considered to be productive.

Source: United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. Wood: world trends and prospects. Unasylva 20 (1-2) Nos. 80-81, 1966.