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Perguntas / Questions

Pergunta nº: 1136/Question nº: 1136

Título: /Title: [Potential productivity of *Eucalyptus* plantations in Brazil](#)

Por: / By: [Bob Flynn](#)

E-mail: rflynn@risi.com

Questão: /Question:

Celso,

Thanks again for this, very helpful. Our pulp economist today asked me about the potential for Brazilian forest industry to continue making gains in growth and yield. ABRAF reports that average MAI for *Eucalyptus* has increased from 26 m³/ha/yr in 1990 to more than 41 m³/ha/yr in 2011, our economist wonders whether this trend can continue for another 10-15 years, or whether you expect that further rate of improvement may slow down (unless the industry moves to more GMO, perhaps)?

Bob Flynn

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Resposta por Celso Foelkel: / Answer by Celso Foelkel:

Dear Bob, good morning.

There is a very interesting research project in Brazil involving several forest based companies and universities to clarify the potential productivity of *Eucalyptus* commercial clones, as far all food and water supply is guaranteed.

You may read about Brazil *Eucalyptus* Potential Productivity (BEPP) at:

<http://lamar.colostate.edu/~binkley/Brazileucalyptus.htm>

and

<http://www.ipef.br/bepp/>

Based on these experiments, it was clear that productivities over 55 - 60 m³/ha.year would be difficult to be achieved as an average, with the clones we have today.

There are also moves on the regions the plantations are being located (Tocantins, Mato Grosso do Sul, Piaui, Maranhao). Based on these new realities, the Brazilian forest sector is wondering to give more responsibility to Biotech Trees, as a new tool to jump productivity levels.

Have a look at:

<http://www.bracelpa.org.br/bra2/?q=en/node/487>

Well, in the new locations, the sector would be happy in case the productivity levels of 45 could be reached. It is being a new world to many foresters.

Regards

Celso

Outros Comentários: / Other Comments:

Por:/ By: [Bob Flynn](#)

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Celso,

Thanks very much for your insights, always very helpful. For sure, if more and more of the expansion of *Eucalyptus* takes place in the

Northeast and other areas with more challenging growing conditions, then making further improvements in "industry-wide average" MAI will be difficult. I will be coming back to Sao Paulo, for RISI's annual pulp and paper conference in late August, but unfortunately will not be able to get down to Rio Grande do Sul on this trip.

Best regards,

Bob Flynn