

Two two-roomed houses were purchased, at a cost of £31 3s. 3d., including the haulage and re-erection of one of the houses to a convenient site, near to the stable, for the use of the horseman.

The season has been very favourable for tree-growing, but owing to part of the area being very poor, the results are not as good as might be expected. *Eucalyptus Stuartiana* have done exceptionally well, *E. rostrata* and *E. resinifera* have also made good growth; in many instances these have attained a height of 2 ft. Fully 20 per cent. of the *Eucalyptus amygdalina* have died, while *E. redunca* have been a complete failure. Some 400 of each species of eucalypti grown were planted unmossed, and the result is very gratifying. *E. Stuartiana*, *E. rostrata*, and *E. resinifera* have done equally as well as those that were mossed. In *E. redunca* the deaths were 25 per cent. and *E. amygdalina* about 11 per cent. With one exception these trees were planted on flat land, in rather better soil than the mossed trees.

The *E. Stuartiana* planted on a hillside stood the dry spell in February very well. This species has proved itself to be wonderfully adapted to this soil and climate; being a very sure grower, it has not been necessary to plant up the blanks in the break planted two seasons ago. One specimen of this planting has reached a height of 10 ft. 9 in.

Of the trees planted five years ago, there are several specimens of *E. redunca* 25 ft. high, the girths varying from 14 in. to 19 in.; also a few *E. rostrata* of a like height, with a 13 in. girth.

The *E. rostrata* and the *E. resinifera* are the best growers of the earlier plantings. *Podocarpus totara* being a very slow and somewhat uncertain grower against the vigorous growth of the fern, the cost of cleaning is necessarily great; it has been deemed advisable to discontinue planting this tree, the area now occupied with totara to be planted up with eucalypti.

Cleaning and planting trees and upkeep of fire-breaks, &c., cost £463 10s. 10d.

Average number of men employed, 9.92.

The following is a record of the rainfall and temperature for the year:—

Month.	Rainfall.	Number of Days Rain fell.	Maximum Temperature.	Date.	Minimum Temperature.	Date.
1908.	Inches.		Degrees.		Degrees.	
April	6.31	10	78	14th	40	24th
May	5.63	12	70	4th	30	31st
June	5.76	12	66	4th	32	19th
July	6.87	22	64	22nd	28	31st
August	8.52	16	64	22nd, 23rd, and 25th	24	7th
September	5.73	16	68	6th, 7th, and 21st	34	1st and 12th
October	5.26	20	74	6th and 8th	38	28th
November	5.52	13	78	10th, 24th, and 30th	38	15th
December	7.40	12	87	21st	44	2nd, 3rd, and 13th
1909.						
January	4.54	13	87	6th	42	16th
February	0.93	7	82	16th and 23rd	46	19th and 21st
March	8.98	16	80	2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th	46	31st
Totals	71.45	169	...	...	...	...

Statement of Expenditure.				£	s.	d.
Amount at the 31st March, 1908	...	...	...	4,788	13	4
Pitting	...	...	...	386	18	9
Tree-planting	...	...	...	254	12	10
Clearing	...	...	...	46	17	6
Cartage of trees	...	...	...	58	16	4
General upkeep of plantation	...	...	...	463	10	10
" repairs	...	...	...	41	10	11
Horse-feed purchased and grown	...	...	...	18	15	1
Fencing	...	...	...	91	4	0
Buildings	...	...	...	43	15	3
Tools, implements, &c.	...	...	...	49	18	10
Miscellaneous works	...	...	...	5	3	9
Purchase of land	...	...	...	10	4	3
Salaries—						
Supervision of free labour, Forester's	...	...	...	170	0	0
Nurseryman's proportion of	...	...	...	20	0	0
Supervision	...	...	...	36	10	0
				£6,486	11	8

J. MASON, Assistant Forester.
A. GORDON, Forester in Charge.