

# Preface

National Forest Inventories in Finland have evolved gradually over a period of one hundred years, first with a trial inventory in the 1910s, and since the 1920s, with operative inventories. The sampling design and estimation methods have been continuously revised to correspond with inventory techniques and the available infrastructure. The content, as well as the collected data and variables employed, are constantly adapted to the users' needs. Co-operation with the inventories of other countries, particularly with those of the Nordic countries, has supported these developments. Assessing the wood production potential was the key aim of the early inventories, and has remained important in the current inventories. Forest health and damage assessments were added in the 1970s and 1980s. The assessment of biodiversity became an important part of the inventory in the 1990s with the UNCBD agreements. National inventories worldwide are vital information sources for greenhouse gas reporting for the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol.

This book demonstrates in detail all phases of the 9th National Forest Inventory of Finland (1996–2003): the planning of the sampling design, measurements, estimation methods and results. The inventory knowledge accumulated during almost one hundred years is consolidated in the book. The purpose of the numerous examples of results is to demonstrate the diversity of the estimates and content of a national forest inventory. The authors hope that the book will help in designing and conducting any large area forest inventory.

Helsinki December 2010

Erkki Tomppo, Juha Heikkinen,  
Helena M. Henttonen, Antti Ihalainen,  
Matti Katila, Helena Mäkelä,  
Tarja Tuomainen, Nina Vainikainen

Designing and Conducting a Forest Inventory - case:

9th National Forest Inventory of Finland

Tomppo, E.; Heikkinen, J.; Henttonen, H.M.; Ihalainen,

A.; Katila, M.; Mäkelä, H.; Tuomainen, T.; Vainikainen, N.

2011, XII, 272 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-94-007-1651-3