



# Broadleaf Forestry Research

Dr Ian Short

Forestry Research, CELUP, Ashtown Research Centre



## Context

- The national forest estate ~ 11% of land area.
- Industry main focus is on Sitka spruce
- > ¼ of forest area is broadleaf
- Broadleaf planting increased from mid 1990s, planted by private owners
- Broadleaf silviculture knowledge is limited

- Many broadleaf stands are poor quality
  - Incorrect species choice for site
  - Poor quality planting stock
  - Lack of timely management
  - Pests (e.g. squirrel), disease (e.g. 'Chalara' ash dieback)
- Management options
  - Thinning
  - Remedial silviculture

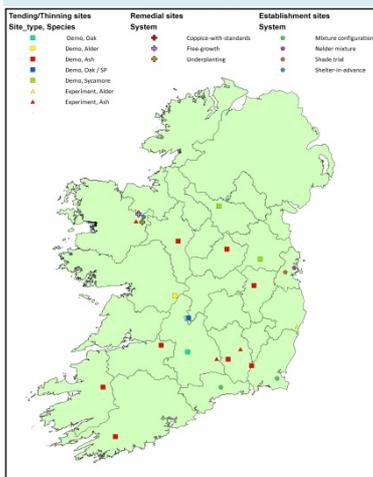
## RMIS project – 0139 Broadleaf Silviculture Management, monitoring and dissemination of long-term broadleaf silviculture trials

- Establishment of broadleaf mixtures
  - Shelter-in-advance
  - Configuration
  - Spacing
- Tending/Thinning
- Remedial silviculture
  - Free-growth
  - Underplanting
  - Coppice-with-standards
- Establishment of new trial in oak
- Demo days for industry and farm-foresters



## DAFM project – EARTH Exploitation And Realisation of Thinnings from Hardwoods With NUIG

- Quantify the resource
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> thinnings
- Physical and mechanical properties
- Drying schedules
- Durability of thinnings
- Potential end-uses
- Dissemination



## DAFM project – ShortFor Short Rotation Forestry With UCD, WIT, UL and TCD

- Spacing and species suitability
  - Close / wide planting density
  - Eucalyptus / Alder / Sitka spruce / Grand fir / Coast redwood
- Fuel properties characterisation
- Economic & environmental sustainability
- Dissemination

## Additional interests

Continuous Cover Forestry  
Agroforestry  
Knowledge transfer

## Acknowledgements

Jerry Campion  
Niall Farrelly  
Ignacio Sevillano  
Susie Foreman  
Annette Harte (NUIG)  
Conor O'Reilly (UCD)  
Private site owners who facilitate the work