SELF-EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING METHODS IN DELIVERY SALES IN FINLAND

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Tenth inventory by TTS Institute
- the first one started in 1959

Things to be clarified:
- amount of delivery fellings by timber assortments,
- implementors of timber harvesting
- harvesting methods and equipment
- development of self-employed harvesting

New aspects:
- extension of sample basis
- utilisation of indirect data
- development of inventory method

The TTS-inventory is unique in Finland – no other institution produces corresponding information
Sample of 900 forest owners from three regional forestry centres (sampling criterion: at least one delivery sale per forest holding in 2002)

Sample distributed and weighted between large, medium-sized and small buyers of roundwood (contact information obtained from wood buyers)

462 accepted answers => rate of return 51.3%

Source: Metinfo, Forest information services of FFRI (Statistics of commercial fellings 2004)

Developments in the difference between delivery-sales prices and stumpage prices during the period 1983 – 2003

Source: Metinfo, Forest information services of FFRI (Statistics of commercial fellings 2004)
Distribution of felling treatments in an average delivery sale

Distribution of sawtimber and pulpwood in an average delivery sale

Proportions of self-employed timber harvesting in the total volume of delivery sales timber

Proportion of self-employed timber harvesting during the period 1989-2002
Performers of delivery sales timber felling

Performers of forest haulage of delivery sales timber

Proportions of felling methods in the total volume of delivery sales timber in 2002

Proportions of forest haulage methods in the total volume of delivery sales timber in 2002
Self-employed vs. contracted felling work: characteristics of forest owners

Factors influencing the self-employed timber harvesting by forest owners

- Avoidance of harvesting damage
- Physical exercise and recreation value of forest work
- Personal or family member's need for work opportunities
- Tradition of self-employed harvesting on holding
- Partial exemption from taxation connected to delivery sales timber harvesting
- Higher price for timber compared to stumpage sales
- Forest management plan accomplished for holding
- Need for employing the forestry equipment acquired
- The unification of forest taxation in 2006
The future development of self-employed timber harvesting: opinions of forest owners

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INTERIM ACCOUNTS
So far, more questions than answers...

Delivery sales still alive, but how long? Non-economic motivators dominate.

Increasing interest in forest work – the new rise of self-employed harvesting?

Political awakening in delivery sales (Forest certification, National Forest Program) => institutional, educational, (and even financial) support for the delivery-sales-oriented forest owners?

CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

Self employment in timber harvesting and full-time farming, an impossible combination?

How does the self-employment in different types forest work combine?

Do we have material reliable enough to build a new inventory method for delivery sales?