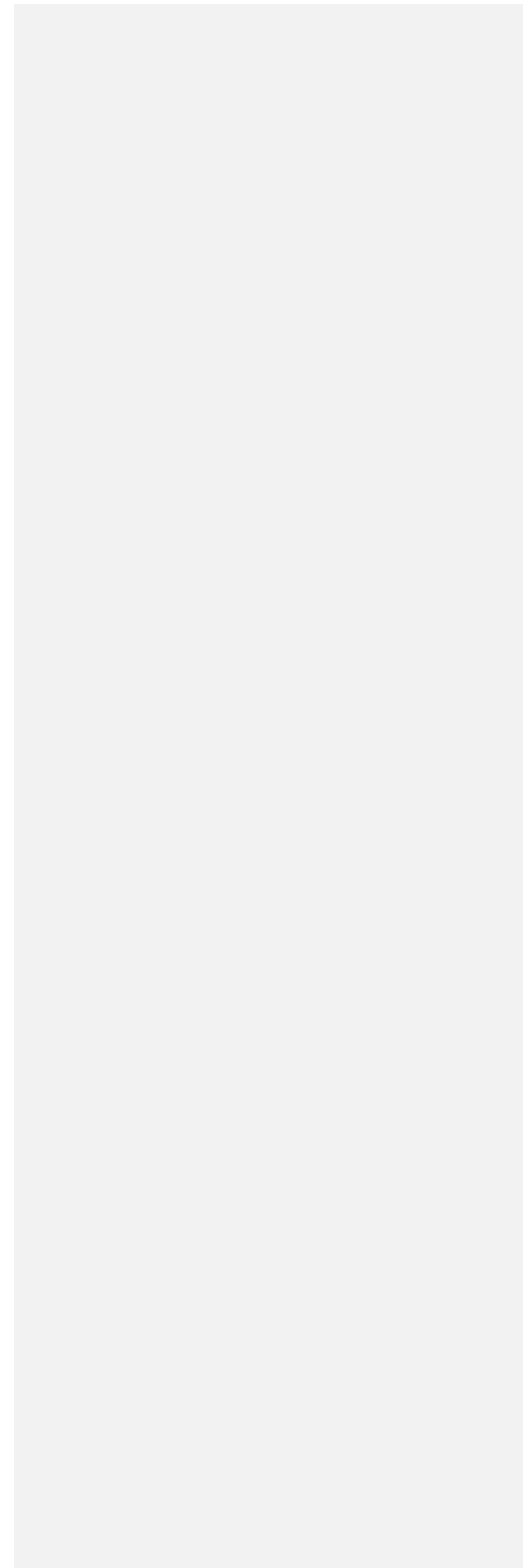


CentralPro – An Excel Growth Simulator for Mixed-Species Hardwood Forests in Indiana (Beta Version)

Vamsi Vipparla

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Introduction

This is a program developed to work with Microsoft Excel ® for simulating the growth and management of mixed-species hardwood forests located in Indiana, USA. The underlying growth model supporting this Excel program is described in Ma et al. (2016) and Wang et al. (2020).

A forest stand is represented by the number of trees per hectare in each of 17 size classes in seven species groups. The seven species groups are: White oak (WO), Red oak (RO), Black walnut (BW), Black cherry (BC), Maple (MP), Soft wood (SW), Other Angiosperms (OA). The seventeen diameter classes are of 5-cm increments, except for the first class (2.54–7 cm) and the last (82 cm and above) class.

This program allows users to predict stand development from a specific initial state for a given period. Both deterministic and stochastic simulations can be performed. The latter are based on forest fire impacts as described in Ma et al. (2016). Users can choose whether or not to include forest fire to generate simulations. Users can also specify various management regimes such as the cutting cycle (the interval between harvests) and cutting intensity (the percentage of growing stock to remove). The tabulated results show the volume of harvest, residual basal area, and the net present value (NPV).

This manual documents the instructions on how to use the program to generate simulation results. It also illustrates how to read the results by providing two practical examples. This will also help the user learn how to enter the input data, choose the options, start the program, execute a simulation, and understand the output tables.

Requirements

You need the following hardware and software to operate the simulator:

- A personal computer
- Microsoft Excel ® 2007 or above
- A free copy of the simulator program downloadable from

<https://ag.purdue.edu/facai/data/>

Initializing the Simulator

After downloading the program onto your computer, you can open the program directly by clicking on the downloaded Excel file. Navigate to the “**Input**” Worksheet (Fig.1). This worksheet contains all the input cells, where you can enter the required stand information and choose the various input options provided in different sections of the worksheet

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
1	Beta version (last updated July 15, 2020)																			
2	SPECIES																			
3	White Oak (WO)	Red Oak	Black Cherry	Black Walnut	Maple	Soft wood	Input Data													
4	DBH class (CM)	4.77	9.50	14.50	19.50	24.50	29.50	34.50	39.50	44.50	49.50	54.50	59.50	64.50	69.50	74.50	79.50	84.50		
5	Initial state (trees/ha)	54.99077	24.918	20.580738	17.3827508	14.313	9.656806	8.3462	6.14	3.24	2.07	1.24	1.38	0.21	0.21	0.03	0.14	0.103465778		
6	Target state (trees/ha)	0.0	635	353	196	189	6.0	34	19	10	6.6	0.32	0.2	0.10	0.1	0.03	0.0			
7	Red Oak (RO)																			
8	DBH class (CM)	4.77	9.50	14.50	19.50	24.50	29.50	34.50	39.50	44.50	49.50	54.50	59.50	64.50	69.50	74.50	79.50	84.50		
9	Initial state (trees/ha)	45.96885	18.044	17.624503	14.4507204	12.554	9.5533402	9.6223	7.93	5.1	3.41	2.17	1.41	0.9	0.55	0.45	0.07	0.206931557		
10	Target state (trees/ha)	100.6	553	310	172	96	53	30	16	8.9	6.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0			
11	Black Cherry (BC)																			
12	DBH class (CM)	4.77	9.50	14.50	19.50	24.50	29.50	34.50	39.50	44.50	49.50	54.50	59.50	64.50	69.50	74.50	79.50	84.50		
13	Initial state (trees/ha)	16.15354	5.4991	1.1588167	0.88290798	0.7174	0.5242266	0.3035	0.3	0.08	0.19	0.03	0.06	0	0	0.03	0.06	0		
14	Target state (trees/ha)	67.1	373	207	115	64	35	20	11	6.6	0.3	0.19	0.1	0.06	0.0	0.02	0.0			
15	Black Walnut (BW)																			
16	DBH class (CM)	4.77	9.50	14.50	19.50	24.50	29.50	34.50	39.50	44.50	49.50	54.50	59.50	64.50	69.50	74.50	79.50	84.50		
17	Initial state (trees/ha)	5.567816	3.4026	1.8925618	1.13674402	0.9298	0.6539037	0.6098	0.29	0.2	0.07	0.03	0.02	0	0.02	0	0	0		
18	Target state (trees/ha)	53.3	296	165	91	51	28	16	8.9	6.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
19	Maple (MP)																			
20	DBH class (CM)	4.77	9.50	14.50	19.50	24.50	29.50	34.50	39.50	44.50	49.50	54.50	59.50	64.50	69.50	74.50	79.50	84.50		
21	Initial state (trees/ha)	152.0839	49.406	25.864293	14.8645835	9.105	4.7249372	3.0005	1.45	0.97	0.69	0.17	0.17	0.03	0.1	0	0	0		
22	Target state (trees/ha)	67.1	373	207	115	64	35	20	11	6.6	0.3	0.19	0.1	0.06	0.0	0.02	0.0			
23	Soft wood (SW)																			
24	DBH class (CM)	4.77	9.50	14.50	19.50	24.50	29.50	34.50	39.50	44.50	49.50	54.50	59.50	64.50	69.50	74.50	79.50	84.50		
25	Initial state (trees/ha)	39.95423	17.614	9.3966495	5.96652656	4.4145	2.1038042	0.7932	0.52	0.28	0.1	0.07	0.1	0.03	0	0	0	0		
26	Target state (trees/ha)	67.1	373	207	115	64	35	20	11	6.6	0.3	0.19	0.1	0.06	0.0	0.02	0.0			
27	Other Anagapoms (OA)																			
28	DBH class (CM)	4.77	9.50	14.50	19.50	24.50	29.50	34.50	39.50	44.50	49.50	54.50	59.50	64.50	69.50	74.50	79.50	84.50		
29	Initial state (trees/ha)	454.8553	141.77	61.975636	32.8503847	20.564	13.709216	8.2342	4.7	3.32	2.16	0.91	0.78	0.17	0.26	0	0.04	0.043110741		
30	Target state (trees/ha)	67.1	373	207	115	64	35	20	11	6.6	0.3	0.19	0.1	0.06	0.0	0.02	0.0			
31	Number of simulations	1																		
	Basal area, volume Harvest Rep stand data Rep ba data sim stand average sim ba average sim harvest avg sim NPV avg TSI Input fire ...																			

Figure 1. Display of input worksheet showing initial stand input cells

In Figure 1, all the rows colored in light green which are labeled “Initial state” require information of the initial number of trees per hectare in the stand at the beginning of the simulation, by seven species groups and 17 diameter classes as defined in Ma et al. (2016). The rows labeled “Target state” are for future extension of the program thus not requiring any inputs at this moment.

After entering the initial stand condition, there are other cells requiring inputs within the same “Input” worksheet by the user, shown in Figure 2. The explanation of each input variable is as follow:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
31	Number of replications	100											
32	start year of simulation	2011											
33	end year of sim	2050 years											
34	Length of simulation	39 years											
35	state	IN P		T									
36	climate scenario	RCP4.5	0.9211	11.6									
37	slope	14.4826 degree		Timber Stand Improvement									
38	Site Index	4.25 m ³ /ha*yr		Frequency	NO TSI								
39	Management			START YEAR	2011								
40	specify frequency	no harvest	Years	Size/Species	WO	RO	BC	BW	MP	SW	OA		
41	specify intensity	Low		Pulpwood	0.8	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5		
42	Star year of harvest	2011		Small sawtimber	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5		
43	Interest rate(%)	3%		Large sawtimber	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5		
44				Interest rate(%)	3%								
45	FIRE			STUMPAGE Price (\$/m ³)									
46	FIRE/NO FIRE	fire		SPECIES/SIZES	Pulpwood	Small sawtin	Large sawtimber						
47				WO	50	80	110						
48				RO	60	90	120						
49				BC	30	40	50						
50				BW	90	120	150						
51				MP	40	70	100						
52				SW	20	40	60						
53				OA	40	60	80						
54													

Figure 2. Display of input variables within input worksheet

(1) **Number of repetitions:** The program is capable of performing multiple repetitions of a simulation. The purpose of the repetitions is to capture variations due to random elements in the stochastic simulation. If only simulating the deterministic result, this number needs to be left at its default value, “1”, as all the repetitions yield the same result. When the option of “Forest fire” is chosen, the user needs to determine the number of simulations to generate. The results of all simulations can be found in the worksheet named “Rep”, to be explained later in this document. It is important to note that

stochastic simulations only predict forest growth without management; management options are not allowed in this case.

- (2) **Start year of simulation, End year of simulation, Length of simulation:** All simulations start from “**Start year of simulation**” and end in the “**End year of simulation**”, as specified by the user. The “**Length of simulation**” will then be automatically calculated. The end year should be greater than the start year to avoid errors.
- (3) **Climate scenario:** This program accommodates four time-dependent Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios: RCP2.6, RCP4.5, RCP6.0 and RCP8.5. There is also an option to choose a constant climate represented by the average growing-season temperature (T) and precipitation (P), located to the right of the climate scenario option. The user thus can generate results specific to one of the five climate scenarios.
- (4) **Slope and Site index:** These values can also be specified by the user. The default values are the mean values of the sample plots in Indiana.
- (5) **Management:** This section has three input options.
 - a. **Specify frequency:** The user specifies a thinning frequency from the drop-down list: (1) no-harvest, (2) 10 years, and (3) 20 years.
 - b. **Specify intensity:** The user chooses a harvesting intensity, i.e., the proportion of trees in a stand that needs to be removed. The list of options contains low, medium and high. Low corresponds to removing only 20% of trees across all species and sizes, medium to 50%, and high to 80%.
 - c. **Specify start year of harvest:** This option lets the user choose a year from when they want to implement harvesting regime. It can be any year between the starting and ending years of the simulation.

d. Interest rate: The interest rate is assumed constant over time, with a default value of 3% per year. The user can specify a different rate when calculating the NPV.

- (6) **TSI:** This section allows the user to implement timber stand improvement (TSI) practices. The three input cells, **Frequency** and **Start year**, **Interest rate** are similar to that in the **Management** section, except that here there is one extra option of five-year cycle to give a more frequent thinning option. The key difference is in the following three rows of inputs, specifying intensity by species groups and commercial sizes. Note that three commercial sizes are defined as: pulpwood (25cm to 33cm), small-sawtimber (33 to 40), and large-sawtimber (40cm and above). The user can specify an intensity of thinning for each of the 21 combinations, by entering a number between 0 and 1, 0 being not removing anything and 1 being harvest all.
- (7) **FIRE:** This is the option to decide whether to include forest fire as a random event in the simulation. If the user chooses “yes”, then the growth model becomes stochastic and if “no” is chosen, it remains as a deterministic model. For the definition of fire impacts, please refer to Ma et al. (2016).
- (8) **Stumpage prices:** This section has the same seven species groups and three commercial size classes as in the **TSI** section. The user can enter values to reflect the stumpage price for each specific category.

How to Run the Simulator?

Once all the required fields are entered correctly, the user can run the simulator by taking one of the approaches as described below.

- (1) **Go to** Developers tab > Macros > **Run** (Fig.3)

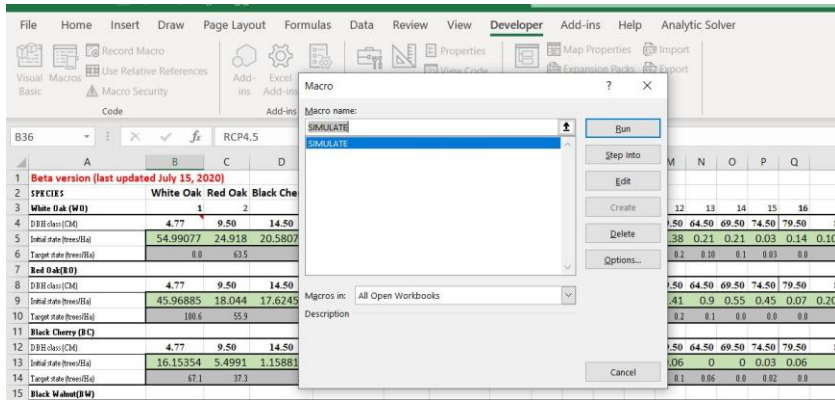


Figure 3. Location of “run” in excel

If the user doesn't have a developers tab present, they can customize their ribbon to add developer's tab by following this step-

- a. Go to file > Options > customize ribbon > on main tabs check **Developer**

(2) Alternate method to run macro without developer,

- Go to View tab > Macros(at the right end of the list) > view macros > **Run**

After starting the macro, it will take Excel some time to run the program and generate simulations. The running time depends on the **length of simulation**, and the **number of repetitions**. Generally it should take somewhere from less than one minute to several minutes. The user can find the summarized results in the “**Input**” worksheet and the other simulation results in the other sheets within the Excel file. Two examples are provided below to illustrate how to read the results. Once a new simulation has started, the simulator will replace all old tables and charts with the new ones. For this reason, you should save the workbook as a different file after each simulation.

EXAMPLE-1: Deterministic Simulation with TSI

Here we perform simulations based on the deterministic part of the model, i.e., we choose, **Fire** = “NO” in the input section. For a given initial condition of a stand, we obtain the results of the volume of harvests, NPV of harvests, and residual basal area.

Setting Simulation Parameters:

The number of repetitions is selected to be “1”, as it is a deterministic simulation. Next, the start year and end year of simulations are set as 2011 and 2050, respectively. We then choose **Climate scenario-RCP4.5**. Both the slope and site index are left at their default values: **14.5** degrees and **4.3** m³ ha⁻¹yr⁻¹ respectively. We will select “no management” as TSI will be implemented. We set the frequency and intensity along with the first year of TSI in the **TSI** section. All these inputs can be seen in Figure 4.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
31	Number of replications	1												
32	start year of simulation	2011												
33	end year of sim	2050	years											
34	Length of simulation	39	years											
35	state	IN	P	T										
36	climate scenerio	RCP4.5	0.9211	11.6										
37	slope	14.4826	degree		Timber Stand Improvement									
38	Site Index	4.25	m ³ /ha*yr		Frequency	5								
39	Management				START YEAR	2011								
40	specify frequency	no harvest	Years		Size/Species	WO	RO	BC	BW	MP	SW	OA		
41	specify intensity	Low			Pulpwood	0.8	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5		
42	Star year of harvest	2011			Small sawtimber	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5		
43	Interest rate(%)	3%			Large sawtimber	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5		
44					Interest rate(%)	3%								
45	FIRE				STUMPAGE Price (\$/m3)									
46	FIRE/NO FIRE	no fire			SPECIES/SIZES	Pulpwood	Small sawtin	Large sawtimber						
47					WO	50	80	110						
48					RO	60	90	120						
49					BC	30	40	50						
50					BW	90	120	150						
51					MP	40	70	100						
52					SW	20	40	60						
53					OA	40	60	80						
54														
55														

Figure 4. Display of all the input parameter for example-1

Simulation Output

The NPV and harvested volume (Fig.5) are summarized in the **Input Data** worksheet, while the other worksheets contain much detailed data of the simulation.

Commented [ZM1]: Show as a figure.

	NPV of differer Pulpwood(\$ Small sawir Large sawtimber(\$/ha)				SUM TOTAL(\$/ha)	Vol of differer Pulpwood Small saw Large sawtimber(m^3 VOL TOTAL(m^3/ha) C				
2011	561.39526	1219.389	5248.47109		7029.25566	2011	12.095	16.2266	48.3328	85.3655
2016	190.7111	442.9015	1959.79534		2593.407972	2016	5.07144	7.11616	21.6544	42.0516
2021	94.810307	172.7311	797.049198		1064.590603	2021	3.05288	3.3485	10.5615	24.8573
2026	66.522012	73.00164	348.897334		488.4209855	2026	2.51796	1.7101	5.53359	17.4053
2031	57.468275	35.22803	161.623446		254.3197488	2031	2.51269	0.99723	3.06764	13.9454
2036	51.898683	20.94559	78.3019624		151.1462309	2036	2.61899	0.70933	1.78557	12.2532
2041	46.097693	15.25411	39.7286676		101.0804734	2041	2.68666	0.60784	1.09665	11.4055
2046	40.612946	12.58615	21.4611707		74.66027034	2046	2.73049	0.58339	0.72306	11.0873
TOTAL/SIZE CL	1109.5163	1992.037	8655.32821		11756.88184	TOTAL VOL/SI	33.2861	31.2992	92.7552	218.371

Figure 5. Display of NPV result generated through simulation

Stand development worksheet- This worksheet (Fig. 6) shows the number of trees per hectare on the stand after harvests by species and diameter class, for each year of the simulation. Scrolling to the right reveals the tree distribution for other species and sizes. Scrolling down reveals the result for more years.

Basal area, volume worksheet- This worksheet (Fig. 7) shows, for each year, the basal area and volume of each species and size corresponding to the number of trees in the *stand development* worksheet.

TSI worksheet- This worksheet (Fig. 8) shows for each year, when TSI is implemented, the number of trees removed, volume harvested, and residual basal area for each species and size. All of the tables are formatted in the same way as the previous tables.

YEAR	W0	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10	W11	W12	W13	W14	W15	W16	W17	W18	W19	RO	RO	RO	
2011	53.00294	24.24332	16.02192	13.64074	7.072619	4.854858	4.148121	3.09585	1.683062	1.063826	0.644177	0.676468	0.147887	0.101777	0.023763	0.062846	0.054905	42.52753	17.64835	11.65866	9.729			
2016	47.11612	22.30962	4.389516	2.628874	2.946283	2.463304	2.061446	1.618161	0.991937	0.628024	0.390677	0.330427	0.157954	0.070055	0.026426	0.02432	0.03366	31.8334	15.86993	4.027398	2.575			
2021	44.62123	20.90455	2.499281	0.640486	1.169075	1.186942	1.028803	0.836382	0.556577	0.36851	0.235244	0.175789	0.106904	0.053185	0.022639	0.012929	0.01921	26.79943	14.16643	2.438759	0.849			
2026	40.94483	20.17385	2.494183	0.333712	0.45003	0.544288	0.506806	0.428923	0.304594	0.213274	0.141269	0.099308	0.065716	0.037275	0.017966	0.008736	0.011277	22.75554	12.88496	2.194873	0.474			
2031	35.16085	19.802	2.896006	0.362879	0.18033	0.238375	0.242967	0.216945	0.163412	0.121159	0.08405	0.058228	0.039557	0.024482	0.013219	0.006494	0.007137	18.37465	11.87648	2.257025	0.442			
2036	31.47633	19.16712	3.078801	0.413667	0.089216	0.103324	0.113011	0.107268	0.085437	0.066979	0.048837	0.034384	0.023679	0.015402	0.009034	0.004731	0.004821	16.73629	10.89356	2.249789	0.46			
2041	30.28653	18.44923	3.031799	0.423064	0.059683	0.047618	0.051814	0.051794	0.043463	0.035952	0.027553	0.020028	0.014055	0.009426	0.005845	0.003264	0.003333	17.46179	10.40425	2.19591	0.472			
2046	31.686	17.96328	2.935543	0.413396	0.049308	0.022516	0.024236	0.024628	0.021585	0.018779	0.015108	0.011417	0.008229	0.005663	0.003652	0.002148	0.00229	20.53136	10.61352	2.183946	0.473			

Figure 8. Display of the TSI worksheet

EXAMPLE-2: Stochastic simulations considering fire impacts

In this example, we perform simulations based on the stochastic part of the model, i.e., we choose, **Fire** = “YES” in the input section. We turn off all management-related options included in the TSI and Management sections. This example illustrates how to read the results of the stochastic growth model when requiring multiple repetitions.

Setting Simulator Parameters:

The number of repetitions is set as “10” here. “no harvest” and “no TSI” are selected as the program in its current state cannot evaluate management when performing stochastic simulations (fig.9).

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
31	Number of replications	1											
32	start year of simulation	2011											
33	end year of sim	2050	years										
34	Length of simulation	39	years										
35	state	IN	P	T									
36	climate scenario	RCP4.5	0.9211	11.6									
37	slope	14.4826	degree		Timber Stand Improvement								
38	Site Index	4.25	m ³ /ha*yr		Frequency	NO TSI							
39	Management				START YEAR	2011							
40	specify frequency	no harvest	Years		Size/Species	WO	RO	BC	BW	MP	SW	OA	
41	specify intensity	Low			Pulpwood	0.8	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5	
42	Star year of harvest	2011			Small sawtimber	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5	
43	Interest rate(%)	3%			Large sawtimber	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5	
44					Interest rate(%)	3%							
45	FIRE				STUMPAGE Price (\$/m3)								
46	FIRE/NO FIRE	fire			SPECIES/SIZES	Pulpwoor	Small sawtin	Large sawtimber					
47					WO	50	80	110					
48					RO	60	90	120					
49					BC	30	40	50					
50					BW	90	120	150					
51					MP	40	70	100					
52					SW	20	40	60					
53					OA	40	60	80					
54													
55													

Figure 9. Display of input variables within input worksheet

Simulation Output

The outputs of this example are contained in two worksheets. *Rep stand data* worksheet contains, for each replication, the number of trees per hectare on the stand by species and diameter class, while the

Rep ba data worksheet displays the basal area. All the data displayed follow the same format as the other data tables. The variation in each replication of the same simulation (i.e., same parameters) is due to the random fire impacts.

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