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2 **PLANTATION FORESTRY IN BRAZIL: THE**
3 **POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATIC CHANGE**
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1
2
3 ABSTRACT
4 1. INTRODUCTION
5 2. IMPACT OF CLIMATE-INDUCED CHANGES
6 2.1 Impacts on silviculture
7 2.2 Impacts on areas of plantations
8 3. ADAPTATION AND COPING OPTIONS IN THE SILVICULTURE SECTOR .
9 4. CONCLUSIONS
10 Acknowledgments
11 REFERENCES
12 Figure Legends
13 Figures

1 ABSTRACT--Most climatic changes projected to occur in Brazil
2 would reduce yields of silvicultural plantations, mainly through
3 increased frequency and severity of droughts brought on by global
4 warming and by reduction of water vapor sources in Amazonia
5 caused by deforestation. Some additional negative effects could
6 result from changes in temperature, and positive effects could
7 result from CO₂ enrichment. The net effects would be negative,
8 forcing the country to expand plantations onto less-productive
9 land, requiring increased plantation area (and consequent
10 economic losses) out of proportion to the climatic change itself.
11 These impacts would affect carbon sequestration and storage
12 consequences of any plans for subsidizing silviculture as a
13 global warming mitigation option.

14
15 Climate change can be expected to increase the area of
16 plantations needed to supply projected internal demand and
17 exports from Brazil. June-July-August (dry season) precipitation
18 reductions indicated by simulations reported by the
19 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) correspond to
20 rainfall declines in this critical season of approximately 34% in
21 Amazonia, 39% in Southern Brazil and 61% in the Northeast. As an
22 example, if rainfall in Brazilian plantation areas (most of which
23 are now in Southern Brazil) were to decline by 50%, the area
24 needed in 2050 would expand by an estimated 38% over the constant
25 climate case, bringing the total plantation area to 4.5 times the
26 1991 area. These large areas of additional plantations imply
27 substantial social and environmental impacts. Further addition
28 of plantation area as a global warming response option would
29 augment these impacts, indicating the need for caution in
30 evaluating carbon sequestration proposals.

31
32
33 KEYWORDS--plantations; silviculture; eucalyptus; Brazil; global
34 warming; climate change

1. INTRODUCTION

Brazil hopes to substantially expand its area of plantations in part through international sources of environmental funding for sequestering atmospheric carbon dioxide to reduce global warming. For example, the FLORAM proposal, put forward by the University of São Paulo, calls for installing an additional 20 X 10⁶ ha of silviculture in Brazil over a period of 30 years as a global warming mitigation option¹.

Plantation forestry would be affected by climatic change, both from global warming and from other processes such as the reduction of evapotranspiration that results from converting Amazonian forests to cattle pasture. Most climatic changes would have negative impacts on plantation yields, thereby forcing the country to maintain larger areas of silviculture to supply the same flows of forest products (and substantially diminishing the profitability of doing so). Nevertheless, Brazil's abundant land resources place it in a privileged position in absorbing the costs imposed by climatic change, as well as in responding to the opportunities offered by proposed countermeasures in the plantation forestry sector.

The trends in Brazil's silviculture sector have been analyzed elsewhere as a reference scenario for assessing the impacts of climatic changes and of programs to combat global warming through subsidizing silvicultural expansion². Plantation expansion can be expected to shift from Southern Brazil to the Northeast and Amazon regions. As plantations expand to meet growing domestic demand and to take advantage of export opportunities offered by international markets for products derived from wood, the marginal yield of new plantations can be expected to decrease as progressively less-productive sites are brought under silviculture². The reference scenario projections assume a constant per-capita demand for wood products in Brazil and that Brazil's share of the market for supplying wood products to non-tropical countries remains constant (both conservative assumptions). Under this scenario, in which climate is assumed to be unchanged, plantations will expand through the year 2050 to occupy an area 3.2 times larger than the 7 X 10⁶ ha of plantations Brazil had in 1991.

[Figure 1 here]

2. IMPACT OF CLIMATE-INDUCED CHANGES

2.1. Impacts on silviculture

1 Climatic change can be expected to reduce silvicultural
2 yields to the extent that the climate becomes drier in major
3 plantation states such as Minas Gerais, Espírito Santo, São
4 Paulo, and Paraná as a result of global warming and/or reduced
5 water vapor transport from Amazonia. (i.e., ref. 3). General
6 circulation model (GCM) results for rainfall at low latitudes are
7 sufficiently inconsistent that, pending the availability of
8 better models, few researchers have ventured to calculate the
9 potential impact of precipitation changes on agricultural
10 production⁴. Nevertheless, it behooves us to examine the
11 implications of results from existing climate models, while
12 bearing in mind the degree of uncertainty attached to these
13 findings. The general conclusion of drier, less-favorable
14 conditions over much of the world is consistently found by the
15 various modeling groups⁵. This general qualitative result
16 appears unlikely to change as modeling and measurements improve,
17 even though predictions for any particular point on the earth's
18 surface are presently much more uncertain.

19
20 Reduced rainfall is the most likely form of climatic change
21 to affect plantations. The influence of precipitation on
22 plantation growth occurs through its effect on soil moisture, and
23 GCM results are less varied for soil moisture than for rainfall.
24 Although soil moisture would provide a more robust GCM output
25 than precipitation itself, information is lacking to predict
26 yield changes from soil moisture, making it necessary to rely on
27 precipitation as the indicator of climatic change. The
28 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) presents results
29 for precipitation changes "around the time of a doubling of CO₂"
30 in a simulation experiment in which CO₂ was increased by 1%/year
31 in the United Kingdom Meteorological Office (UKMO) model⁵.
32 Projected changes in the real atmosphere would result in doubling
33 the atmospheric concentration of CO₂ gas, in relation to pre-
34 industrial levels, in about 2070 according to the IPCC's
35 "business as usual" scenario, while the combined effect of
36 increases in CO₂ and trace gases would reach a level equivalent
37 to doubling pre-industrial CO₂ in about 2025.

38
39 The IPCC presents results for two seasons: December-January-
40 February and June-July-August. In June-July-August expected
41 rainfall declines by 1 mm/day in virtually all of Brazil. In
42 December-January-February it declines by 1 mm/day in Amazonia,
43 increases by up to 2 mm/day in part of the Northeast, and stays
44 unchanged in Southern Brazil. In almost all of Brazil (including
45 all parts of the country where silviculture is a significant
46 activity now or in the foreseeable future), June-July-August is
47 the dry season while December-January-February is the rainy
48 season. Dry season changes can be expected to have the greatest

1 impact on silvicultural yields: water often limits growth during
2 this part of the year under present conditions, yet there may be
3 water to spare during the rainiest part of the year. In areas
4 outside of Brazil's extreme south, the annual rings evident in
5 the wood of plantation trees correspond to dry (as opposed to
6 cold) seasons.

7
8 The impact of a given change in mm/day of rainfall would
9 vary considerably, depending on how much rain a given area
10 receives today. In the dry Northeast, a loss of 1 mm/day would
11 represent a large percentage decline, while the relative impact
12 would be lower in areas with more rainfall. A rough idea of the
13 magnitude of impacts can be gained from 30-year averages of
14 monthly rainfall reported by da Mota⁶ for 28 weather stations (11
15 in Amazonia, 4 in the Northeast and 13 in Southern Brazil). The
16 mean values are 2085 mm for Amazonia and 1489 mm for the
17 Northeast and 1535 mm for Southern Brazil. Considering these
18 means, the changes suggested by the simulation reported by the
19 IPCC represent decreases of annual total precipitation of
20 approximately 18% in Amazonia and 24% in Southern Brazil, and an
21 increase of up to 12% in the Northeast. However, the June-July-
22 August precipitation is believed to be most closely related to
23 plantation yields. Considering only the precipitation in this
24 season (269, 150 and 234 in Amazonia, the Northeast and Southern
25 Brazil, respectively) the changes represent large decreases in
26 all regions: by 34% in Amazonia, 61% in the Northeast, and 39% in
27 Southern Brazil. Variability in precipitation may increase as a
28 result of climate change, which would make the impacts on
29 plantations more severe than that indicated by mean values.

30
31 Epaminondas S.B. Ferraz has developed a regression equation
32 relating biomass increment in Eucalyptus to precipitation at
33 three sites in the State of São Paulo⁷. The increments were
34 determined by gamma-ray attenuation dendrometry applied to tree
35 rings in wood samples covering the 1964-1991 period. The samples
36 were from a mixture of species: Eucalyptus grandis, E. propinqua,
37 E. saligna and E. alba. Over a range of precipitation from 40%
38 below the mean to 50% above the mean, the percent increase in the
39 annual biomass increment above the mean is given by the following
40 equation (n=39, r²=0.49):

$$41 \quad \quad \quad B = -0.017 + 0.348 P \quad \quad \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

42
43
44 where:

45 B = the percent change in annual biomass increment
46 above the mean
47

1 P = the percent deviation in annual precipitation
2 above the mean
3

4 Considering the annual rainfall changes mentioned earlier
5 for the three regions based on the UKMO model results reported by
6 the IPCC, Equation 1 implies yield decreases of 6% in Amazonia
7 and 8% in Southern Brazil, and an increase of 4% in the
8 Northeast. Considering the June-July-August rainfall believed to
9 be most critical, yields in this period would decrease by 12% in
10 Amazonia, 14% in Southern Brazil and 21% in the Northeast. These
11 results must be approached with caution, given the high
12 uncertainty of both climatic change predictions and the magnitude
13 of yield response to precipitation changes. In addition, use of
14 Equation 1 assumes that single-year changes in growth increment
15 (observed) would be the same as a change over many years. The
16 longer-term changes would be influenced by accumulated stress and
17 by changes in carbon allocation in individuals and ecosystems.
18

19 In practice, the relation of precipitation reduction to
20 plantation yield will not be a straight line decline as implied
21 by Equation 1. The yield of each tree species can be expected to
22 follow a curve when related to precipitation, with a steep
23 decline at low precipitation values, tapering to a plateau where
24 precipitation is sufficient for the species. As climatic change
25 progresses, firms can be expected to change the species planted
26 in favor of more drought-resistant ones, such as E.
27 camaldulensis. Losses may be greater than an ideal sequence of
28 species changes would suggest if firms fail to switch species due
29 to misjudgment and due to the rapidity and unpredictability of
30 climatic changes. The composite of individual species curves
31 would approximate a straight line with a shallower slope than the
32 one describing the yield of any particular species (Fig. 2).
33 The slope would necessarily be shallower than the average for
34 individual species (independent of the sharpness of the response
35 of each species) because of the horizontal displacement of the
36 individual species curves along the axis representing annual
37 rainfall (Fig. 2). Droughts can affect mortality, as well as
38 yield: in 1993 a drought in a former cerrado (Central Brazilian
39 dry scrub savanna) area of Mato Grosso caused high mortality in
40 stands of E. urophylla, E. pellita and E. cloeziana that had
41 previously been highly productive, although stands of E.
42 camaldulensis maintained their more modest levels of productivity
43 despite the drought⁸.
44

45 [Figure 2 here]
46

47 The above discussion of precipitation decreases considers
48 only the effect of global warming. Brazil is likely to suffer

1 additional losses of precipitation due to reduction of
2 evapotranspiration caused by deforestation in Amazonia. About
3 half of the rainfall in Amazonia is water recycled through the
4 forest as evapotranspiration⁹. Maintenance of forest vegetation
5 in Amazonia is heavily dependent on this recycled water, which
6 can be expected to decrease with continued replacement of forest
7 by pasture^{10, 11}. Some of the water vapor originating in Amazonia
8 is transported to Southern Brazil^{3, 12}. The rotation of the earth
9 causes trade winds to follow a counter-clockwise semicircular
10 path in the Southern Hemisphere, leading from Amazonia to
11 Southern Brazil. Decreased water vapor supply to Southern
12 Brazil, where most of the country's silviculture is located,
13 would aggravate precipitation declines stemming from global
14 warming.

15
16 The direct effects of rainfall reduction on yields are
17 likely to underestimate the true effect of climate change.
18 Synergistic effects with other factors could reduce yield
19 substantially more. One is insect attack: trees under stress
20 from droughts provoked by climatic change will be more vulnerable
21 to attack by pests¹³.

22
23 A drier climate in plantation areas could also be expected
24 to lead to greater fire hazard. Fire is a problem in plantation
25 silviculture even in the absence of climatic change, requiring a
26 certain level of investment in fire control, and a certain level
27 of losses when burns occur. Pine plantations in Paraná require
28 continuous vigilance¹⁴. Eucalyptus is also fire prone because of
29 the high content of volatile oils in the leaves and bark.

30
31 Temperature changes can also affect plantation yields.
32 Temperature changes near the time of doubling CO₂ have been
33 reported by the IPCC for various GCMs⁵. The Geophysical Fluid
34 Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL) model indicates mean increases of 1-
35 2°C in Amazonia, 1°C in Southern Brazil and 1°C in the Northeast.
36 The Max-Planck Institute (MPI) model indicates 1°C increases in
37 all regions of Brazil; the National Center for Atmospheric
38 Research (NCAR) model indicates no change, and the UKMO model
39 indicates 2°C changes virtually throughout the country. Other
40 models with a more complete representation of plant physiological
41 effects indicate up to 2.6°C average temperature increase in
42 Amazonia resulting from the same increase in CO₂¹⁵. The IPCC
43 models in the Second Assessment Report (SAR) indicate a
44 temperature increase between 2° and 3° in Amazonia¹⁶.

45
46 Considering a hypothetical increase of 1.5°C by the year
47 2050 in Espírito Santo and Minas Gerais, Reis et al.⁸ concluded
48 that either the present plantation area would have to be moved to

1 higher elevation (a shift considered impractical) or the genetic
2 material would have to be completely replaced following the
3 global strategy proposed by Ledig and Kitzmiller¹⁷. In addition
4 to direct effects of temperature considered by Reis et al.⁸,
5 temperature increases have a synergistic effect with drought, the
6 impact of dryness being worse at higher temperatures (lower
7 elevations) due to higher water demands in plantations.

8
9 Some expected changes would be beneficial for plantations.
10 Carbon dioxide enrichment increases the water-use efficiency of
11 Eucalyptus¹⁸. Photosynthetic rate increased in these experiments
12 from 96% (E. urophylla) to 134% (E. grandis). Growth of the
13 different plant parts showed similar responses. Higher levels of
14 CO₂ also stimulate nitrogen fixation, which could be expected to
15 lower the fertilizer demands of plantations¹⁹.

16
17 Considerable caution is necessary in interpreting the
18 potential beneficial effects of CO₂ enrichment. One problem is
19 frequent confusion, and occasional outright misrepresentation, of
20 different measures of greenhouse gas increase: doubling [of
21 present day] CO₂ concentrations, doubling of pre-industrial CO₂,
22 and "2 X CO₂" (doubling of the CO₂-equivalent impact of all
23 greenhouse gases as compared to the pre-industrial atmosphere)
24 (see review in ref. 20). The 2 X CO₂ mark is expected to be
25 reached around 2025, whereas doubling of the pre-industrial CO₂
26 concentration would occur around 2100, and doubled present day
27 concentration after that. The benefits of CO₂ enrichment at
28 doubled pre-industrial CO₂, or even of doubled present day CO₂,
29 are often juxtaposed with the climatic impacts of 2 X CO₂, rather
30 than with the greater impacts that would exist when the other CO₂
31 concentration landmarks (doubled pre-industrial CO₂ or doubled
32 present day CO₂) are reached (see review in ref. 20). In order
33 to have a valid calculation of net changes in yields, the timing
34 of both benefits and impacts must be the same.

35 36 2.2 Impacts on areas of plantation

37
38 Possible impacts of climatic change on yields and areas of
39 plantations can be roughly assessed by a series of simple
40 assumptions, in order to arrive at a preliminary judgment as to
41 whether this is a serious problem for Brazil. Despite
42 uncertainties regarding the magnitude and rapidity of climatic
43 changes, one can gain an idea of the range of potential impacts
44 by constructing scenarios at different assumed percentages of
45 reduction in precipitation. Here calculations are made assuming
46 no climatic change, and assuming reductions of 5%, 10%, 25%, and
47 50% in precipitation by the year 2050. As explained earlier,
48 precipitation results reported by the IPCC for "around the time

1 of doubled CO₂" indicate that in Southern Brazil (where most of
2 the country's plantations are located), annual total rainfall
3 would decrease by 24% while rainfall in the dry season would
4 decrease by 39%.

5
6 Considering the relationship of Ferraz⁷ given earlier
7 (Equation 1), reductions of 5%, 10%, 25%, and 50% in annual
8 precipitation correspond to reductions in base yields of 1.7%,
9 4%, 9%, and 17%, respectively. Base yields refer to the yield
10 from a given quality of land using 1990 technology. Because the
11 rainy season precipitation that is included in the annual
12 rainfall data on which the regression developed by Ferraz⁷ is
13 based may have less impact on eucalyptus yield than dry season
14 precipitation, the above estimates for reductions in base yields
15 may be conservative.

16
17 Climatic change would require larger areas of plantations
18 (and consequent greater expense) to meet the same levels of
19 demand. The percentage increase in areas required can be greater
20 than percentage decline in per-hectare yields caused by climatic
21 change because expansion of plantation area implies moving onto
22 progressively poorer sites where productivity will be less.

23
24 Figure 3 provides a causal loop diagram of the relationships
25 used to project plantation yields and areas. In diagrams of this
26 type, the sign by each arrow indicates the direction of change
27 in the quantity at the head of the arrow given an increase in the
28 quantity at the tail of the arrow. Increasing areas planted are
29 the combined result if declining marginal yields and increasing
30 total demand for wood products. Marginal yields decline both as
31 a result of reduced precipitation and expansion onto more
32 marginal land (a consequence of using a greater fraction of the
33 available land).

34
35 [Figure 3 here]

36
37 The effects of different climatic change scenarios on the
38 average marginal yield (the yield of new areas of planting) are
39 shown in Fig. 4-A, while the effects on cumulative yields (the
40 average yields over all plantations maintained, including the
41 earlier ones on the best land) are shown in Fig. 4-B.

42
43 [Figure 4 here]

44
45 As plantation yields decline, the consequent need to expand
46 areas of silviculture forces planting onto less-productive land
47 quality classes. Marginal yield are lower as planting moves onto
48 poorer land, while cumulative yields also decline, but remain

1 higher than the marginal yields. The area of short-rotation
2 plantations under different climatic change scenarios is shown in
3 Fig. 5-A. The short-rotation plantation expansion rate under
4 different climatic change scenarios is given in Fig. 5-B. The
5 response of yields and area of short-rotation plantations to the
6 percent of precipitation decline from climatic change by the year
7 2050 is shown in Fig. 6-A in absolute amounts, and in Fig. 6-B as
8 percent difference from the no climatic change scenario.
9 Projections over the 1990-2050 period for a reference calculation
10 with no change in climate (Fig. 5-B) are compared in Figs. 6-A
11 and 6-B with the situation in the year 2050 assuming climatic
12 change (precipitation reduction) ranging from 0-50%. The likely
13 pattern of the effect of climatic change is apparent, with
14 disproportionate increases in plantation areas needed to supply
15 demand when yields decline due to climatic change.

16
17 [Figures 5 and 6 here]

18
19 Assuming no technological change, if there were a 10% drop
20 in rainfall, a 3.5% drop in marginal yield would result, leading
21 to a 5% increase in the area of short-rotation plantations
22 required. A 50% drop in rainfall would produce a 17% drop in
23 marginal yields and a 38% increase in short-rotation area
24 requirements (Fig. 6-B). Conversely, any improvements, such as
25 genetic breeding advances that increase yield by a given
26 percentage, decrease area requirements by more than the same
27 percentage.

28
29 It is important to realize that positive changes, such as
30 technological advance in tree breeding, could be equal in
31 magnitude to negative changes such as yield decline from climatic
32 change, but that such a conclusion would not be a neutral in
33 terms of its policy implications. This is because negative
34 impacts such as climatic change should best be approached on the
35 basis of the precautionary principle, whereas it is wisest not to
36 count on future technological advances before they occur. Were
37 technology to improve yields over the period by the same amount
38 that climatic change reduces them (by 17% in the most extreme
39 case calculated), the effect would be the same as the zero
40 climatic change scenario.

41
42 It should be emphasized that the calculations in the current
43 paper are demand driven. This is to say, they assume that the
44 domestic population demand and projected export quantities will
45 be met, and calculate how this would be done, rather than
46 allowing these product flows to be reduced as climatic change
47 renders them too expensive to maintain.
48

1 3. ADAPTATION AND COPING OPTIONS IN THE SILVICULTURE SECTOR

2
3 Actions in the silviculture sector have significant
4 potential as response options to reduce global warming by
5 maintaining or increasing carbon stocks in plantations and wood
6 products and, in the case of charcoal used in Brazil's iron and
7 steel industry, through fossil fuel substitution²¹. The
8 potential of silviculture is more limited, however, for
9 adaptation, or coping in the sense of getting along with climatic
10 change, rather than as a means of fighting against it.

11
12 Societies can adapt to change by altering the productive
13 activities they pursue to support their populations. If climatic
14 change renders certain areas less appropriate for the
15 agricultural or other use they formerly had and more appropriate,
16 for example, for a silvicultural plantation, then a switch to
17 forestry will be the likely outcome. Even if the climatic
18 conditions at the site in question remain completely unchanged,
19 climatic changes elsewhere may alter the relative prices of the
20 different commodities that might be produced, leading to a
21 decision to use land for forestry rather than, say, for pasture
22 or annual crops. Climatic change, of course, may not be the only
23 or even the principal cause of such shifts: markets for products
24 of plantation forestry can be expected to increase in the future
25 as a result of the continued human destruction of mature native
26 forests in the tropical, temperate, and boreal zones.

27
28 Rapid tree growth, low land prices, and low labor and tax
29 costs in tropical locations make them likely sites for plantation
30 expansion, including plantations subsidized with funds from
31 carbon-offset programs intended to avert climatic change
32 elsewhere in the world. Conversion of land to plantations can
33 deprive local populations of their means of support²². In the
34 case of plantations for charcoal, the industry's competitiveness
35 depends on maintaining most of the labor pool under conditions of
36 extreme poverty. Expansion into drier areas, as in the
37 Northeast, would be likely to favor drought-resistant species
38 such as E. camaldulensis that are more suitable for charcoal than
39 for pulp; any climatic change leading to drier conditions in the
40 existing plantation area would favor the same species shifts and
41 social consequences. Mechanisms are needed to insure that
42 plantation establishment, especially when financed as a carbon
43 offset, is only encouraged where it is beneficial²³.

44
45 Among the effects of subsidizing plantation expansion would
46 be increasing supplies of wood products beyond the levels they
47 would otherwise reach, with consequent lowering of prices in
48 Brazil and in the countries to which Brazil exports. The

1 macroeconomic impacts of this would be many. Unsubsidized
2 competitors would clearly sustain losses. Any reduction in
3 plantation and wood product pools elsewhere by the losers in this
4 competition would reduce the net carbon benefits of the
5 plantation subsidy program. Evaluation of these and other
6 ramifications of carbon-offset proposals in silviculture are
7 needed before major initiatives are undertaken.

8
9 The ultimate coping mechanism in tropical countries, as well
10 as for the globe as a whole, will be to adjust human population
11 and consumption levels to the carrying capacity of the land.
12 Many climatic changes entail reduction of productive capacity
13 and, on a global scale, will demand diversion of hundreds of
14 billions of dollars in resources to activities intended merely to
15 substitute for natural climate regulation mechanisms and keep the
16 world's environment and human infrastructure at a state roughly
17 equivalent to what we have today for free. Capital, land, and
18 human resources allocated to response options, including forestry
19 initiatives such as plantations motivated by carbon
20 considerations, will not be available for producing food and
21 other necessities. The carrying capacity of the world as a whole
22 will be lower than it would be without climatic change;
23 reductions will be greater in some countries than in others, and
24 in a few instances countries may benefit from more favorable
25 climate.

26
27 Human population numbers and levels of consumption must
28 eventually come into balance with the carrying capacity of each
29 country. Particularly in tropical forest countries, carrying
30 capacities for human populations are lower than many have been
31 led to believe²⁴. The process of adjustment to carrying capacity
32 limits is likely to be a painful one even without the added
33 strictures imposed by climatic change. The challenges these
34 adjustments pose must be faced with even greater speed in light
35 of impending climatic changes: policies affecting population and
36 consumption should be based on rational decisions.

37
38 Were subsidization of silviculture adopted as a major
39 response option to global warming, the landscape in much of
40 Brazil could be dramatically altered. Global warming response
41 options in the silviculture sector have significant potential to
42 cause social and environmental impacts. An urgent need exists
43 for criteria to assess the impacts of global warming and of
44 proposed response options, and mechanisms to avoid injustices in
45 the way these are distributed. Safeguards are currently
46 inadequate to ensure that major impacts do not result from
47 efforts to avert global warming by promoting carbon sequestration
48 in plantations.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Global circulation models used by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicate precipitation declines in Brazil that can be expected to decrease the yields of silvicultural plantations. Simulated climate experiments reported by the IPCC with CO₂ gradually increased to "around the time of CO₂ doubling" produce June-July-August (dry season) precipitation reductions corresponding to approximately 34% in Amazonia, 39% in Southern Brazil, and 61% in the Northeast. Taking as examples rainfall reductions of 5%, 10%, 25% and 50%, plantation area requirements are calculated to increase up to 38% over those without climatic change, which would bring the total plantation area by 2050 to 4.5 times the 1991 area.

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- 1 FIGURE LEGENDS
2
- 3 Figure 1 -- Regions of Brazil and locations mentioned in the
4 text. "Southern Brazil" refers to the portion
5 that is neither Amazonian nor Northeastern.
6
- 7 Figure 2 -- General pattern expected for the relationship of
8 yield to rainfall for different silvicultural
9 species. The composite of individual species
10 curves would approximate a straight line with a
11 shallower slope than the one for any particular
12 species.
13
- 14 Figure 3 -- Causal loop diagram of relationships for
15 projecting plantation yields and areas. Signs by
16 each arrow indicate the direction of change in the
17 quantity at the head of the arrow given an
18 increase in the quantity at the tail of the arrow.
19
- 20 Figure 4 -- Short-rotation plantation yields under different
21 climatic change scenarios:
22
- 23 A.) Marginal yields.
 - 24
 - 25 B.) Cumulative yields.
 - 26
- 27 Figure 5 -- Area and expansion rate of short-rotation
28 plantations under different climatic change
29 scenarios:
30
- 31 A.) Area maintained.
 - 32
 - 33 B.) Expansion rate.
 - 34
- 35 Figure 6 -- Response of yields and area of short-rotation
36 plantations to the percent of precipitation
37 decline resulting from climatic change by the year
38 2050:
39
- 40 A.) Response expressed in absolute amounts.
 - 41
 - 42 B.) Response expressed as percentage deviation
43 from the no climatic change scenario.









