

The use of eucalypt in reforestations

Abstract

The species of the *Eucalyptus* genera have been promoted to establish reforestations worldwide. Among the advantages of these species are their high demand in the market due to their versatility as well as their good growth rates (up to 40 m³/ha/year), especially in areas with growth prone qualities. In the national territory, plantations with different species of those genera have been promoted. Some examples are constituted by the projects developed, since 2008, in the area of the plots at San Jose La Maquina, Cuyotenango, Suchitepequez, which were promoted with the purpose of "establishing plantations with energetic forests at the community level as a profitable alternative to substitute fossil fuels with forest biomass" (pers. com. Grupo Dendroenergia, 2011).

However, there is still much information to generate, as well as to learn from their development and impact in the different areas in which reforestations have been located. Considering that an important percentage of houses (79%) uses firewood as an energetic product (URL, IARNA, 2009), promoting this type of plantations could constitute an alternative to reduce the pressure over forest resources, especially the one that is given over primary forests and other highly vulnerable ecosystems.

Disclaimer: This abstract is a translation of its Spanish counterpart "*El uso del eucalipto en reforestaciones*" published on the official website of the ICC. To view the original document, please visit <http://icc.org.gt/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/El-uso-de-eucaliptos-en-reforestaciones.pdf>
