

Silverwood Cypress Trial
Planted September 29 2009
Heights in metres measured October 4 2012
Diameters to be measured at age five

Group One: D. Hocking's macrocarpa selection (25 plants)

2.4	2.4	2.9	2.7	2.9
2.9	2.7	2.6	2.2	2.9
2.4	2.8	2.3	2.7	2.5
2.2	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.7

Group Two: F₂ Leyland cross 'Hamish Sturrock' (25 plants)

2.6	2.7	2.2	2.5	2.5
2.6	2.3	2.6	2.8	2.4
2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7
2.6	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.3
2.3	2.4	2.2	2.6	2.5

Group Three: macrocarpa selection, 'Silverwood' (25 plants)

3.4	3.8	3.2	3.5	3.2
3.3	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.2
3.5	3.4	3.2	3.7	3
3.5	3	2.5	3.8	3.3
3.1	3.1	2.8	3.4	3.4

Group Four: Dean Setchell selection (23 plants)

2.5	2.4	2.3	2	2.2
1.3	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.7
2.4	1.7	2.1	2	2.6
2.4	1.7	2.1	2	
2.3	2.4	1.9	2.8	

Group Five: F₂ Leyland selection 'NZR' (25 plants)

3	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.9
2.7	2.8	2.2	2.6	2.6
2.7	2.2	2.3	2.7	2.2
2.4	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.8

Assessment notes: Average heights (Hocking 2.56; Sturrock 2.5; Silverwood 3.34; Setchell 2.2; NZR 2.6) show the 'Silverwood' clone to have a significant advantage in height growth and the Setchell selection to have a small disadvantage. The 'Silverwood' clone also has the best early growth form, with only light, horizontal branches. The other clones, particularly the Setchell selection, were in general much "bushier". This may be a juvenile growth phase that will not persist. Form should be reassessed after a further two years growth. Tree health was generally excellent, but there were early indications of susceptibility to cypress canker in the 'NZR' clone. While the 'NZR' clone appears to have a significant advantage in biomass, it also shows relatively heavy branching that may necessitate early and extensive pruning.

Guard rows, consisting of *Cupressus ×ovensii* and Lawson cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*), were neither measured nor assessed for tree health.

Recommendations: Repeat measurement at age five, and also measure diameter growth at that stage. Consider the need for pruning after the five-year assessment.