

ASSOCIATION FOR SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY SILVICULTURE CRITERIA

PRE-COMMERCIAL THINNING OF PLANTATIONS (Category 4)

“A treatment during the sapling stage in softwood plantations to free selected crop trees from competition, and to favour the planted trees and natural replacement trees of preferred species and quality.”

To be eligible for funding, the site must conform to the following criteria **prior to treatment**:

Stocking of Planted plus Natural SW Crop Trees	≥ 85 % (at 2.4 x 2.4 m spacing)
Density of Trees	≥ 6000 stems/ha
Height of Crop Trees	2 m – 6 m
Site Quality	Land Capability ≥ 5m ³ /ha/year (LC ≥ 5 SWD)
Crop Tree Species	SW: BS, RS, WS, JP, RP, WP, BF, TL, EH HW: WAS, TA, LA, YB, WB, RM, SM, RO, BE, BC, IW, BP
Eligibility and Approval	Pre-treatment density assessment MUST be completed to confirm assistance rate Sites qualifying for the high rate MUST be pre-approved by ASF Staff. Pre-treatment density plots must be completed to determine assistance rate class. https://www.asforestry.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/ASF-Silviculture-Assessments-Procedures-Manual-2015.pdf

To be eligible for funding, the **submitted** area must conform to the following criteria **after treatment**:

Stocking of Crop Trees	≥ 85 % (at 2.4 x 2.4 m spacing)
Density of Crop Trees	≥ 900 Planted Trees/ha, AND ≥ 1500 Planted + Natural Softwood Trees/ha, AND 1500 – 3500 Total Crop Trees/ha
Height of Crop Trees	SW: 2 m – 6 m
Crop Tree Species	SW: BS, RS, WS, JP, RP, WP, BF, TL, EH HW: WAS, TA, LA, YB, WB, RM, SM, RO, BE, BC, IW, BP
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All non-crop trees ≥ 0.5 m in height must be cut. Stumps must be no more than 30cm high. Treatment area must retain post-treatment criteria for a period of at least 18 months after treatment. Evidence of treatment over entire area claimed is required.
Claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted areas must conform to ASF Shapefile Standard Pre-treatment and post-treatment density assessment forms MUST be submitted with the claim.

Rates

Density of Trees

6,000 – 20,000	\$700/ha
20,000+	\$800/ha

All ASF Silviculture Rates are subject to change without notice.