



Development of Volume Function for Final Felling of *Pinus brutia* Ten in Kurdistan Iraq



Sagvan Mohamme H¹, Shamsudin Ibrahim¹, Khalid Rehman Hakeem^{2*} and Kamziah Bt Abd Kudus¹

¹Faculty of Forestry, University Putra Malaysia

²Department of Biological Sciences, King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia

*Corresponding author: Khalid Rehman Hakeem, Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Tel: 508642544; Email: kur.hakeem@gmail.com

Submission: 📅 April 24, 2018; Published: 📅 June 14, 2018

Abstract

Planning for forest management depends upon the forest dynamics, which includes integration of all forest disciplines and understanding of forest resource characteristics including its growth dynamics. The forest growth and yield modelling can provide valuable information about forestry which can be used to determine harvest levels or allowable cut, and to analyze alternative stand treatments. Growth and yield models are generally used to predict the temporal development of forest stands. Knowledge of Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) and total tree height is fundamental to both developing and applying many growth and yield models [1]. Among the several available approaches in the yield prediction methodology, the multilevel model approach, which is a statistical technique, found to be commonly used in many fields of study for generating improvements in parameter estimation. A volume estimation of a forest stand is a good example. Volume estimation in the form of volume function and volume table has been widely used for many different purposes in forestry for more than hundred years including forest plantations and an inventory for timber harvesting. In view of the importance of these functions in forestry, this study was conducted with the main aim to develop a volume function for *Pinus brutia* Ten, which is a very common forest tree species planted in northern Iraq. The least squares method was used to fit eight unweighted volume equations including two logarithmic transformed equations and seven weighted forms of volume equations to volume data of a 25-30 years old *Pinus brutia* Ten plantation. The best fit equation was done using Furnival's index.

Keywords: *Pinus brutia* ten; Volume equation; Least squares regression; Furnival's index; Volume correction factor

Introduction

Forests are considered as important assets in the economy of any country. They provide a variety of natural resources such as food, raw material, fuel wood and fodder. Other benefits of forests include the provision of landscape for recreational opportunities, protection of soil against erosion, purification of water, production of oxygen, consumption of carbon dioxide, regulation of microclimate and provision of biological diversity. The industrial revolution and high demand of forest products during the 19th century resulted in a substantial deforestation that caused a reduction in the extent of the world total forest area from 50% to 30% [2]. An alternative approach is establishing for new forest plantation for timber, fuel wood and pulp and paper production and existing natural forests are mainly for conservation and protection purposes [2]. As a result, fast-growing tree species such as, Acacia, Pinus and Eucalyptus have been a popular choice of species planted in forest plantation worldwide [3]. According to Yasodha et al. [4], about 48% of the overall forest plantation worldwide is aimed at industrial use; 26% for agro forestry, fuel wood, soil and water conservation and the remaining 26% of other purposes that have not been specified. Thus, there is an increasing demand for forest plantation to and to

full fill the increasing demand for forest products [5]. In the recent years, due to high demand for forest products resulting from rapid development in technology, the focus of governments and private sectors have been on mass reforestation programmers with fast-growing industrial tree species with the intention to shorten the rotation cycle and fulfilling the increasing demand of the timber market.

In 1988, the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture had planted about 30 hectares of *Pinus brutia* Ten in the mountainous area of Zawita by using a planting space of 3x3m. *Pinus brutia* Ten is a natural species to Zawita area, which is located in the north western part of Kurdistan region, and extending to far north of Iraq. The region ranges between 800 to 1600 meters in altitude. The species has a considerably tolerance to poor soils, frost and draught. This species is planted not only in Kurdistan region, but also in other parts of Iraq. The species is easily adapted to different climates and conditions of the region. The species was selected for the study because it has an economic importance. Its wood is used for fuel wood, pulp and charcoal. This species is considered a light-demanding. Tree volume equation is useful for forestry practices in

estimating the volume to be harvested based on certain parameters like tree diameter and height that can easily be measured. Such method has been used for more than a hundred years West et al. 2009. But the information from commercial tree plantation is lacking in most developing nations. They are simple methods and tools that can be used to estimate either individual tree volume or the volume of the entire forest plantation stands. Volume equations have been studied for many years and continuously attracting many researchers in the field of forestry.

It is being researched and studied widely because there are no single volume equations that can be satisfactorily used for all tree species [6,7] and no single model suitable for all purposes [8,9]. The lack of the technical information on forests in the Zawita region is one of the main obstacles to the continuation and

development of standards and environmental policy in the area. The forest plantation evaluation in Zawita needs more scientific work on the development of yield models [10]. According to Department of Forest, University of Duhok, Iraq, the development of yield models for this species growing under Kurdistan Region will contribute towards providing valuable information in planning and sustainable management of the forest plantations in the region. This work has been carried out to develop volume functions for brutia P Ten that can demonstrate the relationship between tree volume and diameter and provide a useful tool in managing Zawita forest in future. The specific objectives of this study are:- to develop volume functions for brutia P Ten based on dbh and dbh and height; to compare the goodness-of-fit of potential volume function of *Pinus brutia* Ten by using Furnival's Index (FI); and to recommend the best fit equation of *Pinus brutia* for Zawita area in Kurdistan.

Materials and Methods

Sample plots

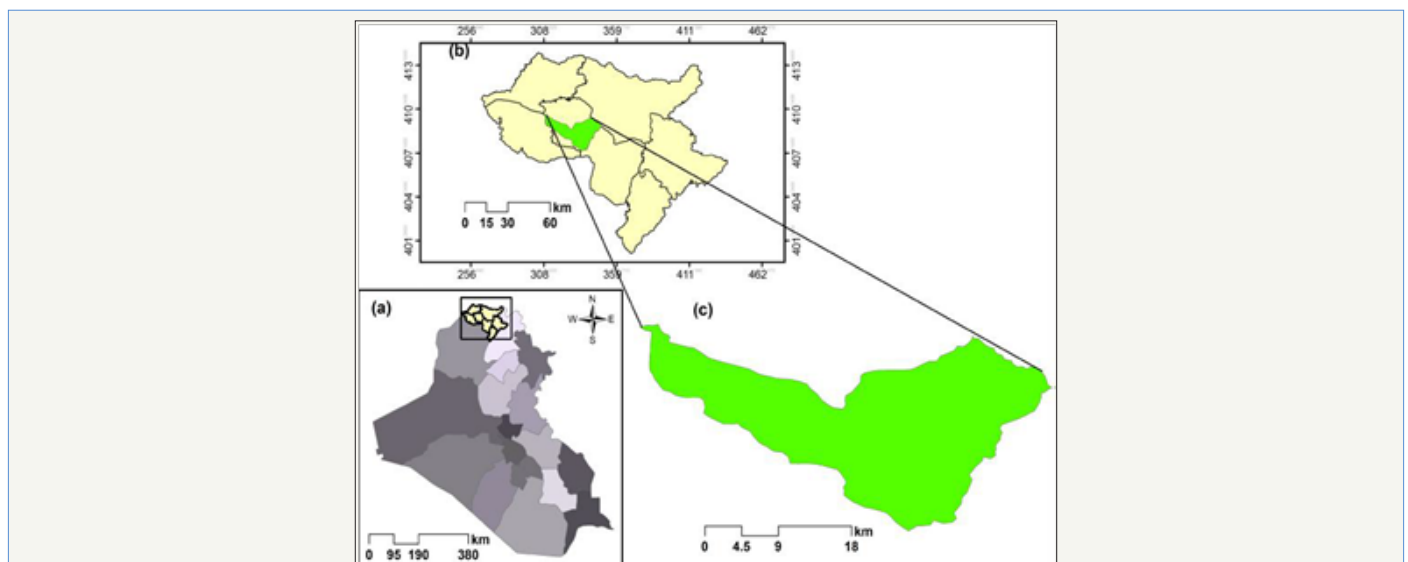


Figure 1: (a) Map of Iraq (b) Map of the Duhok Province (c) Map of Zawita.

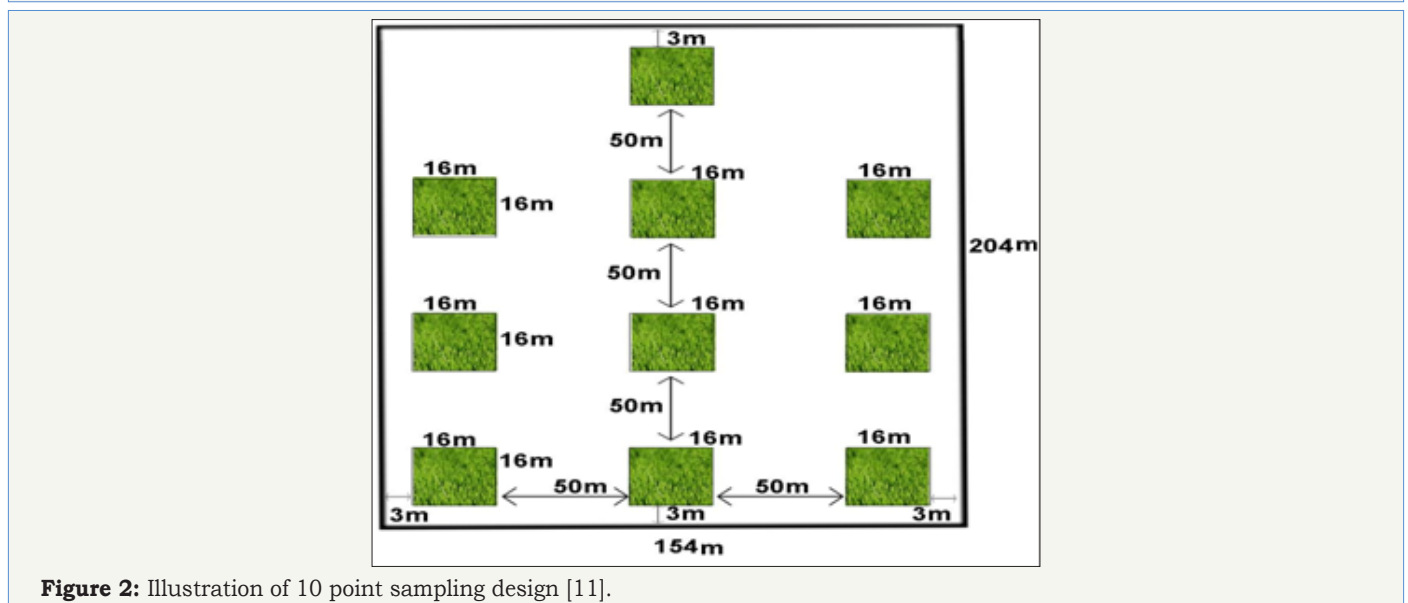


Figure 2: Illustration of 10 point sampling design [11].

Naturally, *P. brutia* ten grows in Zawita area, which is located in the north western part of Kurdistan region, and extending to far north of Iraq as shown in (Figure 1). The area usually receives about 724.5mm mean annual precipitation (meteorological station in Zawita for the period 2010-2014). The region ranges between 800 to 1600 meters in altitude. The species is considered to be tolerant to poor soils, frost and draught. This study area is characterized by clay soil as a result of the fragmentation of the ancient rocks. Zawita forests are exposed to harsh climatic conditions where there is a huge contrast in temperature and the amount of rainfall received during the year. During winter, rain and snow fall occur in the region and the amount of the rainfall in the past five years exceeded to 215mm. Every year, the relative humidity was recorded highest in January. In 1988, the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture planted about

30 hectares of *P. brutia* ten in the mountainous area of Zawita by using a planting space of 3x3m. In this study, 3 hectares (204 x 154m) plot was established and the plot consists of (250-300) trees. We used 10 point sampling Design [11] as showed in (Figure 2), in our study. For data collection, first, we randomly selected the starting point of sampling in the 3-hectare-plot. In the second stage, we systematically selected 9 quadrates and each quadrate is (16 x 16m). Each quadrate has equal-distance of 50m horizontally and vertically. Then we selected trees in each plot randomly for felled, standing and validating trees. For example, in first plot for felled trees we chose the first tree and all other trees we wrote in a paper then we mixed a paper and randomly chose other tree. Thus for all plots, we repeat the procedure. Table 1 shows the number of trees in each plot for felled, standing and validation.

Table 1: The number of trees in each plot.

No. Plot	No. of Felled Trees	No. Of Standing Trees	No. of Validation Trees in Plot	Total Trees
1	7	15	4	26
2	8	15	4	27
3	8	15	4	27
4	7	15	4	26
5	7	15	4	26
6	8	15	4	27
7	7	15	5	27
8	8	15	5	28
9	8	15	5	28
10	8	15	5	28
Total	76	150	44	270

Measurement of Sample Trees

Felled trees

Prior to felling, the base diameter (0.3m above ground level) (Comment: bas diameter is the correct term to us. I have not come across the term before) and the diameter at the breast height (DBH-1.3m above ground level) of each selected tree were measured. The following measurements were also taken after felling:-

- a. Total height in meter.
- b. Merchantable height in meter (up to 10cm diameter over bark of the main stem).
- c. Diameter over bark at 3m intervals along the stem length and at its mid-point (1.5m intervals).
- d. Bark thickness (cm) at each point of diameter measurement.

All diameters were measured by using a diameter tape and bark thickness was measured using a bark-gauge. As a whole, 76 felled trees were measured.

Standing trees

The base diameter and diameter at breast height were measured by using a diameter tape. As for standing trees, the same

measurements as in felled tree were taken. A total of 150 standing trees were measured.

Validation tress

Diameter was measured at every 20% of trees merchantable height. Means we divided tree to 5 sections, each section was 2 meters in order not to get bias. Because of inherent morphological differences among tree species. A total of 44 validation trees were measured.

Volume calculation

The calculation of volume of each section of felled and standing trees was performed using Newton's formula, so that both over-bark and under-bark volumes were calculated for felled trees, whereas only over-bark volumes were calculated for standing trees.

Newton's Formula

The formula was used for log sections with three diameter measurements. The volumes of felled tree sample and standing tree sample were calculated by using the following formula.

1. Volume over bark

$$V_2 = 0.00001309(D_i^2 + 4D_m^2 + D_s^2) \times L$$

2. Volume under bark

$$V3 = 0.00001309[(D_1 - 2Bt_1)^2 + 4(D_m - 2Bt_m)^2 + (D_s - 2Bt_s)^2] \times L$$

Where V2 is the volume over bark, V3 is the volume under bark, L is the Length of the log section, D₁ is the diameter at the large end of the log section, D_m is the diameter at the mid-point of the log section, D_s is the diameter at the small end of the log section, Bt₁ is the bark thickness at the large end of the log section, Bt_m is the bark thickness at the mid-point of the log section and Bt_s is the bark thickness at the small end of the log section. For both felled and

standing trees, the volume of individual section will be added to the total tree volume up to 10cm diameter.

Summary of Parameters

Descriptive analysis was carried out for both felled and standing trees to find mean, standard deviation, and range of DBH, merchantable height, total tree height, merchantable volume over bark for both felled and standing trees, and merchantable volume for felled trees. Table 2, illustrates the results of descriptive analysis.

Table 2: Summary of parameters measured and calculated (*Pinus brutia* Ten). Based on Newton’s formula and volume was up to 10cm diameter over bark.

Parameters	Standing Trees				Felled Trees				Felled And Standing Trees			
	Mean	S.D.	Min.	Max.	Mean	S.D.	Min.	Max.	Mean	S.D.	Min.	Max.
Number of tree measured		150				76				226		
DBH	26.9	3.9	18.1	36.5	29.1	3	20.6	37	27.99	3.5	18.1	37
Merchantable height	11.8	1.4	9.25	15.8	11	0.8	9.3	12.9	11.42	1.1	9.25	15.8
Total tree height	16.3	1.7	13.1	21.8	16.6	1.6	13.2	21.5	16.45	1.5	13.1	21.8
Merchantable Volume (over bark)	0.4	0.1	0.17	0.83	0.4	0.1	0.22	0.69	0.0.399	0.1	0.17	0.83
Merchantable Volume (under bark)					0.36	0.1	0.19	0.59				

Construction Volume Equations

In forestry literature, there are plenty of mathematical models which have been used by various authors in the construction of volume-tables and volume equations [12,13], while recent developments in this area were reported by [14-22]. In most cases, those models were found to be suitable for use in specific forests. In this study, we selected 15 models to compare with each other in order to find the most suitable ones for the species. We used the method of least squares for the construction of volume equation because the most common problem in volume table construction has been the heteroscedasticity of residuals. This is because the larger tree volumes tend to deviate from the regression line

more than the smaller ones. Cunia et al. [23] proposed the use of weighted least squares to correct the heteroscedasticity in volume table construction. We also used both weighted and un-weighted equations to fit the model. For the over bark volume equation, we used both felled and standing trees data. However, for under bark volume equations, we only used the felled trees data.

Un-weighted equations

In this study we used eight un-weighted volume equations, as displayed in (Table 3). In the table, D is the DBH (cm), H is the total log length (m) from the ground to up 10cm over bark, and V is the merchantable volume (m³).

Table 3: Show the regression model un-weight volume equations.

Model	Reference	Equation
1	Simple linear regression	$V = b_0 + b_1 D$
2	Simple Non-linear regression	$V = b_0 + b_1 D + b_{(2)} D^2$
3	Simple Non-linear regression	$V = b_0 + b_1 D^2$
4	Multiple Non- linear regression	$V = b_0 + b_1 D^2 H$
5	Multiple Non-linear regression	$V = b_0 + b_1 D^2 + b_2 H + b_3 D^2 H$
6	Multiple Non-linear regression	$V = b_0 + b_1 D^2 + b_2 D H + b_3 D^2 H$
7	Simple logarithmic regression	$\text{Log}_e V = b_0 + b_1 \text{log}_e D$
8	Multiple logarithmic regression	$\text{Log}_e V = b_0 + b_1 \text{log}_e D + \text{log}_e H$

Weighted equations

Cunia et al. [23] argued that using the logarithms of tree volume equations was not the best option to surmount the problem of heterogeneity of variance. One important drawback of this method is that by taking logarithms, the estimation of the arithmetic mean is automatically replaced by the estimation of the geometric mean. Since the first one is always larger than the second one, the results are definitely biased. Alternatively, the common technique used

to overcome the non-homogeneity of the variance in tree volume construction is the weighted least squares. A common weight factor for volume that uses both variable predictors D and H is $1/(D^2H)$, since the variance of stem volume tends to increase in proportion to D^2H as reported by Furnival's & Wright et al. [24,25]. In this study, seven weighted volume equations, as displayed in (Table 4) were used. It must be noted that equations 15, 17, and 19 are divided by D^2H , and other equations are divided by D^2 (V, D, and H in weighted volume equations as defined).

Table 4: Show the regression models weighted volume equations.

Model	Reference	Equation
1	Weighted simple Non- linear regression weighted by D2	$\frac{V}{D^2} = b_0 + b_1 \left(\frac{1}{D^2}\right) + b_2 \left(\frac{1}{D}\right)$
2	Weighted simple Non- linear regression weighted by D2	$\frac{V}{D^2} = b_0 + b_1 \left(\frac{1}{D^2}\right)$
3	Weighted multiple Non- linear regression weighted by D2H	$\frac{V}{D^2H} = b_0 + b_1 \left(\frac{1}{D^2H}\right)$
4	Weighted multiple Non- linear regression weighted y D2	$\frac{V}{D^2} = b_0 + b_1 \left(\frac{1}{D^2}\right) + b_2 \left(\frac{H}{D^2}\right) + b_3 H$
5	Weighted multiple Non-linear regression divided by D2H	$\frac{V}{D^2H} = b_0 + b_1 \left(\frac{1}{D^2H}\right) + b_2 \left(\frac{1}{H}\right) + b_3 \left(\frac{1}{D^2}\right)$
6	Weighted multiple Non- linear regression weighted by D2	$\frac{V}{D^2} = b_0 + b_1 \left(\frac{1}{D^2}\right) + b_2 \left(\frac{H}{D}\right) + b_3 H$
7	Weighted multiple Non-linear regression weighted by D2H	$\frac{V}{D^2H} = b_0 + b_1 \left(\frac{1}{D^2H}\right) + b_2 \left(\frac{1}{H}\right) + b_3 \left(\frac{1}{D}\right)$

Furnival's Index

The precision of a regression equation is usually measured by using the statistics such as coefficient of determination (R^2). However, these statistics do not take into account other factors like heterogeneous variance. A more suitable index for comparison of regression equations has been developed by Furnival et al. [24], which is based on the concept of maximum likelihood. Furnival's index value increases the large residuals, departures from linearity, non-normality and heterogeneous variance. Thus a decrease in its value indicates an improved fit to the data. However, Cunia & Wright et al. [23,25] illustrated the need of weighted volume equations in order to equalize or to induce homogeneity of variance in volume along the regression line. This would be the pre-requisite before validity test of significance that can be applied to the regression equation. Transformed models or the inclusion of weighted values into the analysis posed problems in testing the goodness of fit in selecting the most suitable model. Regression models goodness of fit cannot be compared directly by using the coefficient of determination R^2 , R^2 adjusted, and MSE when the same dependent variables in the models are subjected to different weightings or transformations. In practice, the regression model may be biased by weighting or a transforming of the dependent variable, which in this case is volume. To compare such regression equations, a more suitable index is the expression of Furnival et al. [24], which is given as follows:

$$FI = (f'(V))^{-1} s$$

In the equation above, FI is Furnival's index, $(f'(V))^{-1}$ is the geometric mean of the derivative of the dependent variable with respect to volume, and s is the residual standard deviation from the fitted regression. The geometric mean of the derivatives of the dependent variable V of the un-weighted regression is a number, while the derivatives of the dependent variables V/D^2H , V/D^2 , and $\text{Loge } V$ of the weighted equations are D^2H , D^2 , and V respectively. In this study, the best fitted regression was indicated by the equation with the smallest Furnival's Index. The derivative of the dependent variable V of the un-weighted equations was 1.

The derivatives of the dependent variables V/D^2 and V/D^2H of the weighted equations were D^2 and D^2H respectively. The geometric means were obtained by using the formulae below:

1. Geometric mean $D^2 = \text{antilog} (\sum \log D^2)/n$
2. Geometric mean $D^2H = \text{antilog} (\sum \log D^2H)/n$

Correction Factors

According to Meyer et al. [18], Lárus Heiðarsson 2014, the calculated volume per tree obtained from a logarithms volume equation is affected by a systematic error which is introduced when taking the antilogarithm of $\text{Log}_{10} V$. This error can be approximately corrected by multiplying a logarithmic equation by a factor as

follows: If common logarithms are used in the volume equation, the correction factor is:

$$f = e^{\sigma^2 \ln 10 / 2}$$

Where f is the tree volume correction factor, σ^2 is the logarithms error variance, and ln 10 is the natural logarithm of 10 (≈ 2.3026). If natural logarithms are used in the volume equation, the correction factor is;

$$f = e^{\frac{\sigma^2}{2}}$$

Where e is approximately 2.718282 and σ^2 is as above.

Regression Analysis

Regression analysis includes the estimation of parameters, assessing the regression coefficients, calculating the coefficient of determination (R^2), standard error of estimation, and checking the important assumptions of regression analysis using the histogram and scatter plot of residuals. These were conducted using statistical

analysis software SPSS version 22, as well as the descriptive analysis including mean, standard deviation, minimum, and maximum of the collected data. For calculating the geometric mean and Furnival index and figuring the merchantable volume table, the statistical analysis software R version 3.1.2 was used. The over bark and under bark merchantable volume tables, and the corresponding graphs were made by using the Microsoft Office Excel 2010. Regression analysis was carried out by using a commercial statistical package on a micro computer system. Further analysis was done to calculate the Furnival Index (FI). The equation with the smallest FI indicates the best fit regression for both weighted and un-weighted over bark.

Result and Discussion

Descriptive analysis was carried out for both felled and standing trees, the equation with the smallest FI indicates the best fit regression for both weighted and un weighted over bark as shown in (Table 5a, 5b).

Table 5a: Un-weighted equations over bark volume.

Model	Equation	Parameters				R2	S.E.		G.M.	FI
		b0	b1	b2	b3					
1	$V = b_0 + b_1 D$	-0.37715	0.02807	-	-	0.846	0.0030226	1	0.0030226	
2	$V = b_0 + b_1 D + b_2 D^2$	0.16918	-0.01324	0.00077	-	0.863	0.0028475	1	0.0028475	
3	$V = b_0 + b_1 D^2$	-0.00768	0.00052	-	-	0.861	0.0028658	1	0.0028658	
4	$V = b_0 + b_1 D^2 H$	0.08164	0.000034	-	-	0.957	0.0016003	1	0.0016003	
5	$V = b_0 + b_{(1)} D^2 + b_2 H + b_3 D^2 H$	-0.19022	0.00017	0.02791	0.000014	0.965	0.0014487	1	0.0014487	
6	$V = b_0 + b_1 D^2 + b_2 D H + b_{(3)} D^2 H$	-0.06835	0.000028	0.00125	0.000004	0.966	0.0014198	1	0.0014198	
7	$\text{Log}_e V = b_0 + b_1 \log_e D$	-7.51488	1.97992	-	-	0.897	0.006417	0.38164	0.002449	
8*	$\text{Log}_e V = b_0 + b_1 \log_e D + b_2 \log_e H$	-8.20896	1.40425	1.0647	-	0.968	0.0035596	0.38164	0.0013585	

*Equation 8 the best fit volume equation.

Table 5b: Weighted equations over bark volume.

Model	Equation	Parameters				R2	S.E.	G.M.	FI
		b0	b1	b2	b3				
9	$V / D^2 = b_0 + b_1 (1 / D^2) + b_2 (1 / D)$	0.00064	0.08384	-0.00661	-	0.006	0.0000032	748.4793	0.0023951
10	$V / D^2 = b_0 + b_1 (1 / D^2)$	0.00051	0.00256	-	-	0.001	0.0000032	748.4793	0.0023951
11	$V / D^2 H = b_0 + b_1 (1 / D^2 H)$	0.000036	0.06565	-	-	0.636	0.0000002	8596.226	0.0017192
12	$V / D^2 = b_0 + b_1 (1 / D^2) + b_2 (H / D^2) + b_3 H$	0.00002	-0.17965	0.02543	0.000014	0.683	0.000002	748.4793	0.001497
13	$V / (D^2 H) = b_0 + b_1 (1 / D^2 H) + b_2 (1 / H) + b_3 (1 / D^2)$	0.000015	-0.16847	0.00019	0.02428	0.686	0.0000002	8596.226	0.0017192

14	$V / D^2 = b_0 + b_1(1 / D^2) + b_2(H / D) + b_3H$	-0.000053	-0.07138	0.00123	0.000003	0.704	0.000002	748.4793	0.001497
15	$V / (D^2H) = b_0 + b_1(1 / (D^2H)) + b_2(1 / H) + b_3(1 / D)$	0.000003	-0.07019	0.00005	0.00122	0.705	0.0000002	8596.226	0.0017192

Accuracy and Application

One way to assess the accuracy of a volume table is by comparing the calculated volume with the predicted volume (Table 6a, 6b). We found that the average over bark merchantable volume was 0.4058832m³, derived from the equation 8($VO = 0.0002722 * D^{1.40425} * H^{1.06470}$) compared to the true over bark merchantable

volume of 0.39853m³ as shown in Table 7a. Similarly, the average under bark merchantable volume of 0.352308m³, derived from the equation 8 ($VI = 0.0003378 * D^{1.21342} * H^{1.18863}$) compared to the true over bark merchantable volume of , 0.355545m³ as shown in Table 7b.

Table 6a: Un-weighted under bark volume equations, *Equation 8 the best fit volume equation.

Model	Equation	Parameters				R2	S.E.	G.M.	FI
		b0	b1	b2	b3				
1	$V = b_0 + b_1D$	-0.28688	0.02206	-	-	0.812	0.0036821	1	0.0036821
2	$V = b_0 + b_1D + b_2D^2$	0.2116	-0.01314	0.00061	-	0.828	0.0035195	1	0.0035195
3	$V = b_0 + b_1D^2$	0.02409	0.00039	-	-	0.826	0.0035425	1	0.0035425
4	$V = b_0 + b_1D^2H$	0.09044	0.000027	-	-	0.89	0.0028179	1	0.0028179
5	$V = b_0 + b_1D^2 + b_2H + b_3D^2H$	-0.15294	0.00011	0.02616	0.000012	0.9	0.0026799	1	0.0026799
6	$V = b_0 + b_1D^2 + b_2DH + b_3D^2H$	-0.01429	-0.000054	0.00095	0.000011	0.9	0.0026766	1	0.0026766
7	$Log_e V = b_0 + b_1 log_e D$	-7.11941	1.80161	-	-	0.824	0.0102777	0.347842	0.003575
8*	$Log_e V = b_0 + b_1 log_e D + b_2 log_e H$	-7.99292	1.21342	1.18863	-	0.902	0.0076794	0.347842	0.0026712

Table 6b: Weighted under bark volume equations.

Model	Equation	Parameters				R2	S.E.	G.M.	FI
		b0	b1	b2	b3				
9	$V / D^2 = b_0 + b_1(1 / D^2) + b_2(1 / D)$	0.0005	0.1218	-0.00665	-	0.072	0.0000042	838.0644	0.0035199
10	$V / D^2 = b_0 + b_1(1 / D^2)$	0.00038	0.03358	-	-	0.068	0.0000042	838.0644	0.0035199
11	$V / (D^2H) = b_0 + b_1(1 / D^2H)$	0.000028	0.08159	-	-	0.516	0.0000003	9241.144	0.0027728
12	$V / D^2 = b_0 + b_1(1 / D^2) + b_2(H / D^2) + b_3H$	0.00015	-0.16987	0.02685	0.00001	0.445	0.0000033	838.0644	0.0027656
13	$V / (D^2H) = b_0 + b_1(1 / (D^2H)) + b_2(1 / H) + b_3(1 / D^2)$	0.000014	-0.13588	0.00011	0.02367	0.554	0.0000003	9241.144	0.0027728
14	$V / D^2 = b_0 + b_1(1 / D^2) + b_2(H / D) + b_3H$	-0.00001	-0.04839	0.00116	0.000003	0.458	0.0000032	838.0644	0.0026818
15	$V / (D^2H) = b_0 + b_1(1 / (D^2H)) + b_2(1 / H) + b_3(1 / D)$	0.000005	-0.04103	-0.000028	0.00113	0.567	0.0000003	9241.144	0.0027728

Table 7a: The merchantable volume over bark (m³).

	Height class (m)								
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Diameter Class (cm)	17	0.150916	0.168831	0.186863	0.205001	0.223238	0.241565	0.259978	0.27847
	18	0.163528	0.182941	0.20248	0.222134	0.241894	0.261754	0.281705	0.301743
	19	0.176427	0.197371	0.218451	0.239656	0.260975	0.282401	0.303926	0.325544
	20	0.189604	0.212112	0.234767	0.257555	0.280466	0.303492	0.326625	0.349858
	21	0.20305	0.227154	0.251415	0.275819	0.300356	0.325015	0.349788	0.374668
	22	0.216757	0.242488	0.268387	0.294439	0.320632	0.346955	0.373401	0.399961
	23	0.230718	0.258107	0.285674	0.313404	0.341284	0.369303	0.397452	0.425723
	24	0.244928	0.274003	0.303268	0.332705	0.362302	0.392047	0.42193	0.451941
	25	0.259378	0.290169	0.32116	0.352335	0.383678	0.415177	0.446823	0.478606
	26	0.274064	0.306599	0.339345	0.372284	0.405402	0.438685	0.472122	0.505705
	27	0.28898	0.323286	0.357814	0.392546	0.427466	0.462561	0.497818	0.533228
	28	0.304122	0.340225	0.376562	0.413114	0.449864	0.486797	0.523902	0.561167
	29	0.319483	0.35741	0.395583	0.433981	0.472587	0.511386	0.550365	0.589512
	30	0.335061	0.374836	0.41487	0.455141	0.495629	0.53632	0.577199	0.618256
	31	0.350849	0.392499	0.43442	0.476588	0.518984	0.561592	0.604398	0.647389
	32	0.366845	0.410394	0.454226	0.498316	0.542646	0.587196	0.631954	0.676904
	33	0.383044	0.428516	0.474283	0.520321	0.566608	0.613126	0.65986	0.706795
	34	0.399443	0.446862	0.494589	0.542597	0.590866	0.639375	0.68811	0.737055
	35	0.416038	0.465427	0.515136	0.56514	0.615413	0.665938	0.716697	0.767676
	36	0.432826	0.484208	0.535923	0.587944	0.640247	0.69281	0.745618	0.798653
37	0.449804	0.503201	0.556945	0.611006	0.66536	0.719986	0.774864	0.82998	
38	0.466968	0.522402	0.578197	0.634321	0.690749	0.747459	0.804432	0.861651	
39	0.484316	0.541809	0.599677	0.657886	0.71641	0.775227	0.834316	0.893661	

Table 7b: The merchantable volume under bark (m³).

Diameter Class (cm)	Height class (m)								
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	0.143223	0.162331	0.181803	0.201613	0.221736	0.242154	0.26285	0.283807	
18	0.153509	0.173989	0.19486	0.216092	0.237661	0.259546	0.281727	0.30419	
19	0.163918	0.185786	0.208073	0.230744	0.253776	0.277145	0.30083	0.324816	
20	0.174444	0.197717	0.221435	0.245562	0.270073	0.294942	0.320149	0.345675	
21	0.185083	0.209776	0.23494	0.260539	0.286545	0.312931	0.339675	0.366758	
22	0.195832	0.221958	0.248583	0.275669	0.303185	0.331103	0.359401	0.388056	
23	0.206685	0.234259	0.26236	0.290947	0.319988	0.349453	0.379319	0.409562	
24	0.217639	0.246675	0.276265	0.306367	0.336947	0.367974	0.399422	0.431269	
25	0.228691	0.259201	0.290294	0.321925	0.354058	0.38666	0.419706	0.453169	
26	0.239838	0.271835	0.304443	0.337616	0.371315	0.405507	0.440163	0.475258	
27	0.251076	0.284573	0.318709	0.353437	0.388715	0.424509	0.460789	0.497528	
28	0.262404	0.297413	0.333089	0.369383	0.406252	0.443661	0.481578	0.519975	
29	0.273819	0.31035	0.347578	0.385451	0.423924	0.462961	0.502527	0.542594	
30	0.285318	0.323383	0.362175	0.401638	0.441727	0.482403	0.52363	0.56538	
31	0.296899	0.336509	0.376875	0.41794	0.459657	0.501983	0.544884	0.588329	
32	0.30856	0.349726	0.391677	0.434355	0.47771	0.521699	0.566285	0.611436	
33	0.320299	0.363031	0.406579	0.45088	0.495885	0.541547	0.58783	0.634698	
34	0.332114	0.376423	0.421577	0.467513	0.514177	0.561524	0.609514	0.658111	
35	0.344004	0.389899	0.436669	0.48425	0.532584	0.581626	0.631334	0.681671	
36	0.355966	0.403457	0.451854	0.501089	0.551105	0.601852	0.653288	0.705376	
37	0.368	0.417096	0.467129	0.518028	0.569735	0.622198	0.675373	0.729221	
38	0.380103	0.430814	0.482492	0.535066	0.588473	0.642661	0.697585	0.753205	
39	0.392274	0.444609	0.497942	0.552199	0.607316	0.66324	0.719923	0.777323	

Validation

In validation, the average over bark true merchantable volume was 0.459167m³, derived from the Newton's formula and compared to 0.460784m³ estimated merchantable volume derived from

the equation $V_o = 0.0002722 * H^{1.21342}$, The true average merchantable volume under bark estimated using the Newton's formula was 0.40211m³, compared to 0.404860 m³ the average estimated merchantable volume derived from model $VI = 0.0003378 * D^{1.21342} * H^{1.18863}$, (Table 8a and 8b).

Table 8a: Data validation for over bark volume of *Pinus brutia* Ten, bas on model regression 8.

No. of plot	No. of trees	DBH	L	ACL.VM	Est. VM	Diff VM
1	1	26.1	10.3	0.301106	0.318113	0.017008
	2	29.8	13.1	0.486159	0.495021	0.008862
	3	28.5	11.2	0.386015	0.393518	0.007503
	4	26.5	11	0.348927	0.348546	0.000381
2	5	30.2	12.8	0.491396	0.492088	0.000692
	6	28.8	12.2	0.441021	0.437417	0.003604
	7	27.2	11.25	0.362968	0.370299	0.00733
	8	31.5	12.35	0.500126	0.50257	0.002444
3	9	32.2	12.95	0.553127	0.545176	0.007951
	10	30.1	12.15	0.454505	0.463364	0.008858
	11	25.5	10.5	0.307351	0.314261	0.00691
	12	26.5	11.45	0.360196	0.363747	0.003551

4	13	27.4	11.1	0.364806	0.368819	0.004013
	14	21.2	9.55	0.214938	0.219186	0.004249
	15	25.4	11.4	0.333205	0.341131	0.007925
	16	38	14	0.741939	0.747464	0.005525
5	17	32.7	12.3	0.526418	0.527378	0.00096
	18	35.6	12.55	0.616412	0.60708	0.009332
	19	34.1	13.1	0.59399	0.598171	0.004182
	20	37.5	13.1	0.683778	0.683579	0.000199
6	21	37.4	13.5	0.707631	0.703182	0.004448
	22	34.2	13.2	0.60881	0.605519	0.003291
	23	34	13	0.592828	0.590869	0.001959
	24	30.4	12	0.454425	0.463688	0.009264
7	25	24.2	10.1	0.271305	0.280169	0.008864
	26	28.7	11.7	0.410808	0.416318	0.005509
	27	22.5	10	0.25647	0.250264	0.006206
	28	31.8	12.9	0.535511	0.533488	0.002023
	29	23.4	10.2	0.265917	0.270069	0.004152
8	30	26.6	10.1	0.312361	0.319954	0.007593
	31	27.8	11.2	0.371746	0.380013	0.008267
	32	29.1	12	0.428045	0.436086	0.008041
	33	24.1	10.3	0.290012	0.284421	0.005591
	34	23.4	9.8	0.259141	0.258807	0.000334
9	35	35.2	13.05	0.631299	0.622902	0.008397
	36	34.6	13.1	0.605759	0.610524	0.004765
	37	33.6	13	0.582092	0.581131	0.000961
	38	33	12.8	0.559587	0.557335	0.002252
	39	24.2	10	0.272361	0.277217	0.004856
10	40	23.3	10	0.270888	0.262849	0.008039
	41	33.1	12.25	0.540984	0.534138	0.006846
	42	38	13.8	0.745571	0.7361	0.009471
	43	35.3	12.75	0.612681	0.610093	0.002589
	44	33.8	12.3	0.548762	0.552459	0.003697

Table 8b: Data validation for under bark volume of *Pinus brutia* Ten, bas on model regression 8.

No. of plot	No. of trees	DBH	L	ACL.VM	Est. VM	Diff VM
1	1	26.1	10.3	0.276291	0.282879	0.006588
	2	29.8	13.1	0.437238	0.442178	0.00494
	3	28.5	11.2	0.348277	0.347697	0.00058
	4	26.5	11	0.315202	0.311571	0.003631
2	5	30.2	12.8	0.440648	0.437184	0.003464
	6	28.8	12.2	0.395574	0.389823	0.005751
	7	27.2	11.25	0.330457	0.330292	0.000166
	8	31.5	12.35	0.447929	0.445208	0.002721
3	9	32.2	12.95	0.476838	0.47915	0.002312
	10	30.1	12.15	0.403631	0.409273	0.005643
	11	25.5	10.5	0.276054	0.281366	0.005312
	12	26.5	11.45	0.323788	0.326779	0.002992

4	13	27.4	11.1	0.333263	0.327966	0.005297
	14	21.2	9.55	0.193257	0.200907	0.00765
	15	25.4	11.4	0.304271	0.308783	0.004512
	16	38	14	0.644448	0.64268	0.001768
5	17	32.7	12.3	0.451821	0.459206	0.007385
	18	35.6	12.55	0.512724	0.521402	0.008678
	19	34.1	13.1	0.523547	0.520749	0.002798
	20	37.5	13.1	0.577704	0.584406	0.006702
6	21	37.4	13.5	0.59469	0.603718	0.009027
	22	34.2	13.2	0.533654	0.527348	0.006306
	23	34	13	0.507317	0.514192	0.006874
	24	30.4	12	0.406892	0.408157	0.001265
7	25	24.2	10.1	0.24669	0.252143	0.005453
	26	28.7	11.7	0.367849	0.369345	0.001497
	27	22.5	10	0.219516	0.228101	0.008584
	28	31.8	12.9	0.467075	0.469772	0.002697
	29	23.4	10.2	0.244189	0.244916	0.000727
8	30	26.6	10.1	0.278183	0.282799	0.004616
	31	27.8	11.2	0.333809	0.337362	0.003554
	32	29.1	12	0.38492	0.387076	0.002155
	33	24.1	10.3	0.248725	0.256795	0.008071
	34	23.4	9.8	0.227679	0.233543	0.005864
9	35	35.2	13.05	0.529993	0.538748	0.008755
	36	34.6	13.1	0.535997	0.530029	0.005968
	37	33.6	13	0.497866	0.506861	0.008995
	38	33	12.8	0.493594	0.486844	0.00675
	39	24.2	10	0.243861	0.249179	0.005317
10	40	23.3	10	0.242757	0.237979	0.004778
	41	33.1	12.25	0.45576	0.46378	0.00802
	42	38	13.8	0.623336	0.631782	0.008445
	43	35.3	12.75	0.519791	0.525866	0.006075
	44	33.8	12.3	0.475714	0.478017	0.002303

Discussion

We used the least squares method to construct the volume equations. The data were fitted to both un-weighted and weighted volume equations, and we used the Furnival's Index (FI) in order to fit the best model. Amongst fifteen individual tree volume models tested during the study, two models, with two estimated parameters, were judged as the best when bias and precision used as criteria to predict over-bark volume of *Pinus brutia* Ten. Both models for over and under bark volumes were a double-entry models that used for both diameter at breast height and height as independent variables as shown below:-

Over-bark volume equation: $VI = 0.0003378 * D^{1.21342} * H^{1.18863}$
Equation 8

Under-bark volume equation: $VO = 0.0002722 * D^{1.40425} * H^{1.06470}$
Equation 8

Wan Razali et al. [18] used eight un-weighted and seven weighted equations (including two logarithmic). The method of least squares was used to fit volume equations and the best fit equations were selected by smallest value of the Furnival's index for both over-bark and under-bark volume equations. The logarithmic equation, adjusted for bias, was chosen as the final equation to construct the over -bark and under-bark volume tables as follows:

$$V = 0.0003150(D^{1.54738})(H^{0.80931}) \text{ and } V = 0.0002707(D^{1.51310})(H^{0.84789})$$

In our study for over bark volume equation the, R² was 0.96, bias 0.0008, S.E 0.0035 and FI was 0.0013. For under bark equation the, R² was 0.90, bias 0.0005, S.E 0.0076 and FI was 0.0026. In the study done by Wan Razali et al. [18], they selected the same models for over and under bark volume for Mangium which was a double-entry model that used both diameter at breast height and height as independent variables. Nuray Misir et al. [20] used the Developing volume equation for Ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia subsp Oxycarpa*)

in Turkey. The researcher selected 391 sample trees from stand in Turkey; Twenty-six equations were examined in order to select the best one. He applied $V = b_1DH + b_2D^2H$ because it had a very high of coefficient of determination ($R^2=0.99$) and a low standard error ($SE=0.312m^3$), with two independent variables height and diameter at breast height (dbh) [26,27]. The research has similarity with our work because we also got equation with two independent variables with $R^2=0.968$ and ($SE=0.0035596m^3$). Our equation is better than this study because we selected the equation based on Furnival index and because we have both weight and un-weight volume equation not only R^2 and SE and other hand the SE are better than Nuray Misir et al. [20]. Pesonen [28] this study aimed to develop growth and yields models for larch which was applied on growth and yield simulators and calculated the forest inventories in eastern Iceland. The Norrby's model predicted the absolute true value for individual-tree volume than the others volume prediction models. For construction of the diameter increment model, data and models both were used. The ultimate aim of the construction of the prediction models was to know about the relationship between total tree height and diameter at breast height, dominant height and age, and future five-year diameter increment and tree and stand characteristics. Consequently, the Restricted Maximum Likelihood (REML) method was used to estimate the parameters of random parameter models. To find the best fitting equations for modelled characteristics, numerous linear and non-linear model forms were tested during preliminary analyses.

Khamsene 2009 developed a volume equation to predict the tree volume and taper function and to describe a stem profile by using 73 *Styrax tonkinensis* trees in New Zealand. Amongst eighteen individual tree volume models tested for under bark volume estimation, they selected a double-entry model that used both diameter at breast height and height as independent variables ($V = -0.0011383579 - 0.000052703D2H - 0.0000008312D2H2$). Analysis of residuals showed that the model above was better than the all eighteen models. The statistics included bias (mean residual), the standard error of estimate (SEE), the standard deviation of the residuals (SDR) and mean absolute deviation (MAD). Similarly, Juntunen [29] the main objective of this study was to develop growth and yield models for lodge pole pine plantations in Iceland. The relationship between stem volume and height diameter and diameter increment were the modelled tree level characteristics whereas the relationship between the dominant height and age, and between the diameter distribution and natural self-thinning were the modeled plot level characteristics to be were: To differentiate the dominant height and stand mean height an additional model for possible data preparation was needed.

Yousefpour [30] used the volume equation and volume table of *Pinus Pinaster Ait*; and data were measured in Kiashahr region (north of Iran). The researcher used the volume equations based on one and two variables and consequently the result gave the smallest relative standard error for the set of data, of volume equation with two independent variables, logarithmic stem volume equation based on tree height, diameter at breast height (dbh), and on both

variables was determined for *Pinus Pinaster Ait*. Wan Razali [31] the least squares method fitted the four un-weighted and five weighted volume equations to get the volume data of each of the two species groups: *Dipterocarp Merantis* - Dark Red Meranti (DRM) and Light Red Meranti (LRM) which were obtained from the mixed tropical forest of Malaysia. In this study, the criterion of Furnival's Index (FI) was used to select the best fit regression equation of each species group. Finally, the homogeneity of variance in volume, along the regression lines were equalized by using a more superior method of the weighted least squares and then the Furnival's Index as statistical measure of goodness-of-fit was used to validate it. Similarly, Heidarsson [32] The goal of larus study was to evaluate different types of volume and taper equations of three species *Picea sitchensis*, *Picea abies* and *Picea glauca* in Norway, which can be used to predict single-tree stem volume and stem diameter at any given height. Data from a total 617 sample trees were used, least-squares method was used to fit regression model for the volume equation, for independent variables used (DBH) and (H) was gave a best result for validation and statistical.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it was found that the best volume equation (Equation 8) for under bark had a very small Furnival index ($FI=0.002$), with high coefficient of determination ($R^2=0.90$) and a low standard error ($SE=0.007$). And for over bark the best volume equation (Equation 8) had a very small Furnival index ($FI=0.001$), with very high coefficient of determination ($R^2=0.96$) and a very low standard error ($SE=0.003$). The residuals between predicted and observed volume values have shown a normal distribution for both equations. Although the study was conducted in a specific region, it is generally expected that the models of volume equations derived from the study will provide a satisfactory estimate of standing volume of planted *P brutia* ten in other regions.

References

- Sharma M, Parton J (2007) Height-diameter equations for boreal tree species in Ontario using a mixed-effects modeling approach. *Forest Ecology and Management* 249(3): 187-198
- Kataria N, Yadav K, Kumari S, Singh N (2013) Micro propagation : An important tool for conserving forest trees. *Pertanika Journal for Tropical and Agriculture Science* 36(1): 1-26.
- Borras SM, Franco J, Gómez S, Kay C, Spoor M (2012) Land grabbing in Latin America and the Caribbean. *Journal of Peasant Studies* 39(3-4): 845-872.
- Yasodha R, Sumathi R, Gurumurthi K (2004) Micropropagation for quality propagule production in plantation forestry. *Indian Journal of Biotechnology* 3: 159-170.
- Kröger M (2012) Global tree plantation expansion: a review. *Netherlands*, p. 1-24.
- Clutter JL, Fortson JC, Pienaar LV, Brister GH, Bailey RL (1983) *Tim management: A quantitative approach*. In: John Wiley & Sons, USA, p. 1-333.
- Muhairwe CK (1999) Taper equations for *Eucalyptus pilularis* and *eucalyptus grand is* for the north coast in New South Wales, Australia. *Forest Ecology and Management* 113(2-3): 251-269.

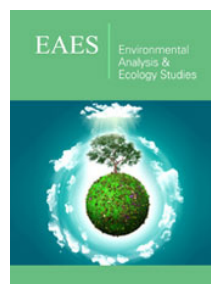
8. Mc Clure JP, Czaplowski RL (1986) Compatible taper equation for loblolly pine. Canadian Journal of Forest Research 16(6): 1272-1277.
9. Cao QV, Burkhart HE, Max TA (1980) Evaluation of two methods for Cubic-volume prediction of loblolly pine to any merchantable limit. Forest Science 26(1): 71-80.
10. Akrawee ZM (2012) Criteria for evaluation the sustainable management and policy of Zawita forest in Duhok governorate north of Iraq. Mesopotamia Journal of Agriculture 40(2): 192-201.
11. Razali WM, Rosni M, Johani MZ (1983) Double entry volume table equations for some RRIM 600 Series clones of Hevea brasiliensis. Malaysian forester, New Zealand
12. Spur SH (1952) Forest Inventory. Ronald Press Co. illus, New York.
13. Loetsch F, ZShrer F, Haller K, (1973) Forest Inventory, BLV Verlagsgesellschaft. Munich 2: 1-469.
14. Sadiq RA, Smith VG (1983) Estimation of individual tree volumes with age and diameter. Canadian Journal of Forest Research 13(1): 32-39
15. Schreuder HT, Anderson J (1984) Variance estimation for volume when D2H is the covariate in regression. Canadian Journal of Forest Research 14(6): 818-821
16. Green EJ, Strawderman WE (1985) The use of Bayes/empirical Bayes estimation in individual tree volume equation development. Forest Science 31: 975-990.
17. Meng CH, Tsai WY (1986) Selections of weights for a weighted regression of tree volume. Canadian Journal of Forest Research 16: 671-673.
18. Razali W, Khali Aziz, Chew TK (1989) A volume table for planted Acacia mangium in Peninsular Malaysia. Forest Science 2(2):110-121
19. Avery TE, Burkhart HE (2002) Forest measurements. In: McGraw-Hill (Ed.), Processing of laser scanner data algorithms and applications. ISPRS Journal of Photo grammetry and Remote Sensing, New York, USA, pp. 1-480
20. Nuray Misir, Mehmet MISIR (2004) Developing double-entry tree volume table for ASH in Turkey. Kafkas Üniversitesi. Artvin Orman Fakültesi Dergisi 3(4): 135-144.
21. Ounekham K (2009) Developing volume and taper equations for *Styrax tonkinensis* in Laos, UC Research Repository, New Zealand.
22. Hjelm B (2011) Taper and volume equations for poplar trees growing on farmland in Sweden. Swedish university of agricultural sciences. Department of energy and technology 29(2): 1-47.
23. Cunia T (1964) Weighted least square method and construction at volume tables. Forest Science 10(2): 180-191.
24. Furnival GM (1961) An index for comparing equations used in constructing volume tables. Forest Science 7(4): 337-341.
25. Wright HL (1964) An investigation into the weighting of volume table equations, Dept of Forestry, University of Oxford, UK.
26. Meyer HA (1994) Internal communication, A correction for a systematic error occurring in the application of logarithmic volume equation. The Pennsylvania State Forest School Research Paper Number, pp. 7-30.
27. Razali W, Aziz K, Chew TK (1989) A volume table for planted Acacia mangium in Peninsular Malaysia. Forest Science 2(2): 110-121.
28. Pesonen A (2006) Modeling the Growth and Yield of Larch in Hallormsstaður, Iceland
29. Juntunen M (2010) Modeling tree and stand characteristics of lodge pole pine *Pinus contorta* plantations in Iceland. University of Eastern Finland, Europe, pp. 1-68.
30. Yousefpour M, Fadaie KF, Fallah A, Naghavi F (2012) Volume equation and volume table of *Pinus Pinaster* Ait. International Research Journal of Applied and Basic Sciences 3(5): 1072-1076.
31. Wan Razali WM (2013) Development of standard volume equations for Malaysian timber trees i: dark red and light red merantis tropical agricultural science. Pertanika J Trop Agric Sci 36: 31-46
32. Heidarsson L (2014) Volume and taper equations for Sitka spruce *Picea Sitchensis* Carr. Norway spruces *Picea abies* (L.) Karst and White spruce *Picea glauca* (Moench) Voss in Iceland



Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License

For possible submissions Click Here

[Submit Article](#)



Environmental Analysis & Ecology Studies

Benefits of Publishing with us

- High-level peer review and editorial services
- Freely accessible online immediately upon publication
- Authors retain the copyright to their work
- Licensing it under a Creative Commons license
- Visibility through different online platforms