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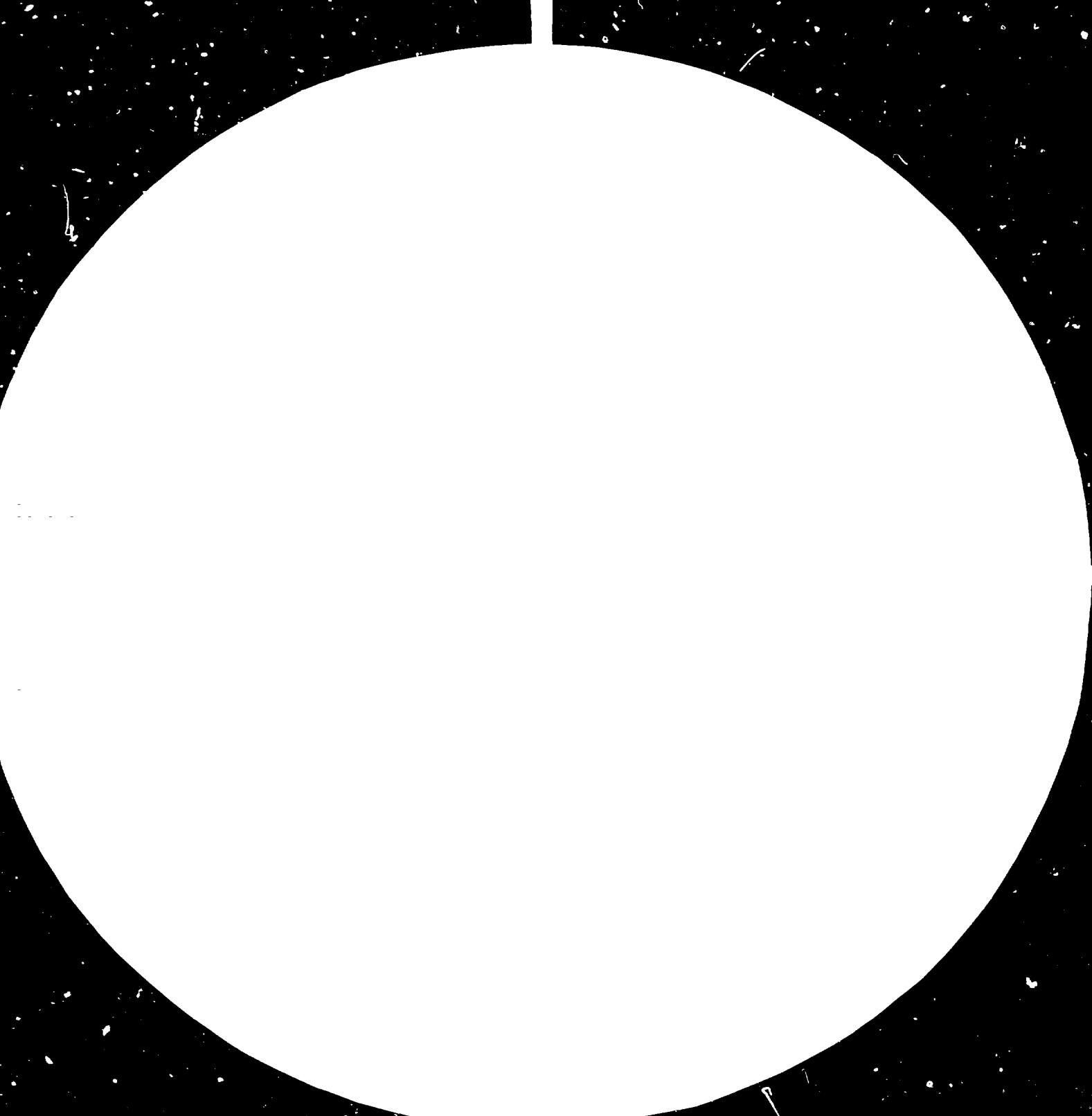
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Resolution Test Chart
1.0 1.1 1.25 1.4 1.6 1.8 2.0 2.2 2.5 2.8



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URUGUAY'S FOREST RESOURCES AND CONSUMPTION OF THEM*

by

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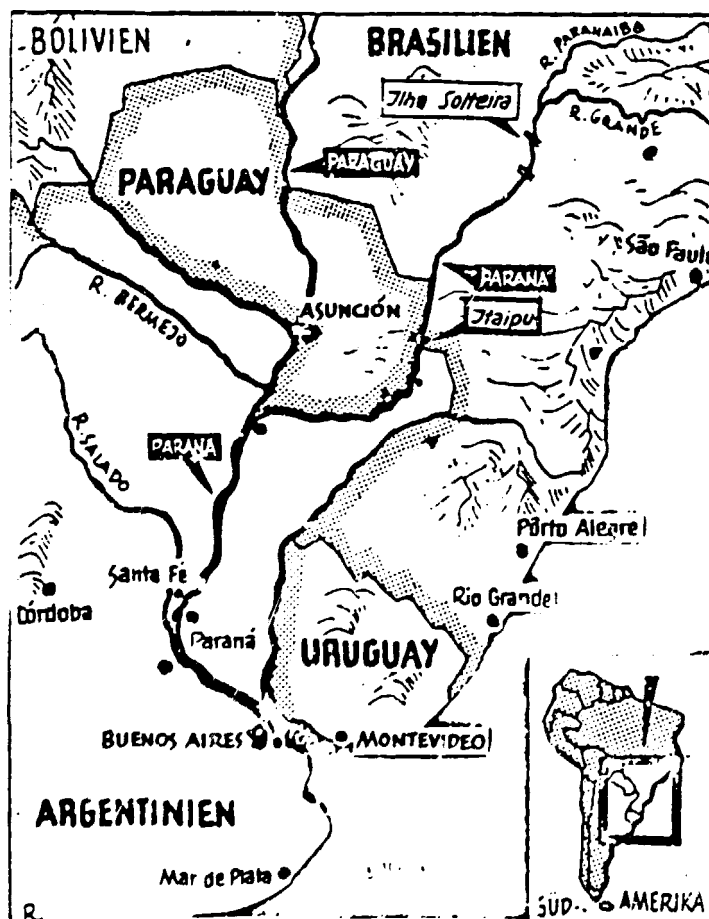
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1. Introduction

Uruguay is a small country located on the Atlantic Coast of South America between the two big countries Brazil and Argentina. The total land area of the country is 187.000 square kilometres - less than 20 million hectares. The population is almost 3 million persons, mainly of European origin. It is the only country in South America today which has no native inhabitants. In this small country, there are 12 million cattle and 22 million sheep. Moreover, an important part of the country is under cultivation. The woods cover only some 3.9 per cent of the total area.

Trees grow very quickly in Uruguay as a rule. They reach an average of 20 to 25 tons/hectare/year in Eucalyptus grandis or 15 to 18 tons/hectare/year for Pinus eliotti when planted in suitable soils.



2. Area and Species

	<u>Hectares</u>
Native wood	600.000
Eucalyptus spp.	100.000
Salicaceae	7.000
Pinus spp	20.000
Other	1.000
	<hr/>
Total	728.000

3. Native woods

Native woods in Uruguay are almost of no importance to the economy of the country. They are low, badly shaped and in general very poor. They are utilized only as fire wood in fact because they burn very well. They are also extremely difficult to get to since our forests follow the water areas and hilly areas and are therefore virtually inaccessible which is another reason why they are not exploited.

3.1 Eucalyptus

This genus, originally from Australia, has been planted in all parts of the country since the end of the last century. They provide shade and shelter for our cattle and sheep. This species has spread throughout each wooded area however has been ignored for its exploitation possibilities. With industry in mind, we rather plant the E. tereticornis, E. camandulensis, and the E. globulus. The most preferable species for the wood industry of Uruguay are E. grandis and E. saligna.

3.2 Salicaceae

Poplars and willows have been planted in the wet areas as small woods however they tend to present the same problems as those of the Eucalyptus and native woods.

3.3 Pinus

The main areas of this specie are located along the southern coast. They have been planted with urbanistic purposes and for dunes fixation. Pinus pinaster (originally from 'Les Landes', France) is the most popular pine. Today pine plantations are made also with Pinus eliotti and P. taeda as well.

As in the case of the Eucalyptus, no thinning, no pruning and no seed selection have been done with these trees before some 15 years ago when some seed selection began in earnest. As a result of this, sawn timber from these woods is of quite poor quality.

4. Wood Consumption

All figures have been put in round wood cubic meter terms, and are estimates only:

Total consumption during 1980	1.457.000
Local production	1.027.000
Imported	430.000

5. Importation

Approximately 250,000 m³ is imported from Africa in the form of big round wood for plywood production and a bit for sawn wood. Some 40,000 m³ comes as sawn wood, 90 per cent of which is Araucaria brasiliensis, from Brazil and radiata pine from Chile. Some 4,000 m³ as plywood comes from Brazil and 136,000 m³ as cellulose and paper for newspaper comes mostly from Chile annually.

6. Local production

About 800,000 m³ of round wood is used as firewood (low per cent as charcoal) - 65 per cent of this amount is Eucalyptus and 35 per cent is native wood. 80,000 m³ (always in round wood terms) of sawn timber, 50 per cent Pinus, 40 per cent Eucalyptus and 10 per cent salicaceae - the quality is very low and in general, sawn timber is produced in small or portable sawmills, with old fashioned equipment.

Some 119,000 m³ of round wood, goes to the cellulose industry annually, 90 per cent of which is Eucalyptus globulus. 11,000 m³ goes into particleboard and fibreboard production. The installed industrial capacity for those productions is very superior to the consumption possibilities. 13,500 m³ have been used as fence, telephone and electricity poles.

2,500 m³ of round wood has gone into plywood production and 1,000 m³ to other products this past year.

7. Exports

Some small amounts of parquet, pulp and paper have been exported during 1980 but these figures are not significant.



