GLOSSARY

Basal area: The area of the cross-section of a stem at breast-height. When applied to a crop (crop basal area), the sum of basal areas of all the stems or the total basal area per unit of area.

Bole: The main stem of a tree. Sometimes used to refer to only the lower part of the stem up to a point where the main branches are given off, i.e., as a synonym of clear or clean bole. syn. Trunk.

Breast height: Almost universally adopted as the standard height for measuring girth, diameter and basal area of standing trees 1.37m. above ground level.

Canopy: The cover of branches and foliage formed by the crowns of trees in a wood. Syn. Leaf canopy.

Clearfelling: Strictly the felling of the whole standing crop in one operation.

Clearing: An open space in the forest, due to clearing of growth.

Climber: A herbaceous or woody plant that climbs up trees or other support by twining round them or by holding on to them by tendrils, hooks, aerial roots or other attachments.

Conversion: A change from one silvicultural system or one (set of) species to another.

Crop height: A term used in sample plot work and yield tables in India, and refers to the average height of a regular crop.
Cultural operations: A general term for operations, as a rule not directly remunerative, undertaken to assist or complete existing regeneration to promote the proper development of the crop. It includes weeding, cleaning, unremunerative improvement fellings and thinning.

Deciduous: Perennial plants that are normally leafless for some time during the year.

Environment: All the biotic and abiotic factors of a site.

Epiphyte: A plant growing on, but not nourished by, another plant.

Erosion: The removal of soil and rock materials by water, wind and gravity; generally refers to accelerated erosion.

Extensive Forestry: The practice of forestry on the basis of low operating and investment costs per ha.

Financial Rotation: A rotation determined by financial considerations, e.g., that yielding the highest rate of interest.

Fireline: A cleared permanent fire break intended to prevent fires crossing from one area to another.

Fluting: The tendency to show irregular involutions and swellings on the bole just above the base characteristic of some species, e.g., Teak. It is often unrelated to buttress formation.
Forestry: The theory and practice of all that constitutes the creation, conservation and scientific management of forests and utilisation of their resources.

Girth class: One of the intervals into which the range of girth of trees or logs is divided for classification or use; also the trees or logs falling into such an interval.

Growing stock: The sum (by number or volume) of all the trees growing in the forest or a specified part of it.

Intensive Forestry: The practice of forestry with the object of obtaining the maximum in volume and quality of products per unit of area through the application of the best techniques of silviculture and management.

Mean Annual Increment: The total increment (total volume of wood) up to a given age divided by that age.

Mid girth: The girth of a log, bole or a tree, measured half way along its length or height.

Money yield table: A table constructed from a volume yield table in which the yields are expressed in terms of money instead of volume.

Natural regeneration: The renewal of a forest crop by self-sown seed, or by coppice or root suckers; also the crop so obtained.
Outturn: (a) The quantity of produce obtained from any unit of a forest. (b) The quantity of sawn timber obtained from, a given quantity of round logs.

Rotation of the maximum volume production: The rotation that yield the greatest annual quantity of material. It coincides with the age at which the mean annual increment culminates.

Rotation: The planned number of years between the formation or regeneration of a crop and its final felling.

Selection felling: The annual or periodic removal of exploitable trees, individually or in small groups, in an unevenaged forest in order to realise the yield.

Silviculture: The art and culture of cultivating forest crops.

Site quality: A measure of the relative productive capacity of a site for a particular species. The top height as it varies with age in generally the basis for classification.

Small wood: Wood below a certain girth or diameter but often with a lower limit.

Spacing: The distance between the trees put out in a plantation or standing in a crop.

Sustained Yield Management: Management of a forest to give equal annual or periodic returns in perpetuity.

Sustained Yield: (a) The material that a forest can yield annually (or periodically) in perpetuity. (b) As applied to a policy, method or plan of management (sustained yield management), it implies continuous production with the aim of achieving, at the earliest practical time at the highest practical level an approximate balance between net growth and harvest, either by annual or somewhat longer periods.

Taungya: (Burmese; taung=hill, ya=cultivation) The term is now applied to the method of raising forest plantations in combination with field crops, otherwise known as Agri-silvicultural methods.

Technical rotation: The rotation under which a species yields most material of specified sizes and suitability for economic conversion or special use.

Thinning: A felling made in an immature stand for the purpose of improving the growth and form of the trees that remain, without permanently breaking the canopy.

Top height: (a) In general terms, it is the average height of the dominant trees in a stand. (b) As used in sample plot work and yield tables in India it refers to the height corresponding to the mean diameter (calculated from the basal area) of the 100 biggest diameters per acre as read from the height/diameter curve.
Undergrowth: The lowest stratum of woody and other vegetation above the ground cover. Syn. Low cover.

Volume Table: A table showing for a given species the average contents of trees, logs or sawn timber for one or more given dimensions. The given dimensions may be (I) d.b.h. alone, (ii) d.b.h. and height or (iii) d.b.h., height and some measure of form or taper. Volume tables may be (I) general, (ii) regional or (iii) local, depending on the scope of their applicability.

Working plan: A written scheme of management aiming at continuity of policy and action and controlling the treatment of a forest. The instrument of forest management. Syn. Management plan. See also plan of operations(b).

Yield table: A tabular statement which summarises on unit area basis all the essential data relating to the development of a fully stocked and regularly thinned even aged crop at periodic intervals covering the greater part of its useful life. Syn. Volume yield table.

Source FRI and C, 1983.