

Health Assessment of Forests -Standing Timber Volume, Breast height form factor, and Relative spacing index -

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Part of the Sagano High School Woods for Field Studies (hereafter referred to as "the school-owned forest") is a mixed forest of cedar and cypress trees over 70 years old, and is about to pass the optimal rotation age (the appropriate age for harvesting).

The purpose of this study is to understand the hierarchical structure of the school-owned forest and to prepare materials for future thinning and afforestation.

Using the point sampling method (Bitterlich, 1947), the cross sectional area of the school-owned forest was calculated to estimate the forest area and the breast height form factor. In addition, chest-height diameter and mean tree trunk distance were measured and relative spacing index were determined. In this presentation, we will report the results of the measurements and compare them with previous studies on the school-owned forest to discuss sustainable forest management in the school-owned forest.

Keywords: Cedar and cypress mixed forests, Forest management, Optimal rotation age, Hierarchical structure