



Scotland's Finest Woods Awards 2019

Quality Timber Awards Information Sheet

£3,000 of prizes

Delivery Partners:



James Jones
& SONS LIMITED

Three competition categories:

New commercial woods; Small woods, single stands or compartments; and Whole-estates/forests

What is it for?

This Award is for woodlands where high quality timber production is a major objective. BSW Timber, Egger Forestry, Iggesund Forestry and James Jones & Sons Ltd have teamed up to sponsor these award categories.

Who can enter?

Entry is open to woodland anywhere in Scotland where production of high quality timber is a major objective of management.

There are three prize categories and entrants can apply for as many as are valid to their woodland:

- **New commercial woods** - entry is open to newly-planted productive and predominantly conifer woodland of 10 hectares or more in extent; that have between one and six years' growth i.e. planted between the 2012/13 and 2017/18 seasons; and established on previously bare land where the planning, practice and management regime is designed to result in high quality timber production.
- **Small woods, single stands or compartments** – entry is open to a small woodland, stand or compartment of trees where the exemplary use of silvicultural techniques, practice and management results in high quality timber production. Crops should include a proportion of trees that are at least 10 years old and have reached pole stage or beyond so providing a reasonable indication of future timber quality.
- **Whole estates or forests** – entry is open to multi-purpose forests or woodlands where a number of different activities are taking place and in which high quality timber production is a major objective. Other objectives might include, for example, providing recreation and visitor facilities and/or conservation. The size of the forest or woodland area is not restricted, but must be appropriate to and capable of sustaining the stated objectives.

Prizes

There are £3,000 in cash prizes available. This shall be awarded by way of **£1,000** for the winning project in each category at the discretion of the judges. In addition, the following prestigious trophies will be awarded at the discretion of the judges with custody for one year:

- **New Commercial Woods** - James Jones Trophy
- **Small woods, single stands or compartments** - Hunter Blair Trophy
- **Whole estates/forests** - John Kennedy Trophy

The winners and any commended entries will receive a **certificate** and a **wooden display plaque** recording their achievement.

Judging

The judges aim to **visit short-listed entries during April/May 2019**. You will be contacted by the judges directly in April 2019 regarding any site visit. If you do not hear from the judges by early May your entry has not been short-listed.

Our judges' task will be to find and reward the pursuit of excellence and the judges will assess entries against the following criteria:

- Quality of entry form and supporting information
- Clarity of management objectives
- Quality of management planning and implementation
- The degree of progress and necessary adaptation since inception
- The outcome to date including the quality, or potential for quality, of the timber crop.

Aspects that the judges will be looking for include:

- An innovative approach
- An understanding of timber market requirements
- Species selection appropriate to the site
- Choice of appropriate silvicultural techniques
- Application of good health and safety practise
- Safeguarding and enhancing natural heritage and historic environment features
- Provision of recreation and visitor facilities (especially in larger woodland estates)
- Economic benefits to the land owner.

Award ceremony

The winners will be presented with their prizes on **Friday, 21st June 2019** at the Royal Highland Show at Ingliston.

How to enter

Simply complete a short entry form with basic location and contact details and state in no more than **500 words** why you think your entry would make a worthy winner of this prestigious award.

Please list any supporting information such as a summary management plan, species distribution and/or other relevant maps (e.g. for new commercial woodlands vegetation pre-woodland establishment and/or soils maps), any publicity leaflet(s) and up to a maximum of 5no. photographs that will help our judges make their decision. In addition, a short video may be included though this must not be any longer than 60 seconds maximum length. You do not have to provide these at this stage, unless you consider they are important to your application, though be aware the judges may ask for these to be provided directly to them and preferably electronically at short notice prior to any visit or to be available for the day of the visit. Any email (including any attachments) must not exceed 10MB in total though you may send 2-3 emails if necessary.

Copies of this entry form can be downloaded from the Scotland's Finest Woods Awards' website www.sfwa.co.uk and should be submitted electronically unless otherwise agreed in advance.

Closing date for entries

Please submit your application as early as possible and by Sunday, 31st March 2019 at the very latest. Late entries will not be considered.

Publicity

An objective of Scotland's Finest Woods and its partners is to showcase entrants as exemplars of good practice so as to encourage others. By entering the competition, entrants are accepting that their woodland may be used as an example of good practice in post-competition publicity and, as may be agreed with the entrant, in other ways.

In order to maximise the potential for obtaining publicity entrants are requested to provide publication quality photography as well as a video of up to a maximum 60 seconds length if available.

For more information please see www.sfwa.co.uk or contact:

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See www.sfwa.co.uk for full information and follow us on [Twitter](#) as well as [Facebook](#) !