



FACTSHEET 02

Robinia pseudoacacia 'Pusztavacs' (Selected stand)



KEY FACTS:

- **Species:** Robinia pseudoacacia (Black Locust or False Acacia)
- **Seed stand name and Location:** Pusztavacs, Hungary
- **Category:** Selected
- **Site suitability:** False acacia will tolerate acid, dry and infertile sites although good quality timber stands require sites with adequate moisture and well aerated, nutrient rich soils. Reports suggest that Southern England is the most suitable location for establishing False acacia as it requires summer warmth to grow well.
- **Establishment:** The most popular spacing in Hungary is 2.5m x 1.0m, requiring circa 4,000 stems/ha.
- **Timber use, marketing and processing:** Produces a very durable, strong, high density timber that naturally has a very low moisture content. If produced for short rotation the small stem diameters required for harvesting require a rotation period of circa 5 years. If production of high quality timber is the main objective then expect rotations of circa 25-30 years.

SUMMARY:

False acacia is a versatile nitrogen-fixing, pioneer species that is tolerant of dry, infertile soils. To date, it hasn't been widely planted in the UK but its demand has been slowly increasing due to increasing demand for woody biomass material. Due to its rapid rate of growth and in anticipation of our changing climate its use in the UK is likely to expand.

Our stock is produced from seed collected in the Pusztavacs forest district in Hungary. The district is well recognised for possessing some of the oldest and highest quality stands of False acacia.



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- False acacia was one of the first forest tree species introduced from North America at the beginning of the 17th century. It is widely planted in many areas of Europe and is the second most widely planted broadleaved species in the world after Eucalypts.
- False acacia tolerates low fertility sites and has excellent resistance to drought stress, air pollutants, high temperatures and pests/diseases.
- The timber is dense (740kg m³ at 15% moisture content), naturally durable and has a wide variety of end uses.

'Pusztavacs' Stand Location

Current climate adaption strategies suggest that when selecting tree seed for a species, a provenance of 2-5 degrees South of the planting location should be selected in anticipation of our changing climate.

In this example the 'Pusztavacs' stand is located approx 4 degrees south of London or 8 degrees south of Edinburgh.



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References:

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