Collective Forests and Fastgrowing Plantations in Fujian: Experiences and Lessons 福建省集体林区速生丰产林建设 经验、教训和政策建议

Li Nuyun
Deputy Director
Department of Afforestation
State Forestry Administration

Purpose(研究目的)

- Review development of plantations and private-sector investment
- Investigate company-community plantation agreements in Fujian Province
- Identify advantages, disadvantages and lessons of such agreements and make recommendations

Methodology (研究方法)

1. Literature review (文献研究)

2. Semi-structured interview(半结构访谈)

- forestry agencies at provincial, prefecture, county, and township levels
- private and state-owned wood-processing companies
- villages
- > households
- 3. Plantation investigation (实地查看丰产林基地)

Introduction(福建情况介绍)

1. The natural conditions and forest resources in Fujian Province

A. Geographic location

Longitude: 115°50′to 120°30′East

Latitude: 23°30′to 28°20′North

Area: 121,400 km²

- B. Topography (80% of province is mountainous)
- C. Climate (Precipitation: 1100-2000 mm per year, sub-tropical region)

D. Forest types

- —Evergreen broadleaved forests in central Fujian
- —Seasonal evergreen broadleaf forests in southern Fujian

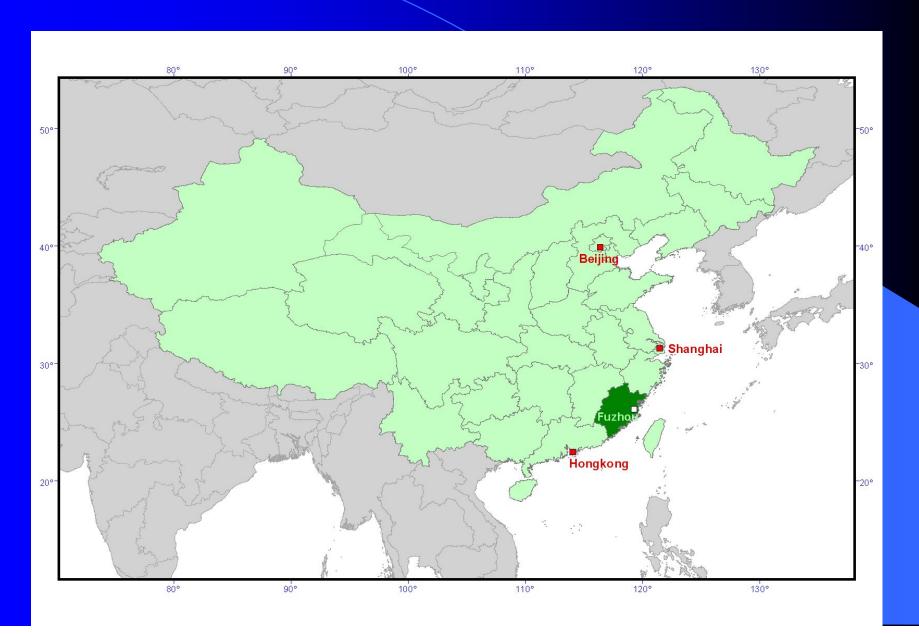
2. Distinctive features of collective forests in Fujian Province (集体林特征)

A. Collective forests dominate

| Ownership | Forestland | Forest resources |
|------------------|------------|------------------|
| State-owned | 10% | 8.1% |
| Collective-owned | 90% | 90% |

B. Tenure and management types range from joint to share-holding to individual household management

Fujian Province



Results(结果)

1. Current situation of forest plantations

A. Market: increasing wood demand

- —2,000 wood-processing enterprises
- —Since 1998, the output of paper and paper-related products is increasing at more than 20% annually

--Example: Zhangzhou City in 2003

Wood demand: 3 million m³

Local supply: 0.18 million m³

Imported radiata pines: 0.7 million m³

B. General plan(总体规划)

At present, 999,000 ha of plantation in Fujian

By the end of 2015, 2 million ha of plantation will be established

- --Pulp forests: 0.67 million ha
- --Panel forests: 0.60 million ha
- --Rare tree species forests: 0.06 million ha
- --Others: 0.67 million ha Planned plantations in Fujian
- --Paper and panel-making companies 40%
- --State-owned forest farms 18.3%
- --Rural collective forest farms (community) 33.3%
- --Individual, private, foreign company 8.3%

2. Analysis of different plantation types

The following five types of plantations are the main types established in Fujian

A. State and collective-owned forest farms

Impacts

Community: improved environmental conditions and infrastructure

Township: part of wood-selling income from township-owned farms

Village: part of wood-selling income from village-owned farms

Farms: direct income from selling wood

Households: indirect income from labor employment, few chances to get direct income from selling wood

B. National Afforestation Project (NAP)

Impacts

Community: improved environmental conditions and infrastructure

County government: political achievement, financial risks (payoff of loans)

Country Forestry Bureau: management experience

County afforestation company: benefits from selling wood, management experience, and financial risks (payoff of loans)

Township: political achievement, direct wood-selling income

Village: direct wood-selling income for village (community) public affairs and other expense

Farms: direct income from selling wood, natural risks such as fire and disease control

Households: indirect income from labor employment, less direct wood-selling income

C. Lease or buy collective forest farms: Yong'an Forest Group

Impacts

Community: improved environmental conditions and infrastructure

Yong'an Forest Group: Enlarge scale and source of raw materials

Township or village commission: direct income, relief of management burden, loss of forest control, risk if the venture fails

Households: direct profit and indirect income from labor employment, loss of management opportunities

D. Company + Households: Furen Cooperation

Impacts

Community: improved environmental conditions and infrastructure

Company: stable raw material supply, reduced costs, risk of broken contracts

Township or Village Commission: facilitator

Large household: direct income from selling wood, financial and environmental risks such as forest fire and disease

Households: direct income from selling wood, consistent customer selling wood, environmental risks, unfair pricing

E. Collective forests leased by households: Local Farmer Ling Arlin

Signed an individual contract with the village commission

Leasing price: US\$ 27.20 per year

Duration of tenure: 50 years

Impacts

For Mr. Ling: income from selling-wood

For the village: forestland rent

For each household: no direct benefits

Conclusions (结论)

● 1. Lessons (教训)

- —Imperfect ownership system
- —Imperfect evaluation and transfer of forest property
- —Insufficient participation of households
- —Limitation from harvest quota management system
- —High taxes and fees
- —Mono-culture of tree species
- —Investment constraints

2. Recommendations (建议)

To enterprises

- —Enhance communication with households
- —Improve good relationships with villages and communities
- —Formulate contract based on relevant law
- —Find risk-avoiding counter measures

To local government and forestry agencies

- —Enforce management of the ecological forest
- —Strict monitoring of annexation and contracts
- —Increase villagers access to information sources

To household

- —Improve negotiating skills
- —Pay more attention to market information
- —Increase awareness of collective forest ownership
- —Establish household cooperatives

To macro-forestry management

- —Reform forest ownership
- —Build policies based on classification of forest function
- —Establish regional regulations and markets based on existing forests
- —Standardization of taxes and fees

Thank you very much! 谢谢 (Xie Xie)

Ms. Nuyun Li
State Forestry Administration, China
Tel: 86-10-8423-8516
Losie.song@vip.sina.com