

PLANTATION MANAGEMENT RESEARCH COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP POLICIES

(Adopted by Advisory Committee July 2013)

These membership policies replace those adopted by the Advisory Committee in August 2008. Current members whose membership class would change as a result of the updated policies may elect to continue in their current membership class through 2015.

General Membership Policies:

The Advisory Committee will vote on new member applications.

Membership classes are defined for different types of entities in Table 1. Contributing, Supporting and Full member classes are defined for entities that own or control forest land, provide consulting and/or management services, or manufacture forest products based on size of activity. Other types of entities may be members in the Allied and Non-Allied membership classes. If an entity qualifies for membership under different membership classes due to diverse activities, the entity will be considered for membership at the membership class resulting in the greater dues contribution.

An organization may request to “upgrade” its membership class with associated increases in dues contributions and benefits. Such requests will be voted on by the membership.

Membership class as initially offered and accepted is subject to change with changed conditions of the Member. It is the Member’s obligation to inform the PMRC Director of significant changes that could affect their membership class.

Annual dues will be based on membership class (Table 1). Full members that own or control forest land are expected to actively participate in the field study program either through in-kind support or cost share. Other members are encouraged but not expected to support the field study program.

Base benefits for each membership class are defined in Table 2.

If a member discontinues its membership, then rejoins the Cooperative, this organization will pay a penalty fee equal to the current annual dues times the number of times the company has previously been a member of the Cooperative.

Use of PMRC Products:

Members may use research results including data, summarized data, reports, web site access and software tools (as available by membership class) produced by the PMRC for management of their lands. Members may allow their agents, such as non-member consultants, to use PMRC products to manage Member lands only. Management or Consulting Services Members may use PMRC products to manage their clients’ lands **excluding** any non-PMRC member client that would meet the definition of PMRC Full or Supporting Membership.

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Cost Sharing:

Full Members that Own or Control Forest Land

All Full members that own or control forest land are expected to actively support the field study program through in-kind support. The intent of cost sharing by such members that are unable to provide in-kind support due to lack of suitable sites for study installation or loss of active study installations due to divestitures or disturbances is to distribute equitably the expenses of installing and maintaining the field studies from which the membership benefits are derived. Those members unable to contribute in-kind support due to these reasons will be invoiced an amount equal to 50% of the annual dues amount. There will be a three-year grace period following start of membership to allow for participation with in-kind support prior to possible assessment of the cost share.

Other Membership Classes and Entities

All members are encouraged to participate in supporting the field study program through in-kind support or through cost share. Support of the field trial program through either in-kind support or cost share equivalent to 50% of the annual dues amount for a Full member will provide the member the ability to vote on issues related to the field study program.

Travel Expenses:

Travel expenses of the PMRC staff for the purpose of on-site Consulting/Workshop/Field Trips requested by a member will be paid by the member.

Explanation of Member Benefits:

Benefits for Full, Supporting, Contributing, Allied, and Non-Allied membership classes are outlined in Table 2. Explanations of several of the benefits are provided below. Other benefits identified in Table 2 are self-explanatory.

Raw Data

All data collected concurrent with membership in good standing will be available to that member (any membership class). If an organization leaves the Cooperative, only data subsequently collected from lands owned by the organization may be exchanged for Cooperative access privileges.

Data collected prior to a company's membership is available after dues payment equivalent to three years dues at the scheduled Full membership level for all except the Non-Allied membership class. Years of dues payment needed for access to raw data are 3, 4.5, 6 and 12 for Full, Supporting, Associate and Contributing membership classes, respectively. The Cooperator may choose to pay dues for future years early in order to gain accelerated access to raw data. For example, any member new to the PMRC in 2014 could elect to pay a total of \$61,500 (scheduled full dues of \$, \$20,000, and \$20,500 and \$21,000 for 2014, 2015, and 2016, respectively) up-front and obtain immediate access to the raw data.

Summarized Plot Level Data

Summarized plot level data is available after dues payment equivalent to one year dues at the scheduled Full membership level for all membership classes. Years of dues payment needed for access to summarized plot data is 1, 1.5, 2 and 4 for Full, Supporting or Non-Allied, Associate and Contributing membership classes, respectively.

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A non-Full Member may choose to pay dues for future years early in order to gain accelerated access to summarized plot level data. For example, any member new to the PMRC in 2014 would have access to summarized plot level data after payment of \$20,000 dues (scheduled 2014 Full Member dues).

Access to Most Recent Decision Support Software

All members have access to the most recent decision support software after two years of membership or payment of the equivalent of two years of dues for their respective membership class. Members have the option of paying two years of dues upon membership and having immediate access to the most recent decision support software. This payment will satisfy this member's dues obligations for the first two years of membership.

Priority Email and Telephone Consulting – This will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis with the Director of the PMRC.

Extra Days of Consulting/Field Trips/Workshops - This will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis with the Director of the PMRC.

Table 1. PMRC Membership Classes and Associated Dues Levels

		Membership Class				
		Contributing	Supporting	Full	Allied	Non-Allied
Type of Entity	Units					
Owens or Controls Forest Land	Acres ¹	<50M	50M to 200M	>200M		
Management or Consulting Services	Aggregated Acres ²	<75M	75M to 250M	>250M		
Forest Products	Tons/Year Pine Usage ³	<1.0MM	1.0MM to 2.75MM	>2.75MM		
Allied Businesses ⁴	None				X	
Non-Allied Businesses ⁵	None					X
Dues						
Formula		26% of Full	67% of Full	Full	50% of Full	67% of Full
2014 Level (estimated)		\$5,200	\$13,340	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$13,340

¹ Acreage of land owned or controlled in the U.S. South

² Aggregated acreage in U.S. South of clients with less than 50M acres

³ U. S. South pine usage

⁴ Allied businesses support forest management through the research, manufacture or sale of products utilized to establish, maintain, manage, or harvest southern pine plantations. Allied members do not own, control, or manage forest land or forest product facilities.

⁵ Entities not fitting in defined entity types.

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Table 2. PMRC Membership Benefits

Products / Services	Full	Supporting	Contributing	Allied	Non-Allied
Membership on Advisory Committee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Membership on Technical Committee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Participation at Contact Meetings	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Votes on Budget and Policy Issues	5	3	1	1	1
Study Plan Development if Member Provides In-Kind Support or Contributes Field Study Cost Share	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Study Plan Development if Member Does Not Provide In-Kind Support or Contributes Field Study Cost Share	No ¹	No	No	No	No
Votes on Field Trials if Member Provides In-Kind Support or Contributes Field Study Cost Share	5	3	1	1	1
Votes on Field Trials if Member Does Not Provide In-Kind Support or Contributes Field Study Cost Share	No ¹	No	No	No	No
Raw Data Collected while Active Member	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Raw Data Collected Prior to Membership (after dues payment equivalent to 3 years Full membership)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Summarized Plot Level Data (after dues payment equivalent to 1 year Full membership)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Technical Reports	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Annual Meeting Attendance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Members Only Workshop Attendance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
General Web Based Information	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Access to Growth & Yield Models	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Access to Most Recent Decision Support Software (After dues payment equivalent to 2 years membership for respective membership class)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Access to Decision Support Software Except for Most Recent Products	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Priority Email and Telephone Consulting	Yes	Negotiated	Negotiated	Negotiated	Negotiated
Studies Established on Member Land	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Assistance in Study Establishment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
PMRC Field Crew Measurements	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Days of Consulting/Field Trips/Workshops Travel to be paid by Member	2	1	Negotiated	1	1
Extra Days of Consulting/Field Trips/Workshops (\$ <u>Negotiated</u> /day) Travel to be paid by Member	On Request	On Request	Negotiated	On Request	On Request

¹Full members that own or control land are expected to provide in-kind support or cost share.