

## **Faster Growing GE Tree Plantations Will Increase Deforestation**

According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization between the years 1990 and 2010, the average yield of wood from plantations doubled, yet the amount of land occupied by those plantations increased over 60% from 97 million to 153 million hectares. [<http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1757e/i1757e.pdf>, Table 5.5, page 94]

Nearly all of the recent tree cover loss is happening outside established plantation boundaries, according to “**Mapping Tree Plantations with Multispectral Imagery: Preliminary Results for Seven Tropical Countries**” a study recently released by the World Resources Institute. The study finds 90 percent of that loss is coming at the expense of natural forests in Brazil, Colombia, Peru, and Liberia.

<http://www.wri.org/publication/mapping-tree-plantations>