



FullCAM Data Builder

Frequently Asked Questions

Error messages

Q. The Data Builder returns an error saying it can't find State/IBRA soil data for my location. Why?

A. This will occur in areas where no data (such as soil inventory) has been collected. Examples of this include regions of the Western Australia desert and the South East Wilderness area of Tasmania.

Q. I know that my point is on land but FullCAM tells me that I may be in a lake or ocean. Why?

A. The AGO Server has spatial data based on grids of varying resolution, from 250m to 1km. If the entered point is very close to a large water body or within 100m of the coast then the AGO Server is usually unable to locate data as these grid points are mainly water. Try moving the point away from the water body and try again.

Model function and data updates

Q. When will updated versions of FullCAM become available and how will I know?

A. FullCAM is continually being refined. New public releases will occur coincident with major improvements being made to the model. If you wish to be notified when a new version becomes available please email ncas@greenhouse.gov.au noting your requirements and postal details. FullCAM data will be updated on the AGO server as necessary. Such changes will be notified on the NCAS website.

Q. Where does all the data come from?

A. Rainfall, temperature, open-pan evaporation and forest productivity are derived from spatial surfaces developed by the NCAS. Tree and crop species and management information are contained in FullCAM databases also developed by the NCAS. For more information on these products review the NCAS Technical Reports which are freely available from <http://www.greenhouse.gov.au/ncas> or on the National Carbon Accounting Toolbox CD.

Q. How does FullCAM predict outside of the time ranges of its climate values?

A. The AGO server supplies FullCAM data from 1968 to 2003. This data is updated as new data becomes available. Outside of these ranges FullCAM applies an average value for each month to allow prediction of stocking into the future.

Q. My particular species and/or management regime is not available from the AGO server. Why is this and what do I do?

A. The available list of species and management regimes is limited to those considered as nationally significant. Hence, it is likely that species and regime information for niche activities will not be available. It is possible to build your own plots for these points.

Q. I want to build more complex agricultural and/or forest systems than is possible with the Data Builder. How do I do this?

A. FullCAM is a highly flexible, event-based model that allows advanced users to develop carbon stock estimates for complex scenarios. The current Data Builder has been specifically limited to certain conditions within FullCAM for which information is currently available. If you wish to build more complex systems please email inquires@fullcam.com for further assistance.

Q. I have found a bug or error in the model, what do I do?

A. Report it. FullCAM is continually updated and any problems are fixed as soon as they are found. But if we don't find them it is unlikely they will be fixed. Likewise, if you have any suggestions on how to improve the

usability of the model, please let us know. All constructive comments and feedback on FullCAM are welcome. Please email inquires@fullcam.com with your specific concerns.

Other questions

Q. I have completed my model, can I now sell the carbon?

A. FullCAM only estimates carbon stocks for a point. It does not judge on the suitability of the site for a certain management practice or if the site and/or management practice is compliant with any carbon trading scheme. It does not guarantee that the carbon stocks predicted will actually occur on the site. For more information on carbon trading contact the Greenhouse Land Management Team at the Australian Greenhouse Office.

Q. What about other types of accounting, such as net-net?

A. FullCAM estimates carbon stocks and emissions for a site of interest. Under the Kyoto frameworks differing land management practices require different types of accounting policy to be applied. For more information contact the Greenhouse Land Management Team at the Australian Greenhouse Office.

Q. How accurate are the results generated by FullCAM?

A. The accuracy of the results depends on numerous factors. No warranty of any kind is given by the AGO or the Department of the Environment and Heritage on the accuracy, completeness and validity of the results users may generate from the model.

Q. I wish to measure my carbon stocks as well as modeling, how do I do this?

A. Carbon stock measurement is difficult and can be very expensive. Refer to NCAS Technical Reports 14 and 31 for further details.

Q. I want to start my own FullCAM database file, how do I do this?

FullCAM database files are generally for use by the AGO. Other users may wish to compile such a database. Please contact NCAS for further information.

For more information on the model components and development see FullCAM's online help or download the latest version of the FullCAM user manual from the NCAS website at <http://www.greenhouse.gov.au/ncas/ncat>.