

National system of permanent plots: Proposal for a methodological model. Malheiros de Oliveira, Y.M., Doetzer Rosot, M.A. (*Embrapa Florestas, Brazil; yeda@cnpf.embrapa.br; augusta@cnpf.embrapa.br*); Batista da Luz, N. (*Embrapa Uva e Vinho, Brazil; naissa@cnpuv.embrapa.br*), Povoá de Mattos, P. (*Embrapa Florestas, Brazil; povoa@cnpf.embrapa.br*).

The new paradigm of human development is the concept of sustainability. Several countries, including Brazil, are signatories of environmental documents and statements from world conferences. The Brazilian Ministry of Environment is committed to the establishment of an effective forest policy, which is primarily aimed at the sustainable development of the country. Since the end of the 1980s – when the national forest inventory was carried out – there has been a lack of information regarding forest resources. The National System for Forest Information, created under the National Forest Program, aims to support internal and external demands related to the process of acquisition, analysis, organization and dissemination of forest data. The Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation – EMBRAPA, together with the Ministry of Environment and FAO, is now responsible for the development of a proposal to implement a National System of Permanent Plots (SisPP). Technical workshops are being held to discuss aspects related to the structure, organization and functions of the system, as well as the standardization of data collect patterns. Emphasis is placed on the strengthening of local or regional permanent plot networks, as they provide the basis for a continuous forest monitoring system.