

Using the LMSS Sample Forestry Geodatabase

Tips for use:

1. Create a folder called Geodatabase Template in the location where you store your GIS data. If you don't already have a location, I would recommend creating a folder called GIS Data directly on your C:\ drive.
2. When **starting** a new project, create a new folder for it in C:\GIS data folder using ArcCatalog.
3. Copy the LMSSSampleForestryUTMxx.mdb into that new folder using catalog and then rename the mdb to the name of the project.
4. Create a new ArcMap project and add the empty Plots and Stands layers from the new geodatabase you've just copied and renamed. These layers already have the proper schema (table structure) and are already projected in UTM NAD 1983 Zone xx. You can edit the stands layer attribute table any way you like (add new fields or delete fields you won't use) but don't delete StandID and Acres fields. Don't delete any fields in the Plots layer.
5. Digitize new stands into the Stands layer and create new plots in the Plots layer.

Having this template should save you some time in project creation and eliminate some of the most frequent problems I see with new SilvAssist users. As you get more experience using ArcMap you can edit the geodatabase template to create the table schema you prefer.