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Harvesting of heart stumps from Poplar and Maritime Pine forest in South West France

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Recovery of tree root biomass can be attractive. The stump-root system represents a substantial portion of the tree mass. An extracting machine, equipped with a 70 cm diameter trepan, has been evaluated to harvest the heart of stumps. The impact of this method on soils is lower than techniques which extracts all of the roots. Hash content of woodchips is also lower than whole roots extraction techniques. The aim of the study is to investigate poplar and maritime pine root recovery operations in plantations with time studies, to determine the productivity and delivery costs of the operations and to characterize the products for energy use.