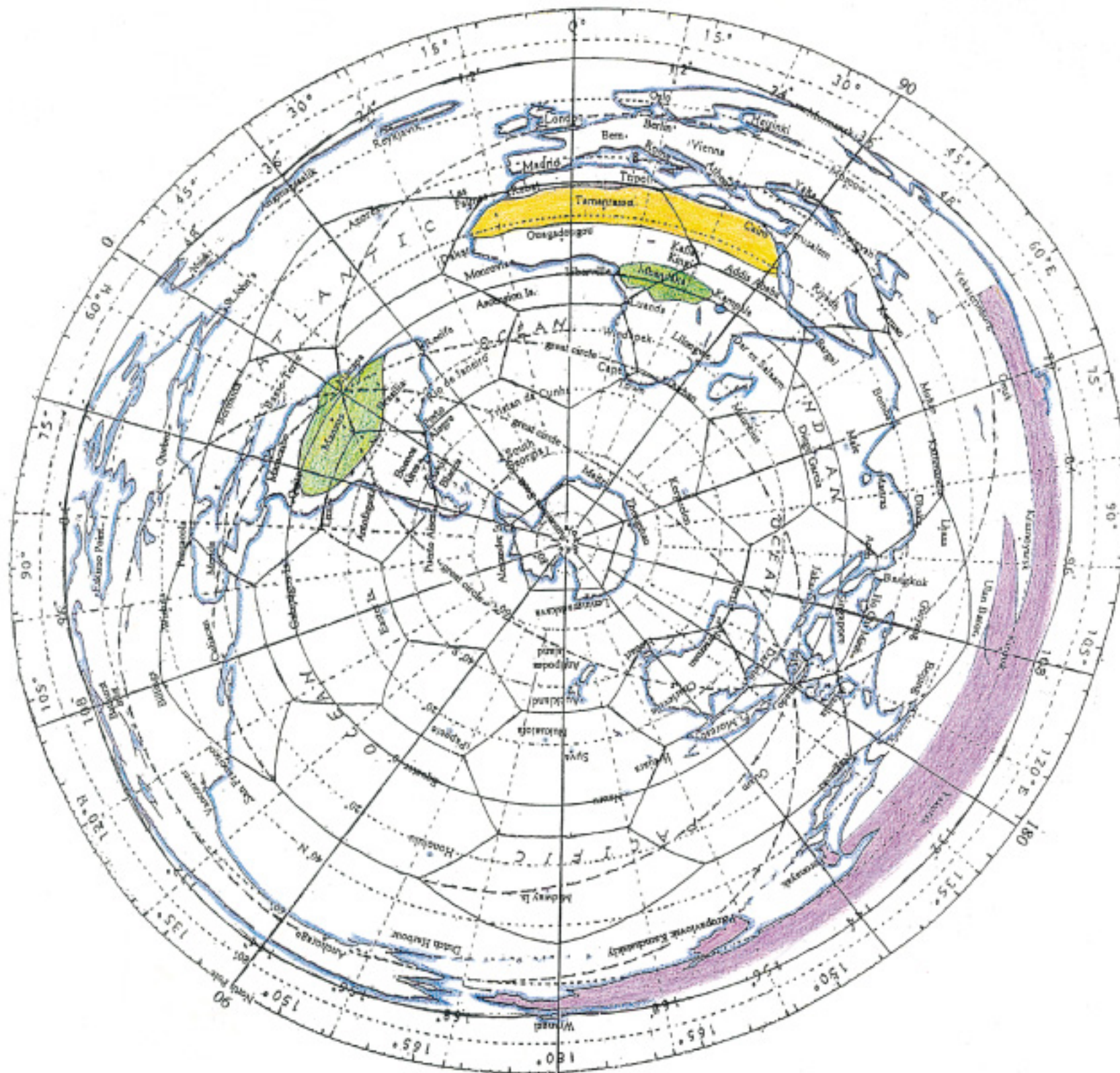


Using the "hex-pen" grid to approximate areas on the antipodes map*



The tropical rain forest ■ of the Amazon in South America appears to be more than the area of a third of a hexagon (6,084,300.36 sq. kms.). Its area is 6,500,000 sq. kms.+ The rain forest of the Congo in Africa could be about a third of the area of the Amazon rain forest.

The coniferous forest ■ of Siberia appears to be more than the area of half a hexagon (9,126,450.54 sq. kms.) Its area is 11,000,000 sq. kms.+

The Sahara desert ■ of Africa appears to be less than the area of half a hexagon. Its area is 8,400,000 sq. kms.+

The area of Antarctica appears to be more than the area of a pentagon (12,084,291.72 sq. kms.) Its area is 14,100,000 sq. kms. The area of Australia appears to be less than the area of a pentagon, its area being 7,687,000 sq. kms.

* Refer also to "Instant distances and areas approximations table" in page 27.

+ "Reader's Digest Book of Facts" 1994 Ed.