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ISSUE 595 | February 13, 2020

## 'Full recovery will take many years'

COVER STORY P9



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# Indonesia trade deal could help fill Australia's gap in hardwood supply

## Industry hit by fires, rain, but demand for timber continues

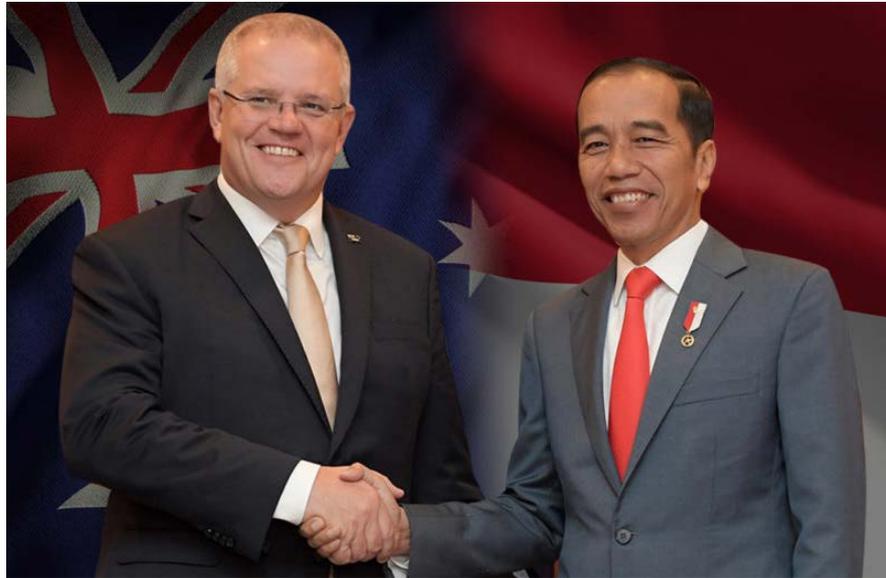
BUSHFIRES, and now rain, have delivered a cruel blow to the forest sector in Australia – scorched and flood-hit land across millions of hectares will slow wood supply and hamper salvage operations.

There is an urgent need for a full assessment of the impacts of the fires. But it is clear there will be major impacts on timber resources both from private forests and plantations.

Victorian and NSW logging operators face a race against time to salvage millions of tonnes of timber. Up to 40% of the native woodland set aside for harvesting in east Gippsland has been burned, but the industry now believes that most of those trees can be salvaged.

Despite the damage to the timber industry by the fires,

**“TIMBER SUPPLY SERIOUSLY HIT IN MEDIUM-TERM**



**Sealing trade deal... Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Indonesian President Joko Widodo.**

timber mills are expected to have access to more wood than they can handle in the coming months as the salvage process ramps up.

But the respite will be temporary, according to AFPA, with the damage to plantation and native forests in both NSW and Victoria expected to seriously hit timber supplies in the medium and long term.

In Victoria, VAFI is calling

for a priority program of salvaging felled trees and harvesting burnt trees that are still viable for use.

“Salvage harvesting and the recovery of burnt trees is a legitimate and well recognised aspect of the fire recovery process and is a crucial element in helping state forests recover from bushfire,” CEO Tim Johnston said.

Meanwhile, the wood

industry has taken significant interest in this week's trade talks between Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Indonesian President Joko Widodo and the southeast Asian country's ability to help fill the supply gap, particularly in hardwoods.

Trade Minister Simon Birmingham admitted that in the past the economic relationship between

Cont P 3



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From P 2

Indonesia and Australia had been "underdone" and a new trade agreement was a step up in the ties between the two countries.

The Indonesian parliament has voted to approve the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement that was signed in 2019.

"We expect the benefits from this trade deal to start flowing in a matter of months," Mr Birmingham said.

Indonesia is Australia's 13th largest trading partner, but Mr Birmingham said he wanted to see the country higher up on the list, similar to trade deals with China, Japan and South Korea.

Australian farmers, particularly beef producers, will have greater access to a huge market and lower tariffs. Most Indonesian goods, including timbers, exported to Australia will also have tariffs stripped.

In 2018-19, total two-way trade in goods and services with Indonesia was worth \$17.8 billion. By some estimates, Indonesia will be the world's fifth-largest economy by 2030 and the trade agreement ensures Australia is well-placed to deepen economic cooperation and share in Indonesia's growth.

There is an established trade between Australia and Indonesia in the wood



1/ A forest concession in the Indonesian region of Papua was the first large-scale forest operation in the world to achieve FSC Forest Management certification for merbau, a tropical timber popular for decking, flooring and outdoor furniture.



2/ Simon Birmingham... benefits of trade deal to start flowing in a matter of months.

and paper product sectors, although one-sided with a significant trade deficit for Australia of around \$458.7 million.

A relatively small amount of exports from Australia to Indonesia are concentrated in sawn wood, medium density fibreboard and recovered paper, by value. Conversely, major imports from Indonesia are concentrated in sawn timber, plywood, miscellaneous forest products, furniture, printing and writing paper and packaging and paper products.

According to latest available FAO figures, Indonesia has around 91 million ha of forested land, which constitutes 53% of the total land area. Around 86.1 million ha is primary or otherwise naturally regenerated forest and around 4.9 million ha is planted forest.

The plantation industry, which up until recently was dominated by teak plantations in Java, is mostly on Indonesia's outer islands. Over the past two decades, plantation forestry for the pulp and paper industry has become a significant

component of Indonesia's forest industry. Pulpwood plantations are dominated by acacia and eucalyptus species, which grow quickly in Indonesia's tropical climate.

According to available ITTO figures, Indonesian produces

more than 75 million cub m of round wood, which is almost entirely used within the country.

The export of primary timber products accounts for a total export value of around \$2600 million, with plywood the most important product.

While globally renowned for tropical hardwood timbers such as merbau and meranti, Indonesia is actually home to thousands of diverse timber species that can be used in many different areas.

– JIM BOWDEN

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“TRADE EXISTS BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES IN WOOD, PAPER”

# Once-proud NZ sawmilling industry stranded and holding a starving baby

## More sawmill closures on the way?

DENNIS NEILSON

LAST week brought the unfortunate news that yet another New Zealand sawmill is to “halt production”.

In New Zealand parlance this generally means very bad news.

This time it's the turn of Te Kuiti-based Spectrum's Tregoweth sawmill in the North Island.

Tracking the fortunes of the sawmilling industry has recorded the 'failure' of 57 sawmill since late-2003, including six in the last three months.

Not all of these sawmills close, as some are sold by



*A competitive world... massively subsidised sawmilling sectors in dozens of countries have left much of the New Zealand sawmilling industry stranded at the station.*



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the receivers to new owners, although one, The Thames sawmill, has now failed not once but twice.

The reasons for such a disastrous performance by a once-proud New Zealand iconic sawmilling industry going back 200 years are varied and complex.

The bogeyman espoused incessantly for at least four years by the chairman of the NZ Wood Processing and Manufacturing Association Brian Stanley is that unfair Chinese government subsidies paid to its sawmilling industry enable (China export-set) log prices in New Zealand to be artificially high.

The latest government-funded report into this claim is the 'Sense Report' – The Impact of Global Trade Distortions: Effects on NZ Exports of Logs, Timber and Fibreboard – released in late

2019.

The report contains several inaccuracies, important omissions and biased reporting.

The Stanley doctrine, however, does not explain why so many sawmills closed from 2003 to 2009, before China starting importing NZ logs in measurable quantities.

**“ 57 SAWMILLS HAVE 'FAILED' SINCE 2003 ”**

Nor does it explain why four pruned log sawmills have just been placed in receivership or are due to close soon as pruned log prices are set by domestic NZ mill competition and not by China; nor why New Zealand has lost most of its previously high Australian framing timber export markets,

Cont P 5

From P 4

after the timber stiffness requirements of the joint ANZ structural timber standards were tightened up at the same time that financially-stressed forest owners slashed the age class of harvesting, which produced weaker wood to make things five times worse.

Could it be that the competitive world of high-tech, huge-scale and efficient sawmilling is constantly rejuvenating itself, while in New Zealand it has remained largely stagnant for decades?

The stark reality is that massively subsidised sawmilling sectors in dozens of countries (other than China) have left much of the NZ sawmilling industry stranded at the station holding a starving baby. A comparison of NZ and Russian softwood timber exports from 2000 to 2019 needs no explanation.



**Rich history... New Zealand's iconic sawmilling industry goes back more than 200 years.**

Some of the woes of the NZ sawmilling industry have been their own fault. These include being the cause of the main cost of the \$NZ70 billion 'rotten wood' (leaky house) catastrophe. This after the industry first repeatedly lowered the minimum concentration of rot fungus-killing boron in timber – in 1972 and then

again in 1992 and then again in 1993 – to the point it did not work properly. Then it said, "We told you so – boron doesn't work." Then the NZ government allowed totally untreated timber in houses from 1995 to 2003.

In 2020, Carter Holt Harvey pre-announced an expected closure of one of its three NZ

sawmills, citing a lack of logs and also expansions at its other mills. The stark reality in New Zealand is that only three sawmills are needed to supply the country's entire house framing and roof truss timber market.

We sadly predict more closures to come.

• *Next week Timber&Forestry enews reports on the potentially severe impacts the coronavirus has had on the forest harvesting sector. Ironically, a (potential) prolonged China log price collapse could yet affect market prices for some New Zealand logs.*

*Rotorua-based international industry conference organiser Dana Ltd has been directly affected by the virus scare. It had finished all planning for a major wood trade conference in Shanghai in mid-March, but was forced to cancel and relocate the event to Melbourne on March 18 and 19. Visit [www.danaevents.co.nz/2020melbourne](http://www.danaevents.co.nz/2020melbourne)*

## Forest contractors gather in Canberra to stir MPs

A DELEGATION of forestry contractors from Victoria and NSW is in Canberra today for meetings with MPs to bring their urgent attention to the crisis facing industry as a result of the bushfires.

The sector has already

lost more than \$10 million along with equipment valued at over \$25 million since November as a result of bushfires.

Many of the crews are out of work and there is no relief in sight. They are

urging the federal and state governments to provide immediate assistance.

Australian Forest Contractors Association general manager Stacey Gardiner has joined harvest and haulage business

owners from East Gippsland, Vic, North Coast NSW and Southern Highlands regions, representing businesses across the states who employ hundreds of workers.



Image courtesy of the \_shoot\_ project, the 2018 Responsible Wood Photo Competition Winner

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# Ever-growing spruce log exports to China a big threat to NZ, Australia

THE calendar 2019 year data for China softwood log imports were released this week. In the midst of (hopefully short-term only) ‘coronavirus chaos’ in the New Zealand forest owner, harvesting and log transport sector, the data illustrates just how vital the China log trade is to the NZ forest industry.

In 2019, China imported 17.4 million cub m of logs from New Zealand – 39% of all softwood log imports and three times more than Russia, the next largest supplier.

Australia was the third largest supplier at 4.3 million cub m. China imported almost 10% more softwood logs in 2019 (44.2 million cub m) than in 2018. The top 10 suppliers in 2019 are show in the graph.

As if the virus disruption is not enough, New Zealand – and Australian – log exporters are facing an ever-growing threat of increasing European spruce log exports to China, as millions of hectares of this timber are ravaged by warm winters and multi-year droughts.

**“SEASON HAS SPAWNED BILLIONS OF BARK BEETLES**

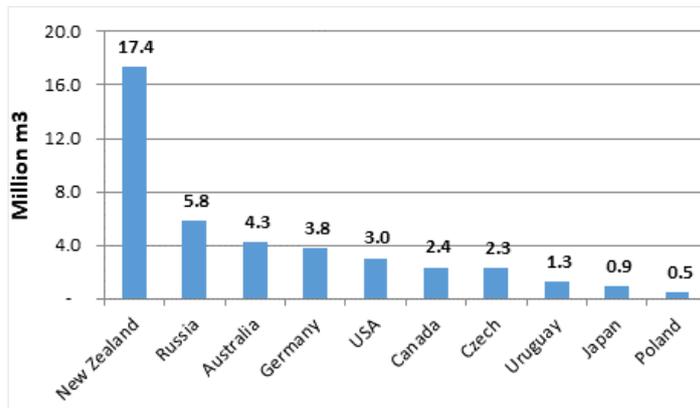
This has spawned billions of bark beetles, which, in turn, devour spruce trees as fast as Australians devour barramundi steaks on a barbie.

Last year, European log

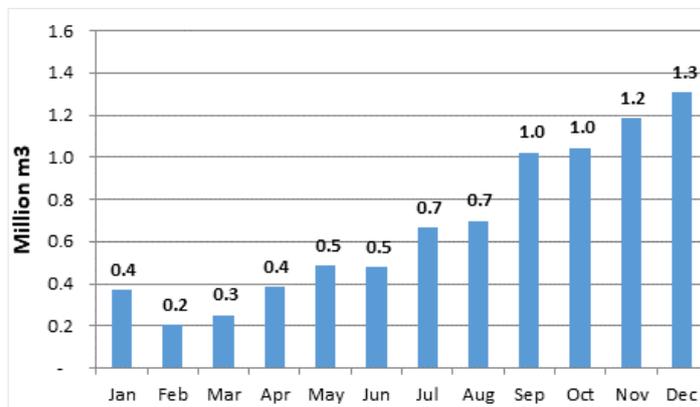


On the move and hungry... spruce beetle leaves its mark on European forests.

## TOP 10 SUPPLIERS OF SW LOGS TO CHINA, 2019



## EUROPEAN SW LOG IMPORTS TO CHINA, 2019



imports totalled 8.1 million cub m, four times the total imports in 2018. December imports were at a 15.7 million

cub m annualised rate. European log imports in 2019 by month are also shown in the graph above.

Will this continue into 2021 and 2022?

It will all depend on whether there is a mild winter in Europe or not. A warm winter is a good indicator of how many beetles will survive and be ready for a spring nosh-up.

Signs are not promising, with a recent media headline reading, ‘Climate crisis: January 2020 was warmest [in Europe] since records began. Parts of Norway hit temperatures 25C above average’.

But readers are invited to come to Europe and see for themselves. From June 2 to 5, Dana is running a seminar there with an inspection of damaged spruce forests in Germany and Denmark. Wood supply chain visits also – from trees to domestic mills and export ports. Visit [danaevents.co.nz/2020europe](http://danaevents.co.nz/2020europe) for more information or contact Dennis Neilson at [dana@dana.co.nz](mailto:dana@dana.co.nz) See notice, P 14.

– DENNIS NEILSON

**MARCH 2020**

**15-19: Asia Pacific Woodchip and Biomass Conference and Field Trip – Radisson Flagstaff Gardens Hotel, Melbourne, Vic, Australia.**

Optional Pre Conference Field Trip March 15-17 to Green Triangle. Conference 18-19 with enhanced programme to include Australia specific talks including the impact of recent bushfires on the future of the woodchip and biomass exports from Australia. Visit website [www.danaevents.co.nz/2020melbourne](http://www.danaevents.co.nz/2020melbourne) or contact Julie Bell [admin@dana.co.nz](mailto:admin@dana.co.nz)

**APRIL 2020**

**7-8: MobileTECH Ag 2020 – Rotorua, NZ.**

International keynote Dr Mike Briers, CEO, Australian-based Food Agility. MobileTECH Ag will be a great forum to understand how new technologies powered by data and AI are being adopted by

agribusinesses. Contact Ken Wilson, program manager on +61 4 5226 2337 or email [ken.wilson@innovatek.co.nz](mailto:ken.wilson@innovatek.co.nz) Visit [www.mobiletech.events](http://www.mobiletech.events)

**JUNE 2020**

**15-16: Timber & Technology. The Zero Carbon Future. Timber Offsite Construction 2020 Conference & Exhibition – Crown Promenade, Melbourne, Vic. Australia.**

Exclusively devoted to design, manufacture and construction of offsite timber and mass wood buildings. Program sessions include world leading experts with award-winning architects, international and local engineers, major building companies, and prominent suppliers to offsite construction markets. Contact Kevin Ezard on 0419 538 638 or email [kevin@timberoffsiteconstruction.com](mailto:kevin@timberoffsiteconstruction.com) New website: [www.timberoffsiteconstruction.com](http://www.timberoffsiteconstruction.com)

**21-26: Gottstein Understanding Wood Science Course – Albury & Canberra, Australia.**

New extended wood processing site visits based out of Albury, followed by lecture series at Canberra at the ANU Fenner School. Formal course dinner and other networking events. Book early at [www.gottsteintrust.org](http://www.gottsteintrust.org) Inquires [gottsteinsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:gottsteinsecretary@gmail.com)

**JULY 2020**

**23-24: Doing Timber Business in Queensland: Regional Opportunity. – Brisbane, Queensland.**

Third biennial event is Queensland's forest and timber industry's leading 2020 networking opportunity comprising one day conference, gala dinner, workshops and site tours. Full website and program will be released shortly contact [admin@timberqueensland.com.au](mailto:admin@timberqueensland.com.au)

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

**1-3: DANA New Zealand Forest Industry Status and Outlook Conference and field trip – Emerald Hotel, Gisborne, New Zealand.**

For further information see: <https://danaevents.co.nz/2020gisborne/> or contact Julie Bell [admin@dana.co.nz](mailto:admin@dana.co.nz)

**NOVEMBER 2020**

**4-7: AusTimber 2020 – HVP plantation site, Traralgon, Gippsland region, Vic. Australia.**

Event and dinner ticket sales now live – and limited. Welcome dinner with guest speaker Dr Karl Kruszelnicki AM, Australian science communicator. Make sure you commemorate the event with some AUSTimber merchandise. Contact Dionne Olsen on +61 429 202 929 or email [austimber2020@afca.asn.au](mailto:austimber2020@afca.asn.au) Follow AUSTimber on [www.austimber.org.au](http://www.austimber.org.au)



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**APRIL 2020**

**3-5: FORESTlive, Forestry trade fair – Offenburg, Germany.** Leading fair covering forestry technology, wood energy and biomass for decision makers in the forestry and agriculture, construction and municipal economy, timber crafts and energy industry. For further information contact: +49 (0)781 922604 or [www.messeoffenburg.de](http://www.messeoffenburg.de)

**MAY 2020**

**19-20: FastMarkets – RISI-DANA 7th annual Forest Investment Conference – Convene Conference Centre, New York City.** Register at [www.events.risiinfo.com/investment-conference/](http://www.events.risiinfo.com/investment-conference/) or contact [conferences@risi.com](mailto:conferences@risi.com)

**26-27: Inaugural DANA Russia Forest Industry Sector Conference and field trip – Hilton Helsinki Strand Hotel in Helsinki, Finland..** DANA joins with respected Russian information company Whatwood. Post-conference visits to harvesting and wood processing equipment manufacturers who sell to Russia (and in fact to the rest of the

world); and to mills using some of this equipment. Visit [www.danaevents.co.nz/2020russia](http://www.danaevents.co.nz/2020russia) or contact Julie Bell [admin@dana.co.nz](mailto:admin@dana.co.nz)

**JUNE 2020**

**1-3: International Forest Business Conference and Tour – Sopot, Poland.**

A two-day conference on megatrends that shape forest and wood industry sectors. The event will highlight the transformation of forest-related businesses towards a low-carbon bioeconomy, discuss tensions between sustainability and cost competitiveness, and call attention to new green innovations. Field trip on June 3 to IKEA and Egger mills. The event will welcome institutional investors from across the globe to discuss investment opportunities in timber to diversify their portfolios and achieve healthy returns. Register at [www.fba-events.com](http://www.fba-events.com) or contact [karolina@forest-analytics.com](mailto:karolina@forest-analytics.com)

**1-5: DANA Europe Spruce Damage Seminar and Tour – Hamburg, Germany.** One-day seminar in Hamburg on the impact of spruce forest damage

on Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, Sweden, Italy. Visit [www.danaevents.co.nz/2020europe](http://www.danaevents.co.nz/2020europe) , or contact Dennis Neilson [dana@dana.co.nz](mailto:dana@dana.co.nz)

**AUGUST 2020**

**24-27 : World Conference on Timber Engineering (WCTE Santiago 2020) – Santiago, Chile.** Topics include Sustainable Forests for timber production; wood products, connections: timber engineering’ timber architecture; building and environmental impacts; policies, education and future trends. For further information see: [www.wcte2020.com/](http://www.wcte2020.com/)

**NOVEMBER 2020**

**1-5: 3rd DANA African Forest Industry Investment Conference and field trip – Durban, South Africa.** Planning under way. Two day optional field trip (November 19-20). Register interest with Julie Bell [admin@dana.co.nz](mailto:admin@dana.co.nz)

**• Please send any events listings to John Halkett via email: [johnh@timberandforestrynews.com](mailto:johnh@timberandforestrynews.com)**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Profound ignorance about bushfire science, history

CONSIDERABLE publicity is being given to an article by Byron Lamont and Tianhua He titled ‘Why prescribed burns don’t stop wildfires’.

They argue against the use of fuel reduction burning in bushfire management because it does not stop bushfires.

Professor Lamont and Dr He are academics at Curtin University in Western Australia, the former a botanist and the latter a molecular biologist, scarcely professions with which I would associate expertise in bushfire planning or control.

I have experience in these topics through my career of some 60 years as a professional forester.

Lamont and He make the



Taken to task... Byron Lamont and Tianhua He.

outrageous statement that long unburnt forest fuels are of low flammability and therefore of no significant threat to communities. Fuel accumulation studies and past fire histories indicate that this statement is wrong and indeed dangerously wrong.

There are numerous examples where prescribed burning has been the

difference between bushfires being controllable rather than uncontrollable. Fires this summer have demonstrated a lack of prescribed burning has resulted in unstoppable fires and considerable financial losses and loss of lives.

Data from the forests of southwest Western Australia over the past 60 years show that when the area of

prescribed burning decreases, the area burnt by bushfire increases and vice versa because bushfires are more difficult to put out in heavy fuels than in light fuels.

It can only be concluded that the article by Lamont and He demonstrates a profound ignorance about bushfire science, history and management. I hate to think what will be the consequences if they are allowed to teach this bilge to undergraduates.

I implore Curtin University and its vice-chancellor Professor Deborah Terry to take action to prevent the promulgation of such incorrect nonsense in the university.

**DICK PEGG, Brisbane (M Sc, B Sc For, Dip For, MIFA, FRFAQ).**

# Timberlink enters mass timber market with green light for CLT, GLT facility

THE Timberlink Board has approved plans to enter the growing mass timber market enabled through building a state-of-the-art combined CLT and glulam manufacturing facility in either South Australia or Victoria.

CEO Ian Tyson said around half of all CLT currently used in Australia was imported and strong growth in demand was expected over the next decade.

“The investment in local production is great news for Australian manufacturing, the forestry sector and Timberlink,” Mr Tyson said.

The significant investment will see the construction of Australia’s second major softwood CLT plant and the first combined CLT-GLT manufacturing facility.

Mr Tyson said Timberlink with its integrated forestry, production and market position was well suited to play a significant part in this growing and dynamic market.

A total of 27 full-time permanent jobs will initially be created when the facility opens in 2023, rising to 50



1

**1/ Integrated approach... Timberlink’s state-of-the-art mill at Tarpeena, SA.**

**2/ Ian Tyson... major and exciting step for Timberlink.**



2

at full output. A significant number of additional jobs will be created during the construction phase.

Engineered timber products are increasingly being used in Australia and globally, particularly in mid-rise buildings, due to a combination of factors, including cost-effectiveness, liveability, ease and efficiency

of construction.

This is especially important as population growth is driving greater urbanisation, with society creating a rise in demand for buildings with

energy efficient, sustainable and carbon positive materials. Timber is the ultimate renewable offering the environmental benefits of a sustainable, carbon positive building material.

Timberlink will commence discussions with both state and federal governments to secure a

location for the proposed manufacturing facility to be built in either South Australia or Victoria.

Ian Tyson added: “This is a major and exciting next step for Timberlink. In the last seven years the company has heavily invested into its three softwood processing mills and expanded our market position. I am confident that now is the right time for the company to build on its strong foundations with this move into engineered timber manufacture.”

## Inspections focus on impact of bushfires on softwoods

ALL levels of government were represented at an inspection of Hyne Timber’s Tumbarumba mill last week to further understand the impacts of bushfires on the softwoods industry.

They included Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack, Mayor James Hayes, Albury MP Justin Clancy, Snowy Valleys Mayor James Hayes and Deputy

Mayor John Larter.

Timber from Tumbarumba supplies one in four new homes across the NSW market and beyond and about 7500 harvested plantation pine logs are processed each day.

The mill directly supplies more than 400 different customer sites in addition to exporting 1400 shipping

containers of non-structural grade timber to five different nations.

The industry supply chain supports about 5000 jobs in the South West Slopes and provides \$2 billion a year to the region’s economy.

The visit focused on the short and long-term challenges ahead given over 50,000 ha of pine plantation

in NSW has been impacted by fire alone.

“While the full extent of fire impact and salvage time frames remain unknown, what we do know is full recovery will take many years,” Hyne CEO Jon Kleinschmidt said.

**On the cover: Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack, Mayor James Hayes, and Hyne CEO Jon Kleinschmidt.**

# Thanks! TV campaign recognises work of dedicated forest workers in bushfires

EMPLOYERS, industry groups and the CFMEU have co-funded a TV advertisement to thank workers in the timber industry who performed and are performing tireless vital work to protect homes and lives during the summer bushfires.

The commercial features stunning footage taken by a forestry worker as he and his workmates cleared a containment line in regional Victoria. It will air for two weeks across all major networks and be supported by an expansive social media campaign.

AFPA CEO Ross Hampton said the video showed forestry industry workers and contractors were an integral part of local firefighting efforts that helped protect communities under threat of bushfires.

“We think it’s important to thank them for the role they play,” he said.

“These are our ‘hi-viz’ heroes who’ve done heroic work alongside volunteer and professional fire fighters all summer. Without their help



*In the thick of it... volunteer Brett Robin, a fifth-generation logging contractor from Gippsland, Vic, breaks from fire-fighting duty to comfort a baby koala.*

to remove all the ‘killer’ trees along thousands of kilometres of roads which would otherwise potentially fall on travellers, those roads would still be closed.”

In a powerful show of unity following the bushfire crisis, the Victorian Association of Forest Industries, the Australian Forest Products Association, the Australian Forest Contractors Association and the CFMEU have come

together for the campaign.

With years of experience working in the bush across regional Australia, timber workers, their equipment, skills and expertise play a vital role prior, during and in the aftermath of bushfires. As well as working to build containment lines, the skills, expertise and equipment of timber workers is relied on to remove dangerous trees and clear roads following

these disasters.

The campaign comes as questions continue to be asked about the viability of Victoria’s timber industry, and thus the maintenance of this vital bushfire mitigation and suppression capacity, following a state government decision to close down large sections of the timber industry.

The general manager of the Australian Forest Contractors Association Stacey Gardner said the most important thing about this footage was that, while it was rare to get it on camera, forest contractors were out during just about every bushfire in Australia without question.

“They are the first to put their hands up to risk their lives to assist with cleaning up safely. We greatly appreciate their skills and use of equipment and it is vital that we realise the huge contribution that they make.”

VAFI CEO Tim Johnston said: “The efforts of forest workers highlighted in the video won’t surprise those who live and work in timber communities.”



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## HUNDEGGER TURBO-DRIVE “CUT”

The powerful Hundegger TURBO-Drive has enjoyed tremendous success in the region since its local launch a little over two years ago. Its super-fast operation, flexibility, small footprint (see overleaf) and user-friendly interface makes it the machine of choice for serious frame and truss operations. Many of the Hundegger TURBO-Drive machines are running multiple shifts and cutting 4-stack components, in operations where it is the second, third or fourth machine in operation.

We are now pleased to launch this new specification that allows any truss plant to enjoy all the benefits of a Hundegger CNC saw - without compromise. **The Hundegger TURBO-Drive CUT!** All the benefits you need in a **heavy duty** saw.

*“...this job with birds-mouths took me just 20mins on the “CUT”, it would have been over 3 hours previously...”*

**The Hundegger TURBO-Drive “CUT” fast and reliable – for under \$300,000.00AUD**



The TURBO-Drive CUT is supplied with an automated infeed and outfeed, **10kW 5-axis servo-controlled saw unit**, waste conveyors, printing, security fence, powerful drive motors, centralised lubrication, production monitor, short piece handling, full software and Truss UI touch-screen, including delivery, installation, training and even a spare saw-blade!

Like to increase production even further? Other packages available stand-alone or combined include:



### Hundegger TURBO-Drive “STACK”

All the above features, plus increased stacking capability and material handling for even greater productivity gains



### Hundegger TURBO-Drive “PRINT”

All the above features, plus extended printing capability  
 Text, part numbers, job ID etc



### Hundegger TURBO-Drive “MILL”

All the above features, plus tool carrier, soft starter for infeed system, and powerful 7.5kW vertical milling head and dedicated double mitre tool



### Hundegger TURBO-Drive “PLUS”

All the above features, plus driven outfeed chains for faster and more automated operation

Whatever your requirements, the Hundegger TURBO-Drive has a package to suit, all with localised Technical Support. All machines can be upgraded at a later date to ensure your investment returns full value. For detailed specifications, contact Sam Rowe on +61 418 561 023 [sam.rowe@hundegger.com.au](mailto:sam.rowe@hundegger.com.au)

# PEFC supports innovation in wood technology at New Zealand awards

PEFC, the world's largest forest certification scheme, has thrown its support behind a new award for wood and fibre products and technology innovation to be presented at a gala dinner in Auckland on March 26.

The announcement follows the release of the finalists for the 2020 NZ Wood Resene Timber Design Awards with the judging panel commending the quality of this year's entries.

"More and more novel, innovative applications of timber are submitted every year," Responsible Wood marketing and



*Lindis Lodge... the architecture drew inspiration from the imposing grandeur of the vastly scaled glacial landscape.*

communications officer Jason Ross said.

"The quality, design, materials and build philosophies employed demonstrate the evolving and imaginative use of timber in New Zealand and indeed around the world."

Reflecting on the role

that forest certification can play for a growing number of sustainability-conscious architects and engineers, Jason Ross further emphasised the importance of design awards in supporting specifiers that make positive and responsible choices with

timber.

"The NZ Wood partnership follows a similar initiative with the Australian Timber Design Awards as well as PEFC's ongoing support of the World Architecture Festival's Best Use of Certified Timber Award."

In December 2019, the spectacular New Zealand Lindis Lodge at Ahuriri River, Canterbury, was shortlisted as a finalist in the PEFC-supported 2019 World Architecture Festival Best Use of Certified Timber category.

Inspired by the Architecture Workshop, Lindis Lodge left a legacy at the 2019 World Architecture Festival; it was shortlisted for the Best Use of Certified Timber category and World Building of the Year and was successfully awarded the Hotels and Leisure – Completed Buildings category.

**“SPECIFIERS MAKING RESPONSIBLE AND POSTIVE CHOICES WITH TIMBER”**

## Women to inspire at national leadership event

WOMEN will come together to learn, share and be inspired at the Australian Women's Leadership Symposia, set to take place in every state and territory capital throughout 2020. Attendees will hear from an exceptional line up of inspirational guest speakers and collaborate on the issues of gender equality, leadership, career advancement and life fulfilment.

The event focuses on the experiences of women leaders in the contemporary workforce.

Taking place in every state



**Ita Buttrose**



**Sallyanne Atkinson**



**Nova Peris**

and territory capital between May and September, the event brings an unparalleled gathering of the best and brightest female talent. Keynote speakers include Nova Peris, Ita Buttrose, Libby Trickett, Ann Sherry,

Catherine Fox, Tammie Matson, Sallyanne Atkinson and many more.

The events will feature a range of presentations, panel discussions and interactive sessions covering a highly captivating range of topics.

A 25% subsidy is available for readers of Timber&Forestry enews.

Women and Leadership Australia general manger Alistair Young thanks enews in advance "for again supporting this important networking opportunity for women right across the country."

The 25% discount is available by entering the code ANSY20 at the time of booking (available until each symposium sells out). For more information and to book visit [www.wla.edu.au/symposium](http://www.wla.edu.au/symposium)

# Canadian, Swedish dialogue in Sydney focuses on structural softwood supplies

A MEETING of major Canadian and Swedish timber exporters in Sydney recently, among other issues, discussed the impact on the supply of structural softwood timber products in the Australian market in the wake of the bushfires.

The meeting acknowledged the substantial contribution by international firefighters, including Canadian expertise and aircraft, to support efforts to combat the extensive fires.

Australian Timber Importers Federation general manager John Halkett said the meeting considered opportunities and impediments for Canadian exporters to continue to support the Australian building and construction industries in the medium and longer term with compliant structural softwood timber products.

"It was agreed that supplying Canadian products into the Australian market had faced a number of significant and commercially difficult challenges related to specifications, building code compliance and biosecurity issues, notably those associated with the treatment requirements of the brown marmorated



**Conferring on timber import issues in Sydney... Per-Ola Malm, Vida Wood, Sweden, David Ingham, Trade Commissioner, High Commission of Canada, John Halkett, ATIF general manager, Jacinta Colley, national sales director, Vida Wood-Canfor, and Bob Smith, group general manager, SPF Sales, Canfor, Canada.**

stink bug," Mr Halkett said.

The meeting reviewed work currently under way between phytosanitary and research entities in Canada and Australia directed at having Canadian heat treatment certificates recognised as meeting the treatment requirements to combat the bug.

Mr Halkett confirmed that increasing the future supply of structural softwoods into Australia was likely to be a demanding task.

"Given the establishment of a trade of exceptional quality MGP10 softwood timber into Australia in 2018-2019, Canada probably offers the most likely prospect for expanding current supply volumes," he said.

"However, it is recognised that a number of serious issues, particularly brown marmorated stink bug treatment requirements, are likely to pose a significant impediment to expanding

current levels of trade until these matters are resolved."

found in clusters of 20 to 30.

The bug is an insect in the family Pentatomidae and is native to China, Japan, the Korean Peninsula, and Taiwan. It has spread to the US and Europe from Asia and has managed to become established in local pockets in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec

Adults are about the size of a \$1 coin and have white banding on the antennae, alternate black and white markings on the abdomen and eggs that are light green, barrel shaped, and

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“OPPORTUNITY,  
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FOR CANADIAN  
PRODUCTS

# Welcome Mat industry learning curve

WORKERS in Western Australia's forest industry will have a better understanding of the breadth, scope and value of their industry with the launch of a new on-line tool.

The WA forestry industry's 'Welcome Mat' has been developed by a 12 emerging leaders drawn from across the industry who recognised an opportunity to promote the industry by empowering existing employees.

After visiting each other's workplaces, they found that they didn't know much about each other's industries,



Some of the 12 innovators of the Welcome Mat project pictured with Nola Marino MP, Assistant Minister for Regional Development and Territories (third from left)... Matt Giles, forester, WA Plantation Resources, Ben Bloxsome, maintenance manager, LV Dohnt & Co Pty Ltd, Zarko Jovanovic, production coordinator, Wesbeam Pty Ltd, Darren Sanders, safety and compliance advisor, Bunbury Fibre Exports, and Brad Barr, resources manager, Wespine Pty Ltd

website: "The Welcome Mat concept crystallised when these emerging leaders came together under a national leadership program. They were surprised by the diversity of their occupations and the variety of operations in each sector, and wanted to share the knowledge with newcomers to the industry."

He said the website was a neat solution to the challenge they recognised, and will be a lasting legacy to them.

Welcome Mat was funded by Forest and Wood Products Australia and supported by employers in the WA forestry industry.

"FIFWA will help keep the information on this site current, and add value wherever we can to local industry," Mr Ganger said.

**"SURPRISED BY DIVERSITY OF THEIR OCCUPATIONS"**

even though they were all growing, processing and harvesting trees – so the biggest opportunity they had was in teaching industry about industry.

The industry professionals

came together on a leadership program sponsored by the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation.

Forest Industries Federation of WA acting CEO Matt Granger has praised the

## 2020 DANA EUROPE SPRUCE DAMAGED FOREST SEMINAR AND TOUR

Deutschland: ~36	Tschechien: ~29	Polen: ~12
Schweiz: ~2	Österreich: ~10	Slowakei: ~8
Italien: ~13	Slowenien: ~2	

**2 - 5 JUNE 2020, GERMANY & DENMARK.**

- Seminar-only option
- Dead spruce forest visits
- Wood supply chain visits: from trees to domestic mills and export ports
- Mill visits: sawmill, woodpanel & wood pellet mills and woodchip biomass power & heat plant

**"The warmth is really unheard of": Europe just posted its warmest January on record. What will that mean?**

FOR WEBSITE [CLICK HERE](#) OR CONTACT DENNIS NEILSON [dana@dana.co.nz](mailto:dana@dana.co.nz)

# A BOUNTY-FULL HARVEST

## The breadfruit – a tree that caused a mutiny

WHEN Captain Bligh and loyal members of his crew were set adrift from HMS Bounty in 1789 the cause of this most notorious mutiny of all time was breadfruit saplings and Tahitian women – not necessarily in that order.

The wild ancestor of the breadfruit, native of Papua New Guinea and nearby islands, was first domesticated by immigrants to the west Pacific about 3000 years ago. The tree is now cultivated throughout the humid tropics.

It's an imposing tree, growing up to 25 m with a sturdy grey-brown trunk. When cut, every part of the tree and its unripe fruit exudes gummy white latex which has many uses – treating skin ailments, caulking boats, as a glue and even, in Hawaii, for trapping birds.

It is the female flowers that fuse and develop into the fleshy edible breadfruit which is round or slightly oval and roughly the size of a ten-pin bowling ball. Light green, yellowing as they ripen, their thin skin is rough in four to seven-sided segments. The starchy fruit is a staple of Oceania; its creamy white or pale-yellow flesh is high in carbohydrates. Similar in use



1/ Breadfruit tree... growing to 25 m and yielding 200 nutritious fruit a year.

2/ Breadfruit saplings and Tahitian women... cause of the notorious Bounty mutiny and the setting adrift of Captain Bligh.

and taste to the potato, it has a fragrance and texture that is significantly reminiscent of warm bread.

Breadfruit trees can bear a crop after three years eventually yielding 200 nutritious fruit a year – perhaps half a tonne – with little human effort other than picking them or removing windfalls.

In 1769, botanist Joseph Banks aboard Captain Cook's Endeavour expedition,

replacements that would be easy to grow and yet leave the best land for cash crops. Breadfruit filled that requirement.

Underwritten by the British government in 1787, Captain Bligh commanding the HMS Bounty sailed from England to bring breadfruit from Tahiti to the Caribbean. Since the breadfruit tree lacked viable seeds the crew was forced to pass the time for six months ashore while the shipment of plants could take root and grow from cuttings.

During that time, they acquired a taste for island life and formed relationships with the local women. Reluctant to give up their new lifestyle they mutinied after setting sail casting Bligh adrift with his few loyal men.

Against the odds Bligh survived and commanded another ship from England to return to Tahiti. He arrived in Jamaica in 1793 with several hundred small breadfruit trees saplings.

Since independence in 1962, breadfruit has shed its colonial association and become a mainstay of Jamaican culinary and barbecue culture. There are even breadfruit festivals. Across the tropics, breadfruit saplings are still distributed to developing countries to bolster food security.

### TALKING TREES



With JOHN HALKETT

Sponsored by  
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remarked on the easy life of Tahitians who manage to thrive without the constant toil of tilling crops. His account reached plantation owners in the British colony of Jamaica where the main and profitable export was sugarcane and where weather had disrupted supplies of plantains (cooking bananas) and yams, the main food eaten by the hard-working African slaves. Plantation owners were looking for



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# Tigercat heads in the right direction

## Excellent productivity and reliability for roadside processing

TIGERCAT continues to expand its range of harvesting heads with the new 568, a robust, productive four-wheel drive harvesting head for roadside processing that offers excellent productivity and reliability.

Optimised harvester head hydraulics maximise performance and efficiency, while robust, high quality components provide long-term reliability. Large diameter hoses and large capacity valves give ample strength to match the greater hydraulic flow and power of Tigercat carriers.

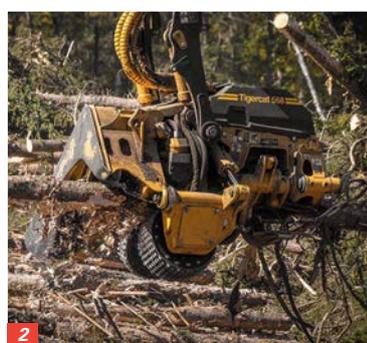
Timed knife arms and triangulated wheel arms allow the operator to pick quickly from the pile and to maintain positive tree contact when feeding. The floating front knife and fixed back knife ensure good quality delimiting.

Single or dual-track measuring wheels with a horizontally pivoting trailing-arm design, along with priority-flow length measuring, provide good length accuracy.



**1/ Winning combination... the Tigercat 850 processor is well paired with the 568 head for a complete roadside processing solution.**

**2/ Tigercat's new 568 head... best suited for processing applications in tall straight softwoods, or hardwoods with few limbs, in the 150 to 550 mm diameter range.**



The patented 4WD-2WD auto-shift drive system gives extra power and positive grip when feeding large trees, fast speed in smaller trees, and full manual control when needed.

With Tigercat's 4-2 drive system, the 568 starts in 4WD, maximising feed force for faster acceleration and to quickly power through

bigger trees. As the load drops, it automatically shifts to 2WD, improving efficiency and increasing feed speed. The system shifts back and forth seamlessly with no operator input required – all while maintaining precise and accurate length measurements.

The 568 head is best suited

for processing applications and excels in tall straight softwoods, or hardwoods with few limbs, in the 150 to 550 mm diameter range.

The 568 is well paired with the 850 processor for an all-Tigercat roadside processing solution.

Purpose-built for high volume roadside processing, the Tigercat 850 offers many advantages over excavator conversions – better service access, higher cooling capacity and processor head optimized hydraulics.

An efficient load-sensing hydraulic system allows simultaneous machine and head functionality. The combination of high horsepower and processor head optimised hydraulics bring responsive control, quick-feed speed and powerful delimiting capability for high performance and productivity.

632E SKIDDER

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# 2020 DANA - GINGKO

## ASIA PACIFIC FOREST INVESTMENT, WOODCHIP & BIOMASS TRADE CONFERENCE AND FIELD TRIP

Impacts of virus  
on China imports  
of woodchips &  
wood in 2020



With Aust  
bushfire  
impact  
updates!



15 - 19 MARCH 2020. RADISSON ON FLAGSTAFF GARDENS MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

The DANA-Gingko Field Trip & Conference and programme for Green Triangle and Melbourne from March 15 - 19 is now complete. These include:

### A 2 ½ DAY GREEN TRIANGLE FIELD TRIP *Sunday March 15 to Tuesday March 17*

All visits confirmed:

- Port of Portland (the largest woodchip export port in the world): softwood & hardwood woodchip storage and ship-loading terminals, and SW & HW log export storage and loading terminal
- Major woodchipping complex of South West Fibre at Myamyn
- N.F. McDonnell & Sons softwood sawmill at Mount Gambier
- Softwood and hardwood plantations, harvesting & hardwood in-field chipping
- New AKD Sawmill at Colac

### 2 DAY ASIA PACIFIC: FOREST INVESTMENT, PULP WOOD CHIP & BIOMASS TRADE TRENDS CONFERENCE *Wednesday March 18 and Thursday*

*March 19 at Radisson Flagstaff Gardens Hotel in Melbourne*

With additional presentations on:

- The impact of Australian bushfires on wood production and export trade in 2020
- The impact of coronavirus on China woodchip and wood imports in 2020

FYI Aust F1 Grand Prix  
practice sessions  
close by on Mar 13-  
14. Consider coming  
early if you want  
to watch.



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OR CONTACT JULIE BELL

[admin@dana.co.nz](mailto:admin@dana.co.nz)

# Shanghai conference moves to Melbourne

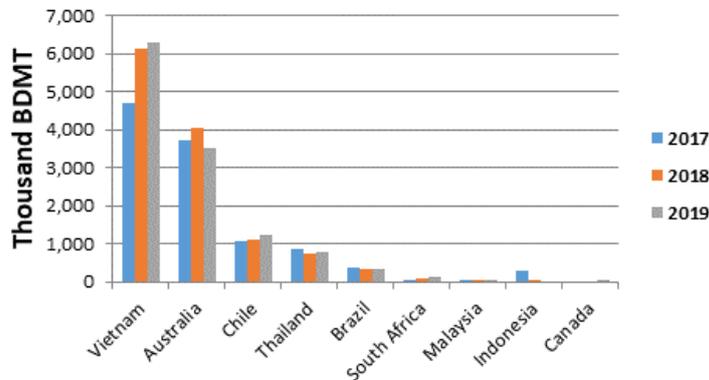
WHILE Rotorua-based Dana Ltd and Gingko directors Dennis Neilson (New Zealand) and Gavin Hao (China) would have preferred that their Asia Pacific Woodchip and Biomass Trade Conference next month was held in Shanghai, they have been forced to move the event to Melbourne on March 18 and 19.

“But it’s timely, says Dennis Neilson.

“By mid-March industry players should have at least begun to quantify the likely impacts of both the summer bushfires on Australian

“**HOW VIRUS IS AFFECTING HARDWOOD IMPORTS**

## CHINA HW WOODCHIP IMPORTS - 2016-19



eucalypt woodchip exports, and the Chinese coronavirus which is affecting hardwood imports,” he said.

“But what we do know already is that the Chinese pulp industry is very important to the Australian eucalyptus plantation and woodchip exporting industries, and also that this

trade is very important to the Chinese pulp industry, which imports most of its wood fibre demand.”

In 2019, China imported more than 12 million bone dry metric tonnes of hardwood woodchips. Of this almost 30% was supplied from Australia.

“Before the virus scare

became apparent, we were expecting China to import between 0.5 and 1 million additional BDMT in 2020,” Mr Neilson said.

“But what is likely to happen now?”

A number of Australian and Chinese speakers are confirmed for the Melbourne conference (see [www.danaevents.co.nz/2020melbourne](http://www.danaevents.co.nz/2020melbourne))

Presentations include both short-term and medium-long-term predictions from Australia, and similar for China imports.

Note: Even by mid-March Chinese resident presenters may not be able to travel to Melbourne. However, if they cannot, the conference organisers have alternative presentations in place.

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# RAV4 cruises comfortably in mid-size SUV market and carries a load of extras

WHEN you think of hybrid cars, the ubiquitous Toyota Prius comes to mind, and rightly so – it's the most popular hybrid car on the planet.

But in 2020, there are many hybrid options such as the new plug-in or petrol-electric vehicles that come in all shapes and sizes.

One thing is certain, hybrids have come a long way in the past 20 years; they emit less emissions than fossil fuel cars and are a lot cheaper to run.

The 2020 Toyota RAV4 Cruiser 2WD hybrid at \$41,990 (plus on roads), is about \$2500 above its petrol stablemate (tested here). But you'll save an estimated \$1008 on fuel each year with the hybrid (an impressive combined cycle rating of just 4.8L/100km), produce 1.44 tonnes less CO2 and travel 13,404 km further – without waiting for the battery to be charged.

Pricing puts the RAV4s firmly at the high-end of the mainstream mid-size SUV market, but you get plenty of gear for the money – 19-in. alloy wheels, automatic LED



Toyota RAV 4 Cruiser... fit to fight the SUV competition.

headlights and tail-lights, front fog lights, rain-sensing wipers, roof rails, privacy glass, a unique silver grille, chrome door handles, a moon roof and a power tailgate.

Inside there's leather-accented trim, heated front seats, ambient lighting, dual-zone climate control and keyless entry and ignition. New models now also get Apple CarPlay and Android Auto connectivity.

As befitting the top-of-the-line model, it has a nine-speaker JBL-brand premium audio system with an 8-in. touchscreen. It incorporates Bluetooth, navigation with live traffic updates and a Siri 'eyes-free' system and has up to five USB ports.

volume models with the option of petrol or hybrid power. It consists of a 2.5-litre four-cylinder petrol engine paired with a pair of motor generators which draw energy from a nickel-metal hybrid battery. The system is good for a combined output of 163kW of power with the engine providing 221Nm of torque.

Toyota's safety-sense package is standard across the range, bringing autonomous emergency braking with pedestrian and cyclist detection, active cruise control, lane-keeping assist, lane departure warning and speed limit recognition. There are seven airbags, front and rear parking sensors and a reversing panoramic camera.

At 580 litres, there's heaps of boot space with cargo blind, four tie-down points and a 12V point and removable floor liner that can sit lower or higher in the floor as required.

Toyota has trained this SUV well for a fight in the ring with either the Mazda CX-5, Subaru Forester, Nissan X-Trail or Honda CR-V – in performance and value.

## MOTORING



### With ORSON WHEELS

The big news is the Apple CarPlay and Android Auto are now standard, long overdue for any Toyota in Australia.

This is the first time the RAV4 has been available with a hybrid powertrain, joining the Camry and Corolla in the current range of high-

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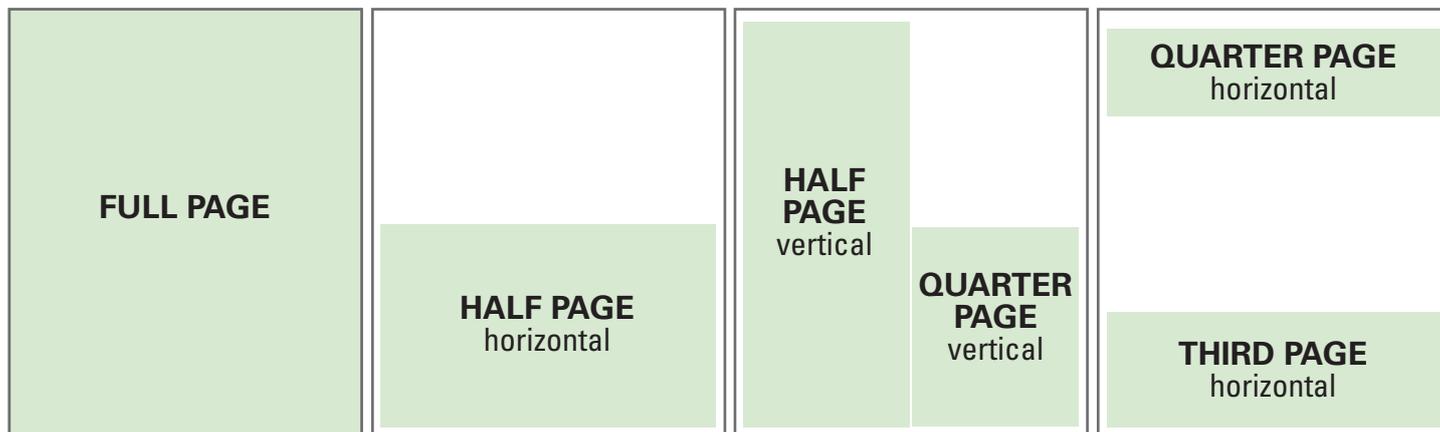
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