

DELIVERED
WEEKLY TO
15,200
GLOBAL
READERS*

Timber Framing
The Ultimate Renewable

BUY
AUSSIE
TIMBER
FIRST

Like and follow us on 

ISSUE 615 | July 2, 2020

timber & FORESTRY *e*news

timberandforestryenews.com



 **Responsible Wood**
RW/1-10-1

Download the latest Bulletin.



For all your Timber Preservation needs.

Innovation through formulation



Ph: 07 3293 2651 | 24hrs: 0417 749 481
www.azelis.com



AKD

AUSTRALIAN MADE AND GROWN



MARGULES GROOME

FIRST FOR FORESTRY CONSULTING

www.margulesgroome.com



The NATIONAL voice for
Timber Merchants • Suppliers • Manufacturers
Contact us on 1800 TABMA1

Bunnings duped in decision to reject timbers from certified native forests

A SHORT-SIGHTED decision by Bunnings to stop stocking timber sourced from Victoria's sustainably-managed native forests and produced by local timber mills is a knee-jerk reaction to pander to extremist activist groups that will only lead to more imported timber from less sustainably managed forests overseas, says Australian Forest Products Association CEO Ross Hampton.

"This decision puts at risk tens of thousands of manufacturing jobs at a time when our country can least afford to lose them, especially in regional communities," he said yesterday.

Mr Hampton said he was disappointed that Bunnings had been duped by anti-forestry disinformation campaigns



Short-sighted... Bunnings refusing to stock Victorian native timbers.

that misrepresented the sustainability of Victoria's native hardwood timber industry, and warned it would have the perverse consequence of driving more deforestation in southeast Asia.

The truth is that Victoria has one of the most regulated, sustainably-managed native forestry industries in the world, harvesting the equivalent of just four trees out of 10,000. No old growth trees are used and every area harvested is

reseeded and regenerated by law. All Victorian native forest hardwood is harvested according to the highest standards under the world's largest forestry certification scheme – PEFC, known in Australia as Responsible Wood.

Mr Hampton said Bunnings and its customers should be under no illusion that green

groups would stop at Victoria – they are hell-bent on ending all native forestry in Australia, which will mean even more imported timber from countries at high risk of deforestation and illegal logging, and it will be manufactured in countries with poor working conditions.

"Bunnings has a zero-tolerance approach to illegally logged timber that dates back two decades and our commitment is to only source timber products from legal and well managed forest operations," Bunnings' director of merchandise Phil Bishop said on Wednesday.

He said in the light of the recent federal court finding that VicForests breached the code of practice in its regional forestry agreement for the central highlands, Bunnings could no longer stock products that used its timber.

“RISKING JOBS OF TENS OF THOUSANDS”



THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

Following the awarding of a Global GreenRate Level A certification, MicroPro Wood Treatment Technology has recently been awarded a GoldHEALTH rating with its recently published Global GreenTag Level A Product Health Declaration™ (PHD™).

The GreenTag PhD is the first health transparency tool in the world to assess human health concerns directly, rating the health impacts of a final product – and not just the hazards of a product's ingredients.

For more information call us now on 1800 088 809.



MicroPro® is a registered trademark of Koppers Inc. or its subsidiaries. MicroPro® timber products are produced by independently owned and operated wood preserving facilities. © 2019 Koppers Performance Chemicals Australia Pty Ltd. Global GreenRate, GoldHEALTH, Global GreenTag and GreenTag PhD are registered trademarks operated under licence by Global GreenTag Pty Ltd.

Strength in numbers: sawmillers unite to fight closure of sustainable industry

Grassroots push to defend native forests and the thousands of jobs they provide

TOUGH and resolute hardwood sawmillers have united for a full-frontal last stand attack on the Victorian government and its “heartless and ignorant” decision to shut down the state’s native forest industry.

“Thousands of jobs lost, businesses gutted and regional communities decimated – that’s Dangerous Dan’s agenda,” says veteran East Gippsland sawmiller Leonard Fenning who is fronting the newly-formed Victorian Hardwood Sawmillers Association.

“The Premier (Daniel Andrews), his ministers, MPs – in fact anyone in the Labor government – have dodged all invitations to discuss the issue with us here in the bush or anywhere,” Mr Fenning lamented. “It’s so sad.”

The new body, the VHSA, is separate from the Victorian Association of Forest Industries and is more aligned to the Australian Forest Products Association.

“There’s not many of us left, but 15 sawmillers have joined, including one Queenslander, Parkside Timber, which has bought a mixed species mill here,” Mr Fenning said.

VHSA members include Fenning Timber (Bairnsdale), Ryan and McNulty (Benalla), Walkers Sawmill (Corryong),



Leonard Fenning and resource manager Brian Donchi... fronting the newly-formed Victorian Hardwood Sawmillers Association. Photo: Bairnsdale Advertiser

Powelltown Sawmills, AG Brown (Noojee and Drouin West), Reid Bros (Yarra Junction), Radial Timber (Yarram), Australian Sustainable Hardwoods (Heyfield), Longwarry Timber, Longwarry, Parkside (Orbost and Bairnsdale), Kellys Timber (Yarra Junction), Warburton Timber, Gladysdale, Dormit Sawmills (Dandenong), Mectec Sawmill (Newmerella) and Montana Timber (Montrose).

Leonard Fenning said the group would give voice to the thousands of blue-collar workers they represented, holding the Andrews government to account for its actions.

“Enough is enough. We’re going to put up a damned good fight – and others in the community will join us,” he said.

“GOVERNMENT DODGING ALL REQUESTS TO TALK THROUGH THE ISSUES”

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



(02) 6285 3833
enquiries@ausfpa.com.au
www.ausfpa.com.au

AUSTRALIAN
FOREST PRODUCTS
ASSOCIATION
afpa
TREES | WOOD | PAPER

Cont P 4

From P 3

Another urgent issue that needed sorting, says Mr Fenning, is two large areas of fire-killed forest outside Bairnsdale that must be harvested before they are totally wasted.

“But authorities must climb a mountain of government red tape before they can make any decisions, which is appalling,” he said. “God forbid they took the same approach if a tidal wave was on the way.”

The Victorian government announced late last year that the native forest industry would close by 2030. Existing supply contracts to mills are valid until 2024, but the resource will be progressively cut back after that.

“WE’RE GOING TO PUT UP A DAMNED GOOD FIGHT”



Thousands of forest industry jobs threatened. Photo: FenningTimber

The Victorian native timber industry is highly regulated and sustainably managed, with only 3000 ha a year harvested and replanted in an overall estate of nearly 8 million ha – the equivalent of four trees out of every 10,000 harvested annually every year.

VicForests, the government’s native timber agency, regenerates the

harvested areas, as it is required to do by law. Victoria’s native timber sector produces revenue of \$770 million and supports more than 2500 jobs, according to a report from Deloitte Access Economics. The industry’s overall economic impact over 10 years in Victoria is more than \$5 billion.

The report also says that despite the importance of regional jobs, most employment in secondary processing takes place in Greater Melbourne.

Leonard Fenning said VHSA would continue “kicking the can” and he was thankful many in the media had supported its mission.

The Fenning name is synonymous with the timber industry in Victoria and the family have been sawmillers over four generations.

Mr Fenning has been in sawmilling since working

age. He established one of the state’s largest sawmills at Walcha 25 years ago and then ‘retired’ to set up the Fenning family’s modern mill at Bairnsdale, which converts Victorian ash into kiln-dried finger-jointed and laminated products, specialising in mostly F17 structural grade timber and furniture grade timber.

Meanwhile, a legal injunction on VicForests to halt its operations after the Supreme Court heard allegations it had breached logging regulations in 14 coupes in the Central Highlands has not helped the plight of sawmillers. The government agency is now facing five court challenges from community environmental groups.

• Comments sought on VicForests’ proposed changes to Timber Release Plan, Page 17.

LEAD FROM THE FRONT!

2 for 1 SPECIAL

Diploma of Leadership & Management

Call Us Today!

NOW IS THE TIME TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF YOUR BUSINESS AND YOUR PEOPLE. SO, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?



1300 693 483
info@tabmatraining.edu.au



FTA brings Aust-UK closer together

STANDARDS Australia has welcomed the commencement of formal negotiations between Australia and the UK on a future Free Trade Agreement.

“Greater trade and integration of our two economies would potentially realise tremendous value for

both countries, rebuilding a new dimension to our unique historical relationship,” CEO Adrian O’Connell said.

“A collective push towards greater economic opportunity for industry in both nations will be strongly embraced,” he said.

Pilot forest industry training program for contractors will be 'fit' for purpose

EXPRESSIONS of interest are being sought for a pilot forest industry training program.

The NSW government, in partnership with the forest industry and the Australian Forest Contractors Association, has committed funding to support the development of ForestFit, which is developing the training program.

Expressions of interest applications close on July 27.

The training project is seeking to foster professional development, increased business competency, operational compliance and risk management and industry sustainability by providing a pathway for national engagement with training and certification. The aim of the project is to deliver two major outcomes for the forest industry:



ForestFit program... providing a pathway for national engagement with training and certification.

- A nationally-recognised and endorsed pilot training program for forest contractors.

- A pilot certification for contracting businesses to deliver quality services in accordance with industry standards and regulatory requirements.

The pilots will be used to create a training and certification program to be rolled out nationally

the industry. The cost of the pilot training will be fully subsidised, including travel and accommodation expenses.

The project is supported by an industry reference group of forest contractors

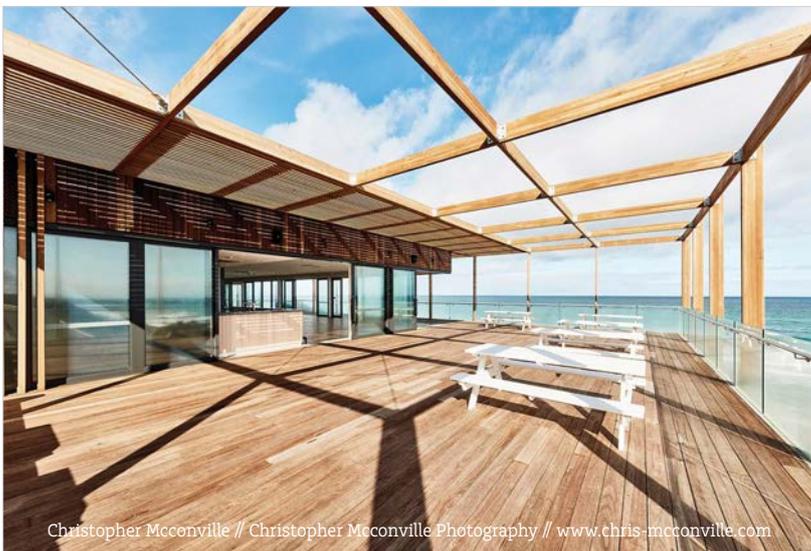
“CERTIFICATION PROGRAM TO BE ROLLED OUT NATIONALLY

and other industry representatives who have provided input into the development and delivery of every stage of the training modules for the NSW forest industry.

By participating in the ForestFit training program pilot in NSW feedback and input will influence the final proposed training package for national roll out.

For further information and the expressions of interest form go to: www.forestfit.com.au

Australia has one of the highest set of standards and requirements for forestry operations in the world. Initially, ForestFit will be designed and delivered for NSW forestry contracting businesses, with the intent of being customised for national delivery.



Christopher Mcconville // Christopher Mcconville Photography // www.chris-mcconville.com

Beautiful. Natural.
Sustainable. Australian.

responsiblewood.org.au

You can be assured that wood carrying the Responsible Wood mark has come from certified Australian forests that are sustainably managed to the highest global standards.

Responsible
Enabling
Sustainability
Wood



Minister's 'log mongers' Bill may pass ahead of New Zealand election

DENNIS NEILSON

WE have written about the New Zealand Forestry Minister's distinctly anti-forest Forests (Regulation of Log Traders and Forestry Advisers) Amendment Bill.

While this Bill appears benign by the minister's own admission, it is designed to limit or prevent log exports over domestic processing. It would achieve this by government control over log traders (termed "log mongers" in the colourful language of Shane Jones) and also government control over the registration of forestry advisers.

The Bill was introduced on May 14 under urgency, then was subject to a rapid fire deadline for submissions and a committee hearing of submission, which many in the industry labelled a farce.

The NZ Forest Owners Association made a joint submission with its normal nemesis over land use conflicts the NZ Federated Farmers opposing the Bill. NZFF itself realised how

dangerous this Bill could possibly be to the almost entirely export-driven agricultural industry in future.

FOA subsequently commissioned the well-respected NZ Institute of Economic Research to analyse the likely impacts of the Bill. This report has been released and it is highly critical of the Bill and its objectives, which it says will not be met.

The institute reported that it estimated the scheme would curb New Zealand's GDP by between \$16.5 million and \$30.9 million, and said any sawmilling jobs created would cost more than twice the amount of money people could earn from doing those jobs.

"Yes, jobs are created in the short term, but at a

“JOBS CREATED IN SHORT-TERM BUT AT A HUGE COST



Shane Jones... election looming.

huge cost," the report read. "Rather than diverting log supply to create employment for wood processing workers, it would be simpler to give those people the average wage in the wood processing sector.

"The key issue is that this Bill has the potential to transfer value from one internationally competitive part of the industry to a less competitive part of the industry."

However, having gone this far to attack the industry he purports to represent, Mr Jones is determined to have

the Bill pass into law before the NZ general election on September 19.

The Bill has just passed its second reading, and the third and final reading to pass the Bill into law is expected in a few days.

However, whether the Bill is populated by necessary regulations and become operational will depend on the election.

Minister Jones' minority party NZ First is fighting for its political life. It polled at just 2% in the latest poll (it needs 5% to gain any MPs, or to win an electoral seat).

Mr Jones has previously stood four times in various seats and has failed each time. This will be his fifth attempt. At less than 5% the vote, and/or if he loses again, NZ First will likely be consigned to political history. Along with this Bill.

If not, interest in investing in plantation forestry in New Zealand will wane considerably, if not disappear altogether.




Serving independent timber and hardware businesses by providing valuable back of house services...

National Support Centre
1800 888 479 (Option 1)
www.mgatma.com.au



Legal and HR



Timber Advisory Service



Training



Member Benefits



Advocacy

OCTOBER

21st Australian Timber Design Awards – Sydney, NSW, Australia (date and venue to be advised). Entries close June 1. Voting for the People’s Choice Award is open from August to September. Visit the new awards website for information and

registration instructions. www.timberdesignawards.com.au

30: Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards POSTPONED – Barn Palais, Mount Gambier, SA, Australia. Nominations open 1 June 2020 and close 14 August 2020. For more information visit:

www.gttia.com/

MARCH 2021

17-19: Doing Timber Business in Queensland – Hotel Marriott and Howard Smith Wharves, Brisbane, QLD, Australia. State conference, workshops, innovation tour and gala dinner organised by Timber

Queensland. Visit www.doingtimberbusinessinql.com

APRIL 2021

DANA New Zealand Forest Industry Status and Outlook Conference and field trip. Dates and venue TBA. To register interest as delegate or presenter please email admin@danaevents.co.nz

EVENTS LISTS MAY HAVE BEEN, OR ARE LIKELY TO BE CANCELLED OR POSTPONED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS TRAVEL, SOCIAL DISTANCING AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS. PLEASE CHECK THE RELEVANT WEBSITES.

SEPTEMBER

27-30: Council on Forest Engineering Annual Meeting – POSTPONED. Visit www.cofe.org for update.

POSTPONED – Durban, South Africa. Possible 2021 conference and field trip - Dates and venue TBA. To register interest as delegate or presenter please email admin@danaevents.co.nz

opportunities in timber to diversify their portfolios and achieve healthy returns. Register at www.fba-events.com or contact karolina@forest-analytics.com

OCTOBER

21-23: Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Annual Conference – Vancouver, BC, Canada. The 2020 SFI Annual Conference will be focused on how forests can make a difference when it comes to so many of the most important sustainability challenges faced in the forest sector and communities. For additional information see: sficonference.org

DECEMBER

7-9: 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 December 7 to IKEA and Egger mills. The event will welcome institutional investors from across the globe to discuss investment

JANUARY 2021

11-14 : 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/

NOVEMBER

1-5: 3rd DANA African Forest Industry Investment Conference and field trip

• Please send any events listings to John Halkett via email: johnh@timberandforestrynews.com

Do you crosscut timber packs at ±1mm accuracy

OR cut structural timber, panel products (MDF & LVL), paper rolls

OR produce pallet dimensions or studs on fixed lengths

HOLTEC has a solution for you

For more information contact:
 Ph: +64 9 416 8294
 Fax: +64 9 416 8296
 Email: sales@holtec.org
 Web: www.holtec.org

HOLTEC
 YOUR PARTNER FOR THE PERFECT CUT

Our Scope of Supply:

- Mobile and stationary chainsaws
- Timber crosscut stations
- Log cutting stations
- Circular saws
- Mechanisation
- Sorting lines
- Scanning and optimising systems
- Special systems

Inspired by medieval post-beam craft

A SMALL dilapidated timber cottage (circa 1930), on the semi-rural northern outskirts of Sydney, was purchased in 2012 by a young couple keen to renovate and extend.

They had set their hearts on an extension consisting of an open family plan – living-dining room with a kitchen and pantry.

The four bedrooms (two with ensuites) and a redesigned bathroom would be renovated and extended in the existing cottage.

They were adamant that their new extension should express traditional timber exposed post and beam framing. With this in mind, they had looked at the website of Chris Nance, who runs Traditional Timber Frames, a specialised carpentry business in the



Chris Nance ... master carpenter in his workshop at Marulan, a small town in the Southern Tablelands of New South Wales.

southern highlands of NSW.

In 2007, Chris travelled to Wales to learn the timber dowelled traditional post and beam craft from a master carpenter and then returned to Australia to commence his timber framing career.

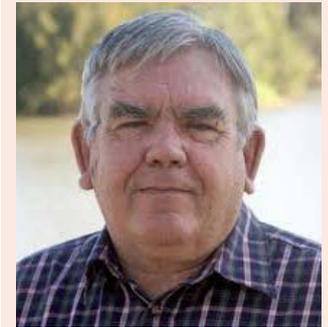
Architects of Arcadia working with their client and

Chris prepared sketch plans which reflected not only the brief but also referenced meticulous medieval techniques such as curved braces and knees.

An enormous Port Jackson fig filled the rear of the existing cottage site together with an existing brick beehive-capped underground excavated sandstone well 5 m deep and 5 m diameter. The well is located under the extension and is used to store rainwater. The existing badly dilapidated rear and side extensions were demolished, and a new face brick base and timber floor constructed to support the new 12 m square hardwood construction.

Chris cut and assembled the hardwood frame in his open-air workshop (a shed in a paddock), then dismantled and transported it to Sydney. Within days, the numbered timber elements were erected on site and pinned with hardwood dowels. There are no metal fixings in the structure, apart from the galvanised hold-down plates.

The timber dowels, left projecting, are a signature of this method of construction. The mortise and tenon dowelled joints are crafted to allow for both longitudinal



“ONE of the greatest blessings I have had from my life in timber is the friendships I have developed.

One such friendship is with Sydney-based Rolfe Chrystal of Architects of Arcadia and his wife Fiona Robbe of Fiona Robbe Landscape Architecture. We have assisted with and supplied some remarkable work for them.

Rolfe recently sent me some images of a project he recently completed using large member sizes and traditional carpentry. I asked him if he would put some words to the images so here they are.”

– TED STUBBERSFIELD

(Ted continues writing and updating his collection of Timber Technical Design Guides, an informative monthly external timber newsletter. He provides expert witness advice, professional development and also works as a timber design consultant.

and transverse shrinkage over time as the 200 x 200 posts and main rafters and 250 x 200 transverse beams are still mainly unseasoned on installation.

A mixture of hardwoods was used including blackbutt, grey box and stringybark.

On the cover: Renovated cottage used Welsh medieval post and beam construction.

**NO ONE KNOWS
AIR FLOW
LIKE SMITHCO**



We've been a leading force in air flow design for almost 3 decades, with 4-, 6-, 8-, and 12-bladed propellers, designed and manufactured exclusively for the lumber industry. Now, they are even more capable with higher- temperature capacity for certain applications. We combine this technology with unsurpassed customer service, design consultation and technical expertise, so whatever your air flow need, **you can trust SmithCo to deliver.**

Phone 503-295-6590 • 800-764-8456 U.S.
smithcomfg.com sales@smithcomfg.com


SMITHCO

What's the real cost of not buying Aussie timber?

Threatened survival of local saw mills

Placing thousands of Aussie jobs at risk

Harm to our timber industry today
will cost us more tomorrow

Impacts to local communities
that make up our industry

The survival of our local timber industry is under threat, placing thousands of Aussie jobs at risk and threatening timber supply requirements.

Your timber choice matters because it will keep Australia stronger. Stronger because of the thousands of Aussie jobs and the communities supported – including your own.

Buying Aussie timber first will ensure that the Aussie building industry remains strong, which in turn will make your business stronger. By protecting our local timber industry, you're protecting your own future.

buyaussietimberfirst.com.au



Forestry under multi-pronged attack as New Zealand election draws near

DENNIS NEILSON

IN addition to the NZ Forest Minister using his powers to try to nobble forest owners from exporting logs (see P 6), forest owners are under attack from the main opposition National Party, farmer associations and well-funded lobby group 50 Shades of Green.

The lobby group has just initiated a new series of pre-September 19 general election television advertisements which are anti-plantation forestry

Forest owners are not quite sure exactly what all these groups want. No more trees planted on farmland, the only land where new trees can be legally planted?

Most objections are counter-productive to farmers. Restricting or banning forestry buyers would almost certainly seriously narrow the purchaser pool and also the prices offered for hill country farm sales.

Objections include:

- Not wanting to upset the naturally occurring (and



NZ Hill country farmland recently planted to pine trees.

accelerating) population loss from broken down and deteriorated rural towns by replacing the famous (two Australians) sheep shepherds with loggers.

- Resistance to an associated 'cultural' change of populations in small rural towns which may be unique in New Zealand to the different farming and forestry worker population.
- Not wanting overseas investments into New Zealand.
- Not wanting any (domestic or foreign) investments in farms to be converted to forests.

- Especially not wanting any (NZ domestic or foreign) investments in farms to be converted to 'carbon farming' ('permanent' non-harvested plantations to gain increasingly valuable carbon credits).

Access to these carbon credits by overseas and domestic investors, which are offered by the current government, has pushed up hill country pastoral farmland prices from around \$NZ3000 per hectare to more than

“THE DEBATE IS NOT WITHOUT ITS HYPOCRITES

\$10,000 in the last two years.

The debate is not without its hypocrites; some of the most strident anti-foreign investment and anti-farm-to-forest conversion politicians and critics have previously sold their farm to foreign investors, including to foreign investors who have purchased farmland to convert to forestry.

The land use controversy is expected to heat up during the election campaign leading up to the New Zealand poll on September 19.

However, even the previously anti-tree National Party, now in opposition, supports the Paris Accord and meeting its carbon emission reduction commitments.

These will soon be huge and we think they can only be practically met by either taking most of New Zealand's cars and trucks off the road; euthanising most of New Zealand's dairy cows; or planting large areas of farmland into trees for carbon sequestration.

The debate continues.



Lonza | Wood Protection



Providing solutions to enhance the performance of your Engineered Wood Products.

LVL, plywood and CLT are an essential component of the modern construction industry, Lonza offer a range of solutions to protect engineered wood products.

- ✓ Veneer pre-treatments
- ✓ Glue line additives
- ✓ Finished product protection

www.lonzawoodprotection.com/apac/glue-line-engineered-wood-family/

Looking to enhance your engineered wood products? Contact Lonza.

AUSTRALIA
+61 3 9339 8915
tanalised.au@lonza.com

NEW ZEALAND
+64 9 276 3646
tanalised.nz@lonza.com

NEW PLYMOUTH
+64 6 755 9324
scott.connor@lonza.com

Not all suppliers are created equal.

Not restricted to supplying conventional timber products, **ATS Building Products** has developed a diverse and extensive range of products and services not matched by others.

And because our customers' needs are important to us, we guarantee great value, will save time and give customer satisfaction every time because... *we care.*

Find out why **ATS Building Products** stands out from the crowd.

www.atstimber.com.au



ATS
BUILDING PRODUCTS

we care.

NSW

157 Briens Road
Northmead, 2152
t. (02) 9630 5622

NSW

17-23 Longfield Street
Lansvale, 2166
t. (02) 9630 5622

QLD

8 Gay Street
Coopers Plains, 4108
t. (07) 3667 8217

VIC

372 Lower Dandenong Rd
Braeside, 3195
t. (03) 9034 3994

SA

48 Lipson Street
Port Adelaide, 5015
t. (03) 9034 3994

Farm forestry wants urgent review of fast-growing plantation species in NZ

FFA call reignites debate about the dominance of radiata pine

MICHAEL SMITH

THE Farm Forestry Association's recent call to promote the diversification of fast-growing plantation forest species in New Zealand has reignited debate about the dominance of radiata pine – the mainstay of the forest industry.

Graham West, FFA spokesperson and forest technologist, says the Ministry of Primary Industries needs to review its policy settings to help reduce the industry's dependence on one exotic species.

"The One Billion Trees Program has not been effective in achieving the desired planting rate nor the diversification of species ... while the carbon tables for all species under the Emissions Trading Scheme need revising and updating," Mr West said.

"The promotion of forestry as an acceptable land use is lacking and the ministry could encourage mixtures with high grants."

Given that radiata has been separated from most of its natural pests, it remains a low-risk planting option. As a registered consultant, Mr West freely admits he still recommends the species to investors as the best carbon investment.

Current breeding program and practices ensure a healthy degree of diversity in planted pine forests – and field trials of hybrid pines demonstrate a continuing commitment to species progression.

Production-wise, in the last 25 years the move from visual



1/ Central North Island pine forest... radiata has at least three serious health threats.
Photo: Timberlands Ltd.

2/ Graham West... Ministry of Primary Industries needs to review its policy settings to help reduce the industry's dependence on one exotic species.

grading to machine stress grading has revolutionised pine's reputation as a structural timber – making it suitable for the manufacture of engineered timber products.

Graham West adds that high-performing products like Accoya (made from clear pine) set a very high benchmark for alternative species.

But radiata pine has not been immune from incursions ... notably by a wood-boring wasp in the immediate post-World War 2 period; and by pine needle blight in the early 1960s. The former was overcome by introduced parasites and improved silvicultural practices, while the latter was steadily reduced by copper fungicide spraying, extensive thinning and pruning, and the development of resistant breeds.

Mr West says stress from increased temperatures due

to climate change is likely to make any species more vulnerable to pests and pathogens. Therefore, what's needed is a robust strategic assessment of possible threats ... conducted at a national level.

"Chile seems better prepared for this, having developed an integrated Forest Stress Index," he says.

He also points out that radiata pine has at least three serious health threats: *Lecanosticta acicola* on the Iberian peninsula, pine pitch canker in the US, and European pine shoot moth in Chile.

"The information coming out of Spain and Portugal is that, for the first time, observers are seeing whole stands of

radiata dying."

Mr West says over the decades the big corporate growers have assessed the biosecurity risks and have not changed species, so don't expect leadership [on diversification] from them. They can sell up and leave very quickly. There are many lower-risk opportunities for their capital ... it's only New Zealanders who will be left with the consequences.

He acknowledges that most of the alternative species recently championed only fulfil specific market niches.

"Currently, the small-scale market opportunities for alternative species don't

justify planting them at scale," he said. "The primary argument for me is the ability to sequester carbon and/or convert to permanent carbon forests."

He says eucalypt species fulfil that brief, and are economically viable because of their rapid early growth of high-density wood.

Mr West added: "I would also suggest mixed planting is little understood. There were trials conducted by the Forest Service, particularly Douglas fir/larch mixtures, with the aim of being self-thinning. While such regimes require more skill to establish, they also spread the biosecurity risk."



Winter planting in SA: 360,000 seedlings

A RE-ESTABLISHMENT program will see ForestrySA plant 360,000 pine seedlings this winter as part of an ongoing commitment to the sustainable management of the plantation resource.

As the manager of more than 10,700 ha of commercial pine forest in the Mount Lofty Ranges, ForestrySA is committed to the sustainable production of timber – the ultimate renewable resource. All radiata plantation trees grown in the agency's commercial estate are replanted following harvest.

An annual seedling planting program replenishes harvested crops, supporting sustainable timber production well into the future. This year, more than 250 ha of recently harvested pine plantation will be planted by late July across 10 sites within the Kuitpo,



Tender care... winter pine seedlings program under way in South Australia. Photo: OneFortyOne.

Mount Crawford and Second Valley Forest Reserves. Local tree-planting crews will once again be contracted to complete the re-establishment program, employing a mix of permanent and seasonal workers. Each crew member will hand-plant an average

of 1000 pine seedlings a day, enduring cold and wet conditions and at times steep terrain to get the job done.

Manager, commercial operations, Peter Merry, who oversees the annual planting program, said thorough planning, coordination and

strong working relationships with contractors were pivotal in ensuring young seedlings were planted to encourage tree survival and early growth, and site-specific attributes such as natural features and stakeholder interests were protected.

This planning process is vital due to the long-term nature of forestry, with trees not expected to reach optimal maturity and harvest of the plantation crop until 34 years of age.

"The seedlings we put in the ground in 2020 represent a three decade-long investment in our business," Mr Merry said.

Salvage of trees affected by the Cudlee Creek bushfire is well under way, with replanting of these areas due to take place in winter 2021.

ONLINE ADVERTISING IS HERE!

Advertise jobs, buy/sell your products and services **ONLINE**, with the new timber and forestry website.

With just a few clicks, your business will be seen on the industry's **#1 WEBSITE**.

timber
& FORESTRY *e*news

Visit timberandforestrynews.com/ advertising to find out more or email advertising@timberandforestrynews.com

- Jobs board
- New/used equipment and machinery for sale
- Other products/ services



From fire risk to virtual reality, weed control and pests... New grower R&D projects valued at more than \$10m approved by FWPA

THE FWPA board has approved almost \$2.2 million of funding for diverse forestry research initiatives, with a combined total project value of more than \$10 million.

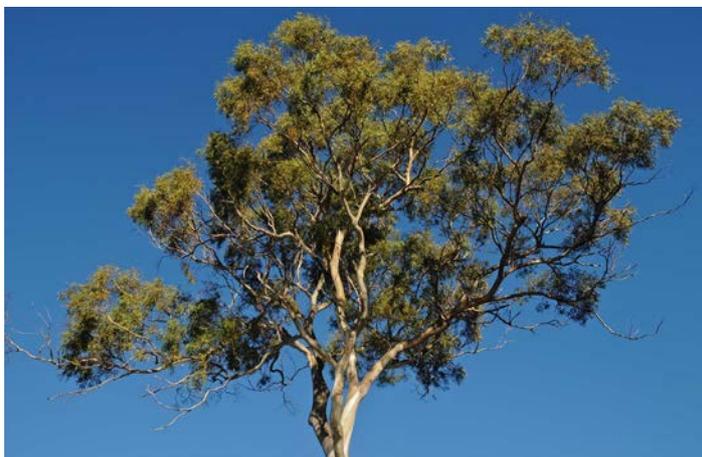
The Grower Research Advisory Committee (GRAC) recommended the projects, which were developed to address research priorities of high value to the industry, identified in FWPA's recently completed forestry RD&E investment plans.

The projects, which were selected from an impressive initial list of 56 initial proposals, will address everything from biosecurity to genomics and will serve to strengthen the Australian forestry industry over the long-term.

Forest growers are co-funding the projects, with matching funding from the federal government and a component of levy funds.

Proposals were evaluated in accordance with the committee's review process, which included an online survey, recommendations by the GRAC executive and formal endorsement by the wider GRAC group. Once the list of 13 successful proposals had been compiled, the FWPA board gave its final approval.

Characterising and



Forest research initiatives... everything from biosecurity to genomics to strengthen the Australian forestry industry over the long-term.

managing fire risks to plantations under changing climates:

Fire risks in plantation regions under current and changing climates will be modelled and evaluated to support evidence-based management to reduce fire risks to plantation and community assets over the coming decades.

Operational immersive visualisation and measurement of dense point cloud data in forest inventory:

Progressing previous work in this area, this project will provide operational methods and workflows to improve the accessibility of virtual reality visualisation and measurement tools to forest growers.

Reducing the risk of myrtle rust strains entering Australia and the Pacific:

An international collaborative approach will aim to limit the risk of new strains of myrtle rust arriving and establishing in the region, thereby reducing the threat of impact to the hardwood industry in Australia.

Mobile applications to support stakeholder identification and reporting of exotic pests:

This project will develop and test a mobile application to aid with field identification and reporting of tree pests by non-taxonomic experts.

Developing exotic forest/tree pest surveillance capacity in high risk areas:

By improving exotic forest/tree pest surveillance



Jodie Mason... spreading the target across the broader research themes for a diversified investment.

capability across Australia, this project aims to support early detection and mitigate the impact of pests on native forests, plantations and urban trees.

Innovation in value realisation through the supply chain and supply chain technology:

This project will test the program structure of the Forest Operations Supply Chain Investment Plan to help deliver on its key priorities. It will also demonstrate the program model for the delivery of an industry research, development, engagement, translation and training program.

Tools, systems and enabling genetic

Cont P 15



An industry services company working to grow the forest and wood products market
Visit us at fwpa.com.au

From P 14

technologies for pines and eucalypts:

Practical tools and systems will be developed to enable genomic research and tree improvement outputs to be integrated and used routinely in tree breeding and deployment operations. National databases for data, pedigree, genomic information and genomically-enhanced genetic values will be supported.

Optimising productivity of hardwood plantations – yield gap analysis for eucalyptus globulus plantations in Western Australia and Victoria:

By defining the potential yield of plantations, estimating the gap between potential and actual yield, and attributing parts of the gap to major limiting factors, this project will provide a framework for making decisions on the location of plantations and the improvement of yields due to silvicultural practices.

Sirex biocontrol – cryptic nematode field strain prompts urgent review of program:

Pinus radiata is Australia's most valuable softwood resource, but it is extremely susceptible to mortality from sirex woodwasp, the most serious invasive softwood pest to enter the southern hemisphere. The project team will review available data for inoculation history, within and between regions, to analyse patterns associated with sirex parasitism rates and populations, linked to nematode strains.

Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative:

The Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative was established in 2017. It is a partnership between the seven plant-based



Practical tools and systems... enabling genetic technologies for pines and eucalypts.

Research and Development Corporations (RDCs), Plant Health Australia and the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment, working to coordinate investment in cross-sectoral biosecurity RD&E.

The PBRI supports the development of innovative tools, knowledge and capacity to be used across plant industries and regional communities in order to safeguard them from the consequences of pests entering and establishing in Australia.

The current PBRI collaboration contract expires this month. The new work will build on the foundations laid over the past three years, identifying cross-sector investment opportunities for biosecurity RD&E, and build capacity in a coordinated and strategic approach.

Development of fit-for-purpose silviculture linking plantation management and productivity to wood properties:

This project will review current knowledge on silviculture and growth rates, which impact wood properties and the utility of softwood and hardwood logs. The work will identify all current knowledge, as well as any knowledge gaps to

guide further research.

Development of a portfolio of alternative weed control strategies for use in plantations:

Weed control is critical to the productivity and financial viability of plantations. This research piece will see the development of a hierarchy of options to inform field trials, as well as evidence-based

responses to certification and social license concerns.

Next generation resource assessment and forecasting for Australian plantation forestry:

The forecasting project will provide pathways for the Australian plantation forestry industry to cooperatively invest in remote sensing and resource modelling technologies and systems.

Forest research manager at FWPA Jodie Mason said the proposal evaluation process considered a range of factors.

"Criteria included how well each proposal addressed the research needs described in the investment plans, as well as the breadth of relevance and priority of the research across the industry," she said.

"The GRAC then refined the 'short list' to achieve the target spread across the broader research themes for a diversified investment."

Non-Executive Directors

Forest and Wood Products Australia Limited (FWPA) is seeking to appoint two Non-Executive Directors to its skills-based Board at their upcoming AGM. FWPA are seeking interest from individuals with skills in the following areas:

- Conservation and management of natural resources.
- R&D experience, innovation, technology transfer and commercialisation of R&D outcomes, particularly in respect of agricultural products.
- Commerce, including domestic and international market development, domestic and international trade.

Prospective Board members will be able to demonstrate strategic thinking and an understanding of financial statements at a director level. Previous Board experience and/ or AICD qualifications will be considered favourable. An independent Director Selection Committee will consider proposals for candidates and recommend to the FWPA Board persons for nomination for appointment as a Director. The Committee is required to ensure that candidates will result in a balanced, skills-based Board.

For more information, please contact Richard Evans at Talent Nation on +61 3 9600 0115, or via email revans@talentnation.com.au. To submit your expression of interest including a covering letter outlining your interest in this position and a short summary of the areas you believe you can add most value to the FWPA Board please [apply here](#).

Expressions close at 5.00pm on Friday, 10th July 2020.

 **Forest & Wood
Products Australia**

Famous London plane trees slowly disappearing from Sydney's streets

LIVING in Sydney's inner-city suburb of King's Cross, as I do, the dominant tree in the hood is the deciduous London plane tree (*Platanus x acerifolia*). With large maple-like leaves and towering height, this is a tree of pomp and circumstance.

The branches begin high up on the trunk so that mature trees have a lofty, architectural quality, giving plenty of shade without restricting the view at street level.

Planted throughout London in the 19th century to complement the city's imposing squares and thoroughfares, the plane tree was the ideal symbol for the capital of a growing empire. Visitors watching in awe and envy state possessions along plane tree-lined boulevards between Parliament House and Buckingham Palace would have got the message that here was the centre of a powerful industrialised country.

However, the plane tree is not merely an immigrant, but one of mixed parentage. It is a hybrid between the American sycamore and the Oriental plane that is native

to south-eastern Europe and south-western Asia.

In the heyday of its planting, the London plane grew up along numerous factories – the 19th century engines of the British Empire. But the Industrial Revolution which harnessed steam power also left London black and soot-covered. Few tree species could survive such an environment, but the London plane is especially well adapted to urban life having a special trick that helps the tree thrive in polluted air.

The bark of the London plane is dotted with tiny spores, a millimetre or two across called lenticels, which allow the exchange of gases. If these lenticels become clogged the tree has the ability to slough off the layer of grime that it has removed from the atmosphere, helping



1/ Quintessentially King Cross... El-Alamein Memorial Fountain, London plane trees and police vehicles.

2/ A tree of pomp and circumstance... the Household Cavalry parades along the plane tree-lined Mall towards Buckingham Palace.

TALKING TREES



With JOHN HALKETT

Sponsored by Forestry Corporation of NSW

to keep both cities and their human inhabitants healthy.

City planners around the world have recognised the advantages of the London plane tree for their own cities, and what was originally, and almost exclusively, a London phenomenon, has spread across the temperate world – to Paris, Rome, New York

and Sydney.

However, not everyone is a fan of the plane tree; they have been derided by prominent Australian scientist Tim Flannery who called them "... foreign weeds ... about as much use to our wildlife as concrete posts".

Also the City of Sydney is continuing to loosen its ties with Mother England and is phasing out the many hundreds of London plane trees lining inner-city streets, mainly because of the ongoing debate over their role in causing allergies in people susceptible to hay fever.

Sydney is gradually reducing the number of plane trees across the city. As they grow old they are being replaced with a wider mix of deciduous and evergreen trees, including native species.



The largest manager of commercial plantations and native forests in NSW
Visit us at forestrycorporation.com.au

VicForests seeks comment on changes to Timber Release Plan after bushfires

STATE-owned business VicForests has commenced public consultation on proposed changes to its Timber Release Plan in response to the 2019-20 Victorian bushfire season.

The proposed plan covers 59 coupes that VicForests is considering harvesting under strict controls in the Benalla-Mansfield, North-East and Tambo Forest Management Areas, excluding the East Gippsland FMA.

VicForests is conducting its public consultation process until July 10 to ensure suitable input and comment from interested parties, including the community.

As part of this change process, coupes are proposed to be added to the plan to ensure flexibility to meet contractual commitments to customers, contractors, and licensees.

The plan's format will also be changed to align with the information requirements in Section 38 of the Sustainable



1/ A schedule of proposed timber harvesting areas and maps of approximate locations are available from VicForests.

2/ Monique Dawson... meeting wood supply commitments.

Forests (Timber) Act 2004 (the SFTA).

These proposed coupes are all in fire-impacted areas and have been prioritised as they contain areas of fire killed ash forest. Any harvesting of these fire-killed areas would be done in compliance with the fire salvage harvesting requirements contained within the Management Standards and Procedures for timber harvesting operations in Victoria's State forests (2014) as well as VicForests' own adaptive management procedures.

In doing so, VicForests' adaptive management

approach to harvesting provides for the protection of habitat and forest regeneration.

CEO Monique Dawson said changes to the Timber Release Plan helped VicForests meet its wood supply commitments and kept hundreds of regional Victorians in jobs.

"The plan also supports ongoing timber supply to local customers and contractors in accordance with Victorian government policy," Ms Dawson said.

"VicForests is committed to

strong consultation with the community and stakeholders in relation to the proposed changes."

Once the consultation period has concluded, the TRP amendment will be submitted to the VicForests board of directors for approval.

The agency harvests about 2500-3000 ha each year, which is about 0.04% of all Victoria's public native forests – nominally equivalent to four trees in 10,000.

About 96% of native forests is protected and cannot be

harvested or is unsuitable.

A schedule of proposed timber harvesting areas, maps of approximate locations and a consultation feedback are available at www.vicforests.com.au/planning-1/timber-release-plan-1/proposedtrp

Comment and submissions of the TRP Amendment can be provided via email to vfs.trp@vicforests.com.au or made in writing to: VicForests, GPO Box 191, Melbourne, 3001 until July 10.



“PLAN SUPPORTS ONGOING TIMBER SUPPLY

Timber & Forestry e-news is the most authoritative and quickest deliverer of news and special features to the forest and forest products industries in Australia, New Zealand and internationally. E-news is delivered weekly, every Thursday, 48 weeks of the year. Advertising rates are competitive with any industry magazine. Timber&Forestry e-news hits your target market – every week, every Thursday!

HEAD OFFICE

Timber & Forestry e-news
PO Box 69, Potts Point, NSW 1335,
Australia
Phone | +61 (0) 417 421 187

PUBLISHERS

John Halkett | +61 (0) 417 421 187
johnh@timberandforestryenews.com
Dennis Neilson | +64 (0) 7 349 2764
dennisn@timberandforestryenews.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Jim Bowden | +61 (0) 401 312 087
cancon@bigpond.net.au
PO Box 330, Hamilton Central QLD
4007, Australia

ADVERTISING

John Halkett | +61 (0) 417 421 187
johnh@timberandforestryenews.com
advertising@timberandforestryenews.com

The information contained in this publication has been obtained from sources assumed to be reliable. However, the publishers disclaim all warranties as to the accuracy, completeness, reliability or adequacy of the information displayed. Opinions expressed in Timber & Forestry e-news are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or staff. We do not accept responsibility for any damage resulting from inaccuracies in editorial or advertising. The publishers are therefore indemnified against all actions, suits, claims or damages resulting from content in this e-news.

DELIVERED
WEEKLY TO
15,200
GLOBAL
READERS*

ADVERTISING RATES

timber
& FORESTRY *e*NEWS

Now in its 12th year, Timber & Forestry eNews has grown to be the Number 1 online weekly news journal for the forest and forest products industries – across Australia, New Zealand and internationally.

AD FORMATS



DISPLAY AD RATES

FULL PAGE: \$485

297mmH x 210mmW

HALF PAGE: \$290

Vertical • 254mmH x 93mmW

Horizontal • 125mmH x 190mmW

QUARTER PAGE: \$180

Vertical • 125mmH x 93mmW

Horizontal • 63mmH x 190mmW

THIRD PAGE: \$215

Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

PAGE 1 Front cover strip: Contract booking

Horizontal • 30mmH x 190mmW

PAGE 1 Front cover module: Contract booking

Horizontal • 45mmH x 49.5mmW

PAGE 2 below story: Contract booking

Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

JOB ADS: ONLINE BOOKINGS ONLY

BUY & SELL ADS: ONLINE BOOKINGS ONLY

744pxH x 720pxW

BANNER ADVERTISING

• **FEATURE PACKAGE: INCLUDES**

PAGE 3 strip below story / top email strip / top website banner strip

Horizontal strip • 30mmH x 190mmW

Email strip • 395pxH x 1500pxW

Top website banner strip • 120pxH x 1000pxW

• **STANDARD PACKAGE: INCLUDES**

PAGE 8 module / email module / website module on advertising page

Module • 45mmH x 44.5mmW

Email module • 336pxH x 336pxW

Website module • 260pxH x 260pxW

TERM DISCOUNTS

12 WEEKS: 7.5%

24 WEEKS: 10%

48 WEEKS: 15%

Timber & Forestry eNews is published by Timber & Forestry eNews PO Box 69, Potts Point, NSW 1335, Australia. Phone: 0417 421 187.

Delivered every Thursday, 48 weeks of the year to industry decision makers in Australia, New Zealand, the Asia-Pacific, North America, UK and Europe. Ad rates shown are based on a weekly booking.

DEADLINES

Display ads: Book by 9am Tuesday prior to publication

Supplied artwork: Wednesday 12 noon prior to publication. Supply quality jpg or pdf to our specifications. NO crop marks or bleed required.

WHO TO CONTACT

Media releases: Jim Bowden e: cancon@bigpond.net.au | **Display ad bookings:** e: advertising@timberandforestryenews.com

Accounts: e: johnh@timberandforestryenews.com | **Subscribe:** www.timberandforestryenews.com

Classified advertising: JOB ADS ARE COMPLETELY ONLINE.

Go to www.timberandforestryenews.com/post-a-job/ to place a job vacancy. Book by 12noon Wednesday prior to publication. Job ads are for individual positions. If more than one position is to be advertised, separate ads will need to be created and advertised accordingly.

BUY & SELL ADS ARE COMPLETELY ONLINE. Go to www.timberandforestryenews.com/product/buy-sell-advertisement/ to place an ad. Book by 5.00pm Tuesday prior to publication.

TERMS

New clients invoiced on booking. Existing clients 14 days.