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Timber shortages warned of in 2022 are even more true in 2023

COVER STORY P3

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High-level Malaysian timber trade mission looming

THE upcoming Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) lead trade and marketing mission to Australia from 27 August to 3 September has a busy agenda. The mission delegation will comprise executives from MTC, managing directors, and other senior executives from a wider range of Malaysian timber product producing companies.

The delegation will be visiting timber supply chain companies in Melbourne and Brisbane.

Trade mission delegates will also be attending the Timber Supply Summit in Melbourne where MTC CEO Noraihan Abdul Rahman will be giving a keynote address. The delegation will also be joining the field trip to Geelong to visit the frame and roof truss manufacturing plant Big River Group, which recently won the best frame and truss operation in the country, and the Midway woodchip processing and



1/ Malaysian delegation visits Bunnings during 2022 trade mission..

2/ Talking timber supply in Gippsland during 2022 marketing and trade mission.



export facility.

In Brisbane the trade mission will be visiting import and wholesale companies and holding a seminar and business networking event at the Four Points by Sheraton Brisbane, 99 Mary Street, Brisbane City 4000 on Friday, 1 September 2023. This seminar is aimed at providing the Australian timber industry with an update on Malaysian's sustainable forest management and innovation in the country's timber industry. This seminar is sponsored by the MTCI and there is no registration fee for participants.

The trade and marketing mission was supported by

the Consulate General of Malaysia, and Malaysian business interests in Australia to reinforce the already close ties and mutually beneficial economic and trade relationships between the two countries.

ATIF General Manager John Halkett said the federation was pleased to support and assist with the mission was acknowledged the many ATIF companies that participated in the mission in various ways.

“TRADE MISSION DELEGATE ALSO ATTENDING TIMBER SUPPLY SUMMIT

MTC's Director of International Business Development Khairul Anwar said he was confident that the timely and important mission would assist in stepping up the Malaysian timber industry's promotional efforts in Australia given the positive outlook within the next several years.

“It is my hope that both governments and business communities will continue to work together for the mutual benefit of both our countries. Malaysia is poised to become a strategic business partner in Australia, especially in the wood-based industry”.

Inquiries regarding the upcoming MTC trade and marketing mission should be directed to Campbell McInnes at 0406 223 007



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Timber shortages look set to delay home building in 2023. These 4 graphs show why

Originally published in *The Conversation* by Flavio Macau, Edith Cowan University

It is timely to publish this article on timber shortages given the current house building emphasis and the disconnect with timber supply. This reality is why enews is holding the Timber Supply Summit in Melbourne next week. See Pages 6 and 18.

If you're building or renovating a home, and frustrated with huge delays, you're not alone.

Australia's builders are struggling to find timber. For items such as laminated veneer lumber – used for frames and beams – they've reported waiting up to four months. For trusses – used to build walls and roofs – up to nine months.

Fears these shortages could send builders bust have been exaggerated, but the pain of delays and escalating price is real enough for tradies and clients.

There's no easy fix to this crisis. It has been caused by the confluence of four factors: government stimulus for the building industry; increasing reliance on imported lumber; the pressure placed on global shipping by the pandemic; and the effect of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on the world market.

GOVERNMENT (OVER) STIMULUS

If one had to choose a specific date for when the crisis began, it would be June 3 2020 – the day the Morrison government announced its A\$688 million Homebuilder scheme.

This scheme provided up to \$25,000 towards building a new home or renovating an existing one. State governments also subsequently offered building grants.

NEW HOUSE CONSTRUCTION APPROVALS

Monthly approvals of new private-sector houses and other dwellings, May 2012 to April 2022.

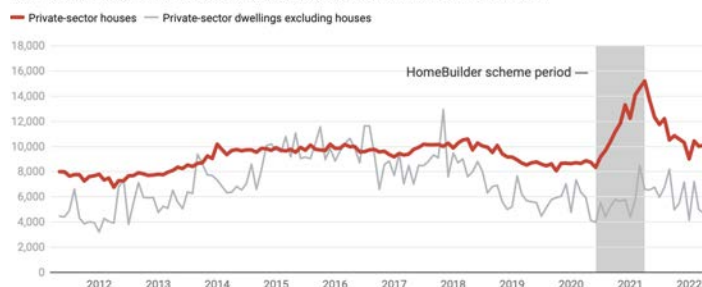


Chart: *The Conversation*. Source: ABS

There were reasons to fear the pandemic would devastate home construction. The Master Builders Association in 2019 had forecast new-dwelling starts would decline 3.5% in 2020/21. In April 2020, during the initial phase of the COVID panic spiral, it tipped the decline would be 40%.

The following graph shows what actually happened. Approvals for all new dwellings increased more than 25% in 2020-21. Approvals for new houses rose more than 40%.

Obviously there were multiple factors driving these increases. The Reserve Bank of Australia cut interest rates from 0.75% to 0.25% in March, and again in November to 0.1%. Billions of dollars were being pumped into the economy in other ways.

HIGHER DEMAND, LOWER SUPPLY

Higher housing starts means higher demand for lumber.

Freestanding houses

hardwoods for joinery and flooring. Carpentry typically represents about 20% of the cost of the average new home.

However, domestic lumber supply in Australia is going the other way. Logging of native forests is in decline while domestic plantation production has plateaued.

The graphs shows trends in the volume of wood logged from Australia's native forests or harvested from plantations.

Cont P 4

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TIMBER HARVESTING IN AUSTRALIA, 2001 - 2020

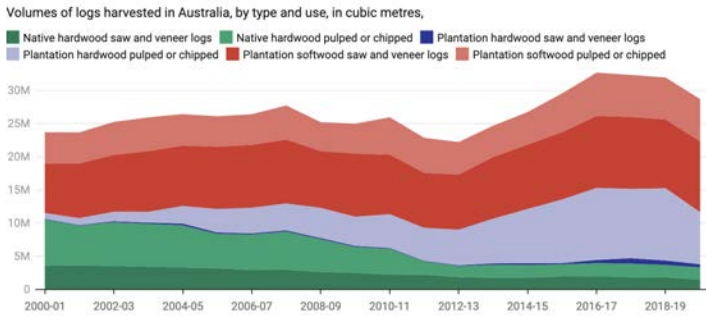


Chart: The Conversation. Source: ABARES

From P 3

You can see hardwoods (shown in dark green and dark blue) overwhelmingly come from native forests. These volumes have been falling in line with action to conserve what's left of native forests. Supply will fall further when

Queensland and Western Australia end native logging in 2024, and Victoria in 2030.

Softwoods mostly come from commercial plantations. The volume of softwood harvested has increased by about 40% over the past 20 years, but the amount of land plantations has been stable for about a decade.

Minimal new plantations have been established in recent years. Eastern Australia's 2019-20 bushfires also affected about 130,000

“ SHOULD AUSTRALIA BECOME MORE SELF-SUFFICIENT? ”

AUSTRALIA'S WOOD IMPORTS, 2001 - 2021

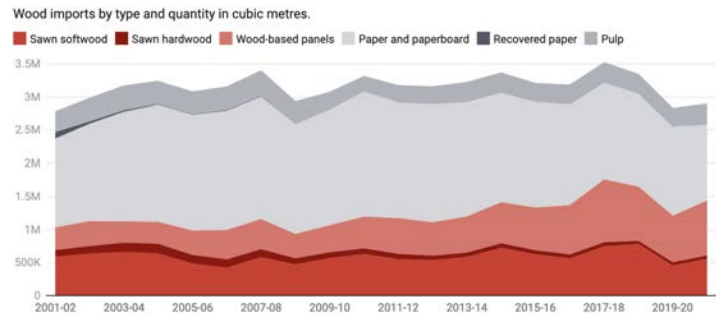


Chart: The Conversation. Source: ABARES

hectares of commercial plantations.

WAITING FOR COSTLIER IMPORTS

This means Australian builders are more reliant on imported timber – at a time most global supply chains are strained and energy prices are driving up transportation costs.

October.

WHAT NEXT?

Should Australia do more to become self-sufficient? This is a hard question to answer.

Even if you think yes, bear in mind even the fastest-growing softwood tree takes at least 20 years to grow.

TOP TEN EXPORTERS OF SAWN WOOD

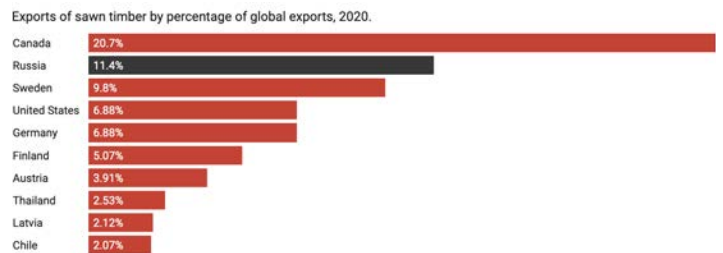


Chart: The Conversation. Source: Observatory of Economic Complexity

Wood products are typically shipped in containers, which have been in short supply during the pandemic (due to extra demand). If you can actually find a container, the transport cost may still be more than double than before COVID-19.

Another issue is that Russia is a major wood exporter – second to Canada in all sawn-wood exports, but the top exporter of softwood lumber. While a relatively unimportant source for Australia overall, it dominates in specific products such as laminated veneer lumber.

Australia will impose a 35% tariff on "conflict timber" from Russia (and Belarus) in

Bringing forward production is complicated. Forestry businesses must forecast demand and lock in production for decades to come. They cannot be expected to respond to short-term crises in the same way as an oil producer or toilet paper manufacturer can.

The hard truth is that the construction industry will have to weather the storm the best it can – likely until at least 2023. By then the home-building boom should be at an end, with higher interest rates likely to slow the pace of housing construction.

On the cover: With timber in short supply, house building will become harder. Photo: Shutterstock

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Active management of private native forests to support construction industry

GROWING Tasmania's sustainable forest sector is a key commitment of the Rockliff Liberal Government.

Alongside our world class public forest estate, Tasmania's private native forestry sector plays an increasingly important role in increasing wood supply and supporting downstream processing.

This important and emerging sector is set to grow with a new suite of education and communication materials launched today focused on encouraging landowners to actively manage their private native regrowth forest resources.

The information package includes an extensive guide to managing private native forest operations, videos, case studies and factsheets.

Resources Minister Felix Ellis said private native

regrowth forests can be actively managed to contribute significantly to Australia's shortage of construction-quality wood.

"There are more than 300,000 hectares of private native forests in Tasmania that can be managed sustainably to produce timber and other benefits."

"With our changing climate and an expanding bioeconomy, well-planned management can also boost the health and resilience of these forests and assist with bushfire management, while generating income, sequestering carbon and delivering other ecosystem benefits such as healthy wildlife habitat," he said.

"We have a global shortage of timber and demand is set to quadruple by 2050.

"Within Australia that demand is being driven by the home building market and the desire to replace carbon-intensive materials and



Resources minister Felix Ellis.

plastics with natural, recyclable and renewable products. It is estimated that we will need 2 billion square metres of new building stock every year between 2020 and 2025, especially for housing."

"From an economic viewpoint, management of private native regrowth forests provides revenue from wood products to individual landowners.

"I commend Private Forests Tasmania on this initiative and encourage landowners to contact PFT's Tree Alliance helpline on 1300 661 009 or visit www.treealliance.com.au

Gippsland farm forestry grants

FARMERS in the Gippsland region have an opportunity to apply for grants that assist with the process of beginning farm forests. VicForests gave out grants to 16 landholders coming in to a total of \$850,000. These grants will produce 274.3 hectares of new farm forests in the Gippsland region.

The program originally began in 2021 and has now awarded a total of 26 grants which is 361 hectares of new farm forests. This won't solve the immediate timber shortages; however, it does mean that in the long run there will be new timber available in the future. The new farm forests remain the property of the land owners so it is a fantastic opportunity to diversify assets for landholders in the Gippsland area. The grants are funded by the Victorian Government and more are expected to become available later on this year.

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Timber supply summit registrations closing

Last opportunity to sign up for key industry summit and field trip

THERE are now just a few days before the Timber Supply Summit commences. Summit joint organiser Dennis Neilson says he is delighted at the scope of the exciting program and extensive list of international and Australian speakers

He said he was now able to confirm that, in addition to a presentation from the Minister for Agriculture, Senator the Hon Murray Watt; the Shadow Environment, Fisheries and Forestry and Deputy Manager of Opposition Business, Senator Jonathon Duniam will be speaking. Senator Duniam was the Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries and Assistant Minister for Regional Tourism in the previous government.



1/ **Senator Jonathon Duniam ... now confirmed as speaking at the summit.**

2/ **Deborah Kerr ... leading current advocacy effort related to the future of the hardwood timber industry in Victoria..**



With a spotlight on the future of the Victorian forest industry, leading advocate and chief executive of the Victorian Forest Products Association, Deborah Kerr will speak about the current challenges and future opportunities for the Victorian forest sector.

Deborah is the inaugural chief executive of the Victorian Forest Products Association. She brings to the role extensive

experience in the primary industries sector, having worked in various industry representative roles. This wealth of experience gives her the skills to represent Victoria's forest products industry with the State Government and in the wider Victorian community. She is leading the current advocacy effort related to the future of the hardwood timber industry in Victoria.

The summit will be relevant to all participants in the timber supply chain. Registrations for the timber summit are now above expectations so get in to reserve a remaining seat. For further information click here.

New Guinness World Record holder for world's tiniest wooden spoon

SHASHIKANT Prajapati is 25 years old and a micro artist. He is from Bihar in India.

Shashikant carved a 1.6mm wooden spoon from a single piece of wood using a craft knife and a surgical blade. He said that the 1.6mm spoon took many attempts but in the end it was successful. This spoon represents Shashikant's second world record. His first one was for the highest number of chain links carved



from pencil lead. Shashikant has actually been awarded this record twice, first in 2020 with 126 links then again in 2021 with 236 links. Shashikant first became interested in micro art in 2015 while attending his first year of college. He has spent a lot of time mastering the craft, spending up to 10 hours a day practicing!



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AUGUST

29-30: Timber & Forestry News Australian Timber Supply Summit – Melbourne.

For any queries relating to the conference, please contact: info@corp-comm.com.au

27-3 SEPT: Malaysian Timber Council Trade and Marketing Mission to Australia – Melbourne & Brisbane.

Including visits to Melbourne and Brisbane. To participate and for further information contact John Halkett at john.halkett@forestlands.com.au or 0417 421 187

SEPTEMBER

9: Women in Forest & Timber Network Charity Cocktail Fundraiser – Rose Room, Brisbane.

3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Annual charity cocktail fundraiser in support of the Brisbane Domestic Violence Service (BDVS). For further information and sponsorship opportunities contact Jacinta. Colley@vidawood.com

11-12: Timber Off-Site Construction Conference – Crown Promenade Melbourne.

The theme for 2023 is "Timber & Technology – The

Zero Carbon Future". For more information visit www.timberoffsiteconstruction.com

OCTOBER

2-6: 30th Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC – Hyatt Regency Sydney Hotel.

Formulation of forest policy and to review and coordinate its implementation on the regional scale; to exchange information and advice on suitable practices and action in regard to technical problems. Further details www.fao.org/events/detail/apfc-30/

11-12: 71st International Softwood Conference – Hilton Vienna Park Hotel Vienna.

The conference will offer the opportunity to scrutinise trends in the timber market focusing on facts and figures showing softwood production as well as consumption. Further more info visit https://isc2023.com/

15-19: ANZIF Conference – Twin Towns Conference Centre, Coolangatta, Qld.

The Theme for 2023 is "Embracing Our Natural Capital: the science, technology and art of managing forests for all values". Further info from: www.forestry.org.au/

Australian Timber Supply Summit

Discuss, network and understand the Australian Timber Supply Industry

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Last chance to register for the Australian Timber Supply Summit?

THANK YOU to our sponsors and supporting partners of the Australian Timber Supply Summit to be held in Melbourne on 29-30 August 2023.

This event will be a fantastic opportunity to discuss, network and understand this essential component of the supply industry.

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Management changes for Australian Forest Products Association

THERE have been a few changes at the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA). Diana Gibbs has stepped down as the chair, however, she will be remaining on with AFPA as a director. The board thanked Diana for her commitment to the industry and for her service as the chair.

Diana has been replaced by Joel Fitzgibbon who has stepped up to take on the position of chair. Joel was the interim CEO of AFPA, and he has resigned from this position. The board thanked Joel for holding the position of interim CEO for longer than intended and is looking forward to his continued strategic guidance and



1/ Diana Gibbs, director and former chair.



2/ Joel Fitzgibbon, AFPA chair and former interim CEO.

leading as chair.

The interim CEO position is being filled by Natasa Sikman. AFPA is in the process of filling the CEO position via an independent recruitment process that allows for both internal and external

applicants to be considered. It is hoped that the new CEO will be in place in time for the AFPA AGM in November.

The final change is with the AFPA NSW where new CEO and policy manager, James Jooste has been appointed.

James has worked with the media and with senior government offices for a decade.

We are excited to see what the future holds for the AFPA.

Priorities for attention will be reinvigorated engagement with the Albanese government over plantation investment and getting trees-in-the-ground, emphasising the importance of the ongoing sustainable management native-forest based industries and articulating the leading role the forest sector can play in contributing to climate change abatement targets. "We are excited to see what the future holds for the AFPA," said Joel.

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Timberlink manufactures its first GLT beam



The Timberlink team holding the very first GLT beam produced on its newly commissioned GLT line. L to R: chief marketing, sales & corporate affairs officer David Oliver, CEO Ian Tyson, CLT/GLT operations manager Patrick Dark, major strategic projects manager Ranabir Ghose, NeXTimber project manager David Gittins, chief manufacturing officer Jodie Murdoch, production manager Brian Murphy.

Timberlink was pleased to welcome the South Australian Parliamentary Select Committee to its Tarpeena manufacturing facility this week for the South Australian Forest Products Association's Seed to Structure tour. In attendance were Hon. Nicola Centofanti MLC, Hon. Tung Ngo MLC, Hon. Frank Pangallo MLC, Hon. Ben Hood MLC, in addition to various industry members from across the South Australian forestry sector.

The purpose of the tour was to increase awareness around the many stages of softwood timber manufacturing in South Australia; right from planting seeds in the nursery through to processing and manufacturing finished plantation pine timber products.

Ian Tyson, CEO of Timberlink, was delighted to host the committee at Timberlink's Tarpeena manufacturing facility and to share with them an exciting milestone in the construction of Timberlink's Cross

Laminated Timber (CLT) and Glue Laminated Timber (GLT) manufacturing facility: the very first glue laminated timber beam produced on its newly commissioned GLT line.

"This is a very meaningful day for Timberlink," said Ian Tyson. "From our first sod turn in February 2022 to producing our first GLT beam in August 2023, we are well on our way to full production which is scheduled for October this year. It was fantastic to share this milestone moment with the committee."

Timberlink's NeXTimber facility will be Australia's only combined radiata pine CLT and GLT facility, increasing Australia's sovereign capability to manufacture these products while reducing reliance on imports. Mass timber products offer an exciting alternative to traditional construction materials, with the potential to assist to decarbonise construction in Australia by storing carbon for the life of the timber.

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Engaging private forests in Tasmania

TASMANIA'S private foresters are at the forefront of combating climate change and alleviating Australia's construction timber scarcity through proactive private native regrowth forest management.

Tasmania's extensive private regrowth native forests have a long history of active management for timber production and with our changing climate and an expanding bioeconomy, Private Forests Tasmania has identified strong opportunities to boost the health and resilience of these forests, while generating income and other ecosystem benefits through silvicultural treatments such as thinning.

There are more than 300,000 hectares of private native forests in Tasmania that can be managed sustainably to produce timber and other benefits, and PFT recently launched a comprehensive suite of resources tailored to empower landowners.

PFT partnered with consultants to develop private native forest demonstration sites, field days, case studies, factsheets, and a how-to guide for forest owners to successfully plan and carry out active management for beneficial outcomes.

PFT acting CEO Stephen Clarke said Australia faces a supply and demand imbalance for construction timber, and private native forest management can help to address this, plus, deliver environmental benefits.

He said PFT's new resources demonstrate and communicate commercially feasible private native regrowth forest management options to support extension and commercial engagement with private native forest growers.

He said as solid wood market opportunities and processing capacity expand, there is an opportunity for the forest and wood products sector to further engage with Tasmania's private native regrowth forest growers. PFT, a Tasmania government statutory authority, has a legislated objective to expand the development of our private forest resources.

To further this objective, and to help meet the nationwide shortage of timber, more of the areas identified in the 2020 Tasmanian Private Forests Resource Review will need to be brought under active and sustainable native forestry regimes.

"As public native forest



Private Forests Tasmania acting CEO, Stephen Clarke.

access declines, private forestry's role grows in supplying wood products. Strategic management ensures health, resilience, and compliance," Mr Clarke said.

"Amid a changing climate and bioeconomy, these forests can generate income, sequester carbon, and offer vital ecosystem services. Timber demand is set to rise.

"Private native forestry is a cornerstone of sustainability. Managed well, it safeguards forests, increases carbon sequestration, generates income, bolsters drought resilience, mitigates fire severity, and enriches biodiversity.

"Plus, primary producers are increasingly being asked to demonstrate their carbon credentials to markets and

active forest management is the ideal way to help manage that."

The resources available at treealliance.com.au offer four videos, five case studies, seven fact sheets and A Guide to Private Native Forest Operations in Tasmania highlighting essential topics such as forest assessment, planning and approvals, silviculture strategies, operation management, outcome monitoring, supply chains, markets, and financial analysis facilitate informed decision-making.

The case study properties at Sassafras, Levendale, Mount Direction, Ben Nevis and Blackwood Creek represent diverse forest types, species, and site qualities, and illustrate various market options and supply chain challenges while presenting multiple scenarios for landowners to consider.

These operations involve selective harvesting, promoting a multi-aged forest, increasing medium-term sawlog production, improving forest health, fostering biodiversity through understory development, and bolstering carbon sequestration.

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Native forestry has our support

DR Michelle Freeman, president of Forestry Australia, has put forth compelling reasons why Forestry Australia supports native forestry.

“Native forest timber harvesting sparks significant emotion, passion and energy. Differences of opinion around the issue have been ongoing in Australia for decades ... regardless of ‘sides’, we all care deeply about forests” Dr Freeman said.

The President’s comments come at a time when there have been calls to end native forest harvesting, a practice that harvests trees in natural forests. Although some characterise native forest harvesting as the same as deforestation, this is inaccurate as Australian law requires trees to be regenerated back to the native forest to maintain the forest in perpetuity.

There are usually three key themes used to argue against native forestry harvesting: protecting biodiversity, reducing bushfires, and climate change. Dr Freeman acknowledges these key challenges in our forests, but disputes ending native forest harvesting as the solution.

“...there is no universally accepted evidence that simply ending native forest harvesting

in Australia will provide biodiversity protection, reduce catastrophic bushfire risk or ensure that our diverse forest ecosystems are healthy and more resilient to impacts from climate change. There is, however, a high risk of multiple unintended negative consequences from such calls” Dr Freeman said.

Biodiversity has continued to decline across the country in many of Australia’s formally protected reserves. Good intentions to ‘protect’ biodiversity does not actually guarantee conservation.



Forestry Australia president, Dr Michelle Freeman.

Claims that native forest harvesting destroys biodiversity are unhelpful and misleading. In fact, Dr Freeman states that current scientific evidence supports native forest harvesting as being compatible with conservation when followed by regeneration, as is the

current law.

When addressing concerns around fire risks, Dr Freeman draws attention to there being zero academic consensus or evidence that timber harvesting increases the risk of bushfires. On the contrary, the forestry sector provides infrastructure, skills and equipment to see professionally trained and accredited forest fire managers.

CRITICAL POINTS

Forests help combat climate change by trees absorbing carbon out of the air. However, there is only so much time in a tree’s life that they can absorb carbon. Native forest harvesting provides forests with regeneration and therefore increases the absorbing power of growing trees. This

is comparable to other nations who have recognised the climate benefits of managing forests well. By harvesting forests and using regeneration carbon is lowered while supply for housing demands is being met. However, by reducing harvesting from Australian forests while demand for timber supply is rising, our imports increase along with high emission costs. This then causes reliance on non-renewable plastic, concrete and steel.

To read Dr Michelle Freeman’s full article see here.

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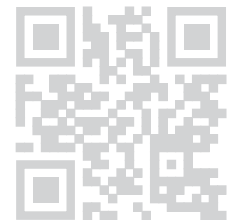
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National Forestry Day celebrated by the forestry industry

THE National Foresters' Grove in Lavington played host on Tuesday to the National Forestry Day celebration. The Murray Region Forestry Hub (MRFH) and Softwoods Working Group (SWG) were the hosts of the event and conducted a tree planting ceremony in celebration of Forestry Day. The Chairman of both MRFH and SWG, Peter Crowe OAM also highlighted the Monday night dinner at Huon Hill, Wodonga as a space to connect with others in the industry and enjoy engaging and insightful discussion.

"Both gatherings bring together like-minded professionals to discuss ways to ensure the growth and advancement of an industry that can not only help solve the national housing shortage by supporting the industry which supplies the materials,

but also fight climate change through carbon storage," Mr Crowe said.

The National Foresters' Grove was selected as it is a bicentennial project and more than 300 native trees have been planted there. The project honours foresters past and present, this made it the perfect location to celebrate the National Forestry Day and all the achievements of the timber industry.



International Day of Forests 2023... celebrating the forest industries' work fighting climate change, providing jobs, and creating sought-after products from a renewable resource. Photo: Shutterstock

industries provide \$24 billion AUD every year into the Australian economy. Forest industries also are essential to the continued survival of many rural and regional towns and communities through the 180,000 direct and indirect jobs supported. The AFPA also recognises the positive effect that the plantation forestry industry has on the climate via its ongoing carbon storage.

The AFPA figures show that the trees held in the plantations store carbon equivalent to 56 million cars being driven for a year.

We look forward to seeing the forestry industry grow more with the Albanese Governments goal to plant one billion trees for production by 2030. Hopefully this commitment does help to make our nation less dependent on timber imports going forward.

Mr Crowe said, "National Forestry Day celebrates the forest industries' great work fighting climate change, providing jobs, and creating sought-after products such as house frames, cardboard boxes, and even paper straws, from a renewable source".

National Forestry Day certainly is an occasion to celebrate as the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) shows that the forest

Exchange rates affect timber imports

BRENDAN Giles reported this week on the Australian Dollar and the exchange rate with the US Dollar. It dropped quite low this week with \$1AUD being worth only 64.6 cents US. Brendan stated that he expects our AUD to remain under pressure for a while for three main reasons. 1) RBA has been clear that they will be sitting at a low interest rate compared to economies on our level.

2) Our Australian resource prices that previously have helped keep our dollar strong are now beginning to slip. 3) The Chinese economy appears to be in more trouble than was known and weakness in their economy will affect



The Australian exchange rate is affecting timber imports.

Australia as well. The issue with a falling Australian dollar means that the cost of imports will go up. This is particularly important for the timber industry as with the changes the need for importing timber is also rising.

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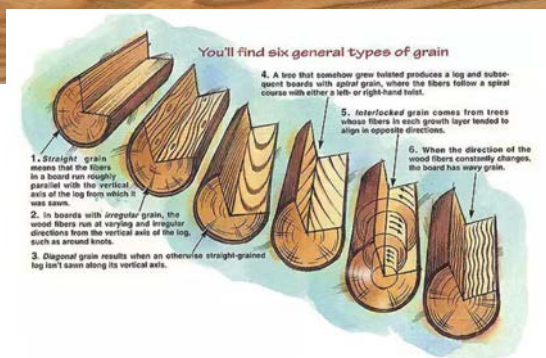


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Got grain on the brain?

Check out the top six types of grain you will find in timber!



THERE are 6 main types of grains that you will find in timber. Each produces a different look when the timber is cut. The diagram displays the different grains and what they look like.

1. Straight grain – these trees have the grain running in fairly straight lines, giving it a smooth and even look.
2. Irregular grain – these trees contain what is known as knots, the grain runs along

the timber and around the knots in an irregular pattern.

3. Diagonal grain – these trees are actually straight grain, but the diagonal grain is achieved when the timber is

- not cut on the vertical axis.
4. Spiral grain – these trees grow with grain in a twist, the grain either grows with a left or right twist and

displays a spiral pattern when cut.

5. Interlocked grain – these trees have grain that switches direction between each layer, so the different layers become interlocked together.
6. Wavy grain – the grain on these trees is continually switching what direction they grow in, and this results in a beautiful wavy timber.

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- The Emerging Role of monetising “Natural Capital” in Native and Plantation Forests
- Demand side: Pulp-grade and Biomass woodchip import trends
- Predictions for the supply & demand balance, and prices for Asia Pacific woodchips: 2023–2027
- Supply side: Woodchip and Pulplog export trends
- Pulp grade and Biomass woodchip shipping trends
- Woodchip pricing trends
- New Projects/New Products Panel

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2023 Australian Timber Supply Summit

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• 29 & 30 August, 2023 - Crown Promenade, Melbourne VIC Australia

This global summit will address the growing Australian housing needs and the timber supply and demand issues the above industries are facing. Industry experts will be unpacking these ongoing challenges, including the building industries reliance on timber imports, the implications to the timber supply chain and the Australian economy. The collective minds of the industry can make a positive footprint and open communications regarding timber supply today and into the future.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening address by **The Hon Murray Watt, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Keynote Address: David Gardner – Chief Investment Officer, Forestry of London, UK based Fund Manager, Gresham House – Climate Change and The Role of Forestry in Global Decarbonisation**
- **Housing Industry Chief Economist – Are the Australian Construction & Building Industries Increasingly Reliant on Timber Imports?**
- **Statistics & Economics Manager of Forest Wood Products Association, Kevin Peachy – Future Market Dynamics & Supply Chain Implications**
- **Chair of Timber Merchants Australia, Peter Alexander – The Role of Timber Merchants Australia, it's Position and Concerns on Supply**
- **Managing Director of SFM Agribusiness, Andrew Morgan – Australian Historical Present & Predicted Domestic Softwood Supply**
- **Director of Indufor Australia, Andrew Morton – Australian Historical Present & Predicted Domestic Hardwood Supply**
- **CEO of Engineered Wood Products Association Australasia, Gavin Matthew – The Need for EWP's Supporting the Supply Gap**
- **Communications Director of Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA), Joe Prevedello – AFPA's role in Boosting the Forestry Estate, Timber & Wood Fibre Supply**
- **Global Timber Supply Experts and International Speakers from Europe, UK, New Zealand, China, & Malaysia – Opportunities to supply the Australian Solidwood Sector and the Future of the Timber Supply Chain**

FIELD TRIP – ONLY A FEW SEATS LEFT!

On day two of the conference, we invite guests to join the Timber & Truss Field Trip to Geelong to visit frame & roof truss manufacturing plant **Big River Group**, who recently won the best frame and truss operation in the country! The second stop is to the woodchip processing & export facility **Midway**, a pioneer and major woodchip exporter to North Asia from Geelong and several other Australian ports.

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Top forestry trends and promising start-ups - part two

LAST week we talked about the top four trends in forestry and four start-ups that are working hard to improve those areas. This week we have the next four trends with four more start-ups that are making a difference!

This week are highlighting WEO and the work they are doing with tree monitoring, 4pi Lab and the work they put into forest mitigation, BuyChain and the affect they are having on forest supply chain management, and finally CarbonSpace and the efforts they are putting into forest carbon offsets.

TREE MONITORING

WEO is a start-up based in the European Luxembourg. WEO has recognised the importance of urban forests and their connection to maintaining cities that are resilient. In order to better help cities, WEO has focused in on canopy mapping. With the help of satellites and AI WEO is able to track the 'green cover' of a city. This method would replace manual surveys and make the tracking and monitoring of green space much more efficient for cities.

WEO's technology can also pinpoint trees that need some extra attention by tracking discolouration and defoliation in the green spaces.

FOREST MITIGATION

4pi Lab is a start-up focused on the early detection of wildfires. 4pi Lab is based in Canada, a country known for wildfires, so this is a fantastic local initiative that also extends to the world! 4pi Lab can detect fires that are as small as 5-10 meters wide, they have achieved this by employing a space-based strategy. 4pi Labs uses 16 satellites that orbit the earth to detect wildfires before they become catastrophic. These satellites have high performance cameras and send real time updates with geo-location targeting

for precise locations.

The set-up is designed to give forest authorities and fire-fighting services early warnings that allow swift action to take place and prevent disasters. Preventing wildfires as helps to reduce carbon emissions as well as protecting all the trees, homes and wildlife that get destroyed during out-of-control wildfires.

FOREST SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

BuyChain is a United States based start-up that looks to optimise the supply chain for lumber distributors. BuyChain has created a platform that centralises all the different areas of the lumber business.

The concept is to help suppliers, distributors and

retailers to plan their lumber availability and needs in advance to help reduce risk and volatility. BuyChain's goal is to not only make the lumber industry easier for all involved but to also increase profits for all the stakeholders.

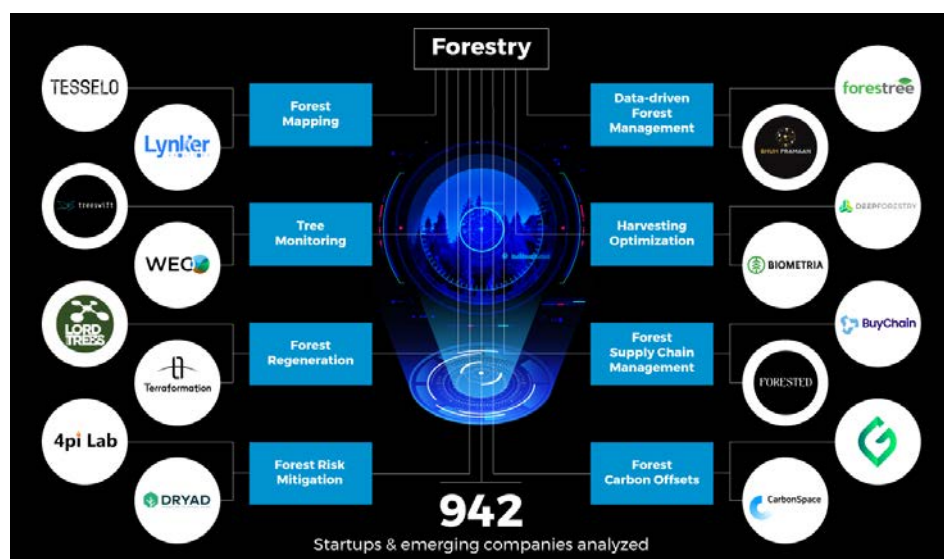
FOREST CARBON OFFSETS

CarbonSpace is an Irish start-up focused on helping forestry companies

to make climate-responsible choices. CarbonSpace uses AI to monitor carbon footprints via satellites, ground sensors and inventory data. They collect data to provide forestry companies with information about their emissions from forests, fields and farms.

Their goal is to help companies to find their potential carbon offsets in both operations and supply chain sections and maximise what they are achieving.

These four start-ups are thinking out of the box for continued tech growth. Three of them actually have gone out of this world with their tech! If you would like to check out more promising start-ups click here.



Overview of top eight forestry trends and 16 start-ups working in forestry areas.
Source and data: StartUs Insights.

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