

Resources at Lincoln comes to mind. If forestry is to be fully accepted in rural communities it must offer employment and mana to rural children. Then it will be seen as a permanent thing and not relief work. An apprenticeship scheme is needed.

## MEMBERS' COMMENT

### THE STIMULUS OF DIVERSIFICATION

Intensification of land use is conventionally presumed to work against forestry and the planting of trees, but there are situations where this does not happen. In the Bay of Plenty the boom in horticultural development has seen many (mainly dairy) farms subdivided into orchards. The horticultural industry is highly syndicated and very capital intensive, and often uses only the land suitable for its main purpose, leaving unsuitable land idle. This unsuitable land, mostly in gullies, quickly reverts to weeds, which in the original farm had been controlled by grazing.

Recognising the problem, the Tauranga County Council has put conditions in its district scheme that make it obligatory to establish woodlots on these potential weed problem areas at the time of subdivision. Forestry has been accepted as a justified land use in all rural zones in the county. This is in marked contrast to the surrounding counties where horticulture is less of an interest and pastoral farming is the main activity. Here the usual story of forestry being a conditional use still applies.

The Tauranga experience suggests that acceptance of woodlots in rural planning may not occur until the stranglehold of conventional land use has been broken. Change begets acceptance of change.

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