

The research programme is divided into four major areas:

- environmental research
- human
- logging systems
- transportation

A number of projects of interest are listed below under the major headings.

Environmental

The emphasis of the environmental work is on the identification, development and promotion of cost-effective harvesting techniques that meet environmental requirements. Major projects include the management of riparian areas, a variety of trials dealing with measurement and amelioration of soil erosion and compaction, the rehabilitation of landings and spur roads, and the utilisation or disposal of harvesting residues. Roding work includes investigations into low impact methods, prefabricated bridges, and documentation of best management practices.

Human Factors

The objective is to assist industry to provide a safer and healthier work environment without adversely affecting productivity. This is achieved through a number of projects which include the ongoing collection and analysis of accident statistics, an assessment of current accident follow-up procedures, the development and promotion of protective equipment, an analysis of the forestry and logging workforce in Otago/Southland, an assessment of the effectiveness of Polytechnic training for new entrant loggers, measurement of the physiological workload of logging tasks, and a programme to improve value recovery of logging operations.

Logging Systems

These continue the studies into improved felling and delimbing practices, and identifying and developing and improving the productivity of mechanical harvesting systems, cable systems, and ground-based systems. It also includes business management programmes to develop the skills of contractors in the areas of planning and financial management.

Transportation

The objective of the transportation programme is the evaluation of a range of material handling options to reduce costs and increase profitability. This includes modelling work on truck scheduling as well as ongoing work into the economics of trucking, truck performance and evaluation of technological developments in the transportation industry.

COMING EVENTS

1993 NZIF Conference

Theme - "Managing New Zealand's Forests for Future Markets".

Century Theatre, Napier, May 12-14, 1993.

Details on inside back cover of November 1992 NZ Forestry.

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14th Commonwealth Forestry Conference

Theme - "People, the Environment and Forestry - Conflict or Harmony".

Malaysia will be hosting the 14th Commonwealth Forestry Conference at the Shangri-La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur from September 13 to 18, 1993.

The objective of this conference is to show how forests in tropical and temperate regions can be managed in a sustainable way for the benefit of present and future generations to provide opportunities for economic development, to promote the well-being of rural people, and to conserve the forest as a habitat and for other environmental benefits. It will provide an opportunity for the exchange of views among Commonwealth forestry personnel and enable them to see for themselves the application of sustainable forestry development in the tropics.

There will be a pre-conference tour from September 8-12, 1993 to enable the participants to see forests managed under the traditional Malayan Uniform System and the current management practice of the Hill Dipterocarp Forests under the Selective Management System. Sarawak and Sabah, the eastern regions of Malaysia, will be the venues for the post-conference tour from September 19-23. There will also be a Half Day Tour and Accompanying Persons Programme during the conference.

A Post-Conference Technical Attachment Programme will also be held from September 19-25.

Registration fee: SUS350.00.

For further enquiries and more details about the conference, contact:

The Secretary General CFC-14
Forestry Department Headquarters,
Peninsular Malaysia
Jalan Sultan Salahuddin
50660 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
Telephone: (03) 298-8244
Facsimile: (03) 292-5657

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1993 Conference - Institute of Foresters of Australia Inc.

Theme - "Australasian Forestry and the Global Environment".

The IFA is holding its 15th Biennial Conference at Alexandra Headlands in Queensland, Australia from September 19 to 24, 1993.

The contact for registration is Peter Francis, IFA Conference Convener, GPO Box 1697, Brisbane, Queensland 4001. Telephone (07) 234-0105, Facsimile (07) 234-1200.

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Forest Industries 1994 International Conference and Exhibition

Theme - "Quality".

Forest Industry 1994 will combine a two-day conference, three-day exhibition and a two-day in-forest harvesting demonstration.

Contact: Antonia Mason, Special Events Manager, Forest Industries 1994, PO Box 5544, Wellesley Street, Auckland. Telephone: (09) 358-5455, Facsimile: (09) 358-5462.

BOOK REVIEWS

CONIFERS

Conifers: Morphology and Variation, by Mirko Vidakovic. Published 1991 by Graficki Zavod Hrvatske. Price \$NZ217.

This comprehensive work is said to be based on the author's belief that conifers should be considered in terms of their evolution and variation, conditioned by genetics, the natural environment and

man's activities that lead to the development of new types, races, cultivars and hybrids. Originally published in Croatian, the book has been expanded and revised for this English language edition.

The book covers over 2150 species and lower taxa, which are presented alphabetically by genera from *Abies* to *Widdringtonia*. It is very well presented and lavishly illustrated with over 450 drawings and photographs, many of them in colour. Distribution maps are provided for over 100 species.

It is a pity that this book was published at the same time as the first volume of *The Conifer Manual* by Humphrey