

istic lead-times to production in new orchards are considered, New Zealand seed producers have done remarkably well in increasing the total quantity available for sowing in 1993 without greatly decreasing the overall genetic quality.

At present no organisation is planning seed supply for the national interest, yet there is a need for stability and security of improved seed supplies, particularly for the smaller grower. When compared to most of the large forest companies, this increasingly important group is less able to provide for its own needs. There is a danger that they will finish up planting trees raised from cheaper seed sown by nurseries for speculative sales, simply because it is available.

Providing that there is reasonable nursery management, the increased volume of seed available for sowing this year means that there should be no need to utilise planting stock rated less than **GF16** in 1994, unless the 1994 national planting total exceeds around 130,000 to 140,000 hectares. Rather than use stock of unknown quality, or material that is officially rated less than **GF14**, it would be better to order in advance from a nursery manager or seed supplier and delay planting by a year.

Acknowledgement

Seed collection information from Baigent Forest Industries, Carter Holt Harvey Forests Ltd, Proseed NZ, and Tasman Forestry Ltd is gratefully acknowledged.

References

- Arnold R.J., 1990: Control-pollinated radiata pine seed – comparison of seedling and cutting options for large-scale deployment. *NZ Forestry*, Nov. 1990; 12-17.
- Carson M.J., T.G. Vincent and A. Firth. 1992: Control-pollinated and meadow seed orchards of radiata pine. *Proceedings of Mass Production Technology For Genetically Improved Fast Growing Forest Tree Species*, Bordeaux, France; 100-109. (NZFRI Reprint No. 2453).
- FRI, 1987: Which radiata pine seed should you use? What's new in forest research No. 157. NZ Forest Research Institute, Rotorua.
- Shelbourne C.J.A., R.D. Burdon, S.D. Carson, A. Firth, and T.G. Vincent. 1986: Development plan for radiata pine breeding. NZ Forest Research Institute, Rotorua.
- Vincent T.G. 1987: Certification system for forest tree seed and planting stock. *FRI Bulletin* No. 134. NZ Forest Research Institute, Rotorua.

News from the School of Forestry

OVERSEAS CONTACTS

Indonesian Students

The Indonesian Ministry of Forestry has drawn up a ten-year programme to upgrade the skills of its staff, and is hoping to place a thousand students world wide during that time. In this connection a delegation from Indonesia recently visited the School of Forestry on the initiative of the Joint Committee for Forestry Cooperation (JCFC), established in 1991.

The School has for some time been accepting graduate Indonesian students: 11 are currently studying for Masters or Doctoral degrees. In addition, School staff have undertaken promotional work in Indonesia.

Not only does the School have something substantial to offer the Indonesian programme, but there are spin-offs for New Zealand too. This country needs to become a player in global forestry, and helping educate Indonesian foresters provides an opportunity to establish valuable contacts.

IUFRO

Geoff Sweet attended a IUFRO Working Group meeting on "Biology and Cultural Reproductive Processes in Forest Trees" at the University of Victoria, B.C., Canada in August. New Zealand is a leader in seed orchard technology, and the School has an active research programme, with four postgraduate students currently working in this area. Professor Sweet contributed one keynote address and co-authored five other presentations with his graduate students.

Commonwealth Forestry Conference

In September, Graham Whyte attended the 14th Commonwealth Conference in Kuala Lumpur. He reports that the 400 or so delegates from 41 countries strongly supported the outcomes of the 1992 UNCED meeting in Rio de Janeiro and the international initiatives of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. In other words the pendulum had swung back hard from the previous meeting in Rotorua, and emphasised the beneficial effects of forests in providing a multiplicity of benefits to communities.

Dr Whyte also took advantage of the opportunity to visit a number of forestry operations in Sarawak, and to discuss forestry study at Canterbury with a number of potential postgraduate students. His visit there was much enhanced by insights and study tours provided by former students.

British Wood Preservers' Association

Dr Kevin Archer presented a paper on

"Bacterial pre-treatment of Douglas fir roundwood to improve preservative treatability" at the AGM of the Association in Cambridge, England. The paper was based on his Ph.D. studies at the School of Forestry with John Walker and John Allen.

Study Leave

Dr David Norton returned in July, having spent six months in Australia, mainly based at the CSIRO Wildlife and Ecology Division laboratories in Alice Springs and Perth. He was involved in collaborative research on forest fragmentation and mistletoe ecology.

Dr Ted Bilek also returned in July from a 12-month sabbatical. He spent most of the time in Madison, Wisconsin working at the USDA Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory and at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. While on leave, he conducted research into the economics of breaking down and burning wood pallets in addition to teaching an operations research class.

TEACHING

Following recent and impending changes to undergraduate papers, an internal review of the curriculum is being undertaken to see if it is desirable or possible to present the subjects in a more logical sequence. An early result has been recognition of the need for a Silvics paper in the degree course.

RESEARCH

Dr Norton recently received a \$2500 research contract from DoC to undertake research on "Assessing the effectiveness of possum control on forest ecosystem health".

EXTENSION

Forest Engineering Institute

The School of Forestry, in conjunction with the Logging Industry Research Organisation, will be holding another Forest Engineering Institute from November 22 to February 4. The FEI is a mid-career training course designed for logging managers and planners, and it is expected that 20 individuals from New Zealand, Malaysia and Australia will attend this intensive eight-week residential course, which will include a week in Nelson studying logging and roading operations. The course Director will be well-known forestry consultant Bill Liley, with Don Robinson from LIRO and Ron O'Reilly from the School acting as Assistant Directors.