

roa in *E. regnans* stands has accounted for 70% of the variation in tree growth. More detailed analysis is planned, and validation plots are being established to provide data for testing the preliminary model. It is likely that this project will be extended into evaluating *E. nitens* growth and site relationships.

The cooperative has, since 1986, produced 18 research reports. Another important aspect of cooperative technology transfer is the regular field trips. These have taken members from Waipoua Forest in Northland to Te Waewae in Southland and across to Tasmania. They provide members with excellent opportunities to discuss one another's problems and share ideas on solutions. This exchange of information at both the technical and practical level is one of the main strengths of the cooperative.

The cooperative research programme is developed with input for its nine technical members who have created a programme relevant to the management of eucalypts. The siting project is expected to give information of immediate use to



Members of the Management of Eucalypts Cooperative examining a one-year-old *E. nitens* stand in Kinleith Forest.

forest managers. In addition, the data from long-running NZFRI trials, new trials, and Permanent Sample Plots are all providing a foundation for new growth models. The

cooperative is now established as a key mechanism for funding and managing the eucalypt silvicultural research programme at NZFRI.



INSTITUTE NEWS



Presidential comments

Forest Investment Information

The process of publicising the Institute's concerns for ensuring that the investing public are informed on investment in forestry was given a considerable boost by the publication and distribution of over 2000 copies of Rob van Rossen's "Guidelines for Forest Investment".

At the Forest Industries 1994 Exhibition (FI94) the Institute set up and manned a seminar tent booth which drew together seven papers by NZIF authors illustrated by slides. (See R. van Rossen report, p 34).

The whole process was designed, developed and controlled by Rob van Rossen and the success of this unusual initiative was demonstrated by the size and attentiveness of audiences. The time and effort expended by Rob, with the support essential from his employer, CHH Forests, deserves the thanks of the entire membership.

Indigenous Forests

Indigenous forests occupy about seven million hectares of New Zealand, most of which is the administrative responsibility of the Department of Conservation. The

passage of the Forests Amendment Act 1993 recognises, however, that for indigenous forests on other tenures, preservation goals of management may not be predominant. Then sustainability, and all it can be presumed to mean, is the priority. To define the limits of forest owner responsibility under the Act is the duty of the Ministry of Forestry and their newly-recruited team.

Many of the definitions of forest characteristics are familiar from the work undertaken by NZ Forest Service and Forest Research Institute prior to 1987. To collate this experience with the requirements under the new Act requires experienced personnel, many of whom are no longer available. As a profession, we have noted the wastage of skill and know-how in indigenous production management. This has been mainly due to conservation aims which have been intolerant of production values but which do not suit many Maori, private and company owners of indigenous forests. The Act now requires this production process to be codified in a practical and economic fashion which recognises ecological specifics of the many species of value for timber. The



Peter Olsen

Ministry of Forestry's efforts are subject to the critical views of the conservation groups. They also deserve our professional concern and support.

P.F. Olsen