

group likely to involve the greatest area. The LGA intentions account for less than 5% of all anticipated radiata pine planting on new land, and their intentions with respect to other species are also very small. The bulk of Douglas-fir and eucalypt planting is expected to be undertaken by the IG group, while most new land planting with other softwoods and other hardwoods is likely to be carried out by the OFO group.

From this survey, forest owners in the OFO category appear to have the greatest new land planting intentions. NEFD estimates support this conclusion, which indicates the increasing importance of the group in terms of ownership of the national forest estate. The NEFD data are known to underestimate forest land ownership in this category (Ministry of Forestry, 1996). Very little is known about the OFO group. More precise knowledge of its composition is vital if potential impacts on forestry issues of national significance such as carbon storage, afforestation, management practices, forest health, and wood supply are to be assessed and used as a source of accurate information for the industry as a whole.

SUMMARY

A survey of New Zealand industrial forest growers, local government authorities and industry experts was carried out to ascertain new land planting intentions (to the year 2010) for use in carbon modelling work. Industry experts expect nationwide intentions of all ownership groups for all forest species to decrease from about 72,000 ha in 1996 to nearly 66,000 ha in 2000, and to level out at about 56,000 ha/yr between 2001 and 2010. It is anticipated that more than 80% of the area involved will be planted with radiata pine. New land planting intentions of individual owners, either independently or through partnerships, joint ventures, trusts, etc., are expected to exceed those of either industrial growers or local government authorities, and to decline from about 43,000 ha in 1996 to 41,000 ha/yr between 2001 and 2010. Little is presently known about the composition of this group, even though it owns an increasingly large proportion of the

national exotic plantation forest estate. Estimates of the new land planting intentions of the industrial growers indicated a drop from about 27,000 ha in 1996 to 16,000 ha/yr between 2001 and 2010. New land planting intentions of local government authorities were very small.

The new land planting estimates obtained from this survey are consistent with NEFD data on new land planting (Table 2). They are, however, considerably lower than the 100,000 ha/yr "vision" promoted four years ago by the Minister of Forestry (Falloon, 1993), and equate with the lower end of the Ministry of Forestry range of new planting estimates (50,000-150,000 ha/yr) reported by Forbes and SriRamaratnam (1995).

Radiata pine has dominated new land planting by all ownership groups since 1990, and the survey results agree with NEFD data in this respect (Table 8). In the future, an increased proportion of new land planting is likely to involve species other than radiata pine, particularly Douglas-fir and hardwoods (primarily *Eucalyptus* species). Annually, areas of new land planted with these species will remain small in relation to those planted with radiata pine.

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INSTITUTE NEWS



NZIF President's report

1998 AGM

Preliminary organisation is under way for the 1998 NZIF AGM and Conference to be held in Wanganui. The May NZIF Council meeting was held in Wanganui at the Regional Council Offices and included a discussion with the Mayoral Forestry Working Party covering the forthcoming conference and other general forestry issues of concern in the region.

Issues from 1997 AGM

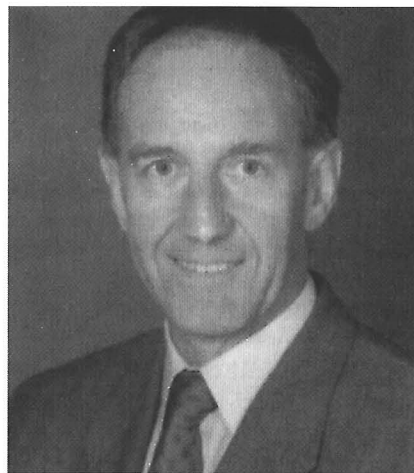
Council has been progressing some of the issues raised during the 1997 AGM in Rotorua.

With regard to forest policy – the current focus has been to get the draft indigenous forest policy document completed ready for circulation to members for final consideration prior to adoption at the 1998 AGM. The future of the existing (1979) NZIF Forest Policy will need to be resolved, but at this stage it appears that the indigenous policy will nest within the broad tenets of the existing policy in the meantime.

The AGM asked that the Council consider setting up a Resource Working Group to pull the previous initiatives of sustainability etc into a broader resource monitoring objective. Current work is focused on encouraging the ongoing Land Cover Database initiatives, which at this stage is indicating significantly increased areas of both indigenous and exotic forests within New Zealand. Clearly such fundamental resource information needs to be firmed before looking again at the measures and reporting of forest sustainability, particularly exotic forests.

NZ Forest Accord and Principles

The NZIF letter to the Forest Accord partners conveying the resolutions from the 1996 AGM received a very negative reception from a meeting of the Accord partners held in June. To some extent the reception was influenced by the firm tone of the NZIF letter and also other matters on the agenda. However, it is also clear that the NZIF concerns have been well noted and we will have



John Galbraith

a further opportunity to discuss the NZIF position at a meeting of the Accord partners in late August. Council is also mindful that the first object of the Institute is: "to be an independent advocate for forestry" and the NZIF needs to be careful about signing up to particular positions which may constrain its independence in the future.

John Galbraith
President