

New Chairperson of NZITTG

Tim Thorpe, Strategic Planning Manager at Timberlands West Coast Ltd, and Council Member of the Institute of Forestry, has been elected Chairperson of the New Zealand Imported Tropical Timbers Group (NZITTG).



Tim Thorpe

The group represents over 80% of the country's tropical timber importers, retailers and environmental conservation NGOs associated with tropical forestry. The group works to ensure that all tropical timber imported to New Zealand is sourced from certified sustainably-managed forests. According to Tim Thorpe, "being able to work with industry representatives and organisations such as Greenpeace, Maruia Society and Friends of the Earth towards common goals, is a valuable and positive process".

Hawkes Bay environmental awards

Hawkes Bay Regional Council awarded last year's environmental awards to forestry groups. Hawkes Bay Forest Ltd were given an award for their innovative techniques to reduce erosion and visual impact from harvesting and roadworks in Guavas Forest.

Pan Pacific Forest Industries (NZ) Ltd received an award for their on-site environmental management. This included improvements in waste water treatment, reducing noise and traffic impacts, the use of bark as fuel and extensive landscaping.

The third award went to Roger and Michelle Thomsen for their management of their Patoka properties. Steep erodible areas and native bush have been retired and fenced off and spaced planting of



EDUCATION NEWS



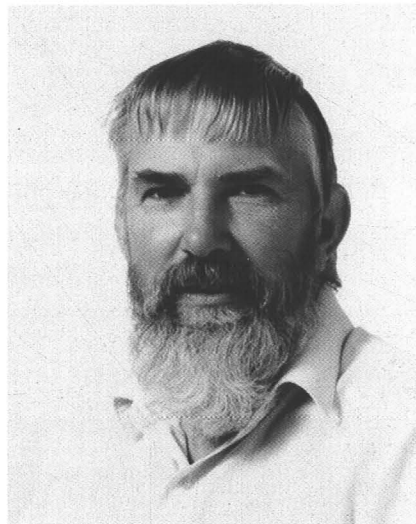
Lincoln University News

Restructuring

Lincoln University, like most of the other Universities in New Zealand, is currently being restructured in order to meet the changing demands on tertiary educational institutes. The Vice Chancellor, Dr Frank Wood, has decided on three main Schools covering undergraduate teaching, postgraduate and research and continuing education. These Schools will obtain their requirements from six divisions which are amalgamations of previous departments. Professor Ian Cornforth, previously head of the Soil Science Department is to head the new Plant and Soils Division. Dr Patrick Aldwell, formerly of the NZ Forest Research Institute Ltd, will be heading the Commerce Division. Both of these people will have a major impact on forestry teaching at Lincoln University.

Retirement of Dr Don Mead

Don Mead retired from Lincoln University at the end of last year but will be continuing his forestry links through consulting. Commenting about his time at Lincoln he said that he had been particularly satisfied that Lincoln was able to provide the forest, the agricultural and the regional planning sectors with graduates who appreciated the needs for forestry. The B Comm (Forestry) degree had been well accepted as it provided employers with business graduates who understood forestry. The postgraduate agroforestry courses had also been very successful. There have been 10 graduate students working in the Lincoln agroforestry



Dr Don Mead

experiments and several others have completed dissertations in agroforestry and related topics.

Don Mead will be teaching into some forestry subjects during 1998, giving the University time to decide on future forestry staffing. He is also editing this and the next couple of issues of NZ Forestry.

Promotions to Reader

Dr Glenn Stewart has recently been promoted to Reader in Ecology and Conservation within the new Plant and Soils Division. His area of speciality is forest dynamics (see his articles in this issue), having published over 45 papers in this

poplars and other trees have been used to improve soil conservation and landscape values.

GF Plus™

The NZFRI and the associated industry tree breeding cooperative have launched a new seed certification scheme call GF Plus™. This is a development on the growth and form ratings of seed which has been used for a number of years in New Zealand. Improved genetic material has been developed for a number of other traits including stem straightness, branch cluster frequency, *Dothistroma* resistance, wood density and spiral grain.



Dr Glenn Stewart